

Sustainability Advisory Board

April 11th, 2019 MINUTES

✚ Welcome, Introductions, and News

- Members greet and welcome guests Drew Robinson and Rebecca Galati from KCP&L.

✚ The SAB meeting came to order

- Bill Schutte motioned to approve the agenda. Mark Ciaramitaro seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Bill Schutte motioned to approve the January 10th and February 14th minutes. Mark Ciaramitaro seconded. The motion passed unanimously. (Please note: February 14th minutes were pulled due to no quorum prior to City Council meeting).

✚ Master Calendar – SAB and Recycling Events

- Chair Sipple addresses future meeting dates. He will discuss the dates with Vice-Chair Harrison and will send out proposed meeting dates to members to review. The committee will meet for 6 dates instead of 9 with additional meetings as needed.
- Emails and distribution lists were discussed.

✚ Drew Robinson - KCP&L, Wind Energy Discussion

- Drew Robinson made a similar presentation to area mayors and city administrators to promote wind energy for municipalities. Mayor Dunn and City Administration Scott Lambers were very impressed.
- Currently KCP&L has merged with Westar Energy and will change their name to Evergy in the fall.
- Drew Robinson presents a territory map. They serve approximately 1/3 of the state of Missouri and 2/3 of the state of Kansas. He explains that every green dot is a power plant including wind farms, natural gas, coal, nuclear, and hydro (they purchase 75 megawatts from Nebraska). KCP&L has 1.6 million electric customers not including residents (2-3 million range). Thirteen megawatts of generation of which 3.1 gigawatts is renewables; mainly wind power almost entirely in Kansas (60% owned or contracted) and is a top 5 wind portfolio in the country.
- They have 744 megawatts of wind that is scheduled to come online next year and have retired 800 megawatts of coal last January and will continue to retire power plants as they go along. By the end of 2020, they will shut down 2200 megawatts of fossil units (coal and oil) with wind portfolio of approximately over 3800 megawatts with potential to expand. They are making the transition from fossil fuels to renewable resources. It's economic issue. Wind is cheap and customers want it.
- KCP&L's carbon output since 2005 levels are down over 40% and the energy mix customers receive is roughly 50% emission free on an annual basis. Today, the City of Leawood is roughly 50% carbon free, roughly 30% renewable in terms of the energy mix delivered. Carbon free is renewables and nuclear. Currently batteries are not being use as it is not yet cost effective. It's cheaper to buy more generating capacity than capacity and storage. As renewables grow, CO2 will continue to drop.
- Prior to a power plant shut down, employees will transition to other locations or retire. They can retrain for another job too. No layoffs. Plant shut downs are often announced years in advance. When a power plant is retired, it is off or put into a stable state called mothballing to prevent damage and ensure the preservation of various assets. Pull the plant or disassembled, the coal is removed, the fly ash is buried, the reservoir stays, etc. For environmental reasons, the site is then brought back to a greenfield status. A greenfield is an area of land that has never been developed or built up.
- Customers want economic products, be green but not broke going there, stable prices, low risk, product that helps bring additional new resources, and simplicity.
- Rate increases are on hold for 5 years in Missouri and Kansas.

ATTENDEES

7:30 am • Leawood City Hall
4800 Town Center Drive
Main Conference Room

- Chuck Sipple, Chair**
- Lisa Harrison, Vice-Chair**
- Erin Chacey**
- Mark Ciaramitaro**
- Kathy Corbin**
- Alicia Jennings**
- Bob Pierson**
- Jim Potter**
- Bill Schutte**
- Truss Tyson**

- Chris Claxton**
Parks & Recreation Director
- Brian Anderson**
Parks Superintendent
- Marica Putman**
Administrative Graphics Tech
- Scott Gamerl**
Outdoor Education Supervisor
- Kevin Jeffries**
President and CEO
Leawood Chamber of
Commerce

- Guests**
- Drew Robinson, KCP&L**
- Rebecca Galati, KCP&L**

- Wind energy prices are bid as “day ahead” and “real time”. They participate in the Southwest Power Pool which a wholesale power market. Every day, they bid all of their generating units: coal, wind, solar, gas – they all go in at a price point. The market place takes all of those available units and dispatches the lowest cost resources based on the amount of energy they think the footprint is going to use. It leads to lower costs and power plants running one day or another.
- Westar territory has utility generation products which happened shortly after the merger. Renewables Direct is a program geared towards aggregating customer interests and procuring innumerable resources. Today it is wind. The program launched March 4th and in the Westar territory, for 200 megawatts of capacity, it took only 22 customers (school districts, universities, industrial customers, cities, etc.). They do require 500 KW load, a threshold. Once 200 megawatts is reached, the program will stop accepting enrollees. First come, first served. Westar is committed for 20 years.
- The KCP&L program is different. They are committed for 20 years and have different subscription years: 5, 10, 15 and 20 years. At the end of the subscription, companies have the first right of refusal or a participation charge of .0003 cents per kilowatt if 20 years is not selected at sign-up.
 - KU and K-State signed up.
 - Eric Mikkelson of Prairie Village signed up for 20 years at 100%
 - Ron Appletoft of Mission signed up for 10 years at 100%
 - Customers' minimum is a 200 KW load, 100-200 megawatts (no cap is cap, based on interests and procurement of wind farms).
 - KCP&L does not own the wind farms. They are contracted with 3rd parties to provide wind energy.
 - Customer can offset 1 to 100% of their qualifying energy.
 - For Kansas, the participation charge is 2 cents per kilowatt, not to exceed price and possibly be lowered in the future. They are supplementing the fuel component called ECA in which everyone pays. The ECA is 2.1 per kilowatt hour. The ECA is volatile. They expect an early cost savings for customers. As long as the RPC charge stays below the ECA, customers will see a financial benefit of their bill.
 - For Missouri, customers agree to a subscription charge and agreeing to keep the utility whole at a certain price per megawatt hour. They are paying \$18. There will be a different wind resource there. They are taking that energy, liquidating into the marketplace. If money is made, the excess revenue goes back to the customer who's subscribed and if there's a loss, there's an excess cost to the customer. They have a renewable adjustment.
 - An idea of sizing of an energy offset.
 - Kansas City, MO requires 75 megawatts
 - Leawood, KS requires 1.5 megawatts
 - Megawatts install wind capacity
 - 75 megawatts generates approximately 275,000,000 kilowatt hours in a year
 - Currently, the charge is not exceed price. For instance, they come in and prepare that resource and it's higher than what that stated charge is, every customer who signed a contract has an out. If they come in and the contract holds, you are now locked in for the term selected. The proof of offsetting is REC – renewable energy credits which can be retired on the company's behalf or be transferred them to customers who want to actually own, retire, transfer or sell. There is a cost for that.
 - The City of Leawood qualifies for an annual 1.5 megawatt capacity share of the program and based on today's cost saves the city \$8,200 a year or 1.3%. Some accounts do not qualify for the program. It's roughly 5,000,000 kilowatt hours a year of usage would be 100% offsetting the qualified usage. Accounts that do not qualify: Lighting (exclude: street lights, traffic signals), unmetered and net metering. It is a sizeable chunk of energy that is not being picked up by this product and they are aware of it. These types of accounts are built on estimates (engineering calculations) and not a true energy usage number. This will be review as allowed in the future if the program is successful. Energy upgrades, retrofits, and infrastructure expansions/reductions will also need to be calculated or determined for costs.
 - Solar subscription program. KCP&L take on community solar. If interested, sign up with an email to be one of the first people to have the opportunity to enroll when the program goes live later this year. They are looking to install up to a 5 megawatt solar array which is approximately 25 acres of land. It will be locally and to have an educational pavilion for students to learn about renewable

energy. It is a premium product and could be \$5-\$15 for the average homeowner with the idea that the costs will eventually go down. Targeted for those who want to go green but cannot because of HOA due to aesthetics.

- They had a favorable meeting with Mayor Peggy Dunn. She is looking to the SAB board for recommendations for enrolling in the program. KCP&L will send information, such as tariffs, needed for the review.
- Members participated in Q&A. The SAB board will investigate and make recommendations.
 - They discussed wind distributions to the east coast, right-of-way of the lines (The Clean Line, The Grainbelt Express, etc.). A one stop line that goes from western Kansas to Indiana to move wind energy out of Kansas to locations who cannot access it. It alters the dynamics a little bit. There's so much wind in Kansas that it has a negative impact on the energy prices. The marketplace pays utilities to take energy off the grid. It reduces congestion.
 - KCP&L do not want wind farms in or border the Flint Hills; however, other utilities may look at those projects. Wind farms go through a generation interconnection agreement process and becomes publically available on the market place (x developer seeks to put 500 megawatts of wind in x county). This starts the study on the transmission impact and see where those resources are being proposed. They discuss it further.

✚ Discussion – What Did We Learn From February 21 HOA Summit?

- Kathy Corbin, our keynote speaker, did a wonderful presentation.
 - 33 HOA represented out of 110
 - 75 residents attended
- Suggestions for the next HOA meeting:
 - Kathy Corbin suggested more sustainable yard maintenance as a topic. It can incorporate rain gardens, organic treatments, healthy soil, composting, pesticides, etc.
 - Chair Sipple recommended bushes, trees and tying them with environmental issues.
 - Vegetable gardens.
 - Dennis Patton, Master Gardener, was suggested as a speaker for healthy yards.
 - Members discuss the meal, format, topic of the current HOA and changing interest topics to bring in more residents. Shawnee has a healthy yards expo that is was very well attended. Also discussed advertising, moving the event to April, and other events, etc.

✚ HOA Database

- Marica Putman gave Deb Harper, City Clerk, the updated HOA emails and Becky Pendergraft will enter the info. Ross Kurz is in charge of the database.
- Voluntary members are no longer allowed to work on the database, only city employees.

✚ Tree Committee

- Lisa Harrison is the chair.
- Chair Sipple gives a brief on the committee's function, street trees, and Leawood Development Ordinances.

✚ Bike/Walk Leawood

- Stride 'N Ride event on May 11th.
- Kevin Corbett is the chair.
- South Loop signage will be installed this summer. There may be an inaugural bike ride. Members are interested in the event and riding the new loop.

✚ Major SAB Initiative

- Chair Sipple is interested in doing studies.
- The charter is to lead, educate, and collaborate with the City to promote sustainable practices.
- The mayor feels very strongly that this committee should not dictate sustainable practices like Styrofoam, plastic cups, straws, and bags.
- Many communities are reviewing the above items and are considering banning them. Kathy Corbin will pick one item and review those cities' process of banning an item. Chair Sipple does not want to make the retail environment in Leawood prohibitive. People are starting to open up sustainability.
- Drawings for a mulching lawn mower, bushes, trees, etc. were discussed.

- Kathy Corbin suggests a knowledgeable energetic speaker is an important consideration when choosing speakers for the next summit.

Other

- Marica Putman will send out the Recycling Extravaganza flier to members and they can send it out as needed.
- Chair Sipple reminded everyone that a new meeting schedule will be reviewed.

Adjourn

▪ Upcoming Meetings

- **Next SAB meeting is July 11th, 2019.**
- Future meeting dates in 2019: July 11th, September 12th, and November 14th.