

Residential Ratepayers' Advisory Board
October 24, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Present for the Board:

Claira Monier, Chair
Thomas Moses, Vice Chair
Ken Mailloux
Dick Weaver
Ryan Clouthier
John Thomas

Present for the OCA:

Donald Kreis
Dr. Pradip Chattopadhyay
Jim Brennan
Jamie Breen

Guest: Patricia Martin

Guest Speaker: David Littell, Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP)—Trends and Innovation in the Power Sector

Ms. Monier called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Introductions were made, welcoming guest speaker, David Littell. Mr. Littell is a principal in RAP's United States Program. He is a former member of the Maine PUC and a former commissioner of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection for a total of 11 years and was also in the private practice of law for 11 years.

1. **Minutes of July 25, 2016 Meeting**

Mr. Moses moved to approve the draft version of the minutes; Mr. Clouthier seconded the motion. The Board members agreed unanimously, except Mr. Thomas, who abstained.

2. **Presentation from David Littell, Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP)—Trends and Innovations in the Power Sector**

Mr. Littell presented the Board with a power point presentation concerning:

- Power sector transformation trends (growth in renewables, use of natural gas, distributed generation, demand-side management, transmission costs)
- Advanced energy technologies (including smart meters and electric vehicles)
- Smart rate design
- Emerging regulatory techniques to continue to replicate effects of competition and encourage actual competition

3. **Case Update**

Mr. Kreis also informed the Board on the status of several active dockets, including:

- DE 16-576 Alternative Net Metering Tariffs
- DE 16-383 Liberty Rate Case
- DE 16-384 Unitil Rate Case
- DG 15-362 LU Franchise Pelham-Windham
- DW 16-806 Pennichuck Water Works Rate Case

4. **Goals and performance measures submitted with FY 2018 budget proposal.**

Mr. Kreis apprised the Board of some of the current changes in the Legislative process regarding FY 2018 budget proposals. New changes include submitting a mission statement, performance measures and goals. Mr. Kreis indicated that, although the FY 2018 goals and mission statement were developed without the involvement of the Advisory Board, he recommended that for FY 2019 the OCA consult with the Board as the previous year's goals and mission statement are revised and updated. There was consensus among Board members that this would be appropriate and useful.

5. **Meeting Schedule for 2017**

Mr. Kreis asked the Board about scheduling 2017 meetings. Ms. Monier requested meeting six times a year, in the odd months. Mr. Moses concurred. All present Board members agreed on meeting six times a year for 2017. (January, March, May, July, September and November) Ms. Breen was asked to email the Board with the 2017 schedule.

6. **Any other topics or issues that the Board wishes to discuss**

Mr. Kreis suggested having one or more guest speakers at the January meeting that could discuss what positions, if any, the OCA should take with respect to natural gas expansion in light of the ongoing concerns of grassroots activists about the environmental implications of increased reliance on fossil fuel. The Board agreed that this would be an appropriate topic for discussion in January.

Ms. Monier moved to adjourn. Mr. Mailloux seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.