

8-2-2010

East Bay Energy Consortium Meeting Minutes, August 2, 2010

East Bay Energy Consortium

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East Bay Energy Consortium

Representing the following Communities

Barrington	Newport
Bristol	Portsmouth
East Providence	Tiverton
Little Compton	Warren
Middletown	

Chair – Jeanne-Marie Napolitano, Vice Chair -Andrew B. Shapiro
Treasurer- Diane Williamson, Secretary- Jeanne Boyle

Regular Meetings of the East Bay Energy Consortium are held the first Monday of each month, at the Roger Williams University Library, third floor Library Board Room. Meetings start promptly at 8:30 AM
Coffee, Bagels and Assorted Fresh Fruit, provided by our host, Roger Williams University

Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2010, 8:30 AM
Bay View Room, RWU Law School

Present: Anne Wolff Lawson, Bob Palumbo, Julian Dash, Allan Klepper, Garry Plunkett, Gary Gump, June Speakman, Merritt Meyer, Diane Williamson, Christine Weglowski Forster, Tim Faulker (The Bay Magazine), Don Wineberg, Andy Shapiro, Caroline Wells, Jeanne Boyle, Phil Hervey.

Agenda Items 1,2,3,4:

Call to Order made by Jeanne-Marie Napolitano at 8:50am. Mayor Napolitano welcomed all EBEC members. The attendance sheet was passed around and EBEC members introduced themselves. Tim Faulker, reporter for The Bay Magazine, was a guest.

Agenda Item 5:

Minutes from the 6/7/10 and 7/12/10 meetings were reviewed. The following edit was requested for the July 12th meeting:

- 1.) Agenda item 12 regarding the RIF Bridge Funding Request. The first sentence should read:

“Palumbo reporting for the Arnold Group stated that TAG had contacted the RIF to seek advice on preparing a bridge funding proposal for EBEC activities. They developed a proposal for EBEC to retain their services for the next 6 months at a cost of \$ 45-50,000 to accomplish 6 tasks which would prepare EBEC for Phase III funding.”

Motion Diane Williamson to approve the June minutes and July minutes with edits was seconded by Andy Shapiro and unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 6, Treasurer’s Report:

Diane Williamson gave the Treasurer’s Report:

- 1.) Overall budget review:
 - o The current balance in EBEC’s account is \$2,899.74

- All cash matches have been received
 - Motion (Williamson) to approve was seconded by Boyle/Plunkett and passed unanimously.
- 2.) ASA's Phase II invoice was received for the amount of \$44,067.35. Diane noticed a \$30 discrepancy which she will contact Dan about. Motion (Williamson) to approve was seconded by Boyle/Plunkett and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 7: Phase II Report and Joint Presentation, Gary Gump, Andy Shapiro and other committee members (Dan and Debbie were not able to attend)

- Gary said there was a positive 20-year revenue report on the turbines: \$23 million in revenue over 20 year period comes out to \$127,000 per town with revenue increasing yearly.
- Questions remain regarding wind and capital equipment
- 4.5% rate on bonds assumed but could vary
- Lease payment terms to be discussed with Town of Tiverton
- Questions were raised regarding the distribution of the final report. Jeanne Boyle and June Speakman both said that they did not receive it and requested a copy to be sent to them.
- Andy Shapiro said that the Joint Committee will have the opportunity to review and approve the final Phase II report at their next meeting. This review process will be critical as EBEC will ultimately shape this information for presentation to individual municipalities.
- Motion (Shapiro) to receive the Phase II draft from ASA for Joint Committee review was seconded (Gump) and approved without opposition.
- Next Joint Committee meeting will be on August 16, 2010

Agenda Item 8: Communications Report, Garry Plunkett

Garry reported that the website is on hold until discussions and agreements are further along.

Agenda Item 9: RWU support and MET tower reports, The Arnold Group

Bob reported that RIEDC and ASA are in direct communication with RWU with regard to the cost and installment of the MET tower (s). Discussion followed about MET tower installation. June Speakman asked if the MET tower (s) from RWU would be used or if they would come from elsewhere. Julian stated that data collection using the MET towers will move forward.

Agenda Item 10: Report on Tiverton Industrial Park Master Plan, Andy Shapiro and Garry Plunkett

Andy and Garry met with Chris Spencer, Tiverton Town Planner, who has consulted with Tiverton's engineers at no cost to the town. Chris is on board with a combination master plan which includes industrial and renewable energy use, as opposed to two competing plans pitting industry and energy against each other. He has received ASA's Phase II report and has most likely shared with the town engineers (Commonwealth). Garry stated that he met with Town Council representative Louise Durfee to make sure they were on the same page.

Andy continued on the subject of the master plan by saying that it creates 37 sites in the industrial park. There may be 40-45 sites in the park ultimately. Andy said that the town will retain three designated locations for the turbines, according to Chris Spencer. There is no approved master plan for the industrial park. This worries Andy. He reminded everyone that the park is not fully built out yet. An engineering study has yet to take place. This will cost in the neighborhood of \$80,000.

Agenda Item 11: Ethics Commission Update, EBEC Counsel, Don Wineberg

Don reported that the Ethics Commission accepted Andy Shapiro's request to seek an advisory opinion on whether he can step down as EBEC Vice Chair to become a member of The Arnold Group's EBEC consulting team. The Ethics Commission rejected EBEC's request for an advisory opinion regarding the same matter.

Agenda Item 12: Report on EDC, RIF Funding Request, Jeanne-Marie Napolitano

Mayor Napolitano reported that a meeting was held to discuss EBEC funding requests of RIF and RIEDC. The following individuals attended: Keith Stokes, Fred Hashaway, Diane Williamson, Julian Dash, Jeanne-Marie Napolitano, Erin Donovan and Jenny Pereira. She continued by saying that EDC wanted to know how committed the towns were. EDC said that it is extremely unique to see 9 towns work together and moving ahead on this kind of project. EDC likes EBEC at the top of its list for funding. Jeanne continued by saying that Fred Hashaway asked about the EBEC structure. He was pleased when she said that Don Wineberg is the current EBEC legal counsel. EDC would like RIF to pick up a piece of the funding to EBEC. Julian Dash will act as the liaison between EDC and RIF and both organizations will accept one application which Julian will share with the organizations for negotiation. Diane Williamson commented that EBEC is pleased to get funding from the state. She likes the idea of streamlining the application process into one single package. Julian Dash responded by saying that EBEC is a priority energy project for the state. He said that EDC wants to see "more meat on the bones" of the proposal for pre-development/Phase III. Julian said that funding design is key with regard to planning with the town and industrial park. Diane underscored the importance of not getting ahead of the communities and that this next piece would be crucial. June Speakman asked about the MET towers. She reminded everyone of Barrington's experience where their turbine project got to the point of gathering MET data and then the project died. She asked if the revenue generation projection could be reexamined by ASA. June asked if, process-wise, this requires a new committee. Diane also brought up the fact that the MOU's signed by each town bind them to the feasibility study and that once we get past that point, we will need to add to or revise the MOU's. Don Wineberg responded to June's inquiry regarding the revenue projections. He told her to refer to Table 8.8.2.5 in the Phase II report and that she would see revised numbers. He further explained that the 100 meter data was left out mistakenly.

Agenda Item 13: Old Business

Phil Hervey has a proposal for a Phase 3A leading to Phase III. Mayor Napolitano thanked him for his work and suggested some of his work be incorporated into the new proposal for EDC.

Next Meeting Date

Next EBEC meeting was scheduled for September 15, 2010.

Adjournment:

Motion (Napolitano/Gump) to adjourn at 9:40 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Anne Wolff Lawson, Leadership Institute at Roger Williams University (awlawson@rwu.edu or (401) 276-4844).