



MINUTES

Joint Committee of the CT Energy Efficiency Board and the Connecticut Green Bank Board of Directors

Monday, July 22, 2024

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Voting Members: John Harrity, John Viglione, Brenda Watson, Victoria Hackett on behalf of Hank Webster (DEEP)

Non-Voting Members: Stephen Bruno, Bryan Garcia,

Members Absent: Melissa Kops, Hank Webster

Others: Ron Araujo, Hammad Chaudhry, Diane Del Rosso, Mackey Dykes, Richard Faesy, Brian Farnen, Kathy Fay, George Lawrence, Cheryl Lumpkin, Benjamin McMillan, Ralph Mesite, Ariel Schneider, Natalia Sudyka, Becca Trietch, James Williamson, Jillian Winterkorn

Unnamed Callers:

1. Call to Order

- Brenda Watson called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

2. Public Comments

- None

3. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes from the March 20, 2024 meeting.

Resolution #1

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of the Joint Committee for March 20, 2024.

Upon a motion made by John Harrity and seconded by Victoria Hackett, the Joint Committee voted to approve Resolution 1. None opposed or abstained. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Update on the 2024 Legislative Session

- Brian Farnen summarized the most recent legislative session, which had 174 Public Acts and Special Acts, 2 of the Public Acts were vetoed by Governor Lamont and the remaining 172 were signed into law. He reviewed some of the Public Acts which he found relevant to the

group, including Acts related to solar projects, energy procurements and energy sources, bonds, and the regulation of PFAS in certain products. He also highlighted some bills which did not pass including SB 11 and HB 5004, though they are currently outstanding and may be addressed in the future.

- John Harrity asked about the funding for heat pumps at the point of sale and how much customers will get per heat pump. Victoria Hackett responded that it is not determined yet and there are some logistical issues to work through in order to get to implementation of that program.

- Victoria Hackett added that in relation to the Bond Bill, the change to the revolving loan program now allows for grants, but it also allows the revolving loan fund to be implemented by a quasi-public agency and not only a non-profit organization.

5. Plan Coordination – Healthy Housing

- Bryan Garcia summarized the engagement timeline regarding Healthy Housing since December 2023 and reviewed the technologies available for multifamily affordable housing and affordable rentals, which now includes some technologies discussed at the May 2024 meeting. He reviewed the Solar PV incentives at the State and Federal level and Battery Storage incentives at the State level.

- Natalia Sudyka summarized the heat pump options, incentives, and program requirements for Multifamily and Single-family dwellings through the Conservation and Loan Management Fund. Victoria Hackett continued by reviewing the Heat Pump incentives at the Federal level and noted that DEEP has applied for several new Federal programs recently, or will be shortly, and there will be a more comprehensive update about those applications soon.

- Brenda Watson asked what the interest rate of the Revolving Door Fund is and Victoria Hackett responded that it has not yet been designed and the plan is to roll out a public process this fall, and that the program can't begin before July 2025.

- Brenda Watson asked for clarification for Connecticut's share of the program and Victoria Hackett responded that for one program Connecticut is getting about \$100 million and for the CPRG program there is \$68 million for heat pump incentives mid-stream. As well, Connecticut will get a share of the funding that is being implemented with other states jointly around workforce development, and the estimated total for that program from the EPA is \$100 million, but it hasn't been finalized yet.

- Brenda Watson asked Bryan Garcia what the estimated workforce gap in the clean energy industry. Bryan Garcia responded that there needs to be more investment in workforce development in order to achieve the ambitious goals that the State has established in terms of public policy targets. Victoria Hackett added that DEEP is working closely with the Office of Workforce Strategy and DECD to understand and clarify those numbers.

- Victoria Hackett added that DEEP is working on a contracting and RFP process to develop an Incentive tool to provide information to find out which of the many incentives they may be eligible for.

- Natalia Sudyka continued to summarize options, incentives, and program requirements for Multifamily and Single-family homes for Weatherization measures and Appliances.

- Bryan Garcia added information about the Federal Tax Credits for Residential Energy Efficiency in general, though he was unsure if Multifamily Affordable Housing or Affordable Rentals are eligible.

- Mackey Dykes reviewed the Financing options and structure for Solar PV & Battery Storage combination programs for Affordable Multifamily homes.

- Bryan Garcia summarized the Federal Requirements required for these various programs and cited the Davis Bacon Act, among others. He then reviewed the principle of the Joint Committee and the State Energy policy.
- Brenda Watson reviewed the proposed goal of the Joint Committee within respective Plans of the committee members.

Resolution #2

Motion for the Joint Committee to recommend to the Energy Efficiency Board and the Green Bank Board of Directors, adopt the proposed goal within their respective plans (i.e., Conservation and Load Management Plan and Comprehensive Plan, respectively).

Upon a motion made by John Harrity and seconded by Victoria Hackett, the Joint Committee voted to approve Resolution 2. None opposed or abstained. Motion approved unanimously.

6. Other Business

- John Harrity stated that the Roundtable on Climate and Jobs is working with Eversource to determine a way to reuse Eversource's gas vehicle fleet as they transition to an electric vehicle fleet. The goal is to use the gas vehicles as loaner cars in the training system and for those that don't have access to transportation. The issue is that workers get trained but then they can't begin work due to transportation problems, so the goal is to break that down through these efforts.
- Victoria Hackett expressed her enthusiasm to break down the walls between the different programs and help customers understand and participate in programs that work together to lower their energy burden, as well as support a more modernized grid while improving overall air quality. As well, the extra attention to assist low-income or special attention communities due to being unable to participate in the past.

7. Public Comments

- Kathy Fay commented that if she was a voting member of the Joint Committee, she would have voted in support of Resolution 2.

8. Adjourn

Brenda Watson adjourned the Joint Committee meeting at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Watson, Chairperson