

# Community Renewable Energy Agency Board Meeting Minutes

The Community Renewable Energy Agency Board met in a regular public meeting on **Monday, September 9, 2024**, at Millcreek City Hall, located at 1330 E. Chambers Avenue, Millcreek, UT 84106 and participated electronically via GoToMeeting.

---

## **PRESENT:**

### **Board Members**

#### ***In person***

Dan Dugan, Chair, *Salt Lake City*  
Emily Quinton, *Summit County*  
Cheri Jackson, *Millcreek*  
Drew Quinn, *Holladay*  
Marcus Stevenson, *Midvale*  
Erin Summers, *Midvale*  
Christopher Thomas, *Salt Lake City*

#### ***Electronic***

Lorenzo Long, *Ogden*  
Randy Aton, *Springdale*  
Pamela Gibson, *Castle Valley*  
Luke Cartin, *Park City*  
Patrick Schaeffer, *City of Kearns*  
Emily Paskett, *Salt Lake County*  
Alexi Lamm, *Moab*  
Samantha DeSeelhorst, *Cottonwood Heights*  
Kyla Topham, *Springdale*  
Holly Smith, *Holladay*  
Suzzane Harrison, *Salt Lake County*

**In Person Attendees:** Kurt Hansen, *Millcreek*; Alex Wendt, *Millcreek*; Samantha Pensari, *Stewardship Utah*

**Electronic Attendees:** Bob Davis, *Division of Public Utilities*; Brenda Salter, *Division of Public Utilities*; Sara Montoya, *Salt Lake City staff*; Monica O'Malley, *Salt Lake City staff*; Jeanne Evenden, *Ogden Resident*

Minutes by Alex Wendt, Millcreek Deputy Recorder.

**REGULAR MEETING – 1:00 p.m.**

**TIME COMMENCED: 1:03 p.m.**

## **1. Welcome, Introduction, and Preliminary Matters**

**1.1 Purpose and Overview of Meeting**

**1.2 Current Participation Percentages included in Board Packet**

**2. Business Matters**

**2.1 Approval of August 5, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes**

**Board Member Jackson made the motion to approve the August 5, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes. Board Member Quinn seconded the motion. Chair Dugan asked for the vote. All Board Members voted yes. The motion passed unanimously.**

**2.2 Treasurer Report (Year-to-Date Contributions and Expenses)**

Board Member Quinton said that the treasurer received initial payment from Midvale. Prospective party fees are being shown as unallocated Agency budget in the report.

**2.3 Reports From Committees (Program Design, Low-Income Plan, Communications)**

Board Member Quinton gave the report for the Communications Committee. Penna Powers was paid for creating the translation function on the website. That work was more involved and so latest invoice is higher than previous months. The Communication Committee is ready to support onboarding Midvale.

Board Member Samantha DeSeelhorst gave the report for the Low-Income Plan Committee. The Low-Income Plan committee worked with Midvale on their plan for low-income assistance.

Board Member Christopher Thomas gave the update for the Program Design Committee. The main program design concept that still needs to be figured out is the resource valuation approach. The committee met twice in August, the small group met four times to discuss resource valuation, procurement, and financial backstop. They sent two written proposals to PacifiCorp regarding the resource valuation method and timeline.

The utility agreement has been slightly revised. The agreement was updated to conform to changes made by the Utah legislature. Changes made include changing “renewable” to “clean”, adds Midvale as a party, updates names for Kearns and Emigration Canyon, updates Utah Code references to requirements to become a participating community and removes references to 2019 resolution requirement, and adds a provision to reduce administrative burden if additional communities join in the future.

It has been difficult to get PacifiCorp to commit to a specific method for resource valuation so the committee proposed a method in writing and asked the utility to agree by August 31, 2024. The proposal asked that PacifiCorp establish the value of URC program resources in a manner like how PacifiCorp values resources that are bid into its own RFP's. Late Friday, September 6, PacifiCorp responded to this request, and their response is being reviewed. The Program Design Committee also proposed, in writing, a timeline, which PacifiCorp has just responded to. The timeline includes assigning certain elements of the Program Application to PacifiCorp and some to URC. PacifiCorp's feedback on the proposed timeline has filing part 2 of the Program application by April 2025, sending the first customer opt-out notices by April 2026, first program fees collected on July 1,

2026, and first program resource comes online July 2028.

Board Member Thomas shared with the Board mounting concerns about PacifiCorp. PacifiCorp cancelled their resource solicitation in April 2024 and cancelled a long-planned billing system upgrade, resulting in an estimated \$530,000 extra administrative cost for URC program in August 2024. They cancelled their ongoing multi-state protocol negotiations with no new plan in place to share costs among the six PacifiCorp states in July 2024. Lobbyist chatter suggests that big tech companies cannot get PacifiCorp to sign new resource contracts. Wildfire claims against PacifiCorp have surged to \$46 billion. Finally, the Utah legislature says it wants Rocky Mountain Power to split from the rest of PacifiCorp and wants a report by November 2024. This is concerning because it may change the staff that the Agency is working with at PacifiCorp. Board Member Thomas shared quotes from the Interim Public Utilities testimony where Rocky Mountain Power (RMP), President Dick Garlish, said that there are greater and greater demands for investment and electricity generation, yet he also stated that they are managing RMP liquidity very closely. This may mean that RMP may not be in a financial position to build new energy resources or sign new energy contracts. Board Member Thomas said that the Agency should proceed with asking RMP to submit solicitation documents as part 1 of the Program Application as soon as possible, and should proceed with asking RMP to submit part 2 of the Program Application by the end of the year. Perhaps the Agency should wait to invest remaining resources in hosting a request for proposals (RFP) until the Board sees signals that RMP's financial position improves, or it is signing energy resource contracts. Chair Dugan said RMP wants the Board to pay \$535,00 for RMP software upgrades, the Board is pushing back on that because they believe they should not have to pay for these upgrades.

Board Member Thomas spoke about solicitation updates. The Program Design Committee sent the solicitation narrative to PacifiCorp on July 10<sup>th</sup>. They have been going back and forth on co-located energy storage. Co-located batteries can provide additional system benefit, but also add cost and don't directly support URC communities' renewable energy goals. The Program Design Committee decided to leave co-located storage in the solicitation, but only as an additional add-on. Finally, the Committee is making progress on updating appendices. Late Friday night PacifiCorp responded with additional appendices but not the solicitation narrative. Next steps include RMP submitting solicitation documents for Public Service Commission approval. Please look for a request to sign a lightly revised Utility Agreement. Some communities may need to bring it to their Council.

#### **2.4 Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

#### **2.5 Discussion and Consideration of Resolution 24-07, Resolution of the Board Adopting a Regular Meetings Schedule**

**Board Member Quinn made the motion to approve Resolution 24-07, Resolution of the Board Adopting a Regular Meetings Schedule. Board Member Jackson seconded the motion. Chair Dugan asked for the vote. All Board Members voted yes. The motion passed unanimously.**

**2.6 Board Member Comments**

Board Member Quinton said she is having issues with the Board Meeting calendar and apologized for the extra invitations that are being sent.

**2.7 Closed Session (If needed)**

**3. Adjournment**

**Board Member Jackson moved the motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:48 p.m. Board Member Quinn seconded the motion. Chair Dugan called for the vote. All Board Members voted yes. The motion passed unanimously.**



**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date**  
**Dan Dugan, Chair**

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Emily Quinton, Secretary**