Kansas City, MO Climate Protection Steering Committee

10th Floor, City Hall

May 17, 2019

*CPSC Members Present*: Joanne Collins - Chair, Bob Berkebile, Scott Burnett, Dee Evans, Kristin Riott; Tom Jacobs for David Warm

*CPSC Members Absent:* Cathy Bennett, Chuck Caisley Thomas Grever

*Staff:* Dennis Murphey, Jerry Shechter and Andy Savastino, OEQ;

*Other Attendees:* Carol Adams, Molly Davies, Jensen Adams – Environmental Management Commission; Drew Robinson – KCP&L; Kelly Gilbert, Sara Lamprise – Metropolitan Energy Center

**Meeting Minutes**

**Introductions & Remarks by the Chair**

Joanne Collins opened the meeting at 3:05 pm with a brief welcome and introductions by committee members, general public, and staff members. Ellen Fairchild was welcomed as the newly appointed member of the Steering Committee representing KCP&L/Evergy.

**Ordinance #190233 – Participation the KCP&L’s Renewables Direct Program**

1. Dennis Murphey noted there are two agreements, one for each of the KCP&L territories – Legacy and GMO. The Public Service Commission (PSC) approved tariff authorizes KCP&L to offer larger customers the choice of subscribing to the program for renewable energy. Each customer can procure as much as 100% of its needs to be met by renewable energy. The offer, however, excludes unmetered accounts which, for KCMO, includes the 95,000 street lights. The potential is about 280 million kWh or 82% of the total demand. This translates to 75 MW of renewable energy. Ordinance No. 190233 was approved by City Council which authorized the City Manager to sign the agreements. It is expected there will be a press conference with Mayor James, City Manager Troy Schulte, Terry Bassham and Chuck Caisley sometime early in June.
2. By subscribing to 75 MW of renewable energy, the City accounts for either 75% or 37.5% of the proposed 100 MW to 200 MW wind farm to be built. KCP&L needs 75% of its capacity subscribed in order to move ahead with development of the energy source.
3. This opportunity represents 82% of the needs to meet municipal electrical operations leaving 18% to be addressed. The current utility fuel mix is about 50% renewable which is 9% of the total. The remaining 9% is expected to be addressed by purchase of Renewable Energy Credits (RECs).
4. There was general discussion of other details including that the agreement does not fix prices so that there is not a guaranteed cost savings. Savings will depend on movement in the Southeast Power Pool market. If process go up, there will be savings; if prices drop, there will be a charge to cover the gap. Savings is expected over the long run.

**Metropolitan KC Climate Action Coalition (MKCCAC)**

Dennis Murphey gave a general description of the Drawdown process in KC and the book edited by Paul Hawken. MKCCAC is an organization started by Lindsey Constance, Councilwoman, Shawnee, and Michael Kelly, Mayor, Roeland Park. The book identifies 100 international strategies to reduce global warming absolutely – not just to reduce the rate of increase of global warming. The group is planning a regional climate action summit at Johnson County Community College on Saturday September 14, 2019. Bob Berkebile noted that Paul Hawken will be the keynote speaker ending the summit. A “playbook” is being developed to help regional jurisdictions address global warming issues with established programs and policies.

On behalf of the CAC, MARC applied for a technical assistance grant from the Global Covenant of Mayors to develop a regional climate action plan. The grant was approved.

See: [www.mkccac.org](http://www.mkccac.org) and [www.drawdown.org](http://www.drawdown.org)

KCMO has been discussing development of a climate resiliency plan. However, it may be more prudent and appropriate to delay until the MKCCAC plan is developed so we can be in sync with that … be part of a larger conversation.

**KC Tree Planting Master Plan**

Andy Savastino noted the city has been developing an administrative regulation re tree removal and replacement – for internal operations and will soon begin developing a tree preservation ordinance. Kristin Riott showed a powerpoint detailing the concepts and details of the plan.

It would be appropriate to incorporate trees and climate resiliency into the new FOCUS Plan process the city will undertake soon.

**Dennis Murphey**

The Chair noted this is the last meeting before Dennis Murphey retires. The Steering Committee offered Dennis its fairwell and thanked him for a job well done. Dennis made a few comments.

Next meeting date – To be determined

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm and a reception for Dennis began.