

# **MINUTES**

# **Citizens Advisory Committee**

500 McCullough Ave., San Antonio, 78215 & Via WebEx

February 14, 2024 | 11:30 a.m.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Member of CAC	<u>Present</u>	On-Line	<u>Absent</u>
Richard Farias	✓		
Lawson Picasso	$\checkmark$		
Diana Aguirre Martinez	$\checkmark$		
Frank Gonzalez	✓		
Raquel Zapata		$\checkmark$	
Adelita Cantu			✓
John Kelly	$\checkmark$		
Tom Corser	✓		
Vanessa Alvarado	✓		
Bill Day	$\checkmark$		
Andra Clapsaddle	✓		
Steve Bonnette	$\checkmark$		
Bob Zapata	$\checkmark$		
Aaron Stein	✓		

#### **Also Present were:**

Melissa Carrillo Cox	Christina Cisneros Guzman	Velma Corona	Ashely Glotzer
Charles Hoopingarner	Ben Jordan	Unity Puente	Shanna Ramirez
Vidya Rangachar	David Rivela	Angela Rodriguez	Melissa Sorola

Marie Stoner Nancy Tabares Domingo Villarreal

# **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 11:31 a.m. by Chair Diana A. Martinez.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval for the meeting minutes from January 10, 2024, was motioned by Billy Day and seconded by Steve Bonnette. Passed as corrected.

## **STAFF UPDATE**

Christina Guzman informed the Committee of the following events:

- CPS Energy 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf tournament benefiting REAP on Monday, March 18
- Community Resource fair: District 10, Wednesday, February 28, 2024.
- Various Weatherization Drive-Thru
  - For additional information click on link below. <a href="https://www.cpsenergy.com/content/corporate/en/about-us/community/upcoming-events.html">https://www.cpsenergy.com/content/corporate/en/about-us/community/upcoming-events.html</a>

#### **DATA CENTER GROWTH BRIEFING**

Benjamin Jordan, Director of Business & Economic Development, updated the committee on Large Customers. Ben discussed the five- and ten-year perspectives on significant client demands and their impact on the systems, also the resources to plan and manage risk associated with significant energy users. Also, there is interest from data center clients as we engage and collaborate with them and how their business is changing historically and evolving. According to estimates, artificial intelligence computing power is four to six times greater than cloud computing energy requirements. The energy request has increased from 20 to 40 MW to 200 to 400 MW and higher. The rush to secure electricity is on for data center customers, who are multinational, deal with utilities all over the world, and are based in San Antonio. He indicated that CPS Energy is working on various tariff proposals that would be presented to the board for consideration. Ben stated that they have seen a concentration of data centers, and we have informed our partners that a limited amount of capacity is available. Large energy projects like this are complex to service, and the concentration of these request will probably necessitate upgrading our 345kV bulk electric transmission line. Also stated that large complex customers challenge our planning and require additional support, putting strain on the system's growth strategy. Lastly, he stated that they are advising clients to consider alternative sites within the service territory of CPS Energy.

#### **COMMITTEE ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

Chair Diana Martinez asked each member to make announcements or comments at this time.

Lawson inquired if whether the CPS Energy plans to increase the incentives offered to solar power customers. Also, requested information on whether there were any buyback programs on solar panels and the actual benefits of switching to solar energy over traditional energy use.

Shanna stated that Elaina Ball, the Chief Strategy Officer, is currently looking into several of our tariffs to determine what can be done to encourage conservation in a way that benefits the community as a whole and the environment.

Chair Martinez mentioned if there has been any development on the idea of having a clearinghouse of kinds that would provide recommendations for reliable solar providers that we could share with the residents of our districts.

Shanna stated that it is on her list, with one of the limitations on municipal utilities is that we are not allowed make references or imply a partnership or endorsement where none exist. For this reason, we are looking for a third-party vendor list that would be comparable and that we could offer people without going against non-endorsement rule.

Frank stated that D4 is requested more information on weatherization, with the 2024 process, criteria, and assistance programs.

Christina noted that an email will go to the committee with details of upcoming events that CPS Energy CRU is hosting throughout the community.

Vanessa inquired if there are any CPS Energy programs that can help seniors with tree trimming.

Aaron mentioned if there are any plans for electric vehicle charging, mainly for the purpose of returning the cars to the grid during periods of high demand. Also is there any organizations or initiatives attempting to anticipate what will information on EV charging stations.

Shanna stated that the list is extremely short and includes charger issues; we are currently examining four tariffs, but EV chargers are one of them. One issue is how to encourage infrastructure construction to support the expansion of EV chargers and electrification.

Bob mentioned there is supply and demand problem due to increased demand. Would like to know there is load sharing procedure and who decides it.

Shanna stated that for all customers in the state of Texas, regardless of type, our tariff specifically states that you are not guaranteed a load, meaning that we cannot guarantee continuous power deliver.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Diana A. Martinez took the Committee into Executive Session to discuss confidential matters at 12:30 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no action being taken in Executive Session, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.