



Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2023 CHEAPR Board Meeting via ZOOM || [View Recording](#)

Present: See [Attachment A](#)
 Next meeting: September 13, 2023
 Prepared by: Paul Kritzer, DEEP

I. Call to Order and Announcements

Meeting started at **3:02 pm**.

In the absence of CHEAPR Board Chair and DEEP Commissioner Katie Dykes and Acting Deputy Commissioner Tracy Babbidge, DEEP Acting Air Bureau Chief Paul Farrell called the meeting to order and provided opening remarks.

Call of attendance for Board Members. There is a quorum.

Approval of March/16/23 meeting minutes. Paul Wessell made the motion. Sarah Harari seconded. Minutes were approved.

II. Committee Reports

DEEP Program Update

Paul Farrell gave a budget update.

- Budget Update: DEEP presented a new budget update format, which includes a higher level picture of the budget. The new updates includes the budget summary, incentives paid, and administrative costs:

Budget Summary

January 1, 2023 through April 30, 2023			
	Rebate Funds	Admin Funds	Total Funds
Incentive Payments ^(A)	\$ 1,409,050.00		\$ 1,409,050.00
Incentive Pipeline	\$ 288,650.00		\$ 288,650.00
Administrative ^(B)		\$ 247,816.11	\$ 247,816.11
Total Funds Utilized	\$ 1,697,700.00	\$ 247,816.11	\$ 1,945,516.11
Estimated Remaining 2023-2025 Funding	\$ 12,100,821.76	\$ 1,740,183.89	\$ 13,841,005.65

A. Incentives Paid

Type of Incentive	Payments Feb'23-Apr'23		All Payments: Jan'23-Apr'23	
	\$	No.	\$	No.
Vehicle	\$ 942,000	496	\$ 1,327,500	706
Rebate+	\$ 18,500	8	\$ 26,000	12
Dealer	\$ 32,450	306	\$ 55,550	514
Total	\$ 992,950	810	\$ 1,409,050	1,232

B. Administrative Costs

	Costs Incurred Feb'23-Apr'23	Costs Incurred Jan'23-Apr'23
Time and Materials	\$ 136,406.61	\$ 160,946.11
Fixed Fees (Monthly & Annual)	\$ 34,500.00	\$ 81,000.00
Application Volume (Fee/App)	\$ 5,310.00	\$ 5,870.00
Total Administrative Costs	\$ 176,216.61	\$ 247,816.11

- There were no comments on the budget from the board.

EV Data Update

Walter Barozi presented a data update.



- a. This data included EV numbers, including total sales just over 30,000 vehicles
- b. Data included data as of Jan 1, 2023. DEEP will receive updated data on June 30, 2023.
- c. Walter Barozi provided data from NESCAUM on Connecticut plug-in vehicle sales, as well as other states that have adopted the California Zero Emission Vehicle program standards.
- d. Walter Barozi provided data from the program statistics webpage that includes popular models, rebate locations, and most popular dealerships.

Implementation Update on Public Act 22-25

Paul Farrell presented on implementation.

2. Expanded Eligibility: The CHEAPR program has expanded eligibility for LMI individuals as of March 30th. Expanded eligibility included allowing for prequalification, and expanded eligibility beyond categorical eligibility to individuals at or below 300% of the federal poverty level, and individuals with a residential address within an DEEP demarcated EJ neighborhood.
 - a. Prior to this change DEEP received applications for 20 rebate+ applications
 - b. Since implementation DEEP has received greater than 50 applications.
 - c. It was clarified that EJ and distressed municipalities includes all currently listed towns as well as towns with a 5-year grace period. DEEP is currently working with the DEEP's EJ group to incorporate the grace period towns into the EJ map.
 - d. Sarah Harari asked if there was a breakdown of New and Used vehicles.
 - i. DEEP did not have this information available and will provide it at a later time.
 - e. Sarah Harari asked what happens when neighborhoods transition out of the five-year grace period?
 - i. DEEP responded that they are working with their EJ group to account for those towns.
 - f. Kate Rozen asked if there was a post rebate on rebate+ to get information on what has changed with the new program and identify why we are seeing new applicants.
 - i. Brian (CSE) responded that the survey is different and will follow up on how they differ and whether that information is included.
 - g. Julia Dumaine asked a question about how criteria were set for rebate+
 - i. Paul Farrell responded that it comes from the statute.
3. CHEAPR Fleets Update
 - a. CHEAPR is expanding to include additional entities, including businesses, non-profits, tribal entities and municipalities. Business will be required to provide a certificate of good standing.
 - b. The next step for roll out for this program is that DEEP will trying to identify fleets that are priority fleets for transition.
4. E-Bike Work Plan
 - a. Program Design
 - o Both point of sale via voucher and post-purchase rebate
 - o Incentive levels will be \$500 for a base rebate and LMI eligibility for an additional \$1000
 - o Other Program Parameters
 - E-bike MSRP maximum of \$3000
 - Maximize air quality benefits
 - Prioritize EJ communities and LMI households
 - o Program Launch will be June 28
 - The first phase is for brick-and-mortar shops
 - o Safety and quality are a focus for this program and so vehicles will be required to be certified to certain requirements
 - Kate Rozen asked a question about whether people want online brands should they wait until phase 2.
 - o Paul responded that they should wait.
 - o There will be a webinar on June 22, 2023 on the eBike program
5. Marketing Program Update
James Fowler presented on marketing
 - i. DEEP has selected a vendor and started the process of working with the vendor
 - ii. We have two co-creation meetings with Cronin and company.

- iii. Late June presentation expected to get to next steps.
- b. Paul Wessel asked if the advisory board will be able to see materials before it becomes available to the public.
 - i. James and Paul both responded that the advisory board will be included.
- c. Sarah Harari offered assistance in this area as well.

6. Revised Timeline

UPDATED TIMELINE



III. Board Roundtable

1. *Kate Rozen*
 - a. *What kind of support can the board members provide to help*
 - i. *First – advocacy and contact with applicants and shops*
 - ii. *Second – The board can help with the marketing data*
 - iii. *Third – Another set of eyes for the data and making sure the conclusions being drawn make sense*
2. *Sarah Harari/ Kevin Ross*
 - a. *Do we track data on what other incentive programs CHEAPR users access?*
 - i. *We are currently talking to the utilities to allow them to reach out to CHEAPR users to make them aware of other programs.*
 - b. *Are there any updates on the MHD voucher program and ACT implementation*
 - i. *Regulations are in progress and the voucher program will follow.*

IV. Public Comments

1. *Barry Kresch.*
 - a. *Looking Slide 8 there was a big drop off on the last bar showing rebates. Is that latency?*
 - i. *Yes it is.*



- b. *On the 50 LMI rebates is that included in the rebate numbers?*
 - i. *No, those are vouchers so they may not be included in the rebate numbers*
 - c. *For municipalities with multiple fleets (i.e. DPW and Policy) do the caps on the municipal fleet rebates apply to the whole municipality or each fleet with in the municipality?*
 - i. *DEEP will have to work through that question during implementation.*
 - d. *Has DEEP discussed the eligibility of used vehicles. My recommendation is to allow any MSRP vehicle.*
 - i. *DEEP is working to update that list, but the MSRP has to be excluded by statute.*
2. *Jay Stange*
- a. *E-bike retailers that have been monitoring this program and asked if online retailers will need a brick and mortar. Why are there online models only on the eligibility list if they aren't available? Can pending UL certification be eligible?*
 - i. *As far as the list all of the bikes should be known so people can plan ahead.*
 - ii. *Pending is no longer and issue we have eliminated that.*
 - iii. *The language of the statute doesn't have a brick and mortar requirement but perhaps future legislation should say that.*
 - b. *Kate Rozen said that it would be preferable to have a connection to a brick and mortar.*

V. Adjournment

The meeting was closed by Paul Farrell

The next Board Meeting will be held on September 13, 2023 which a change from the 14th due to a holiday.
Q4 meeting: December 14, 2023

Meeting adjourned at **4:07 PM**



Attachment A: Attendee Report

1.	18604884457
2.	Andrea Goodman# Eversource
3.	Barry Kresch
4.	Brian Jones
5.	CafferelliB
6.	James Fowler (CT DEEP)
7.	Jay Stange/Transport Hartford
8.	Jhena Vigrass (she/her)
9.	Julia Dumaine (PURA)
10.	Kate Rozen
11.	Kevin Moss
12.	Lori Demaine
13.	Matthew's OtterPilot
14.	Mattie Horne
15.	Meg Ensign
16.	Meg Portfolio
17.	Mike Whitney
18.	Nicholas Velseboer-CEQ
19.	Paul Aresta
20.	Paul Farrell
21.	Paul Wessel
22.	robert ensign
23.	Sara Harari
24.	Sarah Fryxell
25.	Walter Barozi