

Residential Ratepayers' Advisory Board
September 10, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Present for the Board:

Otis Perry, Chair
Claira Monier
Kenneth Mailloux
Thomas Moses
Amy Manzelli, Esq.
Joseph Costello
James Garrity
Thomas Cunningham

Present for the OCA:

Susan Chamberlin
Rorie Hollenberg
Stephen Eckberg
Donna McFarland
Christina Martin
Kim Therrien

Guests:

Heidi Kröll, Lobbyist and Policy Analyst at Gallagher, Callahan & Gartrell, P.C

1. Introductions and Minutes of July 9, 2012 Meeting

Mr. Perry declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm. Mr. Perry suggested that we change the agenda slightly and start with everyone introducing themselves since there are two new Advisory Board members present, as well as the new Consumer Advocate. Introductions ensued.

Mr. Perry then asked the board if there were any amendments to the minutes, hearing none he asked for a motion to accept the minutes as drafted. Mr. Costello moved to accept the minutes, and the motion was seconded by Ms. Manzelli. The Board unanimously approved the July minutes as drafted.

2. Procedural Matters and Next Meeting Date

Ms. Hollenberg explained to the Board that the OCA decided to have Ms. Therrien take over the Board administrative tasks and be the primary point of contact for the Board members. In addition, taking into consideration budgetary constraints, it was suggested that Board meetings be made quarterly, versus bi-monthly. It was asked if the Board would consider changing the meeting times as Ms. Therrien works Tuesday through Thursday and that mornings might work best. The Board determined that Monday's would still work best but that they could do Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Therrien agreed that she could make quarterly Monday morning meetings. Ms. Manzelli asked that the OCA check to see if Ms. De Moulpied would be available on Monday mornings and Mr. Perry set the next meeting date for December 10, 2012. Ms. Chamberlin expressed to the board that she will always be available, if needed in the interim.

Mr. Mailloux moved to tentatively change the meetings to quarterly on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. and Mr. Costello seconded the motion.

ACTION ITEM: OCA to check with Ms. De Moulpied.

Mr. Garrity made a request to be placed on all PUC electronic service lists and was informed that OCA would look into how to make that happen.

ACTION ITEM: OCA to speak with the PUC service list representative about Mr. Garrity's request.

Mr. Perry asked that considering that they're moving to quarterly meetings if the OCA could provide monthly updates via e-mail of the case update activity list.

ACTION ITEM: OCA to provide monthly activity updates to board.

3. Case Activity Update

Ms. Hollenberg highlighted various cases in the activity list:

- DE 10-188 in which she explained our positive impact in this CORE case, which resulted in input from Mr. Garrity about the legislative intent of RGGI money and specifically how it was not to be used for performance incentives or overhead costs. He also indicated that he would like to speak to the Commissioners regarding legislative intent. Ms. Hollenberg stated that they may not be willing to discuss it with an order pending;
- DRM 12-036 noting that it will be interesting to see what is done in terms of telecom rulemaking in light of SB48 and the deregulation of the telecom industry;
- DE 11-216 Ms. Manzelli asked about the language on the activity list regarding it not being "viable in the long term". Ms. Hollenberg responded that this is the language in our testimony and is a real problem that needs to be addressed;
- DE 12-097 indicative of the migration problem;
- DG 12-131 the company seems willing to work with staff and the OCA to refund the \$4 million over-collection from NH customers. The hard part will be getting that money back from Maine customers;
- FERC dockets the MA Attorney General's office is heading the docket about the return on equity earned by the New England region's transmission owners, but we are participating. The other one is the \$1.8 million from Constellation that needs to be returned to NH distribution customers.
- DW 12-170 Ms. Hollenberg mentioned that Hampstead Area Water Company (HAWC) filed a rate increase. She asked the two board members from Atkinson if there were any water quality issues to be aware of. Mr. Cunningham responded that there is a contaminated well in the town, but that is not a HAWC well but it may interplay into their system. She explained that the OCA will be discussing whether or not we can and should participate in that case.

4. Miscellaneous

Mr. Perry submitted his resignation effective immediately, stating how much he's enjoyed his tenure with the Board and that he's been holding off his resignation until a new consumer advocate was in place. The OCA and the Board thanked him for his services.

Ms. Chamberlin extended an offer to all board members that she is available any time if anyone wants to meet with her.

5. Public Comment.

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

The Board's next meeting is Monday, December 10, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.