

Railbelt Reliability Council Implementation Committee - Meeting

April 26, 2021

Final Minutes (Approved by IC 5/3/2021)

1) Roll-call

The meeting was held via Zoom, was called to order at 1:15 pm, and was chaired by SS, then JE.

Primary		Alternate		Organization
Brian Hickey (BH)	Y1	Jeff Warner (JWR)	Y	Chugach Electric Association
John Burns (JB)	n	Frank Perkins (FP)	Y2	Golden Valley Electric Association
Rick Baldwin (RB)	Y	Dan Chay (DC)	Y	Homer Electric Association
Julie Estey (JE)	Y	Ed Jenkin (EJ)	Y	Matanuska Electric Association
Lou Florence (LF)	Y	Shayne Coiley (SC)	n	Doyon Utilities
Dave Burlingame (DB)	Y	Rob Montgomery (RM)	n	City of Seward
Kirk Warren (KW)	Y	Curtis Thayer (CT)	n	Alaska Energy Authority
Suzanne Settle (SS)	Y	Sam Dennis (SD)	Y	Cook Inlet Regional Inc.
Joel Groves (JG)	n	Mike Craft (MC)	Y	Alaska Environmental Power, LLC
Veri di Suvero (VDS)	Y	Enei Begaye (EB)	n	Alaska Public Interest Research Group
Chris Rose (CR)	Y	Greg Stiegel (GS)	n	Renewable Energy Alaska Project
Hank Koegel (HK)	Y	David Newman (DN)	n	Unaffiliated seat
<i>Jeff Waller (JWL)</i>	Y	<i>Janet Fairchild-Hamilton (JFH)</i>	n	<i>Regulatory Affairs and Public Advocacy</i>
<i>Bob Pickett (BP)</i>	n	<i>Antony Scott (AS)</i>	n	<i>Regulatory Commission of Alaska</i>

Y: Attending n: Not attending v: seat is vacant

Y1: BH joined the meeting at 1:20PM.

Y2: FP left the meeting at 1:30PM.

Dan Bishop (DBS) was present in place of JB.

Steve Mahoney (SM) present; Tom Lovas (TL) not present.

Rebecca Sexton-Kelly (RSK) and Bayunt Ollek (BO) with Sapere present.

Seth Blumsack (SB) and Stephanie Lenhart (SL) not present.

12 of 12 voting members are initially present, one ex-officio member is initially present.

2) Approval of Agenda

MOTION to approve today's agenda, 1EJ, 2KW.

PASSED as amended with no objections. [12-0-0].

3) Approval of April 19 Meeting Minutes

MOTION to approve 4/19/2021 meeting minutes, 1VDS, 2HK.

PASSED with no objections [12-0-0].

4) Mediation Process Update

SS informed that ExCom has polled several mediators and not identified any leads. Goal is to get this resolved as soon as possible. ExCom would appreciate any recommendations as this is a short timeline and most people that we have reached out to so far have had conflicts.

CR suggested asking the academic team if they have recommendations for mediators. Issue here is short timeline and since these will be remote sessions it doesn't need to be local mediator.

[BH joined the meeting at 1:20 pm, 12 of 12 voting members present].

SS: ExCom will continue to search for help with the mediation process.

5) Regulations Public Comment Period

RSK informed the IC that last week ExCom discussed the potential dynamics around the upcoming public comment period. She suggested setting up a process for members to outline their comments in front of the IC before comments go out in public. Would this be helpful or desired?

BH stated this is a good idea. All members are prepping their own comments and it would be a good idea to share them with the group before putting them out in public. It doesn't mean that it will change what we are going to say.

SS: For CIRI our comments often come together last minute. Happy to share if we have time to do that but sometimes it doesn't work out timing wise. RSK clarified that it is not the point to create a requirement to bring comments to IC. Rather to provide a space where members feel comfortable sharing if they are able to do so.

[SS transferred chair to JE].

JE: MEA comments this week caused a bit of a stir. It was not the intent of those comments to portray a lack of commitment to this process. Want to apologize for any concern that those comments may have caused.

ExCom will plan to dedicate some time on IC agendas going forward to discuss proposed public comments.

[FP left the meeting at 1:30 pm, 12 of 12 voting members present].

6) Application Committee Task Mapping

JE informed the IC that AppCom had its first official meeting last week. Sapere had taken a first shot at matching the items in the Application TOC to the most fitting subcommittees to work on those items. AppCom went through the list and adjusted it to line up with their expectations. The resulting Task Map is included in this week's IC packet. Next step is for subcommittee Chairs to go through the Task Map and determine whether the tasks that are assigned to them belong with them or need to go somewhere else. Discussion at AppCom brought up focus on the process for how this will all get done. All subcommittees are working on individual work products, so need to find a way to tie them all together. Process will be Subcommittees produce individual work products, hand off to AppCom who will work it into the narrative, hand back to subcommittee for final approval of the section. One outstanding item is the development of the public process. Need to flesh this out and determine where this belongs.

SS commented that BySub is busy with other stuff. Utilities are familiar with the public process, so maybe AppCom could take this? It is a very important policy. SD added that it's not just about work. There will need to be references to the Bylaws but likely could be developed outside of BySub.

JE clarified that AppCom not currently set up to be a content provider, more of a narrative writer. Potentially could take this on but will communicate with the IC and sort this out. The other issue is the timeline. Need to get the final product out for review by individual organizations, others prior to Application submittal. How much time do we need to schedule for review?

VDS suggested waiting until the regulations come out before drafting the public process policy and maybe spinning up another committee for this task. There are likely enough IC members interested in this that AppCom may not need to take this on.

JE: Will come back next week with a bit more clarity on this.

7) BySub Draft Language

SD updated the IC on the BySub process for seeking TA on draft Bylaws language. IC not going to review today, but will outline the new process. In the draft provided by SM there are 4 different colors. The tan/"red" color (same color as committee composition section) is what is up for review by the IC members. Members should read through all of this language and submit written comments to Sapere by COB on Thursday for inclusion in the Friday packet. Next week we will go through the submitted comments and talk through them. Anything that does not have specific comments will be up for Tentative Approval. This cycle will repeat again the following week.

RB added that this language has been discussed quite a bit in the BySub and has been agreed on. Intent of this new process is to move this forward as a lot of time has been spent on this.

SD encouraged members to focus on conceptual concerns, if there are concerns over the specific language, please don't nitpick over words as this will really bog down the process. Only seeking Tentative Approval so there will still be opportunities to comb through the language and resolve wording concerns. Point is to address broad conceptual concerns in this run.

8) Committee Updates

StanCom: JWR: Meeting last week was cancelled. Next meeting scheduled for tomorrow afternoon. Appreciate the Task Map, this is helpful. Will review the document at tomorrow's meeting and then move on to discuss next steps for CMEP. No agenda time needed next week.

TarCom: EJ: Short meeting last week to discuss Tariff proposal. No meeting this week but will get together again next week. Taking a hard look at regulations and making sure that our scope aligns. Want to be ready to hit the ground running when TL returns from vacation.

IRPCom: DB: Short meeting last week. We have finished reviewing IRP's and completed most of our homework. Planning to use IRP from Arizona Corporation Commission as a starting point for our work. Don't need any agenda time next week.

BySub: SD: Outlined our process during earlier agenda item. No other updates.

BudCom: RSK: Expense reports were completed over the weekend and sent out this morning.

ExCom: JE: Spent a lot of time discussing diminishing trust in relationships and how to pull things back together. Lets try and understand where we are coming from and connect as individuals. There are lots of opportunities for us to build better relationships. Still working to update the website.

AppCom: JE: No updates other than what was discussed during earlier agenda item.

9) Member Comments

JE opened the floor for member comments.

HK: Spent a lot of time this weekend looking at voting thresholds, especially from the blocking perspective. This will be a very tricky issue and there isn't necessarily a good solution for this that jumps out at me.

JE: House Committee on Energy meeting was cancelled on Thursday so did not give the presentation last week. Have talked about rescheduling but nothing concrete so far. Will update the IC when more information is known.

DC: Need to work to keep up our trustworthiness.

SD: Doing all of this on Zoom has been difficult. For those of us who are vaccinated maybe we could start thinking about how to come together in person and this may have a positive impact on our ability to build trust and move through some of these contentious issues.

JE: ExCom has also been looking at this also. Thinking about when and how we may be able to come together in person.

DB: Put Arizona RFP up on the website and some examples of IRP's with transmission included in them. If anyone is interested feel free to review these.

10) May 3rd Meeting Agenda

- AppCom discussion of TOC and subcommittee assignments
- BySub Draft Language
- TarCom first look at TL change order/proposal
- Website updates

11) Adjourn

MOTION to adjourn, 1VDS, 2DB.

ADJOURNED at 2:30 PM.

DEFINITION OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

All committee members are identified by their initials, as defined in the roll call table.

1JE, 2JG. Shorthand designating which committee members proposed and seconded motions.

[~]: Secretary's commentary provided for clarity / context as appropriate.

Vote tally shorthand is Y-N-A, yea – nay – absent or abstain.

AppCom ERO application subcommittee

BudCom: budget subcommittee

BySub: bylaws subcommittee

CEA: Chugach Electric Association, Inc.

CPCN: certificate of public convenience and necessity

DU: Doyon Utilities

ERO: Electric Reliability Organization

ExCom: executive committee

IC: Implementation Committee

IRP: integrated resource plan

IRPcom: integrated resource plan process subcommittee
LSE: load-serving entity
MEA: Matanuska Electric Association, Inc.
NDA: non-disclosure agreement
NTE: not to exceed
PM: project management
PMP: project management professional
RAPA: Regulatory Affairs and Public Advocacy
RCA: Regulatory Commission of Alaska
RRC: Railbelt Reliability Council
SB: Senate bill
SOW: scope of work
StanCom: standards subcommittee.
TarCom: tariff subcommittee

ATTACHMENTS:

1. None