



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
**ENERGY EFFICIENCY &
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Thursday, May 7, 2015

2:00 - 3:00 PM

Conference Room B, 2nd Floor
Department of Administration
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

In Attendance: Abigail Anthony, Ryan Crowley, Marisa Desautel, Marion Gold, Mike Guerard, Chris Kearns, Danny Musher, Jeremy Newberger, Paul Ryan, Rachel Sholly, Nick Ucci

1. Call to Order

Chairman Paul Ryan began the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Executive Committee April Meeting Minutes

The April meeting minutes will be voted on at the next Executive Committee meeting when all members are present.

3. Review of Draft EERMC May Meeting Agenda

The May agenda will include the following items: Approval of April Meeting Minutes, Policy and Planning Issues (Legislative Update), Executive Committee Report, Executive Director Report, Presentation on ACEEE State Scorecard and 2016 Energy Efficiency Procurement Timeline/Preview, and Rhode Island Alliance for Healthy Homes presentation.

4. Executive Director Report

Council Membership

Commissioner Gold reported that in June, new council members might attend the full meeting for the first time. Rachel Sholly suggested developing an introductory packet. Commissioner Gold added that membership for one or two seats remains unclear and the Governor's Office is reaching out to the recommended council members.

Energy Efficiency Opportunities

Nick Ucci stated that OER has worked internally and with the consultant team about whether or not energy efficiency services can be delivered to the folks out on Block Island. More time is needed to determine how

much in RGGI dollars and be used. Residential and small commercial customers will be targeted. A full plan should be ready by the next council meeting. This will be a tremendous learning experience for the state and the Council. Ms. Sholly noted that the library, town hall and school are also targeted buildings as part of this plan. Mr. Ucci affirmed that this would be part of the 2015 RGGI plan with the 2014 proceeds.

5. Finance Study Update

RI Infrastructure Bank

Chris Kearns made a presentation on the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank. He mentioned that many of the local chambers of commerce and other stakeholder groups testified in support of Article 24 (RIIB). The House and Senate policy fiscal staff was briefed by OER and Treasury staff. The Labor Price Agreement provision has become a point of contention. Mr. Newberger asked if there was anything the Council needs to do for the legislation. Mr. Kearns said the legislation is now in the hands of the General Assembly for a decision.

Dunsky Study Follow-Up

Commissioner Gold said the Dunsky report is on hold as the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank moves forward. Abigail Anthony noted that there were many components of the Dunsky report that would not affect the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank and suggested that the Council begin to explore how those components may be explored and possibly implemented. Mike Guerard mentioned that there is an additional \$70,000 that is available for follow up consulting work. Danny Musher mentioned that David McNeil from Dunsky has expressed an interest in continuing to do consulting work for Rhode Island.

6. Legislative Update

Energy Legislation

Mr. Kearns outlined the status of energy bills of relevance to the council. The bills included H-5596 and S-741 (Municipal Streetlight Investment Act Amendments), S-410 (Request for LCP Thermal/Oil and Renewable Thermal/Biofuels Studies by OER), and H-5670 (Energy Efficiency – Appliance Water Standards).

Finalize Letter to General Assembly on Performance Incentive Cap

Ms. Anthony suggested that submitting a letter to the Senate regarding a bill that might not pass could be counterproductive. Such a letter would draw attention to the performance incentive cap and Ms. Anthony recommended that the council consider the ramifications that might come from submitting the letter. She said the Council needs to determine the value of the letter in contrast with the likelihood of the legislations passage. Mr. Kearns said he would try and get the pulse of the General Assembly. Ms. Anthony recommended holding the letter. Commissioner Gold mentioned that the letter might still hold some value as an educational tool for future relevant matters.

7. Other Business

RI Alliance for Healthy Homes

Mr. Guerard reported that the RI Alliance for Healthy Homes is having a large kick-off meeting on June 3 and is hoping to get partners to sign a compact they have prepared. Marisa Desautel stated that the Council can sign the compact and work with private and public entities to further the purposes of the Council. She cautioned that the Council needs to decide if the compact aligns with the Council's objectives. Mr. Guerard

said the compact does not appear to be binding but does appear to align with the Council's objectives. Ms. Desautel confirmed that the organization is a 501(c) 3. The Council will review the compact with Marisa's comments. Ms. Sholly suggested that the Committee and consultant team develop a list of questions for Betsy for her presentation to the full Council next week. Mr. Newberger said the questions should be asked before the Council meeting next week.

Energy Expo Update

The OER is exploring how to continue its partnership with the Rhode Island Builders Association and how to proceed with next year's energy expo.

8. Adjournment

Chairman Ryan adjourned the meeting at 3:35 PM.