



## Pueblo Energy Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 21 | 4 – 5 PM

*In person at City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Mayor’s Conference Room and on Zoom*

Attendance					
✓	Larry Atencio	✓	Martin Adams		STAFF:
✓	Laura Getts	✓	Kenneth Danti	✓	Nicholas Gradisar
✓	Adam Haman	✓	Gregory George	✓	Dan Kogovsek
✓	Allison Kipple	✓	Edgie Walrath	✓	Alyssa Parga
✓	Joshua Montelongo	✓	Joe Waneka		
✓	Jeffrey Mara	✓	Steve Nawrocki		OTHER:
✓	Tyler Surat	✓	Monica Younger	✓	Dave DeCenzo, Community Member
✓	John Vigil			✓	Sara Wilson, Chieftain

### 1. Welcome & Introductions

Mayor Gradisar began the meeting at 4 pm and led the commission members in introductions and asked them why they chose to apply for the Energy Advisory Commission.

### 2. Election of Officers

Larry Atencio nominated Steve Nawrocki as chair, Steve Accepted. The nomination was seconded by Jeffrey Mara. All commission members voted in favor of this motion.

Allison Kipple was nominated as vice-chair by Monica Younger, Allison declined.

Edgie Walrath volunteered as vice-chair, was nominated by Ken Danti and seconded by Larry Atencio. All commission members voted in favor of this motion.

Steve Nawrocki led the rest of the meeting as chair.

### 3. Energy Updates/Projects/Initiatives

The commission gave their own updates and opinions on a wide variety of energy topics. Discussion of nuclear as an option was divided. Allison Kipple stated that most nuclear powerplants must store waste on site and Pueblo might not want to do this. She also talked about baseload and load following criteria. Jeff Mara brought up the large amounts of water needed for a powerplant and whether Pueblo was equipped. Mara also voiced that the Department of Energy was unlikely to approve a new nuclear plant anytime soon. Tyler Surat said he thinks we should focus on moderation and reducing demand. Edgie Walrath said he thinks society is heading toward cutting citizens away from utility companies. Many commission members voiced wishes that Pueblo not jump straight to a nuclear option for the

Comanche Plant, stating waste is a problem and that we are in an era of technology which we should be advancing toward. The group agreed that while right now power storage is limited, the technology is there, and we just need to form a plan which can be implemented once pricing drops. Several members thought the commission should focus on balancing solar, wind, and other renewable energy sources.

#### 4. Next Steps

Proposed goals included:

- 1) Identifying needs of low-income infrastructure improvements and whether the federal government can contribute resources
- 2) Contact other cities to review their franchise agreements and identify places where value can be added back to the City of Pueblo
- 3) Inviting a representative from Xcel Energy to give a presentation/update
- 4) Form subcommittees to explore specific topics. Topic ideas should be submitted to Steve Nawrocki ([nawrocki@srda.org](mailto:nawrocki@srda.org)) and Edgie Walrath ([edgiewalrath@gmail.com](mailto:edgiewalrath@gmail.com)) for presentation at next meeting. These subcommittees will set their own meeting schedules. Edgie will coordinate the subcommittees.
- 5) Begin marketing to community ways citizens can make upgrades already
- 6) Ask for energy resource plans from each utility company for review; identify ways City can inform this process

Alyssa to send the group the following items to review:

- 1) Franchise agreements (from Dan Kogovsek)
- 2) Pueblo County Community Energy Plan (from Laura Getts)
- 3) Existing Renewable Energy/Paris Climate Accords Resolutions (from Steve Nawrocki)

#### 5. Set future meeting dates/times

The group decided to meet twice a month on the first and third Wednesday at 4 pm. Location to be decided. The next meeting will be August 4 at the SRDA Building, 230 N. Union Ave. and will also be available on Zoom.

#### 6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 pm.

#### **Steve Nawrocki's Contact Information:**

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