



Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Purchase Rebate Program

(CHEAPR)

Board Meeting

January 30, 2020

3:00 – 4:00 PM Russell Hearing Room at 79 Elm Street, Hartford

Meeting Minutes

Augmented Per Board Direction on July 17, 2020

Attendees: Commissioner Katie Dykes, Commissioner Michelle Seagull, Bryan Garcia, President, CT Green Bank, Amy McClean, CT Director, Acadia Center, Tony Cherolis, Transport Academy at Center for Latino Progress, Jody Ellant, Attorney, Romag Fasteners

At 3:05 PM Commissioner Dykes called the meeting to order and invited Board members present in the room and on the phone the opportunity to introduce themselves. All other attendees including DEEP staff and members of the public introduced themselves. Commissioner Dykes offered opening remarks and provided some history and context for the CHEAPR program and noted that there was a quorum of the Board present.

Overview of CHEAPR program 2015-2019

Paul Farrell the Director of Planning for the Air Management Bureau provided an overview of the CHEAPR program including the details of the Multi-State Zero Emission Vehicle Memorandum of Understanding's commitment to adopt complimentary policies. Mr. Farrell's presentation included an overview of historical programmatic changes including the details of the current incentive levels for the exiting program

The current incentive levels are:

- **Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV)**
 - \$1,500 for a vehicle with greater than 200 miles in range,
 - \$500 for a vehicle with less than 200 mile in range
 - MSRP Cap: \$42,000

- **Partial Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV)**
 - \$500 for any PHEV
 - MSRP Cap: \$42,000

- **Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV)**
 - \$5,000 for any FCEV
 - MSRP Cap: \$60,000

Several suggestions were made for presentations and topics for discussion for future board meetings including:

- Invite the current CHEAPR program administrator to present on EV rebate programs in other states.



- Invite CHEAPR Board member Brad Hoffman to lead a discussion on the used vehicle market and how the market differs from new sales. By comparison the number of used car dealers is estimated at 1600 statewide while there are approximately 270 new car dealers.

Board Action on Recommendation on Continuity of Existing Program:

Mr. Garcia made a motion to:

Retain the current CHEAPR program incentive levels to ensure continuity of the program.

Discussion

General discussion ensued and a recommendation was made to post a notice on the CHEAPR program webpage indicating that:

The CHEAPR Board will be evaluating the implementation of the used vehicle program and reassessing the program incentive levels and the current incentive levels may change during 2020.

Mr. Cherolis provided a recommendation to engage used car dealers that are familiar with how to reach urban, lower income vehicle owners and suggested DEEP staff engage the Hartford Auto center and other used car dealers to include in scheduling the next meeting.

Mr. Cherolis discussed the benefits of electric-bicycles (e-bikes) as a clean and affordable micro-mobility option that could distribute the benefits of electrified transportation more equitably among those who live in cities. He also requested the CHEAPR Board explore a gas guzzler/fees as a revenue source for additional incentives.

Next Steps:

Commissioner Dykes recommended reconvening the Board in about one month pending additional Board appointments.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 4:10