

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY BOARD

RSA 125-O:5-a  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

## Minutes for January 20, 2017

### Attendees:

**Board members:** Ben Frost (NH Housing Finance Authority); Rick Minard (NH OEP); Chris Moore for Karen Rantamaki (NH DAS); Kate Epsen (NH SEA); Cindy Carroll (Unitil); Carol Woods (NHEC); Becky Ohler (NH DES); Eric Stanley (Liberty Utilities); Brian Ramsey (BIA); Kate Peters (Eversource); Jeffrey Cyr (NH Fire Marshal); Rep. Herbert Richardson (NH House); Scott Emond (NH HBA); D. Maurice Kreis (NH OCA); Karen Cramton (NH PUC); Ryan Clouthier (SNHS); Michael Mooiman (The Jordan Institute); Sen. Kevin Avard (NH Senate); Rep. Robert Backus (NH House); Michael Behrmann (Revolution Energy).

**Guests:** Tanya Wayland (NH PUC); Liz Nixon (NH PUC); Autumn Curilla (GDS Associates); Bruce Clendenning (TNC); David Borden; Kristin Bahny (TRC); Meghan Hoye (LighTec); Gregg Wade (ISO NE)

### 1. Welcome and Introductions:

Meeting started at 9:04 am.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Meeting minutes from December 9, 2016 were approved as amended. Final minutes will be posted on the EESE Board's website.

### 3. Election of Officers:

Ben Frost was nominated to serve as Chair for the full 2017 calendar year and Dennis Labbe was nominated to serve as Vice Chair for the full 2017 calendar year. Both nominations were unanimously carried.

### 4. EESE Board Annual Report:

The draft annual report will be available next month for review and approval.

### 5. 2017 Calendar EESE Board and EERS Committee

- Full EESE Board Meetings scheduled for 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month
  - PUC's Hearing Room is unavailable February 17<sup>th</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup>, May 17<sup>th</sup> and December 15<sup>th</sup>. Alternative meeting locations were discussed, but have yet to be determined. Monthly meeting notices and agendas will identify the meeting location.
- EERS Committee and Workshops
  - The next EERS Committee Meeting is January 27<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. at the PUC in Hearing Room B.
  - The schedule and locations for EERS workshops will be determined at the EERS Committee meeting.
- Non-EERS Topics
  - The Board discussed what presentations and topics would be of interest in the upcoming year. Possible future topics and presenters included Energy Savvy (scheduled for February),

Hazen Drive's ESCO Project, Massachusetts' work on energy storage, Vermont's low income resiliency project, C-PACE update by the Town of Hanover, renewable energy projects installed by NH Businesses and Municipalities, waste water treatment plant energy efficiency project, renewable energy for low income, Net Metering (after Commission Order is issued) and Grid Modernization (after investigatory docket report is released).

## **6. EESE Board Committee Updates:**

- Outreach and Education Committee (O & E) Update:
  - The Outreach and Education Committee did not hold a meeting this month. The committee plans to schedule the next meeting when they receive further direction from the Board.
- EERS Committee Update:
  - The consultant selection process has concluded and the RFP selection team consisting of PUC and EESE Board representatives unanimously agreed to hire Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) as the EERS planning consultant. Christine Donovan will lead VEIC's efforts. She has worked with NH in the past and has been involved in other state's EERS plans. The committee is looking forward to working with her once her contract has been finalized by the Commission.
  - The EERS planning consultant (i.e. VEIC) will facilitate a series of five workshops that will take place during February and early March. The workshop topics will be Residential; C&I and Municipal; Financing; Marketing, Education and Workforce Development; and Metrics and Evaluation.

## **7. Discussion of 2017 Legislation**

- The Board discussed 2017 bills before the NH Senate and House that may be of interest to EESE Board members and stakeholders. The Board has chosen not to reconstitute the Legislative Committee, but will provide a link on the EESE Board website to a file that tracks bills related to energy.

## **8. Board and Program Updates:**

- Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Updates:
  - Grid Modernization meeting will be held Friday, February 3, 2017 at the PUC from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. The recommendation document is being drafted and will be discussed at the February meeting.
  - DE 16-576, Net Metering Alternative Tariff – rebuttal testimony has been filed. Settlement discussion and technical sessions will be held Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - PUC rebate programs will be posting pie charts depicting available funds to the program webpages around the second week of each month.
  - The Commercial & Industrial Category 2 Solar Rebate Program, which is for solar arrays over 100 kW and less than or equal to 500 kW, has established a waitlist. The number of projects on the waitlist will be posted monthly to the program's webpage.
- Office of Energy and Planning Updates:
  - OEP anticipates new staff will be joining the agency, serving at the pleasure of the Governor.

- OEP is drafting next year's proposal for State Energy Program (SEP) grant from the U.S. Department of Energy. Project ideas for the grant are welcome. The application is due April 11, 2017.
- Department of Environmental Services (DES) Updates:
  - After 10-years of service, Commissioner Burack has resigned. There will be an event held in his honor on Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at the Capital Center for the Arts from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Clark Freise is Acting Commissioner.
  - The public comment period regarding potential uses of funding resulting from the Volkswagen settlement has been extended until February 10, 2017. NH would become the beneficiary of a little over \$30 million, although there has been no definite decision from the Governor as to whether or not to accept the funds. DES encourages participation in the survey, link available at DES website "What's new – VW Settlement".
- EESE Board Action Item
  - EESE Board Chairman, Ben Frost, proposed a motion to add David Borden to the EERS Committee. Motion passed.

**9. Next Meeting – Friday, February 17, 2017 – location TBD**

- Preliminary Topics:
  - a. Annual Report
  - b. Committee Updates
  - c. EERS Financing workshop may be held immediately following this meeting (TBD)
  - d. Energy Savvy Presentation

**10. Adjourned at 11:06 am**