

SFC CLERK RECORDED 06/21/2010

**MINUTES OF THE
ENERGY TASK FORCE
of the
CITY OF SANTA FE / SANTA FE COUNTY
REGIONAL PLANNING AUTHORITY**

**1 PM, Friday, April 9, 2010
Santa Fe, New Mexico**

The Regular Meeting of the Energy Task Force (ETF) of the City of Santa Fe / Santa Fe County Regional Planning Authority (RPA) was called to order by Chair Kathy Holian at approximately 1:05 PM on the above-cited date in the legal conference room of the Santa Fe County Administration Building.

ROLL CALL

Kathy Holian, Chair
David Griscom
Randy Grissom
Brendan Miller

Members Absent:

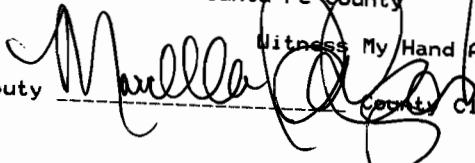
Patti Bushee, Vice-Chair
David Blackman
David Van Winkle

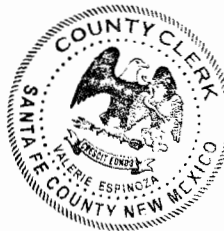
Others Present:

County of Santa Fe
Mary Jane Parks, Energy Consultant
Duncan Sill, Economic Development Planner
City of Santa Fe
Katherine Mortimer, Supervising Planner
Cary Weiner, Renewable Energy Planner

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss ENERGY TASK FORCE MIN
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 21ST Day Of June, 2010 at 08:12:04 AM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1601935
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Deputy  Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Valerie Espinoza
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM



APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Grissom moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Miller and approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Miller moved to approve the minutes of February 26, 2010, seconded by Mr. Grissom and approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY (EE) PROGRAMS

Chair Holian noted that energy efficiency improvement is important for public buildings, most specifically the county and the city, but that the discussion can include public schools as well, including SFCC.

- **Update on City Programs**

Mr. Weiner presented a list of city facilities where EE programs are being worked on with funds from the state and federal stimulus moneys. With the exception of the LED streetlights, all projects are for the city. The city was fortunate in that it had done thirteen energy audits before the money was received. The projects noted on the list were a result of the recommendations made in the energy audits and some came from the maintenance staff at certain facilities. There are approximately 800 projects.

Unfortunately, there are some that cannot take place with the stimulus money, such as GCCC that has a swimming pool. The funds cannot be used if the building does not exist if a pool was not there.

Mr. Weiner gave further information on the programs following questions from the ETF members. He thought that a 5-year payback for the LED streetlights is realistic because they cost about \$1,000 per light, although 40% of energy costs may be saved. The city had originally looked at just purchasing bulbs, but it was recommended that the entire fixture be replaced because of heat issues. The new fixture also tests for how much light hits the ground.

The funding will take care of some of the 52 city facilities, but there is still more that could be accomplished. The stimulus funds have been spread around and some was given to the Homewise program so that it gets out into the community.

The exterior insulation on one side of Salvador Perez was done, which resulted in some natural gas savings. So insulating the rest of the facility is planned. The boiler that heats the pool is being replaced, zoning for heating and cooling is being revised, and a quote for a solar hot water heater is being sought.

Thirteen energy audits were contracted at facilities, and Mr. Weiner said that he and Mr. Schiavo feel they now have sufficient ability to complete energy audits in-house for the other facilities. He added they may be able to help with recommendations for county facilities.

- **Update on County Programs**

Mr. Sill said the county has not yet done energy audits and may do them using part of the funds it is receiving from the state. The federal portion will be used for the Renewable Energy Financing District (REFD). The REFD contract is still in the legal department and should be ready soon so that an updated scope of work can be provided to the next ETF meeting. Initially, fifteen county facilities were identified, subject to the energy audits. Help from city staff might allow more funds to be used for EE improvements. A main concern is the age factor of the county office building.

An analysis on improvements in other county buildings will be done for the biggest return on investment to determine how to leverage funds. The money from the state grant will retrofit 100 LED streetlights. Now that the state has its own specifications, the county can work closer with them on payback return.

In an effort to support local businesses and agreeing with the recommendation from several ETF members, Mr. Sill confirmed there is a LED technology business in Albuquerque that has a GSD contract with the state that will probably be used.

Chair Holian asked if there are students studying at SFCC who could help with audits. Mr. Grissom said that using interns is always a challenge because students may not be available during working hours. Mr. Grissom added that almost all of the degree certificates require an internship, whether paid or unpaid, and suggested that arrangements could be made with the instructors.

Ms. Parks suggested that the county building might be able to stay open in the evenings for the audits. Mr. Sill stated that is a consideration since he has a key to the building.

Mr. Sill noted that a component of the grant was workforce development. He was receptive to the idea that some of the EE measures be performed by an organization such as Youth Works.

- **Ideas for Partnering with Youth and SFCC**

Mr. Grissom said that SFCC has all the funding for its new building, but no funds for equipment for training purposes, solar or renewable energy. He stated that the roof of the building could be used for curricular training in the installation process for solar PV panels to generate electricity and hot water for the building and also small wind devices to generate power. The general contractor is putting struts and empty conduit on the roof for easy installation of wires.

He said he has been writing grants but so far is unsuccessful. He is seeking funds to look for someone who would use the students as part of an installation process. There is also the potential for being a training center for sales and marketing.

Mr. Grissom suggested alternatives for PBA where someone else would own the panels. Mr. Grissom said he would have to check the legality of that.

Mr. Sill reported that Home Star legislation through Congress requires a Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified inspector. He said he would like to have Youth Works train groups of youths to do energy audits and take them to income levels above Los Amigos.

Mr. Grissom noted that last summer Youth Works earned credit hours and were paid to build a Habitat for Humanity a house. With the new legislation for BPI certification, the program may have sustainability. He and Mr. Weiner agreed that the homeowners should be required to attend education for their use of the EE elements.

Chair Holian said she would like to work this into the ETF's project.

- **Developing Funding Sources**

Chair Holian reported that the RPA's \$500,000 that was in its 'Other' category for GRT funds has been allocated to roads. A discussion will be held at the next RPA meeting regarding a rewrite of

the ordinance that allocates how the RPA spends the money it collects. The ordinance was written in 2004 with a huge proportion of the funding meant for the BDD. Now that such a large amount will not have to go towards water, she feels the ordinance should be rewritten in a more general way to spend money on anything that is qualified per the state statute, which means capital improvements. Only the BCC votes on the new ordinance because it is a county tax. Programs such as being proposed for SFCC would be ideal. The GRT that much comes in is down about 11% over previous years, but may amount to around \$800,000 for the fiscal year. She would also like to make sure that the RPA will have bonding capability for greater funding. That income could be used to bond for tens of millions.

Chair Holian reported she and David Blackman are exploring the idea of bonding through the New Mexico Association of Counties (NMAC). The NMAC would have a line of credit through local banks, getting a low interest rate, and provide micro bonds for REFD projects and possibly other projects like energy upgrades. When there is enough accumulated, the NMAC would pay back the banks and start over again. She and Mr. Blackman are meeting with Peter Franklin to explore if this idea is legal and how it can be set up. They will personally talk one on one to local banks to explain the project and, especially, to get good interest rates.

In response to a request for an update on the REFD from Mr. Griscom, Mr. Sill replied that they are still working through the bond purchase agreement, and a realistic date to begin is the first part of June.

Mr. Griscom noted that the USDA has a revolving loan fund at 1% for thirty years. Mr. Sill said he would look into it.

Mr. Weiner noted that the city bought down the Homewise interest rate and suggested that the county consider contracting an amount to buy down interest rates for county residents' EE projects as well.

In looking at the longer term, Mr. Miller said that the state is continuing to talk about rates and is working with the Finance Authority. There are no quick solutions and all communities will have the same challenge, so they will need to work together.

- **Economic Benefit Analysis**

Chair Holian noted that the analysis will contain the reasons why doing EE improvements to public buildings is a good idea. She requested that Mr. Weiner on the city side and Mr. Duncan on the county side each write a paragraph to be included. An analysis for SFCC might be included in the packet, especially if recommendations are being made.

Mr. Miller said that in a recession estimates of job creation are important.

Chair Holian said she will compile the letter to the RPA that describes why they should partially fund this analysis composed of different parts from the ETF members and bring it back to the ETF for comments before presenting to the RPA.

Chair Holian requested that Mr. Weiner think about what his next priority would be to include in the request and noted that the RPA wants to fund regional projects.

Mr. Weiner pointed to retrofitting lighting, heating and cooling at landfill facilities, which are city-county.

Mr. Grissom referred to biofuels and biomass and said that SFCC students are looking at keeping green waste from going to the landfill.

Regarding making changes to the ordinance, Mr. Miller asked if schools would qualify for the funds. Chair Holian replied she would find that out from legal counsel.

Ms. Mortimer cautioned that anything that was donated to a local school got deducted from what they get from the state in their budget. She said the equalization formula may not allow the schools to benefit. Chair Holian said she would talk to the League of Women Voters.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Letter to RPA**

Chair Holian said that she would like to present the letter at the May 18 RPA meeting.

MATTERS FROM THE ENERGY TASK FORCE

Chair Holian announced the news that Councilor Chris Calvert will be the city official on the ETF. The time for the meetings will need to be changed because he works for the Postal Service and is not available until after 3:30 PM on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday. Chair Holian said she will email ETF members to get a sense of their availability on those days and times.

There was consensus that a monthly meeting schedule, rather than bimonthly, would be more realistic.

In her discussions with Councilor Calvert on direction for the ETF, Chair Holian noted that the ETF is coming to the end of the allotted year during which it was to do something very specific, namely come up with projects. She said that the group has been very helpful on REFD and EE programs and posed a future discussion of whether the ETF should evolve into a group that works on a regional energy plan and what is necessary to work towards more sustainability. She requested that the members start thinking about the future of the ETF and give feedback on what a regional energy plan would be. She added that the ETF is doing good and useful things and should make a recommendation to the RPA for why it should be continued and what its role would be.

Mr. Miller said that he liked that the ETF is driving towards real things that can be done and said he does not want to work on a plan that will sit on a shelf.

Mr. Griscom asked if a new resolution should be written for the ETF. Chair Holian replied that would be easy enough to do.

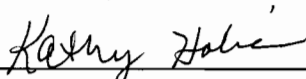
DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT ETF MEETING

The next regular meeting of the ETF was proposed to be held at 3:30 PM, Monday, April 19, 2010, in the Legal Conference room at the County Building. Chair Holian will poll the members to see if there will be a quorum.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the ETF, this Regular Meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:25 PM.

Approved by:



Chair, RPA Energy Task Force
Kathy Holian, Santa Fe County Commissioner

Minutes drafted by: *Kay Carlson*

ATTEST:

 VT

VALERIE ESPINOZA
COUNTY CLERK

