

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes

Thursday, September 11, 2014

5:00 PM

Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room (Room 16)

Regional Utilities Committee

*Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Todd Chase, Chair
Commissioner Lauren Poe, Member
Commissioner Craig Carter, Member*

Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Equal Opportunity Department at 334-5051 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. Commissioner Carter was absent.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as drafted by affirmation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[140181.](#) RUC May 20, 2014 Meeting Minutes (B)

Attachments: [140181 RUC May 20, 2014 Draft Mtg Minutes 2014.09.11](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Approve the minutes of the May 20, 2014 RUC meeting as drafted.*

The minutes of the May 20, 2014 meeting were approved by affirmation.

CURRENT ACTION ITEMS

[140216.](#) Commissioner Lauren Poe - APPA 2014 National Conference (B)

Attachments: [140216 Board's Role in Monitoring Utility Performance 2014.09.11](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Hear a brief presentation from Commissioner Poe about his experience at the conference.*

Commissioner Poe discussed his June trip to the 2014 APPA Annual Conference and recommended that future commissioners attend as part of their training in utility-related matters.

[130585.](#) Gainesville Chamber Energy Competitiveness Report

Attachments: [130585 Competiveness Report A 20131219 .pdf](#)
[130585 Competiveness Report B 20131219.pdf](#)
[130585 Competiveness Report C 20131219.pdf](#)
[130585 Benchmarking - Cost Competiveness Presentation 20140911](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Discuss options.*

Diane Wilson gave a presentation on staff's research into different ways to benchmark GRU against our peers. Commissioner Poe asked that staff prepare a report for the January timeframe to compare GRU against IOU's in Florida. Commissioner Chase asked that we benchmark against all Florida municipal utilities across the board for electric and to be sure as much as possible that we compare apples to apples and to include taxes, fees and surcharges. He asked that we take this item back to the full commission at one of its November meetings with a report on how we addressed each of the

Chamber's four recommendations.

[130957.](#)

Power Supply Planning (Power 2020) (B)

Attachments: [130957 Power Supply Planning \(Power 2020\) 2014.09.11](#)
[130957 Fuel Cells 20140911](#)

RECOMMENDATION *The RUC receive a presentation from staff.*

John Stanton gave a presentation on the process that GRU has developed to look at our future power needs. He emphasized that our strategic plan is not a study to determine what we should build, but rather it is a study to look at what we should do to meet our customers' needs while meeting the NERC reliability requirement within the bulk electric system. He explained that we are currently formalizing the team who will develop the plan and that the next step is to develop the overall scope and that we hope to have a draft report in approximately one year.

Commissioner Poe recommended that we give this presentation to the Committee of the Whole. Commissioner Chase agreed and hoped it could get on the agenda at the end of this year or early next year.

During the course of the presentation, Mr. Stanton said that he had done some research on The Bloom Energy Server, a type of fuel cell that was mentioned to the Commission by citizen Mark Vensky. He gave the Committee a copy of an email he had sent to Commissioner Hinson-Rawls detailing his research, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

[140215.](#)

RUC Outstanding Referrals List (B)

Attachments: [140215 RUC Future Meeting Dates 2014.09.11](#)
[140215 Outstanding Referrals List - 2014.09.11](#)
[140215 Outstanding Referrals List - 20141009](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Review the outstanding referrals and make recommendations for which items to hear at future meetings, and specify dates from the attached list of meeting dates.*

The Committee reviewed the RUC outstanding referral list and made recommendations about which ones to leave on and which to recommend for removal from committee. They voted to recommend removal of items 110125; 100339; 090588; 120687; 130528; 130763.

MEMBER COMMENT

CITIZEN COMMENT

Citizen Donald Shepherd told the committee about his experience with GRU's LEEP program and reported that his electric bill had decreased as a result of receiving a new air conditioner and the home energy survey performed by GRU staff. Commissioner Chase asked that staff give a presentation on our energy audit program and the LEEP program at a future committee meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE

October 9, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.