



MINUTES

Citizens Advisory Committee

Via WebEx

December 8, 2021 | 11:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

<u>Member of CAC</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Richard Farias	✓	
Lawson Picasso	✓	
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:

Amelia Badders	Madison Bernal	Yvette Cardiel-Perez	James Carter
Velma Corona	Melissa Carrillo Cox	Eugene Diaz	Paul Escamilla
Daniel Elias	Gabriel Garcia	Kathy Garcia	Luis Garcia
Rudy Garza	DeAnna Hardwick	Julia Carrillo Haynes	Andrew Higgins
David Kee	Loretta Kerner	Ann Kinnard	Rhonda Krisch
Cory Kuchinsky	Lisa Lopez	Rick Luna	Richard Medina
Kari Meyer	Robert Nathan	Karma Nilsson	Christine Patmon
Yvonne Pelayo	Shanna Ramirez	David Rivela	Ricci Schooler
John Soltau	Melissa Sorola	Prabha Somawardana	Marie Stoner
Nancy Tabares			

CALL MEETING TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND SAFETY MESSAGE

The WebEx meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chair Luisa Casso.

Invocation was made by Melissa Carrillo Cox, and Yvonne Pelayo provided a safety message.

Rudy Garza provided opening remarks recognizing Chair Casso’s last meeting. He thanked her for her work and representation of the community over the past six years.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the CAC meeting held on November 10, 2021 were approved as read.
Motion by Diana Aguirre Martinez, seconded by John Kelly.

2022 SLATE OF OFFICERS

Luisa Casso, Chair, stated that per the bylaws at this meeting, the Committee will consider the proposed slate of officer for the 2022 year. As terms expire, it is the standard practice of the CAC for the incumbent Chair-Elect to assume the Chair seat, and the Vice Chair to assume the position of Chair Elect. After reviewing the current CAC membership and assessing the timeline of terms, the Executive Committee is nominating John Kelly for Vice Chair.

Luisa Casso, representing the Executive Committee, proposed the following slate of officers:

Chairman – Bill Day
Chair Elect – Allie Watters
Vice Chair – John Kelly

With no other nominations from the Committee, the nomination from the Executive Committee was motioned by Tom Corser and seconded by Adelita Cantu.

All were in-favor; none were opposed.

PROPOSED RATE REQUEST TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND SAN ANTONIO CITY COUNCIL

Cory Kuchinsky, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer, provided an update on the proposed rate request. Cory started by saying that CPS Energy recognizes the importance of transparency & public engagement while working collaboratively for positive changes in the community. Emphasizing near-term investments and creating financial stability, the proposed base rate increase is 3.85%, which will result in a revenue increase of \$73M. The rate request supports the incremental critical investments needed to continue serving our community, and includes funding for infrastructure resiliency, technology, growth and stabilizing staffing levels. The rate request will not cover funds associated with past due accounts or disputed fuel costs associated with Winter Storm Uri that are still in litigation, nor will it cover future generation decisions or changes to the rate design. An additional component of the rate request is the recovery of funds used to pay validated fuel costs for Winter Storm Uri through a regulatory asset. The \$418M in legitimate costs will be recovered over 25 years through the fuel adjustment on customers' bills. Cory also covered the average bill impacts for both residential and commercial customers based on various usage levels.

Cory also addressed the funding received from the City of San Antonio through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). CPS Energy received \$20 M from the City of San Antonio, which will go directly towards paying off customers utility bills. To date, CPS Energy has received over 1,500 applications for ARPA funding. Customers who also qualify for ARPA funding also qualify for CPS Energy's Affordability Discount Program (ADP), and will receive an additional \$3.84 discount on their bill if this proposed rate request is approved.

The proposed financial plan includes a rate evaluation approximately every two years, and CPS Energy will continually monitor other issues that may impact future rate requests, such a disputed fuel costs from Winter Storm Uri, past due balances resulting from the pandemic, technology

needs and rate designs. Cory stated that there is an effective date of March 1, 2022, if approved by San Antonio City Council in January.

COMMITTEE ROUNDTABLE: DISCUSSION & CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO DRAFT RESOLUTION

Chair Luisa Casso reiterated the importance of the committee feedback and input. She emphasized that she wants to make sure the Committee has the information they need and feel prepared to give authorization to draft a resolution. She stated that the Committee has the option to support, option to not support, or the option to remain neutral, however she feels that the CAC being neutral is not the role of the CAC and they would not be fulfilling their duty.

Bill day stated the Executive Committee is asking for authorization to draft a resolution reflective of the Committee's decision, whatever that may be. He also indicated the Executive Committee would like volunteers from the CAC to assist drafting the resolution.

Casso polled the group and asked if they feel they have been presented with ample information to make a decision. Several members voiced their support for the rate proposal. Members also emphasized that the resolution should effectively articulate feedback from the community and capture sensitivities to the economic inequities throughout the region

Casso also mentioned that both she, as outgoing CAC Chair, and Bill Day, as incoming chair would jointly present the resolution to the CPS Energy Board of Trustees in January. A motion was made by Adelita Cantu, and seconded by Diana Aguirre Martinez, for the Executive Committee to draft a resolution in support of the proposed rate request, which will be presented to the full CAC for a vote at the meeting on January 5, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.