

Minutes
Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy (EESE) Board
Legislative Office Building, Room 308
9 AM – 12 PM
Friday, November 16, 2012

Members in Attendance

Deborah Schachter from NH Charitable Foundation; Susan Thorne from OEP; Stephen Eckberg for Susan Chamberlin from OCA; Jack Ruderman from PUC; Brian for the NH BIA; Mike Fitzgerald from DES; Alan Linder from NH Legal Assistance; Tricia Newhall-Grahame for Luke Benson from Home Builders and Remodelers Association; Jim Garrity from NH House; Naida Kaen from the NH House; Ben Frost for Dean Christon from NH Housing and Finance Authority; Dana Nute from Jordan Institute; David Borden from NH Sustainable Energy Association; and Karen Rantamaki from DAS.

Non-Voting Members in Attendance

Gil Gelineau from PSNH; George Gantz from Unutil (Acting Chair); Carol Woods from NHEC; Debra Hale from Liberty Utilities; and Kate Peters from NH CDFA.

1. Welcome and Introduction

- NH Charitable Foundation sponsored the breakfast.

2. Minutes of October 26, 2012

- The Board approved the minutes for the October Board Meeting.

3. EESE Board Annual Report – Review and Approval

- The Board considered the draft EESE Board Annual Report that is due to be filed on December 1st. The draft was compiled by Deborah Schachter with several comments made on the draft circulated in advance of the meeting.
- Additional comments and corrections were made regarding how affiliations of Board members should be documented as well as how the actions of the Board should be recorded.
- The Board moved to complete the report and for George to present as required.
- A question was raised whether the EESE Board Final Report on the NH Independent Energy Study was going to be attached to the Annual Report since the new Governor and legislature would be sworn in so shortly thereafter. The Chair agreed to make the appropriate change depending on the outcome of the discussion regarding the Final Report's dissemination.
- The Board authorized the filing of annual report with the discussed revisions.

4. Energy Study Working Group – Review and Approve Document Design

- The Board reviewed a formatted draft of the EESE Board’s Final Report on the Independent Energy Study, the Summary Report, and Summary Matrix. The formatted draft was developed by a sub-group including Barbara Bernstein (PUC), Tricia Graham-Newhalla (Homebuilders) in addition Kate Peters and Chris Skoglund.
- There was a discussion concerning the need for a Summary Report.
- It was determined that the Final Report would be updated to include a table of contents and the footnotes would be converted to endnotes and include the same cover on the Summary Report.
- It was also affirmed that the matrix would be physically attached to the Final Report and that the spreadsheet of matrix would be made available electronically.
- Several other minor clerical and framing issues were also identified and agreed to.
- EESE Board approved the summary and highlights, final report, format for chapter synthesis documents with the agreed upon changes.

5. Discussion of Report Dissemination Process

- Mary Downes (Unitil), the co-chair of the Outreach & Education Committee, handed out and walked through a draft proposal for disseminating report. This included some considerations for the short and long-term and included a potential framework to develop a strategy that identified goals, dissemination methods, audiences, resources and roles that would need to be identified.
- It was suggested that the short-term goals should be to raise awareness of report and over the long term to build support for implementing the recommendations.
- The EESE Board’s discussion included the suggestion to make the Report elements available in a box at the top of EESE Board webpage.
- It was noted that there is a new governor and legislature and that an group representing the EESE Board should take all of the materials and deliver this to them in a sit down meeting if possible.
- It was also noted that there is a study commission on underground utilities (SB 361). Some representatives engaged in this process are interested in an energy policy and could be another audience.
- The Chair felt that, given the timing of events, the Final Report should be published sooner by November 30 rather than delay. He would begin to set up meetings. The group would include the Chair, Jack Ruderman, and someone familiar with the details of the study.

- There was also a discussion a presentation at the BIA Energy Seminar. PUC Commissioner Ignatius is giving open address and the Chair will ask her if she could mention this report. There will be copies available for distribution.
- There was also a discussion of approaching The Exchange. Rep. Kaen noted that the Board would need to go to Governor first.
- A last discussion was held concerning whether to issue a press release and hold a press event. As the EESE Board is connected to PUC, Commissioners must be comfortable with a press release.
- The dissemination discussion concluded with the decision to develop a set of bullet points that would support an elevator speech that every board member could use. The draft points would be needed before November 30 with final by Monday, December 3rd.

6. EESE Board Agenda for 2013 -2014

- The Board held a discussion of potential areas to engage over the course of the next year. The Chair reviewed the suggestions from last meeting and facilitated a conversation around the question, “what does EESE Board want to be able to look back and say accomplished.”
- Suggestions include:
 - David Borden – The Board had a positive impact on the state economy. David noted that for 2nd consecutive month there were fewer private sector jobs created in NH; the state is falling behind in job creation;
 - Gil Gelineau – ACEEE ranks states on energy efficiency and NH ranks 18th in the nation while the other NE states all rank in top 10. NH needs to get its ranking up;
 - Deborah Schachter – Identifying a scenario where the EESE Board says that we have accomplished what we can and might need a different approach. There might be other ways to mobilize to the next step and that the EESE Board should take a break; and
 - Mike Fitzgerald – We have touched the tip of the iceberg and now must move the state towards energy future that the study lays out. The EESE Board Annual Report notes on pg. 3 that the Board should develop a plan for the state. The Board may not be the appropriate entity to develop a comprehensive energy plan, but it is the forum to keep tabs on the energy efficiency and sustainable energy issues.
- The Chair facilitated a conversation around the question, “what is the role of the Board in achieving that energy future? Planning, facilitating, developing a concrete plan, development of policy for governor and leg., or encouraging programmatic changes?”

- Karen Rantamaki – Regarding the statewide energy plan/policy – it will happen. The EESE Board will have an impact on the plan/policy and will need to serve as advisory body;
- Deborah Schachter – Posed the questions that if the Board was still necessary, how can we achieve our goals; what do we would need to achieve them and what do we need to be effective;
- Mary Downes (Unitil) – In other states, the EESE Board-equivalents have more authority. Need to grow into that role. Serve as a resource that legislators come to lean on and provide with resources in terms of staffing and funding;
- Kate Peters – The EESE Board needs to exist in case issues come up in the future. For example, Better Buildings was a discussion that originated at this board (Beacon Communities) that then developed into a grant program. The Board remains a forum for emerging issues;
- Chris Skoglund (DES) – To increase role, need to recognize that individuals and groups have not yet learned to come to the Board with specific problems; the Board’s audience is not getting bigger. Need to let others know that the Board is available and capable of considering problems;
- Representative Kaen – The Board needs a list of accomplishments. These are listed in the annual reports – we can go back and see what we could point to for past accomplishments; and
- Mike Fitzgerald – The Board should address issues as they arise. We are a citizen advisory board and forum, which have a strong history in NH. We’ve had an impact on state and municipal energy efficiency as citizen boards have affected local energy efficiency in town halls and reduced taxes. We don’t need to justify our existence.

7. Board and Program Updates

- Karen Rantamaki – She and Susan Thorne are serving on the Senate Bill 361 Commission. That body will issue a final report on December 1st that reports on their efforts to study the feasibility of establishing energy infrastructure corridors within existing transportation rights of way. In addition, on December 1st, agencies must submit conservation plans together and then must submit to EESE board as required in SB73 (2010 Session). She will present the report to Board in January.
- Jack Ruderman – The Sustainable Energy Division (SED) will establish an internship. They have contacted UNH and Dartmouth, which have strong Sustainability programs . The SED is currently seeking a qualified intern.
- Becky Ohler (DES) – NH has been part of Transportation Climate Initiative, which includes representatives from the state energy, transportation and environmental agencies. The effort is focused on solving energy and transportation problems

regionally. This includes developing a NE electric-vehicle (EV) network. This includes: determining how charging stations for EVs could be deployed; EV-charging-site development guidelines; zoning ordinances for charging stations. Some of these resources will be rolled out in the next few weeks. Part of this effort includes getting the information out to the appropriate audiences. She's willing to provide an update to the Board.

- The Chair noted that the leadership process to identify the next Board Chair hasn't reconvened. He asked that Board members send any thoughts/comments about what that leadership should look like and/or who might be a suitable candidate. This will be conducted as a confidential process between George and each member.
- Mike Fitzgerald asked whether there should be a chair and vice chair and that the Chair must be a voting member.
- Jack Ruderman noted that selection can be flexible. The PUC may be able to bring in others to be Chair, not from the existing membership.

8. Other Business.

- None

9. Next meeting 2nd Friday of December.