



**MINUTES**  
**OXFORD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**COURTHOUSE**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2025 AT 12:00 PM**

---

**Approval of Agenda**

Environmental Commission members present were Jon Ralinovsky, Chantel Raghu, Jason Bracken, Jim Vinch, and Michael Vanni. A quorum was present.  
Members of the public in attendance were Phil Leppla, Jennifer O'Donnell, and Ken Vincent.  
City staff present were Reena Murphy and Heather Barbour.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30pm.

Motion to approve the agenda: Ms. Raghu

2nd: Mr. Bracken

Vote: Unanimous approval

**Approval of Minutes**

**Old Business**

**New Business**

1. Public Hearing- Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council

Motion to open a public hearing: Ms. Raghu

2nd: Mr. Bracken

Vote: Unanimous approval

Phil Leppla, Deputy Director for Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (SOPEC), presented SOPEC's Electric Aggregation Plan of Operation and shared about SOPEC as an organization.

SOPEC is a council of governments and membership is free to the City. SOPEC provides an alternative to private brokers for aggregation pricing and acts as a "shared energy office". Membership would provide Oxford with annual community grants, opportunities to collaborate with other municipalities for federal grant applications, legal assistance for energy projects, and

a vote on the council of governments.

He shared that SOPEC's aggregation program has a non-compete with AEP Energy. SOPEC and AEP Energy's Government Aggregation Master Retail Electric Supply Agreement requires AEP Energy to provide SOPEC with three market representative price quotes when providing new pricing for member communities to ensure transparency and competitiveness. SOPEC shared that they have negotiated full transparency from AEP Energy on price components.

SOPEC also has a call center with AEP Energy exclusively for SOPEC communities, improving customer service. Additionally, they work with AEP Energy to do quarterly "refreshes" of the aggregation program.

SOPEC uses 100% renewable energy through renewable energy credits but have a long term goal to spur renewable energy generation in Ohio/our region.

Mr. Vinch asked about terms of aggregation contracts and if there is an advantage to entering into a 3 year agreement over a 1 year agreement. Mr. Leppla shared that historically longer terms provide a lower rate, however, that is not happening in the current market due to the volatility of energy prices. This volatility is industry wide, not unique to AEP or SOPEC.

Mr. Vincent also asked if the library would be included in the aggregation program. Mr. Leppla shared that small commercial accounts would be included in the aggregation program, but that the libraries and other public entities could participate in SOPEC's Public Pricing Program.

Mr. Vincent also asked when SOPEC was established. Mr. Leppla replied 2014.

Motion to close the public hearing: Ms. Raghu

2nd: Mr. Vinch

Vote: Unanimous approval

## **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Ms. Raghu

2nd: Mr. Bracken

Vote: Unanimous approval