

Board Meeting Minutes—204th Meeting

October 12, 2022

Board members present: Anne Haworth Root, Elee Jen, Eric Hayes, Erik Andersson, Henry Lorenzen, Melissa Cribbins, Peter Therkelsen, Silvia Tanner, Susan Brodahl, Thelma Fleming, Letha Tawney (Oregon Public Utility Commission, ex officio)

Board members absent: Alexia Kelly, Ernesto Fonseca, Janine Benner (Oregon Department of Energy special advisor), Roland Risser

Staff attending: Abby Spegman, Alex Novie, Amanda Potter, Amanda Sales, Amber Cole, Bayoan Ware, Betsy Kauffman, Cameron Starr, Cheryle Easton, Cody Kleinsmith, Dave Modal, Debbie Menashe, Derek Olson, Elaine Dado, Elizabeth Fox, Fred Gordon, Greg Stokes, Hannah Cruz, Jay Ward, Jeni Hall, Joshua Reed, Julianne Thacher, Kate Wellington, Lidia Garcia, Mayra Aparicio, Melanie Bissonnette, Michael Colgrove, Oliver Kesting, Sarah Castor, Scott Leonard, Scott Swearingen, Shelly Carlton, Sletsy Dlamini, Sloan Schang, Spencer Moersfelder, Steve Lacey, Sue Fletcher, Tara Crookshank, Thad Roth, Tracy Scott, Wendy Gibson

Others attending: Allie Romo (CLEARresult), Angie Thomson (Thomson Strategic) Anna Kim (Oregon Public Utility Commission), Brian Morrison (Morrison Consulting), Brian Lynch (AESC, Inc.), Brooke Landon (CLEARresult), Dave Backen (Backen Consulting), Heather Salisbury (CLEARresult), Jake Wise (PGE), Kari Greer (Pacific Corp), Laney Ralph (NW Natural Gas), Lisa McGarity (Avista Corp), Monica Cowlshaw (Cascade Natural Gas Co.), Randy Hastings (DThree), Steph Berkland (TRC Companies), Whitney Rideout (Sky Gardens Design, LLC)

Business Meeting

Henry Lorenzen called the meeting to order at approximately 9:03 a.m. Henry reminded board members that consent agenda items can be changed to regular agenda items at any time. There were no requests to move items from the consent agenda.

General Public Comments

There were no public comments.

President's Welcome and Workshop Introduction of Angie Thomson, Budget Workshop Facilitator

Henry welcomed the board to the budget workshop and introduced Angie Thomson of Thomson Strategic Consulting who facilitated the board's workshop discussion.

2023 Draft Budget and 2023-2024 Action Plans Workshop

Energy Trust staff presented the draft 2023-2024 budget to the board for board discussion and consideration.

Executive Director Michael Colgrove opened the presentation by reviewing the inputs and dynamics that shape the draft budget: laws and regulation, utility planning, cost-effective energy efficiency, above-market cost for renewable generation, and market intelligence. Stakeholder engagements also identified the following dynamics for this budget: market conditions (inflation and workforce and supply chain challenges), climate change policies at federal, state, county, and municipal levels, focus on relieving energy burden, and community engagement, with focus on diversity, equity and inclusion.

Angie prompted board discussion with several questions, and board members asked questions about the dynamics and factors and specific provisions of the budget.

After a brief break, Michael Colgrove continued with information about the specifics of the 2023-2024 draft budget and action plan. The budget does not anticipate rate increases for utility customers, with forecasted 2022 carryover to be deployed into the 2023-2024 budget. He noted that the draft budget reflects a shift from a longer term savings approach to an approach that aims to get savings faster even if it is more costly. While still cost effective, this approach may result in increased levelized cost to meet current policy and market dynamics. To do this, the budget also reflects a staffing plan that builds future capacity to design new incentives, develop new program designs and offers, build new systems and work with utilities and stakeholders and communities in new ways.

Board members engaged in a detailed discussion regarding the draft budget, asking questions regarding, among other things, potential state policy changes, staffing, costs, success metrics, equity, and specific new program designs and offers, including work with small businesses and pilots for small hybrid heat pump HVAC systems.

Mike and Angie thanked board members for their attention and discussion.

General Public Comments

There were no general public comments.

President's Report

President Henry Lorenzen recognized Board Member Silvia Tanner for her upcoming honor at the Citizen Utility Board conference on Friday October 14. Silvia will be recognized for her work as a community activist to advance clean energy for all. The board congratulated her, and Silvia thanked the board.

Utility and Public Comment on Draft 2023 Budget and 2023-2024 Action Plan

Laney Ralph, Northwest Natural Gas Company (NWN)

Laney expressed thanks for the increased coordination with the utilities through the budget development process, and she acknowledged that this coordination requires extra work of staff. Laney stressed that notwithstanding state policy, NWN has its own organizational decarbonization goals and looks forward to working with Energy Trust to reach these goals with an eye to expanding service to transport customers and pilot program offerings such as hybrid heat pump system incentive offerings. She specifically expressed support for the draft budget's proposed innovation team and outreach to customers who we haven't served.

Monica Cowlshaw, Cascade Natural Gas (Cascade)

Monica echoed Laney Ralph's comments and appreciation for the increased collaboration through the budget development process. Like NWN, Cascade has organizational decarbonization goals and looks forward to similar expanded work with Energy Trust to achieve those goals.

Jake Wise, Portland General Electric (PGE)

Jake also expressed appreciation for greater collaboration throughout the budget development process. He also thanked board members for visiting the PGE operations center. These types of engagements bring additional awareness to the value of the work of Energy Trust and PGE. In addition, Jake mentioned PGE's continuing interest and support of working with Energy Trust in expanded efforts like targeted load management and other non-wires solutions. PGE also supports the 2023-2024 draft budget for additional Energy Trust staff and for efforts to reach communities not yet served by Energy Trust's programs.

Lisa McGarity, Avista

Lisa described how Energy Trust is an integral part of Avista's decarbonization goals. Reducing consumption through energy efficiency programs delivery through Energy Trust. Lisa expressed Avista's general support of the draft budget, noting that Avista wants to make sure that Energy Trust's board and leadership continue to focus on Energy Trust's core mission for energy efficiency acquisition, particularly in the event of an economic recession. She also expressed Avista's support for staffing at levels that support good work-life balance.

Kari Greer, Pacific Power (PAC)

Kari also expressed appreciation for the new collaboration on budget development, mentioned specifically the development of utility specific action plans. Kari also expressed appreciation for stable utility customer costs as reflected in the draft budget. PAC does have some concerns about the increase in staff budget, asking questions about the timing of bringing on additional staff. Michael Colgrove responded that the revised draft budget is expected to include a phased approach to hiring based on comments like this from utilities and the OPUC.

Business Meeting Continued

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda may be approved by a single motion, second and vote of the board. Any item on the consent agenda will be moved to the regular agenda upon the request from any member of the board.

MOTION: Approve consent agenda with correction on Resolution 985

Consent agenda includes:

- July 20, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes
- September 7, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes-correct "Silvia Hayes"

Motion by: Melissa Cribbins

Seconded by: Eric Hayes

Vote:

In favor: 9

Abstained: 0

Opposed: 0

Committee Reports

Compensation & Human Resources Committee

Energy Trust Director of Human Resources Amanda Sales summarized board packet notes from the committee's August meeting at which representatives of the Principal and Cable Hill Partners presented performance information on the Energy Trust 401k plan.

Finance & Audit Committee

Chief Financial Officer Chris Dunning, staff liaison to the Finance & Audit Committee, presented highlights of the financial reports included in the board packet, with focus Energy Trust's compliance with the staffing metric for 2022. As a result of discussion with OPUC staff and staffing conditions, the OPUC has waived compliance with the staffing metric for 2022 and will permit Energy Trust to expend its 2022 staffing budget fully for hiring and retention

Chris also described the committee's discussion of staff's recommendation to extend a program delivery contract with CLEAResult for the Business Lighting program through December 2024. Amanda Potter, Industrial and Agriculture Sector Lead presented information to the board on the recommendation, noting that the Finance & Audit Committee recommended the extension. The board did not object. Staff is therefore authorized to negotiate an extension to the contract.

Chris then described the committee's discussion of staff's recommendation to extend the Existing Buildings program management contract with TRC Consulting. Senior Program Manager Wendy Gibson presented information to the board on the recommendation, noting that the Finance & Audit Committee recommended the extension. The board did not object. Staff is therefore authorized to negotiate an extension to the contract.

Nomination & Governance Committee

Debbie Menashe, Director of Legal Services and staff liaison to the Nominating & Governance Committee summarized the discussions of the committee as reflected board packet notes. The committee recommended certain amendments to the organizational Bylaws and Operating Guidelines of each of the Nominating & Governance Committee, Finance & Audit Committee, and Compensation & Human Resources Committees to reflect committee discussions on committee decision making processes. President Henry Lorenzen requested that the discussion on this recommendation be postponed to the next board meeting so that Nominating & Governance Committee chair Roland Risser could be present. The matter will be postponed until the December meeting.

Ad hoc Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee

Melissa Cribbins, chair of the Ad hoc Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee described the recent work of the committee, noting that the committee is meeting monthly for an hour. Melissa also previewed that the committee's charter sunsets at the end of 2022; the board will have to decide whether to continue it in 2023 and the committee will return at the next meeting with a recommendation.

Committee Reports Continued**Conservation Advisory Council (Peter Therkelsen)**

Peter reported out on the CAC meeting in September. Minutes from the September CAC meeting will be in the next packet.

Renewable Energy Advisory Council (Susan Brodahl)

Bayo Ware presented on the RAC. OESA report say there is more than enough renewable energy to meet goals.

2023 Annual Board Calendar

Second Wednesday of the month is set aside for board meetings or committee or workshops. Henry made this pretty unclear. Not sure what this discussion ended up with. Cheryle Easton will send out invitations for committee meetings and board meetings.

Meeting Process Review

The board wrapped up the meeting by discussing the meeting process, providing feedback on hybrid format, the budget discussion and board packet materials.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Energy Trust Board of Directors will be held Wednesday, December 16, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. meeting will be in a hybrid format, with the option of board members and Energy Trust staff to meet in person at Energy Trust of Oregon, Inc., 421 SW Oak Street, Suite 300, Portland, Oregon or virtually on Zoom. The meeting will be open to the public on Zoom.

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Eric Hayes
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Signed: Eric Hayes

12/8/2022 /
Date