



State Energy Advisory Board

January 16, 2020 Conference Call

Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 3:04, Adjourned at 3:50pm

Agenda:

Roll Call

Present: Sumesh Arora (MS), Kathy Blodgett (AZ), Susan Brown (WI), Kelley Burk (FL), John Chatburn (ID), Jim Clarkson (SC), Maureen Neighbors (AL), Bob Nelson (MT, STEAB Vice Chair), Nicole Peoples (OH), Lynn Retz (KS), Michael Richard (MD), Ken Robinette (ID), Sally Talberg (MI), Dub Taylor (TX, STEAB Chair), Mary Beth Tung (MD)

Absent: Dan Sullivan (A), Rick Bender (KY), Tristan Vance (IN), Laura Nelson (UT), Judith Judson (MA)

Members of the Public in Attendance: N/A

Others: Kurt Heckman and Allison Mills, Office of Secretarial Boards and Councils; Jay Nathwani, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Department of Energy; Catharine Brady from EE front Office.

Introductory Remarks by the Chair

- Dub Taylor announced that he will be leaving his state energy position in February, but is open to the possibility of continuing on with STEAB in a different capacity. He introduced Jay Nathwani as the new DFO.

Introductory Remarks by the Designated Federal Officer

- Jay Nathwani thanked Dub and the STEAB members for participating in the call. He welcomed everyone to a new, exciting year of STEAB activities. Jay started provided his short bio at DOE.

Discussion of In-person Meeting Dates, Location

- Jay reviewed the expectation that STEAB generally meets 2-3 times/year in person and holds conference calls, as needed in between the formal meetings. Due to federal notice requirements, he suggested that STEAB schedule calls for the third Thursday of each month from 3-4pm, ET, and the calls can be canceled if there is no compelling agenda items to review. The group agreed with this approach.
- Sally Talberg expressed support for two in-person meetings and year. Dub Taylor echoed this view with the possibility of a third in-person meeting, if circumstances warrant it. He observed that phone calls help maintain momentum in between the formal meetings.
- In terms of the next in-person meeting, dates at the end of March and start of April were discussed. When held in DC, hotel availability often drives meeting date selection. Large tourist events such as the Cherry Blossom Festival (March 20-April12) may limit availability during that timeframe. Also, there are several national and regional energy conferences that are scheduled which may conflict.
- John Chatburn and Ken Robinette suggested that the spring meeting be held in Idaho at the Idaho National Laboratory, instead.
- Another factor that may impact the timing of the in-person meeting is that there are four, unexpected vacancies on STEAB and these need to be filled. Whether this should or can happen prior to the in-person meeting is a factor. STEAB members were encouraged to submit names of individuals who they believe would be good candidates to fill these positions.

Budget Status and EERE Priorities

- Jay announced that Congress approved the new budget for EERE, which is \$2.8Billion dollars.
https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/H1865PLT_44.PDF
<https://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20191216/BILLS-116HR1865SA-JES-DIVISION-C.pdf> (EERE program offices funding is on page #56 and the program details start on page #31)
- Jay pledges to forward to STEAB members all future funding opportunity announcements, which members can then share with their state colleagues.

- As a show of goodwill towards taking the STEAB recommendations seriously, Jay will provide the group with links to demonstrate DOE activity on each of STEAB's recommendations.
- SEE Action reports were received and Jay would like STEAB to have a quick look at them before an official release of these documents (attached).
- [Energy Storage Grant Challenge announced](#); [Plastics Innovation Challenge announcement](#)
- Sumesh Arora inquired about updates on Workforce Development
- Jay responded that veterans training programs, and curriculum designed for college and graduate students is proceeding - <https://www.energy.gov/workforce>
- Sally Talberg asked about energy storage
- Jay mentioned the 5 pillars –
 - Technology Development: Establish ambitious, achievable performance goals, and a comprehensive R&D portfolio to achieve them;
 - Technology Transfer: Accelerate the technology pipeline from research to system design to private sector adoption through rigorous system evaluation, performance validation, siting tools, and targeted collaborations;
 - Policy and Valuation: Develop best-in-class models, data, and analysis to inform the most effective value proposition and use cases for storage technologies;
 - Manufacturing and Supply Chain: Design new technologies to strengthen U.S. manufacturing and recyclability, and to reduce dependence on foreign sources of critical minerals; and
 - Workforce: Train the next generation of American workers to meet the needs of the 21st century electric grid and energy storage value chain.

Energy Storage link is <https://www.energy.gov/energy-storage-grand-challenge/energy-storage-grand-challenge>

STEAB Process

- Jay told the group that there will be internal discussions regarding a new STEAB Chair and other retired members. Jay requested the STEAB members to provide him with any recommendations they may have for candidates appropriate to be considered for new appointments.

Public Comments

- **None**

Closing Remarks

- Dub Taylor thanked everyone for participating in the call.
- Jay promised to follow up with the links and announcements he mentioned.

Meeting Adjourned 3:50pm