

MINUTES
ARKANSAS ALTERNATIVE ENERGY COMMISSION
[Established by ACT 1301 of 2009]
State Capitol, Room 171, Little Rock, Arkansas
Thursday, September 18, 2014

The Arkansas Alternative Energy Commission (AAEC) met Thursday, September 18, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 171 of the State Capitol in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Commission members in attendance: Leo Hauser, Chair; Warren Allen, Stan Berry, Ryan Boyd, Blake Foust, Audrey House, Rita Potts, and Joseph Wood.

Also attending: Representative John Hutchison

Mr. Hauser called the meeting to order.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JUNE 19, 2014, MEETING MINUTES [EXHIBIT B]

Ms. House made a motion to approve the June 19, 2014, meeting minutes. Mr. Berry seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Representative Hutchison was recognized and invited commission members to attend the State Agencies and Governmental Affairs meeting November 10, 2014, in Room A of the Multi-Agency Complex, Little Rock, Arkansas. He stated he would be discussing Clean Line Energy's proposed transmission lines in Arkansas.

Ms. Potts asked what the Arkansas Public Service Commission's position is concerning Clean Line's proposed transmission line.

Mr. John Bethel, Director, Public Service Commission (PSC), stated the PSC is continuing to monitor actions on the Clean Line transmission line. There is nothing pending before the PSC regarding the line, all activities are in front of federal agencies, primarily the U.S. Department of Energy. He stated Clean Line asked for a certificate of convenience and necessity to be identified as a public utility in Arkansas, and the PSC found they did not meet the statutory requirements at that time. They have not made any other filing at the PSC. The PSC is continuing to monitor and determine whether there is any action that is required in the future.

Representative Hutchison provided commission members an article titled, "Kansas Senate Votes to Repeal Renewable Mandates." **[Handout 1]**

Ms. House stated there was an HBO documentary concerning Kansas considering the repeal of the renewable energy mandates. The documentary was titled, "Years of Living Dangerously." She stated Kansas was fighting against the Heartland Institute. The documentary showed Mr. James M. Taylor from the Heartland Institute speaking in Little Rock, Arkansas, dismissing the need for this commission, and dismissing any kind of need for renewable portfolio standards. The Heartland Institute is stating global warming and climate change does not exist, and there is no need for renewable options.

Mr. Hauser reminded members that all commission positions will be up for appointment at the end of December 2014.

DISCUSSION AND PRELIMINARY STEPS TO EXECUTE THE 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Hauser stated the charge of the commission is to prepare a report for the general assembly and the governor detailing the commission's recommendations. In order to simplify this process, he asked the commission member responsible for setting-up presentations for previous meetings to be responsible for writing that respective segment of the report. The segments of the report will be assigned as follows:

- Mr. Hauser - Arkansas Chapter of Interfaith Power and Light – Mission and Projects
- Ms. House - Hydroelectric activity/potential within the United States and Arkansas and Murray Lock and Dam
- Mr. Allen - Co-generation Initiatives – Arkansas Opportunities

Each member will provide their section to Ms. Sabin who agreed to combine the information into the final report.

Ms. House stated since recommendations in the 2012 report have not been addressed, they should be condensed to key elements and added to the 2014 report.

Mr. Hauser recommended communication concerning the report be done through email and maybe a conference call.

Mr. Hauser asked for suggestions on possible 2015 discussion topics. Ms. House made the following suggestions:

- Instead of being called “Alternative” it should be more about an Energy Plan
- Job creation potential
- Transition from coal-based to renewable
- Additional co-generation aspects
- Public consumer and curriculum-based education program
- Presentation from the Heartland Institute

Mr. Allen requested staff review previous meetings and send commission members the information the Arkansas Energy Office presented on the Energy Plan.

Ms. Potts made a motion to have monthly meetings for the remainder of the year. The motion was seconded by Ms. House.

Ms. Potts amended her motion to have at least one more meeting, at the call of the chair, this year to hear the status of the energy plan, review a draft of the 2014 report, and other related topics. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woods, and without objection, the motion carried.

NEXT MEETING

The AAEC is tentatively scheduled to meet Thursday, October 23, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 171 of the State Capitol. The agenda items will include a report from the Arkansas Energy Office on the status of the Arkansas Energy Plan as well as a review of the draft 2014 commission report. A definite date will be determined and members will be informed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.