

UCPB Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2017 at 12:30 p.m.
Michigan Library & Historical Center
1st floor Lake Superior Room
702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, Michigan
(DRAFT)

Present: Jim MacInnes (Chairperson), Paul Isely (Board Member), Brian Vilmont (Board Member), Sam Passmore (Board Member), Kelly Jo Kitchen (Board Assistant), , Susan Haroutunian (Board Member), Chris Bzdok (MEC), John Liskey (CARE), Don Keskey (RCG and GLREA), Jim Wilson (LARA), Doug Jester (CARE), Brian Colyer (RCG and GLREA), Mike Moody (Attorney General), Lori Ebaugh (RCG), Michelle Rison (RCG)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call 12:37

- Approval of Agenda including consent items and Minutes from November 6, 2017.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded: Susan Haroutunian

Motioned carried

II. Business Items

- a. LARA Budget Update: Jim Wilson, \$325,255 available for grants
- b. Attorney General update: Mike Moody.
- c. MEC: Chris Bzdok
 - Request to **approve experts** for U-18419: Approve Dr. Jeremy Fisher and Avi Allison from Synapse Energy Economics as experts in the DTE Electric CON/IRP Case No. U-18419. Dr. Jeremy Fisher will be leaving Synapse so he will not be participating moving forward.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded: Susan Haroutunian

Motion Carried

- Proposed Budget Sheets for Unused Funds: Cases U-17920-R (\$1,531.16), U-18142 (\$10,857.50), U-18143 (\$6,938.70), U-18152 (\$5,955.97), U-18322 (\$2,605.80) and U-18418 (\$9630.00). These cases will be closed out and the remaining funds (\$43,621.88) will be returned to the UCRF.
- Grant Amendment requests: Grant #11 FY 17-04 – no cost, **within-case transfers** from expert to legal in both the DTE Electric Rate Case No. U-18255 and in Consumers General Rate Case No. U-18322. MEC is going deeper in the DTE case and taking on more issues in Consumers case. Board discussed the rationale for flexibility in cases to allow for movement of funds within cases.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded: Brian Vilmont

Motion carried

- Grant Amendment request: Grant #4, FY 18-04 – no cost, **within-case transfer** from expert to legal in DTE Electric Rate Case No. U-18255.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded: Susan Haroutunian

Motion carried

- Grant request: For action on the second half of FY18 funding request #5, for the Consumers Energy PSCR Plan Case No. U-18402, (\$50,500 requested) and DTE Electric PSCR Plan Case No. U-18403, (\$45,450 requested). MEC has consulted with the attorney general and there is no major overlap of issues. Mike Moody discussed what the issues they will be focusing on, Chris Bzdok presented the issues they will be working on that are different from the Attorney General's issues.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded: Sam Passmore

U-18402 for \$50,500: discussion.

Motion Carried

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded: Susan Haroutunian

U-18403 for \$45,450: discussion.

Motion Carried

- MEC looking forward: DTE renewable case 1/31/18 (\$40k), CECO 6t IRP filing 6/18 (mostly in 2019).

d. CARE

- Grant Request: \$25,000 for Northern Power Company (NPC) rate case, U-18462. Through coordination with the Attorney General CARE withdraws their request for the NPC rate case and the Attorney General will participate in that case.
- Grant Request: \$25,000 for Revenue Decoupling Mechanism Surcharge refund, U-17077. Review of case from 5 years ago when surcharge was permitted. The surcharge was found to be illegal by Appellate Court. CARE filed comments and asked MPSC to open a separate case to get a refund due residential rate payers. If the MPSC acts on their own and resolves this issue CARE will withdraw their request and return the funds requested. The Attorney General will not be in this case.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded: Sam Passmore

U-17077 (or new docket) for \$25,000

Motion Carried

- CARE looking forward: UMERC rate case (\$35K), UPPCO rate case (\$50k), PSCR-R cases (\$30K).

e. RCG

- Grant Request of \$30,000 for potential cases involving Federal Income Tax changes. Discussion.

No action taken

- Grant Request: \$23, 634 for CECo GCR plan case (case number available end of December).

- Grant Request: \$23,634 for DTE plan case (case number available end of December).

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded: Brian Vilmont

Discussion: Attorney General is in these cases. Staging the amounts of money; designate the funds expressly for the benefit of residential rate payers; looking at the outcome of the money spent; looking at the benefit to cost ratio; timely progress reports.

\$23,634 for DTE plan case

No action taken

\$23,634 for CECo GCR plan case (case number to follow)

Motion carried

- RCG Looking forward, PSCR-R cases in April (25K for each case) Rate cases (25k for each)

- f. Board assistant to compile a reference guide of board actions to assist with consistency moving forward.

- g. UCPB 2018 meeting schedule:

2/19/2018, 4/9/2018, 6/4/2018, 8/6/2018, 8/27/2018, 10/1/2018, 12/3/2018

III. Reports

- a. Grantees

IV. Public Comment

V. Next meeting: February 19, 2018

VI. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn 4:25