

City of Gainesville

City Hall
200 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida 32601



Minutes

Thursday, January 8, 2015

5:00 PM

Roberta Lisle Kline Conference Room

Regional Utilities Committee

*Mayor-Commissioner Pro Tem Todd Chase, Chair
Commissioner Lauren Poe, Member
Commissioner Craig Carter, Member
Commissioner Lee Pinkoson, 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**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA****APPROVAL OF MINUTES****[140639.](#) RUC October 9, 2014 Meeting Minutes (B)**

Attachments: [140639 RUC 10-9-14 Mtg Minutes 20150115](#)

RECOMMENDATION *Approve the minutes of the October 9, 2014 RUC meeting as drafted.*

Approved as Recommended

CURRENT ACTION ITEMS**[130669.](#) Low-income Energy Efficiency (LEEP) Program (B)**

Attachments: [130669 LEEP Update 20150108](#)

Staff gave a presentation on GRU's LEEP program. The Committee raised questions about whether the program could be expanded to include rental houses and the discussion continued. The Committee members agreed to keep this item in committee, with direction to staff to bring possible program options that include landlords/rentals to a future meeting.

Additional discussion centered on possible funding sources for the Community Weatherization Coalition (CWC), with the goal of expanding the reach of their work. Staff also mentioned that they could coordinate with the CWC on possible grant funding opportunities through the American Public Power Association's (APPA) Demonstration of Energy & Efficiency Developments (DEED) program.

RECOMMENDATION *The Regional Utilities Committee receive a brief presentation from staff on the Low-income Energy Efficiency Program (LEEP) and a summary of results for FY14.*

A motion was made that the committee take a recommendation to the full Commission for \$3,000 from this year's LEEP budget to be donated to the Community Weatherization Coalition (CWC), and that a \$25,000.00 increment be requested in the FY16 Conservation Services budget for assistance to the CWC. If approved by the City Commission and prior to distribution of funds, staff would develop appropriate monitoring criteria for the use of these funds.

The motion passed unanimously.

[110783.](#) Green Energy Payment Options (B)

Attachments: [120686-110783 Renewable Energy 20141009](#)
[110783 Green Energy Payment Options 20150108](#)

Staff made a presentation on Green Energy Payment options. Kik Koppitch discussed several existing programs in place at municipal utilities around the country, as well as a discussion of GRU's practice of selling Renewable Energy Credits (RECs.) Chair Chase asked staff to report back the revenue received in 2014 from the sale of RECs.

Chair Chase stated that he wanted to keep this item in committee and asked staff to report back on how the cost to administer GRUGreen compared to the amount of money received in donations.

RECOMMENDATION Hear a presentation from staff regarding options for green energy pricing program, and considerations for the potential development of such programs.

DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS

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](#)
[140215 Outstanding Referrals List 20150108](#)

On review of the outstanding referral list, the committee agreed to remove item #120686, Low Income Solar. They agreed to discuss item #140461, Creation of a Citizen Committee to Study Utility Rates, at the next RUC meeting.

RECOMMENDATION Review the outstanding referrals and make recommendations for which items to hear at future meetings.

MEMBER COMMENT

CITIZEN COMMENT

Citizens Donald Shepherd, Annie Orlando, Jim Konish and Jo Beatty spoke at various times during presentations of both items.

NEXT MEETING DATE

February 12, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.