

Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility

Oversight Board Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2024 – 9:00 am – Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82085375373?pwd=Q0xyQlFVSzFqNVh3Mk0zTGZjL1lVQT09>

Welcome

Members present were Senator Harris McDowell, Senator Trey Paradee, Senator Stephanie Hansen, Kristopher Knight, Michael Chajes, Sean Finnigan, Tom Noyes, Dayna Cobb, Samantha Kayne, proxy for Ruth Price, and Drew Slater. Also present were Matt Lillard and Frank Murphy.

1. Approval of Minutes

a. Oversight Board Meeting Minutes – May 17, 2024

Mr. Slater presented the minutes of the May 17, 2024 Oversight Board Meeting.

Michael Chajes made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2024, Oversight Board Meeting. Sean Finnigan seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

2. SEU Business

a. Electric Vehicle Home Charging Rebate Contract Approval – Mr. Slater stated that on September 5, 2024 Governor Carney signed House Substitute 2 to House Bill 13. This bill requires the DESEU to establish a Residential Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment rebate program.

DESEU has been working with Applied Energy Group (AEG) on a pilot program to gain valuable insight ahead of HS2 for HB 13 passing the legislature and being signed into law. AEG's contract is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2024.

A quote to expand the pilot program to full program implementation, the total cost is under the amount that may be approved by the Executive Director. Given the new statutory requirement, Mr. Slater thought it would be prudent to present it to the Board for approval to move forward with AEG. Mr. Slater stated that AEG's quality of work, fees, time commitment, and track record speak volumes and stated AEG has been a wonderful partner. The full program will be open to applicants on October 1, 2024, with the approval of the Board.

Senator Hansen made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to enter a contract with AEG for the purpose of expanding the Residential Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment program. Sean Finnigan seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

b. Charging Station Memo – DESEU purchased an electric vehicle charger in 2018, to support the purchase of a 2018 Chevy Bolt. Mr. Slater provided a chart to show that the usage of the charger has increased significantly over the past year, averaging almost 2,500 kWh per month, an equivalent to nearly 3 homes usage/month. Annually, the charger is equivalent to nearly 33 homes electricity usage/month.

Mr. Slater is requesting the authorization to work with the building owners to support at least one additional charging station.

Senator Hansen made a motion to allow the Executive Director to work with the building owners to support at least one additional dual port charging station at 500. W Lookerman St. in Dover. Michael Chajes seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

- c. Fire Department Blanket Memo – Mr. Slater stated that at the environmental bill signing on September 5, 2024, the General Assembly has passed more electric vehicle legislation this year than ever before.

DESEU had a role to play with the Challenge Electric Vehicle Program, and have been presented by the City of Dover Deputy Fire Marshall Matt Brown, to support all Delaware Fire Companies with a multi-use vehicle blanket.

As electric vehicles are traveling our roads, there are unique challenges in the rare event of an electric battery fire including the amount of time and resources to put out the fire. Electric vehicle fires have a higher rate of secondary fires when water is used where the fire blanket can be left on during transport to a storage yard ensuring there is no secondary fire.

The cost to support this initiative is estimated at \$200,000 which includes delivery and training for each fire department including two blankets for the City of Wilmington, one for Dover Air Force Base, and one for the Air National Guard.

Michael Chajes made a motion to approve the Executive Director entering into a contract to purchase fire blankets for each fire company with an estimated cost of \$200,000. Senator Hansen seconded this motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Reports

- a. Executive Director
- b. Program Activity Report
- c. Budget Report

4. New/Old Business

- a. There was a motion by Dayna Cobb, seconded by Senator Hansen to approve up to \$4.1 million for a loan in the Dover area. This allows the Executive Director to go above the cap of \$2 million for a single project as long as Doug Bacher, Brent Shaffer, Tony DePrima, and the Executive Director believe the loan should move forward. Thereafter, the motion was passed unanimously with no abstentions.

5. Executive Session – To discuss confidential and proprietary business

At 10:30am Ruth Price made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss confidential proprietary business as well as legal and personnel matters pursuant to 29 Delaware Code §10004. Senator Hansen seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Adjourn

Thereafter, the meeting was adjourned at 11:17am.

litigation. Participation by teleconference will be available to Board members.