

EEHW COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
January 7, 2013
5:45 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Tim Dudley
Jerry Potts
Kevin Greenfield
Phil Hogan
Kevin Meachum
Merv Jacobs
Patty Cox (Arrived @ 5:48 p.m.)

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Mike Baggett, Asst. State's Attorney
Jay Dunn, County Board Chairman
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

This meeting was called to order by Chair Dudley at the Macon County Office Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jerry Potts made a motion to approve the minutes from the prior meeting, seconded by Kevin Meachum and motion carried 7-0.

CITIZEN'S REMARKS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Macon County Board Resolution Approving a Plan of Operation and Governance for Residential and Small Commercial Electric Aggregation

Chair Dudley announced that Mike Baggett has looked over the Plan and one small change has been made. In Paragraph 2 (b) where it refers to the establishment of an advisory committee, the EEHW Committee will be the advisory committee. There were some questions from the auditor. Most everything questioned has been taken care of. Anything that has not been done is listed on the calendar schedule and when it will be completed. The reason we had to speed everything up is a timing issue. They want to buy the power in the wintertime to get a better rate. We are trying to get this all done so we can get the best rate. Everything has to be adopted before we can do that. There will be some public meetings coming up soon. There has also been an 800 number established for the public for use once the opt out goes out in the mail.

Questions: Jerry Potts: I am curious as to why the public meetings are at 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. on the same day. Shouldn't they be spread out? There are a lot of people who work and are not available at these times. I think one should be in the daytime and one in the evening. I think this should be addressed. I want to see that everyone has a chance to make these meetings. It needs to be as fair as possible for people who work for a living.

Tim Dudley: The timing doesn't really matter, but those are going to change. I got a call before I got here tonight that the Herald & Review did not get the public notices in the paper this

weekend. So, we are going to have to back them up a few days. They are going to be on different days – possibly one on Friday and maybe one on Monday of next week. They will still have the 800 number they can call too if they have any questions. By law, the public meetings have to be held.

Tim Dudley: Does everyone understand what is taking place here?

Merv Jacobs: NO

Tim Dudley: Everything has to come off in order. In order for Integrys to buy our power, we have to have a Governance Agreement in place to explain how we are going to handle things and giving a schedule of operations. We have to send out the OPT OUT notices for people where they can call in and ask about opting out. These all have to go in order. That is what the Plan of Governance is. It explains exactly how we are going to do the procedure so everybody understands. That is what we are adopting tonight. Once we adopt this, we move forward with our schedule. Everything was modeled off of a couple of other cities that have already adopted these issues and Mr. Baggett has gone over everything and it all looks great. We are just laying out our plan of attack so we can move forward and get this power bought at the lowest possible rate.

Merv Jacobs: How about those people that are already signed up with other companies?

Tim Dudley: The people that have already signed up with someone else, they get to stay signed up. Everybody is already signed up. They can opt out at any time.

Kevin Meachum: There are some people in the community that may have signed up with other companies.

Jay Dunn: Would they be allowed to opt out of that other company and into the County's if it was cheaper?

Tim Dudley: Absolutely. Well, they can opt out, but the company's program that they signed up for may have a buyout. We, the County, negotiated that there would be no early opt out fee. The people on this plan, if they opt out, will not be charged anything. But the people with another company may have a \$1,500 opt out fee they'll have to pay. They can opt out at any time – they just may have a fee. When we negotiated ours, there is no fee.

Merv Jacobs: Are we, the County, causing people a big fee if they want to opt out?

Tim Dudley: Not us. Our program has no opt out fee. If they signed up with another company, say a year ago, decide to opt out of that program, they may have to pay a fee.

Merv Jacobs: I'm there and I like my bill.

Tim Dudley: Then you can keep that if you want. But, if you decide to opt out later and go with the County, you may have to pay them a fee.

Merv Jacobs: What control is the County going to have over me, the person who has already signed up with another company?

Tim Dudley: We don't have any control over you at all. You have already negotiated your deal and you are welcome to keep it. We have no control over that.

Merv Jacobs: I just don't want the County telling people what they have to do.

Tim Dudley: They will not, and even if they did, you can opt out at any time. But, it's not going to happen. You already have your deal and you are welcome to keep it.

Jerry Potts: Are we following the City's lead on this? They've already adopted theirs.

Tim Dudley: No, we are not. They have their own plan. We are not following anybody's lead, but we are trying to look at what other cities are doing, look at their resolutions, and trying to make sure we are all modeled the same way and get ideas from others. We're not just winging it.

This is all new to everybody. This has never been done before. There is really no precedence. You just have to dig in, try to work together, see what everybody else is doing and hope you're doing it right – and I think we are. I am very confident that we are.

Motion to pass the resolution on to the full board was made by Jerry Potts, seconded by Phil Hogan, and motion passed 6-0 with Merv Jacobs voting present. Merv explained he is pretty much in favor, but wants to make a phone call first. When the Board votes, I'll be ready.

CLOSED SESSION

None needed

NEXT MEETING

1-17-13

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Merv Jacobs, seconded by Patty Cox, and motion carried 7-0.
Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham
Macon County Board Office