

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY BOARD

RSA 125-O:5-a

21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10

Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

## Minutes for February 19, 2021

### Attendees:

Board Members: Donald Perrin (DAS); D. Maurice Kreis (OCA); Becky Ohler (DES); Mark Sanborn (OSI); Kate Peters (Eversource); Eric Stanley (Liberty Utilities); Stephen Tower for Ray Burke (NH Legal Assistance); Bruce Clendenning (The Nature Conservancy); Tonia Chase (BIA); Karen Cramton (PUC); Cindy Carroll (Unitil); Matt Siska (GDS Associates); Ryan Clouthier (Southern NH Services); Carol Woods (NHEC).

Others: Azanna Wishart (PUC); Brian Buckley (PUC); Brianna Fiorillo (Clean Energy NH); Megan Ulin (Revision Energy); Tanya Wayland (PUC); Gary Cronin (PUC); Mark Lemanger (Eversource); Andrew Hatch; Dick Henry (DDH Energy Consulting); Erin Cosgrove (Clean Energy NH); Kate Epsen (ISO-NE); Joshua Singer (Clean Energy NH); Karen Rantamaki (DAS); Kelly Buchanan (Clean Energy NH); Liz Nixon (PUC).

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

- Bruce Clendenning called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.
- Mark Sanborn introduced himself to the Board. He will represent the Office of Strategic Initiatives.

### 2. Approval of the January 15, 2021 EESE Board Meeting Minutes.

- Becky Ohler moved. Ryan Clouthier seconded.
- Becky Ohler requested a minor edit to the wording of the update from DES.
- Approval of the amended January 15, 2021 minutes. All in favor with one abstention.

### 3. Fiscal Year 2020 State Energy Report presentation – Donald Perrin, State Energy Manager

- Don Perrin presented the building management portion of the report. Becky Ohler presented the fleet management portion.

- Fossil fuel energy intensity targets were compared to a fiscal year (FY) 2005 baseline to determine the reduction targets for fiscal years 2020, 2025 and 2030. In FY2020, fossil fuel use was reduced by 12%.
- The State of New Hampshire has avoided more than \$45 million in energy costs. Overall utility costs were reduced by \$2.1 million in FY2020 over FY2019.
- An important legislative change enables 50% of the general funds remaining in an agency's energy costs budget at the end of each biennium to revert to the State Energy Investment Fund (SEIF), providing more funds for energy efficiency upgrades, which in turn results in additional avoided energy costs.
- In FY2020, there were two energy saving performance contracts underway. Nineteen projects were completed across thirteen state agencies.
- Question: Have any projections been made regarding long-term changes in government as it relates to Covid-19? No. Each agency has treated the pandemic differently based upon its function so it would be difficult to forecast.
- The Fleet Management emissions tracking data shows the average fuel economy from 2010 to 2020. The overall fuel economy for the state fleet is under 20 mile per gallon. A contributing factor is the Department of Safety cruisers are included in the data and all safety vehicles are exempt from the states clean fleet requirement.
- Minimal fuel requirements are set every year. The 2021 requirements are 29 miles per gallon for city driving, and 32 miles per gallon for highway.
- Total cost of ownership data is included in the report this year. The data is important because it shows that even though a clean vehicle may be more expensive to purchase, the money saved in repairs and fuel costs, the overall cost of a clean vehicle is less.
- Work is being done to get EV charging infrastructure installed at state agencies. At 29 Hazen Drive there will be six Level 2 charging stations to be utilized by the public and state employees. Six stations will also be installed at 21 South Fruit Street at the PUC location. Six stations will be installed at Cannon Mountain.
- Question: In relation to EV charging, is the cost of electric demand accounted for or is the cost of chargers included in the total cost of ownership? Cost of the chargers is not included in the total cost of ownership. Some grant dollars were available to use for initial charging station installations. For Level 2 chargers, demand charges are not an issue in most locations because they don't pull much power.
- Question: For agencies that have shown an interest in EVs have there been any issues with supply and availability? No, there have been no problems with availability of vehicles.

#### 4. Legislative Updates

- HB549 – relative to the energy efficiency resource standard and the systems benefit charge. There is a hearing on Monday morning, February 22<sup>nd</sup> for those that are interested. Becky

Ohler asked Kate Peters if the utilities will be speaking in opposition to the bill. They have been expressing concern to the sponsors.

- There was discussion about the creation of New Hampshire Department of Energy. The Board should look closely at the proposal to discuss at a future date.

## 5. Board and Program Updates

- EERS Committee – Don Kreis
  - The Committee is awaiting the Commission’s Order on what it intends to do about the 2021-2023 EERS Triennium Plan.
- PUC – Karen Cramton
  - RGGI auction #50 closed and the distribution of proceeds is complete.
  - Renewable Energy Programs – The Residential Solar Rebate program currently has a waitlist. The Residential Pellet Rebate program is close to waitlist status. Both the C&I Solar and C&I Pellet Rebate programs have funds available.
  - The Commission will be hosting a stakeholder session in March to discuss the individual Renewable Energy Fund programs and what, if any, terms and conditions or program changes that may be necessary in the future.
  - There are two competitive grant solicitations. The C&I Competitive Grant RFP received six proposals. The Low-Moderate Income Community Solar Grant program RFP due date for proposals is next Friday, February 26, 2021.
  - The Clean Energy Fund working group is close to finalizing a consensus proposal on the use of the funds and allocations to the proposed programs to be supported by the fund.
- The Nature Conservancy – Bruce Clendenning
  - Along with Clean Energy NH, CDFR, and other partners are continuing to move forward with an Energy Week series of virtual events between April 12<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

6. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.