

Commission on Climate, Energy, and Sustainability Wednesday, September 10, 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 2:02 by Chair Stormont

Present:

Dan Stormont (in person) Representative, City Manager Jim Sell (in person) Representative, Ward 6 Katy Brown (in person) Representative, City Manager Ojas Sanghi (remote, Teams, left at 3:30) Representative, Ward 3 Garrett Weaver (remote, Teams) Representative, City Manager Vanessa Gallego (remote, Teams) Representative, Ward 1 Manon Getsi (remote, Teams) Representative, Ward 5 Representative, City Manager Camila Martins-Bekat (remote, Teams) Adriana Bachmann (in person) Representative, Ward 2

Staff Members & Guests:

Scott Schladweiler

Michael Catanzaro Energy Manager, Environmental & General Services

Deputy Director, Tucson Water

Department (EGSD)
Lindsay Reese

Absent:

2) Approval of Minutes (August 13)

Comm. Brown motioned to approve. Comm. Sanghi seconded. No objections. Minutes approved.

3) Report from the Chair

Chair Stormont commented on the Large Water User Ordinance. There may be some things that do not stand up to review, there are contradictions in the existing language that will need to be updated.

There are negotiations regarding the Colorado river. It has been difficult for the upper basin to change agreements on water use.

Budget has come up in City Council. City continues to lose revenue. This will impact projects under Tucson Resilient Together.

5) Subcommittee Reports

Comm. Brown the Water Subcommittee of the Data Center Committee has it's meeting set for September 11th, 2025.

Comm. Sell may be using the monthly reserved time for the Overarching Subcommittee meetings.

Comm. Sanghi reported the energy use subcommittee has done estimates on energy use and emissions.

Comm. Brown asked about how renewable energy can be procured.

There was conversation around the load growth, whether new generation sources will be built, and how spot market data can be accessed.

Discussion on future data center energy use, including use of resources and technology.

There was discussion of noise and light concerns. There was agreement among commissioners that those concerns would go into the Overarching Subcommittee.

4) Tucson Water Discussion with Director John Kmiec and/or Deputy Director Scott Schladweiler Director Schladweiler attended to discuss The Large Water User Ordinance.

Many Arizona cities have a Large Water User ordinance. City of Tucson did not have an ordinance. Staff was asked to draft a new ordinance.

There was discussion of water positivity. This included a discussion of water conservation methods.

Currently a Large Water User is defined as using 10,000 ccf per month, which is equivalent to 275 acre feet per year.

Discussion of reclaimed water use. Used for irrigation uses. Golf courses are the most significant user. 11-14k Acre feet to golf courses and schools. The remainder goes into aquifer recharging.

Discussions around Project Blue cooling. There were only conversations about evaporative cooling with Tucson Water and Project Blue and no conversations about closed loop cooling.

Discussion around water conservation methods and fair water use. Funding comes in from large users, which support the continued maintenance of the system.

City has absorbed Dioxin removal operation costs since 2014. City seeks reimbursement from parties and partners in the area.

\$25m grant from ADEQ. AOP facility is removing PFAS.

6) Energy Manager Report

EM Catanzaro said that Lindsay Reese will be helping with disseminating documents to commission.

Discussion of Franchise Agreement. Nothing has been publicly released.

EM Catanzaro reported that the city is working on Key Performance Indicators. The intention is to make the work that is being done as transparent and updated as frequently as possible.

7) Climate Resilience Report - None

8) Call to Audience - None

9) Future Agenda items

Comm. Weaver will reach out to data center contact as a speaker in October.

Comm. Sell asked about getting a presentation from Boards and Commissions.

Comm. Brown mentioned the Hefty program to investigate the connection between state lawsuit and the Tucson program. Also, would like more information about current status of BiFusion and other programs at the resource facility.

Comm. Weaver said his term as secretary is expiring in November and a new Secretary will need to be elected.

Comm. Getsi mentioned that Parks and Rec Commission was getting a briefing from Boards and Commissions and that she would let CCES know the details.

Going to new time, 1:30 - 3:30 to accommodate schedules. Will be seeing new invite.

10) Adjournment - Chair Stormont adjourned the meeting at 4:00