

UCPB Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2018 at 12:30 p.m.
Michigan Library & Historical Center
1st floor Lake Superior Room
702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, Michigan

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), Don Keskey (RCG and GLREA), Jim Wilson (LARA), Douglas Jester (CARE), Paul Lamb (CARE), William Peloquin (RCG)

I. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members 12:42

- a. Approval of Agenda (including consent items), minutes from December 4, 2018 and Amended minutes from October 2, 2017.

Moved: Susan Haroutunian, Seconded: Paul Isely
Motion Carried

II. Business Items

- a. LARA Budget Update
Amount available as of February 2, 2018 is \$242,525.
- b. Attorney General not present, but board was provided with a list of cases that the AG is in.
- c. MEC:
- Grant #4 Amendment 6, DTE Electric Company CON/IRP (U-18419), \$10,100 for legal.
MEC is closing accounts and flowing back to the UCRF around eighteen thousand. Case is in hearing this week and next week. Need additional monies because the schedule has been extended and to work on motions that have been presented. The Nexxus pipeline will be put through the PSCR case.
Transmission question: MISO may be changing their rules on constructs for resource allocation in order to accommodate the use of more resources.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded Brian Vilmont
Discussion: Increase budget by **\$5,100** for (U-18419)
Motion carried

- Grant #4 Amendment 7 CEC Co REP (U-18231), \$15,150
MEC is looking at surcharges, trying to get it to 0.
- Grant #4 Amendment 8 DTE REP (U-18232), \$40,400, more likely to include a surcharge.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded Susan Haroutunian
Discussion: **\$40,400** for DTE REP (U-18232)
Motion carried

- Grant #4 Amendment 9 CECo Voluntary Renewable (U-18351) , \$19,190 and DTE Voluntary Renewable (U-18352), \$19,190 section 61 renewable energy election. Ratepayer would pay more or absorb savings. Utility wants to apply caps to program on the ratepayer usage and control the choice of the type of renewable energy allowed.
Discussion: Cost/benefit of advocacy for more renewable options in the mix.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded Brain Vilmont

Discussion: **\$19,190** for DTE Voluntary Renewable (U-18352)

Motion Carried

- Request to **approve experts** from Applied Economic Clinic from Tufts University. The AG is also drawing from same pool of experts so a wider array is needed. Rates are below market price since these experts work for a university.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded Susan Haroutunian

Motion carried

- MEC sees a DTE reconciliation case and CECo 6t IRP coming that would overlap fiscal years 18-19.

d. CARE:

- Grant request UPPCO PSCR-R (U-18147-R) \$15,000
Due to be filed by the end of March and CARE would need to do some work before the next board meeting.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded Sam Passmore

Discussion: **\$15,000** for UPPCO PSCR-R (U-18147-R)

Motion carried

- Grant request UMERL PSCR-R (U-18149-R) \$15,000.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded Sam Passmore

Discussion: **\$15,000** for UMERL PSCR-R (U-18149-R)

Motion carried

- Grant request UPPCO IRP (#TBD) \$30,000 - \$50,000
CARE will be meeting with UPPCO on February 22nd.
- CARE is not aware of anything else for this calendar year.
The AG will not be in any of the above MEC or CARE cases.

e. RCG

- Grant request DTE GCR Plan (U-18412D) \$23,634.
- Grant request CEC Co Gas Rate (U-18424) \$22,119.

Moved: Paul Isely, Seconded Brian Vilmont

Discussion: **\$22,119** for CEC Co Gas Rate case (U-18424)

Motion carried

- Grant request DTE Gas Rate (U-18999) \$22,119
- Grant request Tax cases \$30,300
Gas general rate cases are going on at same time as the gas GCR cases.
Discussion: Traditional issues within cases will be pursued. Looking at spot market issues, storage and how it affects the spot market and the use of agents for purchasing gas. AG is in the gas cases and how RCG pursues unique issues.
Discussion: The TCJA and how it may affect rates and when to take on this issue with cases.

III. Reports

a. Grantees

IV. Public Comment

V. Next meeting: April 9, 2018

Motion to adjourn: Brian Vilmont, Seconded Paul Isely

Motion carried 3:45
