



Energy & Climate Team
Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2015, 12:00-2:00 pm
City Council Chambers

Members Present: Ben Schmidt, Molly White, John Freer, Brian Kerns, Diana Maneta, Sarah Rinfret, Dave Potchak

Members Absent: Robin Saha

Others Present: Chase Jones, Kelly Elam

Facilitators: Susan Anderson (Sustainable Business Council), Kim Latrielle (Chamber of Commerce)

I. Announcements:

Mr. Schmidt announced he will be absent for the March 13 Team meeting and Mr. Saha will chair the meeting.

Ms. White said she will not be able to attend the March meeting.

II. Public comments on items not listed on the agenda:

None

III. Approve minutes for January 23, 2015

The minutes were approved unanimously.

Administrative:

None

IV. Non-Action Items:

None

V. Action Items:

A. Elect 2015 Energy & Climate Team Chair and Vice Chair.

Energy & Climate Team Minutes for February 13, 2015

Mr. Kerns moved to elect Mr. Schmidt as the Energy & Climate Team chair person.

Mr. Freer seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Freer moved to elect Mr. Saha as the Energy & Climate Teams vice chair person.

Mr. Kerns seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

B. Propose bills for the City of Missoula to support or oppose at the 2015 State Legislative session. Bills will connect with Energy and Climate issues.

Mr. Schmidt mentioned some bills have several parts to them and some parts may not pertain to the E&C Team. There are not as many bills to monitor this session as there have been in the past.

SB114 – “An act revising the Montana renewable power production and Rural Economic Development Act; revising the definition of “Eligible Renewable Resource” to include existing hydroelectric resources; requiring a public utility to refund customers for the value of certain renewable energy credits.”

Ms. Maneta gave an update on this bill and noted this bill does not have a direct effect on the City and she recommends opposing it. There was discussion and the Team agreed.

Mr. Schmidt moved to oppose SB114.

Ms. White seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

SB150 – “An act increasing the amount of universal system benefit funds used by a public utility for low-income energy and weatherization assistance; clarifying ways a public utility may provide assistance; amending sections 69-8-402 and 69-8-412, MCA, and providing an immediate effective date and a retroactive applicability.”

Ms. Maneta gave an update on this bill and does not recommend the City to take a position on it. The Team agreed.

HB485 – “An act generally revising Net Metering laws; increasing the cap on net metering systems; allowing a customer-generator participating in net metering to carry forward remaining unused kilowatt-hour credits and to apply excess credits to separate metered accounts; providing stipulations for applying excess kilowatt-hour credits to additional meters; requiring a utility to conduct a net metering study; requiring the Public Service Commission to review net metering classifications under certain circumstances; establishing timelines; allowing for a fee; granting rule making; amending sections 69-1-

114, 69-1-402, 69-8-103, 69-8-602 and 69-8-603, MCA and providing an effective date and a contingent effective date.”

There was Team discussion and it was agreed not to make a recommendation at this time. Ms. Maneta will continue to track this bill and if there are changes, she will request a meeting for discussion.

Mr. Schmidt moved to track this bill and call a meeting if there are changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

The meeting Adjourned at 1 pm
Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Elam
City Clerk Office