



Commission on Climate, Energy, and Sustainability Wednesday, May 14, 2025, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Conference Room
City Council Ward 6
3202 E. 1st Street
Tucson, Arizona, 85716

Meeting Minutes

1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 2:03 by Chair Jim Sell

Present:

Dan Stormont (In-person)	Representative, City Manager
Garrett Weaver (in-person)	Representative, City Manager
Katy Brown (In-person)	Representative, City Manager
Manon Getsi (In-person)	Representative, Ward 5
Adriana Bachmann (In-persons)	Representative, Ward 2
Jim Sell (in-person)	Representative, Ward 6
Ojas Sanghi (remote, Teams,)	Representative, Ward 3

Staff Members & Guests:

Michael Catanzaro	Energy Manager, Environmental & General Services Department (EGSD)
Fatima Luna	Chief Resilience Officer
Jane Conlin	

Absent:

Vanessa Gallego	Representative, Ward 1
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8) Climate Resilience Report

CRO Luna thanked the commission for being active participants in outreach and engagement meetings.

Discussed heat work. Multi-jurisdictional network to discuss heat. Did high-level analysis GIS spatial of cooling centers. Included situational parameters, such as proximity to mobile home parks and transit.

Looking to see if there are redundancies that can be avoided and find gaps that can be filled. Working with Azara Branch youth non-profit at U of A. Work on outreach efforts this summer. Would like groups to help put together and distribute heat relief kits, and requested the commission assist if possible..

Comm. Brown asked about the youth group City is working with.

CRO Luna said that the group was the Azara Branch, who is the lead grant recipient.

Chair Sell asked about additional grant funding.

CRO Luna said that they are working on pilot projects. Not all are funded, but they will give experience needed.

CRO Luna hosted seven Energy Future Townhalls and will be taking the feedback to the City Attorney. Priorities between English and Spanish sessions were different. Using a weighted system, Clean Energy, Electrification, and Education were high on the list of priorities. All the language needs to be finalized by June 19th. Very rushed timeline. We are pursuing the decision of the franchise election first.

Chair Sell asked about getting a copy of analysis from townhalls.

CRO Luna said absolutely.

Comm. Stormont asked about the cooling center report.

CRO Luna said she will share the report with Michael.

Comm. Stormont asked about cooling centers, such as PCP Libraries, NGOs, churches.

CRO Luna will be getting the full list put together.

Comm. Brown asked about the FEMA grant for heat resilience leadership.

Getting ready for heat, getting ready for leadership academy.

Chair Sell asked about distributing heat supplies.

CRO Luna said last year there were a few events, 200 volunteer hours in total.

Discussion of TUSD Climate Action Plan Vote.

2) Call to Audience

Jane Conlin - Has nothing to say at this point

3) Approval of Minutes (April 23)

Comm. Bachmann pointed out that her name was not on the list of attendees at the Pima Community College Climate Community Day.

Comm. Weaver agreed to amend the minutes.

Comm. Brown motion to approve as amended.

Comm. Getsi seconded.

No objections.

Motion carries.

4) Report from the Chair

Chair Sell gave final report as Chair. Been on the commission for six years. Wanted to have commission filled with well qualified people. Got qualified people, but not a full quota. Wanted a working relationship with city staff and city government. Has achieved that.

Said that he has not had a relationship with most of the city council. Has met with KMayor Romero, former Council Member Kozachik, and current Council Members Uhlich and Dahl, , but this work needs to be done with the other council offices.

5) Plan Tucson Subcommittee

Comm. Stormont asked Michael about PO Box and the letterhead.

EM Catanzaro said it likely goes to Boards and Commissions.

Discussion of wording and title of the document.

Comm. Stormont added a header to the letter.

Comm. Brown motioned to submit to Mayor and Council as revised.

Comm. Getsi seconded.

Chair Sell asked for a vote.

Motion carries unanimously.

6) Franchise Subcommittee

Comm. Weaver gave presentation, covered recommendations.

Comm. Stormont asked about the legality of extensions.

Comm. Stormont suggested adding in a mention questioning the legality.

Discussion of use of the word Shareholder.

Chair Sell asked to update cover page, wanted solar panels.

Discussion of putting Franchise Agreement and Plan Tucson on the same ballot.

Some discussion of whether to put FA on the November 2026 ballot.

Comm. Brown Motioned to approve letter.

Comm. Sanghi Seconded

Chair Sell asked for voice vote

Motion passed unanimously.

7) Energy Manager Report

GDS will be shared with Mayor and Council on May 20th.

Municipalization is financially viable at low and high estimates.

Community Choice, while not legally authorized in Arizona, could generate savings for taxpayers

EM Catanzaro encouraged the public to attend.

9) Election of Chair

Chair Sell turned to a vote for the election of Dan Stormont as the commission chair.

Motion passed unanimously.

Commission elected Dan Stormont as the commission chair.

Chair Sell agreed to turn over his chairmanship at the end of the meeting.

10) Call to Audience

Jane Conlin - Franchise Agreements are the sweet spot between energy, climate, and engagement.

Suggested adding geothermal to clean or renewables. Hopes that the Utility will be a willing partner.

Shareholder equity was offered as a significant amount of equity as a sign of a true partnership along with different fee structures in the franchise fee. In a lot of cases it is offering expertise, this will keep the utility as the provider of energy and bringing value to the partnership. Franchise Agreements brings accountability to the utility, the term is also an incentive to bring the city to keep the utility in the mix. When they are getting investment from the utility as a partner.

TRT needs to be the linkage from the franchise agreement to the parallel agreement. Goals of parallel agreement are goals of climate action team.

11) Future Agenda items.

Comm. Stormont asked for an overview from Boards and Commissions.

Chair Sell brought up the topic by the historic commission about deconstruction.

Chair Sell brought up getting information about GDS and looking at it more closely.

Ask council offices what they want.

Comm. Sanghi will be talking about Distributed Capacity Procurement.

Comm. Bachmann suggested having the CCES meeting every second Wednesday from 2 to 4pm, instead of every fourth Wednesday from 1 to 3pm. Commissioners agreed.

12) Adjournment - Chair Sell adjourned the meeting at 4:01 PM