

**Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 2-4pm**  
**West Conference Room**  
**City Council Ward 6**  
**3202 E 1st Street**  
**Tucson, AZ 85716**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **1) Call to Order/Roll Call**

Meeting was called to order at 2:04 pm by Chair Stormont

#### **Present:**

Dan Stormont (in person)	Representative, City Manager
Katy Brown (in person)	Representative, City Manager
Adriana Bachmann (in person)	Representative, Ward 2)
Garrett Weaver (in person)	Representative, City Manager
Rocky Rivera (remote, Teams)	Representative, Ward 5
Natalie Shepp (remote, Teams)	Representative, Ward 6
Camila Martins-Bekat (remote, Teams)	Representative, City Manager

#### **Staff Members and Guests:**

Michael Catanzaro (in person)	Energy Manager, Environmental & General Services Department (EGSD)
Fatima Luna (remote, Teams)	Chief Resilience Officer
Raye Winch (in person)	Ward 6, Council Aide, speaker, call-to-audience
Bruce Plank (in person)	speaker, call-to-audience
Robert Cook (remote, Teams)	speaker, call-to-audience

#### **Absent:**

Ojas Sanghi	Representative, Ward 3
-------------	------------------------

### **2) Approval of minutes**

February 18 minutes review: approved with updates: page numbers and correction  
Los Reales Subcommittee minutes - not available

### **3) Report from the Chair**

Many significant issues brought up by Mayor and Council this month:

- Colorado River Interstate Negotiations update
- Large Water User ordinance - approved, and going out for public comment soon

- PFAS in Tucson water supply update
- Multimodal traffic safety - task for action framework
- RTA discussion -
- Props 418 and 419 have since passed voter approval
- Public power options and opportunities
  - It was moved by Vice Mayor Santa Cruz, duly seconded, and CARRIED by a voice vote of 7 to 0, to direct staff to bring in the Commission on Climate, Energy and Sustainability to take lead on a public process that investigates the City's long-term options that align with the Mayor and Council's climate goals, and the exploration of long term opportunities for a public power option.

Data Center updates -

- 'Project Blue' proceeding with new name
- Marana data center facing lawsuits
- Davis-Monthan AFB - no data center development awards to date

#### **4) Annual Report discussion and approval**

Discussion of updates to Annual Report

Suggestions for Committee name correction: "Community Engagement and communication Subcommittee"

Commissioner Bachmann moved to approve as amended, Commissioner Weaver 2nd, approved by voice

Request to clarify the location of CCES reports which are requested to be uploaded to the Boards and Commissions webpage by CCES.

#### **5) Data Center Report progress update**

Material received so far is useful. Work needed on the body of the report. Our goal is to move this project forward to give time for new tasks

Commission Shepp suggested it may be useful for graphs to include a written explanation.

Subcommittees and Commissioners instructed to submit their comments and revisions to Energy Manager Catanzaro for forward to Chair Stormont for compilation by the Chair or a CCES representative.

Points to include:

- Comments by visitors to CCES meeting
- Material given by visitors as appendices
- Simplify load charts
- Summaries of what we learned
- Executive Summary
  - Each subcommittee write a summary to pull in to the Executive

As subcommittees make progress, submit to Energy Manager Catanzaro for comment each month - updated report will be reviewed each month at the regular CCES meetings- goal to finalize by May - June

Commissioners request direction as to where the already completed reports submitted by the CCES in previous years are housed and linked on the Boards and Commissions site.

**6) Discussion of new tasking from Mayor and Council regarding energy options, the City Manager's office may participate**

Notice and discussion of the Mayor and Council's decision to include the CCES in the investigation of options to align with climate goals.

From Mayor and Council - Study Session LAR and Minutes, March 3, 2026  
*It was moved by Vice Mayor Santa Cruz, duly seconded, and CARRIED by a voice vote of 7 to 0, to direct staff to bring in the Commission on Climate, Energy and Sustainability to take lead on a public process that investigates the City's long-term options that align with the Mayor and Council's climate goals, and the exploration of long term opportunities for a public power option.*

The Commission is asking for official clarification of the task in order to move forward, for example: details, definition and timeline

The Commission has asked Energy Manager Catanzaro for information and data available from past meetings related to this issue.

Chair Stormont suggested commissioners listen to that portion of the Mayor and Council Special Session meeting that was held on March 3, 2026 when the motion was passed.

The discussion of public power options was the first item in the Study Session on March 3.  
[https://www.youtube.com/live/F\\_LIWaZ29qk?si=gkZoSserOq9XfqjM&t=1185](https://www.youtube.com/live/F_LIWaZ29qk?si=gkZoSserOq9XfqjM&t=1185)

The materials for item 1 of the Study Session are in the supporting items for the agenda on the City of Tucson Mayor & Council meetings webpage.  
<https://tucsonaz.hylandcloud.com/221agendaonline/Meetings/ViewMeeting?id=1933&doctype=2>

Chief Resilience Officer Luna suggests following up with Ward 1 Councilmember for clarity.

Commissioner Martins-Bekat noted that the motion at Mayor and Council needs more detail and definition in order to know what we need to do and what / who we need to request for information. We need to request guidance.

Commissioner Shepp commented that they are glad that CCES is seen as a resource by the Mayor and Council, but we will need direction and legal advice. We can review and give opinions. Currently Community Choice Aggregation is not legal in Arizona, and full municipalization is not a realistic short term solution for reducing greenhouse gas quickly. Our goal is to make recommendations and not be distracted.

Other commissioners also noted that we need to bring in outside experts to give us information as we have done with other topics. We need to include all perspectives from the public in order to suggest a potential roadmap for future power options as requested.

Any recommendations we give may need to be run through the city attorney - we are not experts, have expertise, but not experts. We may be able to give the pulse of the city.

Some questions: What do pilot projects look like? What are we looking for to make a start happen? What legal issues or nuts and bolts do we need to understand to make realistic recommendations.

Suggestion that we review the recommendations of the Energy Manager as a beginning.

Energy Manager Catenzaro clarified some points.

The MOCA launch not included in the energy sourcing study

Community of Homes not in the GDS study

Micro grids were in the study

5MW is a competitive power level

Resilience hubs are important

Commissioner Weaver -

- excited for the agenda item - legal issues are a concern, but it seems that the immediate goal is the ECA and the Franchise agreement passed. Wants to build a bridge and make a long-term goal. We are a City Commission, but not staff, and need clarification.
- Feels that there are points that the Commission could start this month
  - Councilmember Cunningham brought up cost, justice concerns, (will a parallel utility drive up costs?) Councilmember Lee wants to know if a signature campaign - like an initiative maybe get on the ballot more quickly). There is a justice issue if only the wealthy can afford clean energy - Councilmember Dahl - jobs, Councilmember Shubert and Mayor want to see what a roadmap to public power might look like.
- Not discussed, was the option to work more closely with the utility
- Resilience hubs
- We have the ability to do a good report in a short time if we meet often, like the franchise report last spring

Commissioner Stormont: Want community input - want broader input

Commissioner Shepp:

- Look at data from past energy meetings to find input
- Now that ECA is in discussion, if we start talking about a roadmap to municipalization then it will risk the ECA, and that could complicate the decision that was made before the ECA went to comment.

Commissioner Brown: What voices are needed in the discussion, and how do we bring them in?

Commissioner Bachmann: Can we hold a meeting purely for public comment? Could that serve as a forum?

Commissioner Martins-Beckat:

- Good idea - when we get to that step - with parameters
- Our bylaws - We should review our bylaws and ensure we are following our purpose and role.

Commissioner Stormont:

- Look at our charter and align
- Request from Energy Manager and Chief Resilience Officer the data from the meetings that have already been held

Commissioner Weaver: Would like an action item to begin work on the task

Commissioner Stormont: We need clear tasking before we get started on roadmap or other task

Commissioner Brown: Doesn't want to jeopardize the ECA,

- There was clarification that official action by Mayor and Council would jeopardize, not a study by CCES

## **7) Discussion of recommendations for filling open commission seats**

There are currently three vacancies.

Discussion about requirements for serving on a commission.

## **8) Subcommittee reports and approval of additional members**

Los Reales Subcommittee - met this month. Minutes not available.

Community Engagement and Communication Subcommittee

- Appointment approved of Commissioner Shepp as subcommittee member
- CEC subcommittee met this month to review policies
- Plans to send updates from CCES to Heat Resilience Officer Luna for newsletter
- Two potential tabling events: Cyclovia April 12 and PCC Climate Community Day April 21.

Executive Subcommittee - will schedule meeting to discuss CCES bylaws

Data Center Policy Subcommittee - will schedule meeting before next CCES meeting

Data Center Energy - Status update

Data Center Water - no meeting - will schedule before next CCES meeting

GSI / Safe Streets - inactive

Franchise Agreement - Propose to meet March 20th - date under review

## **9) Energy Manager report**

None

## **10) Climate Resilience report**

Presented by Chief Resilience Officer Luna

CRO Luna will discuss new tasking from Mayor and Council and bring more information

- Finalizing the SAZ heat summit report - should be on the website soon
- TEP leading ECA outreach

- Public forums yesterday March 10, and today 12 and 5:30
- Comments related to ACC regulation can not be in the ECA, but will be reported to Mayor and Council
- Quarterly report soon, and will be shared.
- The ECA will be discussed at the March 17 Mayor and Council Study Session to consider information, not for approval at that date. Approval action happens in April for the November ballot so at that time they would need to approve the ECA language.

## 11) Call to audience

Bruce Plank - There was only a short time to talk.

Noted: CCES given a broad mandate from the city council

Request from council to see how to get to municipalization and/or cca

Outline a way to achieve each of the options outlined in Michael's report. Even if it does not seem practical at the moment, things change.

CCES ought not to get bogged down with surveys and outreach

Robert Cook - comment read in

- *I just wanted to have on the record, that the Greater Tucson Climate Coalition supports the CCES's work on recommending a legal path for the CoT to pursue mini muni utility options and further support the legislation necessary to enable Community Choice Aggregation, the best strategy for public control over energy sourcing.*

Ward 6 Council Aid Winch - CCES has been given broad leeway from Mayor and Council.

This can include recommendations about things to get sent back to the City - eg - City needs to talk with legal council about X

What are steps that need to be overcome for roadmap to municipalization?

## 12) Future agenda items

- Boards and Commissions clarification
- Ward 6 presentation formally on the agenda if requested by Ward 6
- Municipalization options
- Distributed capacity procurement

## 13) Adjournment

Meeting adjournment called at 4:02 by Commission Chair Stormont

**Under State Open Meeting Law, no topics other than those noticed in the agenda may be discussed.**

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the Environmental & General Services Department at 520-791-3175. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange appropriate accommodations.