



**Minutes**  
**Strategic Planning Committee**  
**February 9, 2023**

**Committee members present:** Dave Donelson and Wayne Williams

**Staff members present:** Monica Indrebo, Scott Shirola, Natalie Watts, Kerry Baugh, Renee Adams, David Longrie, Abby Ortega, Kim Gortz, Tristan Gearhart, Joe Awad, Lisa Barbato, Christian Nelson, Sarah LaBarre, David Padgett, April Speake, Al Wells, Brett Jackson, Leslie McKiernan, Matt Dudden, Somer Mese, Luann Wagar and Mike Francolino

**City of Colorado Springs staff members present:** David Beckett and Bethany Burgess

**Citizens present:** Larry Barrett

Call to Order

Chair Dave Donelson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Review Minutes

The minutes from the Nov. 10, 2022, Strategic Planning Committee meeting were reviewed for posting and approved.

Compliance Reports

Ms. April Speake, Community Relations – Public Affairs Lead, reviewed the compliance report, I-13 Community Investment. There were no comments or questions.

Utilities Policy Advisory Committee (UPAC) Cost Recovery Assignment Update

Mr. Scott Shirola, Pricing and Rates Manager, reviewed the assignment scope and the roadmap for the assignment. The committee is taking several policy pillars into consideration for the assignment to ensure equality. Alternatives for cost recovery mechanisms include: charging four-service development fees for capacity, new infrastructure to support proposed and future regional development, and new infrastructure to support proposed local development demand/load. Mr. Shirola reviewed the stakeholder presentations that are being utilized for this assignment including: City departments, the Housing and Building Association of Colorado Springs, Pikes Peak Association of Realtors, Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC and more. The next steps in the process will be to conduct a financial analysis of alternatives.

Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) True-Up Schedule

Ms. Kim Gortz, Manager of Water Resources, introduced the Integrated Resource Plan, which is a long-range strategic implementation plan forecasted every five years. She explained that the annual signpost evaluation and true-up happen in February each year. Key indicators of change and risks are tracked to inform projects, policies, demand

management and supply development. This allows for adaptive processes, tools and management strategies to meet long-range objectives. The internal review will be complete by March, it will then be presented to Strategic Planning Committee in April. Committee Chair Donelson requested copies of the 2020 and 2021 True-Ups.

#### Clean Heat Plan Review

Mr. David Longrie, Engineering Manager, reviewed the Clean Heat Plan. This was initiated by Senate Bill 21-264 which was signed in June 2021. This regulation requires gas utilities to adopt programs to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions with a total reduction of 22% by 2030 with a 2.5% cost cap of retail sales revenue. This plan requires a public process to educate customers of the requirements and the incentives available. Mr. Longrie reviewed what steps have been completed in this plan so far, which includes calculating the baseline of GHG emissions and calculating the cost cap which is 2% of total annual revenue from full-service gas customers. He explained that some of the regulatory considerations include regulatory differences for municipally-owned utilities, which directs municipal utilities to set rules for compliance within the legislative provisions. These rules must also show compliance with the Public Utility Commission. He explained that the primary sources of emissions reductions will focus on energy efficiency, beneficial electrification of customer end uses and cost-effective leak reduction on the distribution system. He shared that an update on the Clean Heat Plan will be brought to the March Utilities Board meeting.

#### 2022 Scorecard Initiative Evaluation

Ms. Natalie Watts, Strategic Planning & Governance Manager, provided an update on the 2022 CEO Performance Plan and Enterprise Balanced Scorecard. She said due to the departure of the CEO, staff is recommending suspending the year-end CEO Performance Plan – which includes Balanced Scorecard performance indicators, strategic initiatives, and competencies for 2022 – and instead only report on the 2022 Balanced Scorecard performance indicators. She explained staff will be bringing this item to the February Utilities Board meeting for approval. The committee was in support of staff's recommendation.

#### Review C-2 Annual Evaluation

Ms. Watts reviewed the C-2 Utilities Board Annual Evaluation compliance report. There were no comments or questions from the committee.

#### Regional Water Task Force

Ms. Bethany Burgess discussed the progress of creating a Regional Water Task Force which involves the City Attorney's office, Springs Utilities and City staff creating a framework for a task force to establish a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with El Paso County and other regional stakeholders. The task force will be looking to compile and evaluate information from several studies to make policy recommendations to various government entities in the region. She explained that the MOU will not be binding, but will serve to make policy recommendations to address long-term water

issues. Additionally, City Council would not have contracting authority, so it may be similar to an intergovernmental agreement.

Plan for future meeting: March 9, 2023

The Committee agreed that a March Strategic Planning Committee meeting will be needed to review the balanced scorecard according to the bylaws.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.