



MINUTES

Citizens Advisory Committee

Via WebEx

October 13, 2021 | 11:30 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Member of CAC	Present	Absent
Diana Aguirre Martinez	✓	
Frank Gonzalez	✓	
Andy Castillo	✓	
Raquel Zapata		✓
John Kelly	✓	
Tom Corser	✓	
Allie Watters		✓
Adelita Cantu	✓	
David Walter	✓	
Mary Dennis	✓	
Bill Day	✓	
Luisa Casso- Chair	✓	
MaryEllen Veliz	✓	

Also Present were:

James Carter	Heather Cooper	Velma Corona	Melissa Carrillo Cox
Randy DeLeon	Eugene Diaz	Daniel Elias	Gabriel Garcia
Sonia Garcia	Rudy Garza	Ramon Gonzales	Julia Carrillo Haynes
Jesse Hernandez	Andrew Higgins	Charles Hoopingarner	Laura Jacobs
Loretta Kerner	Ann Kinnard	Rhonda Krisch	Christian Krueger
Cory Kuchinsky	Kelly Kuhle	Luis Labatt	Gregory Lee
Polly Longserre	Eunice Lopez	Lisa Lopez	Rick Luna
Julia Martinez	Sandy Maudet	Oscar Medina	Robert Nathan
Karma Nilsson	Robert Nelson	Robert Olivares	Christine Patmon
Yvette Cardiel-Perez	Yvonne Pelayo	Lawson Picasso	Unity Puente
Jose Reyes	Gina Riak	David Rivela	Priscilla Robledo
Ricci Schooler	John Soltau	Prabha Somawardana	Melissa Sorola
Marie Stoner	Katy Surman	Nancy Tabares	

CALL MEETING TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND SAFETY MESSAGE

The WebEx meeting was called to order at 11:33 a.m. by Chair Luisa Casso.

Invocation was made by Diana Aguirre Martinez.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the CAC meeting held on September 8, 2021 were approved as read.

Motion by John Kelly seconded by Adelita Cantu.

RATE CASE PROCESS: THE ROLE OF THE CAC

Rudy Garza, Chief Customer & Stakeholder Engagement Officer, started off by updating the Committee on CPS Energy's community engagement activities. He mentioned the current facilitated efforts with a market research firm to get direct feedback from the community on their thoughts of CPS Energy. There are six focus group sessions planned, both in English and Spanish, for residential and business customers. This process has been used in the past and allows the utility to hear unbiased feedback from its customers gathered by a third-party facilitator.

Mr. Garza then moved on to discuss the role of the CAC in the rate case process. The CAC and the Rate Advisory Committee (RAC) have formal opportunities to provide feedback on the potential rate increase to the CPS Energy Board of Trustees and the Board expects to hear from both entities. In previous years, the CAC has drafted a resolution of support to be presented to the Board.

PRE-RATE INCREASE CONSIDERATION PERIOD: REVENUE REQUIREMENT

Cory Kuchinsky, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer, provided an update and overview of the engagement process and recapped the budget evaluation process, which includes developing a revenue forecast then a comprehensive view of revenue requirements. He summarized the drivers of the financial position and provided details on the impacts to revenue, both in terms of sources and uses of revenue. He also mentioned that since the last rate increase, almost eight years ago, the Capital Plan has averaged \$650M/year. However, fiscal years 2023 and 2024 are projected to be \$893M and \$959M, respectively. Increases to the Capital Plan are specifically driven by generation enhancements including weatherization, technology updates to antiquated equipment, customer growth, and gas and electric infrastructure. He also highlighted the fact that over the past 10 years, CPS Energy has served more customers year or year while reducing its headcount by nearly 25%. Cory also spoke about the potential impact of Winter Storm Uri fuel costs. While CPS Energy has already paid a portion deemed as legitimate fuel costs, it will attempt to recover those costs over a long period of time to lessen the bill impact to customers. CPS Energy continues to assess the actual percentage increase needed to sustain operations and will return to the Board of Trustees later this fall with the actual amount needed. (Cory was unable to conclude his presentation due to time constraints but will return next month to continue the dialogue.)

STAFF UPDATE

Because of time constraints, Julia Carrillo Haynes, Manager of Local Government Relations, provided the following staff update through email after the meeting:

- The next RAC meeting will be on Thursday, October 14, at 5:30 p.m.
- The next regular Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Monday, October 25 at 1:00 p.m., at which time the CAC appointee for District 2 will be presented for approval.
- The City of San Antonio's Municipal Utilities Committee will be Tuesday, October 26, at 10:00 a.m.
- There are several upcoming Utility Assistance Fairs:
 - District 6 Thursday, October 21, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.
 - District 1 Thursday, October 28, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.
 - District 5 Thursday, November 2, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ROUNDTABLE

Chair Luisa Casso asked each member to make announcements or comments at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 12:59 p.m.