

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

**12 Noon, Friday, November 20, 2009
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 12:10 PM on the above-cited date in the legal conference room of the Santa Fe County Administration Building.

ROLL CALL

Kathy Holian, Chair
Randy Grissom
Brendan Miller
David Van Winkle

Members Excused:

Patti Bushee, Vice-Chair
David Blackman
David Griscom

Others Present:

Duncan Sill, County of Santa Fe
Mary Jane Parks, Energy Consultant
Don Pearson, Environx

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Holian removed Item III Approval of Minutes. Since Mr. Blackman will not be at the meeting, she also removed V.i Update on Financing from the agenda. She suggested that VIII Matters From the ETF be moved to follow approval of the agenda.

Mr. Grissom moved to approve the agenda, as amended, seconded by Mr. Van Winkle and approved unanimously.

MATTERS FROM THE ENERGY TASK FORCE

Chair Holian introduced Ms. Mary Jane Parks, Energy Consultant, who will be working with the ETF and with Santa Fe County on energy issues. The RPA will be funding her time for the ETF.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- **Renewable Energy Financing District Act**

- **Update on County Implementation**

Mr. Sill reported that the RFP has been issued and advertised to solicit program development, implementation, administration, as well as financing services assistance to a qualified entity. The deadline for submission of bid proposals is December 4. As part of the procurement process, a review committee will make the decision on who the successful contractor will be. Following that, the finalized application form process will take place, which will be web-based unless there are obstacles encountered. Mr. Sill and Chair Holian have already received emails requesting information. They are looking to propose a continuum of public information so that both industry and the general public stay informed. The objective is to keep the process as seamless as possible. Mr. Sill sought suggestions from the ETF members for how to improve public information and outreach.

Mr. Van Winkle said that he would speak with Mr. Sill about that subject.

In response to a question from Mr. Pearson, Mr. Sill explained the necessary information being requested can be given to interested parties through the website, santafecounty.org. There is a common question box through which contact information can be submitted to request participation in the program. This is not a guarantee of a spot for the installation, because there still has to be an approval process. However, when it is time for the formal outreach, this information can be used to inform the public of the next steps.

Mr. Miller noted that the pilot phase will be to a limited amount of participants.

Mr. Sill added that people will be told there is a cap on initial participation to insure the process works well from the onset. The time period for the initial offering allows improvements and working closely with everyone involved. Also, the number of installations will initially be contingent on available financing.

Chair Holian noted that the initial interest rates will be in the 6-7% range, which would limit the number of participants.

Mr. Van Winkle asked about the timeframe and how many initial participants will be considered.

Mr. Sill explained that the available financing will be the parameter for how many installations can be accommodated. The intent is to bring in as many available resources as possible to diversify the portfolio to keep the cost of financing low on an incremental basis. The timeframe will range from a 3-to-6-month period.

Chair Holian noted that it will be worth pursuing Mr. Blackman's idea that local banking institutions be contacted about financing for this program. They would work with the New Mexico Association of Counties (NMAC) to take mini bonds, bundle them and sell them to the counties for investments. This would probably result in a lower interest rate, and an advantage is that local money would be used for the financing. If NMAC agrees to do the bundling and selling, the banks may recognize it is a good investment and come on board and set their own interest rate. Mr. Blackman has spoken about this to Paul Gutierrez, NMAC executive director, and he was intrigued.

Mr. Miller commented that the State is having conversations about what it can do and is working through the issues. If the financing is done through the State, there may be a lower interest rate. He said this should not discourage options but keep all the conversations going.

- **Resolution on Federal Energy Legislation**

Chair Holian stated that the County passed the Resolution on Federal Energy Legislation and it is her understanding that the City passed theirs. The resolution has been sent to the Congressional delegation

- **Energy Efficiency Programs Discussion**

Chair Holian set up a matrix listing the various programs the ETF has talked about and requested a discussion for eventually making a determination which programs to implement. She said that all the programs deal with energy in one way or another.

Below is the matrix containing results of the discussion.

Program	City/ Co.	Energy Savings	Job Creation	Econ. Dev.	Time Scale	Funding	Community Served	Obstac
Mazria 14X (mortgage interest buydown)	Y	Y	High	High	Med	?	Entire	Anti-d Issues
PAYS Program (Utility financed energy improvements)	Y	Y	Low	Low	Med.- Long	Utility	Entire	Depend agreem
Energy Works (low-income upgrades)	Y	Y	Low	Med	Soon	Stimulus	Low-Income	Can us Low te
Energy Efficiency Assessment District (like RE Asses. Dist.)								
Energy Efficiency Upgrades – Public Bldgs.								
Retrofit Ramp-Up								
Energy Board								
Clean Energy Works (e.g., Portland)								

Mr. Miller suggested the addition of a column titled “Who can take advantage of it.”

ACTION ITEMS

- **Discussion of Items for Upcoming ETF Meetings**

Chair Holian suggested that the ETF will revert to the 1:00 PM time for the meetings and that it will continue to meet every other week.

Chair Holian noted there have been requests from neighborhoods for their own retrofit ramp up programs. Mr. Sill said that he will have information available for review at the next meeting.

DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT ETF MEETING

The next regular meeting of the ETF will be held at 1:00 PM, Friday, December 4, 2009, in the Legal Conference room at the County Building.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the ETF, this Regular Meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 PM.

Approved by:

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

Minutes drafted by: Kay Carlson