

Renewable Energy & Energy Conservation Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2015

Logan City Environmental Department Class Room

Board Members Present: Byard Wood, Jim Goodwin, Loren Anderson, Matt Perry, Nat Frazer, Jeannie Simmonds

Also in attendance: Emily Malik, Amy Anderson, Mark Montgomery, Craig Petersen

1. Welcome and Introductions

Byard welcomed everyone.

2. Acceptance of Agenda/Minutes

Nat motioned to approve the agenda.

Jim seconded.

All present members voted and approved.

Loren said the date need to be corrected on the March Minutes.

Nat moved to approve the minutes with the date changed.

Loren seconded.

All present members voted and approved.

3. SEPA USC Conference

Mark said he attended SEPA USC conference.

Mark mentioned there is an apartment complex that is looking to go to solar panels for the whole complex. He said the city needs to look at how they want to deal with the solar customers.

Jim asked what PE&G is doing.

Mark said he wasn't able to talk to somebody from PE&G but will look into it.

Mark mentioned he needs to research the options more and talk with the Mayor.

Jeannie asked if the apartment complex would be subject to policy change.

Mark said the City would have to grandfather in the few and give them a hard deadline.

31 Emily asked if the cost would be a wash to replace current meters with demand and net use
32 meters

33 Mark said it would be close.

34 Mark mentioned he talked to a different utility and they are increasing the customer charge to
35 those who are signing up for the community solar and installing solar privately.

36 Jim mentioned that it might be valuable to look at similar size utilities to see how they are
37 handling the solar problem.

38 Mayor Petersen mentioned they talked about putting a production meter instead of net
39 meters.

40 Mark said that would probably be better for the city.

41 Emily asked if the city could add a fee to the net meter application to offset the cost.

42 Mark said he wasn't sure about the fees.

43 Byard asked if they have the fixed cost data.

44 Mark said he does for commercial but not residential.

45 Jeannie asked if the bill could be split out with fixed rates listed separate.

46 Mark said he does not know.

47 Emily mentioned the solar interest is high.

48 Mark said any thoughts or ideas about how to handle solar customers shared would be
49 appreciated.

50 Mark mentioned that 20 people have signed up for the Logan City solar program leaving only
51 10 spots left.

52 **4. Elections Nearing**

53 Byard said there are 2 vacant positions and Peter's term expires in June.

54 Jim mentioned looking at getting a new student to replace Peter.

55 Jim motioned to add a student position that would change annually to the board.

56 Jeannie suggested that making the student position last up to 3 years with the option to
57 resign.

58 Emily said she will send the change out by email for vote.

59 Byard asked Emily to place the vacant positions on the website.

60 **5. Smart Thermostats**

61 Emily went over the Smart Thermostat packet.

62 Jim asked if Ecobee is a substantial company.

63 Mark said they are and they have been a big player in the builder side.

64 Byard mentioned that Trane might be another company to look into and will get Emily the
65 contact information.

66 Byard asked if the board is ready to propose the city move forward with the smart thermostat.

67 Mayor Petersen said there are a few problems with selling thermostats and the main one
68 would be competing with the private industry.

69 Mark said he thinks it would be better to do a rebate instead of selling the thermostats.

70 Emily asked if the rebate should have a cap.

71 Mayor Petersen asked if Emily would put together an official proposal for the next meeting.

72 Emily said she will update the current rebates to include smart thermostats and have it ready
73 for the next meeting.

74 **6. Conservation Contest**

75 Byard went over the conservation contest planning handout.

76 Jeannie asked if it would be wise to include water conservation.

77 Emily said it would be fine if the water department wants to include a water prize.

78 Jim asked if anybody has any expertise on water conservation.

79 Emily said she can work with the water department to get that information to share with
80 students.

81 **7. Concluding Remarks**

82 Byard said next month the board will focus on an official smart thermostat proposal and
83 conservation contest planning.

84 Emily mentioned that she had included an article about conservation with today's meeting
85 materials titled "The short list: The Most Effective Actions U.S. Households Can Take to
86 Curb Climate Change" by Gerald T. Gardner and Paul C. Stern.

87 The next meeting will be scheduled by doodle poll.

88 Meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.

89 Minutes submitted by: Amy Anderson