

MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, August 29, 2018

Chairperson Gerry Braun opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in regular session beginning at 5:31 p.m. at the Yolo County Department of Community Services, Cache Creek Room, 292 W. Beamer Street, Woodland, California.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Gerry Braun (Chair), Christine Shewmaker (Vice-Chair), Tom Flynn, Yvonne Hunter, David Springer, Lorenzo Kristov, and Marsha Baird

Committee Members Absent: Mark Aulman

**Approval of
Agenda**

Hunter made a motion to approve the August 29, 2018 Agenda, seconded by Baird.
Motion passed unanimously by the following vote:

AYES: Braun, Shewmaker, Flynn, Hunter, Springer, Kristov, Baird

NOES: None

ABSENT: Aulman

ABSTAIN: None

Public Comment

Chairperson Braun opened up the floor to public comment. Mr. Gary Cook, resident of Davis, was speaking with his neighbor Lorenzo Kristov, who invited him to attend the CAC meeting. He has a background in science and would like to contribute to the organization as a volunteer.

**VCEA Staff and
Advisory Task
Group Reports**

Mr. Flynn announced that this would be his last meeting on the CAC. CAC is in good hands and he will be working on other issues important to him and has enjoyed working with the Group. Members thanked him for his work, contribution, which has been extremely valuable to the CAC and VCEA. Mr. Flynn informed those present that he is in contact with numerous agricultural customers whose bills are hard to interpret. IOUs continue to charge for fees, including generation fees - it appears they are being charged twice for generation charges, demand charges. Ms. Shewmaker asked if their bills were over the amounts charged before? Mr. Flynn stated that he reviewed the statements and there were some things he could not explain, and it is not intuitive. Ms. Baird asked if VCEA can do something to assist in explaining their bill to the Ag. customer? VCEA Staff Jim Parks stated that we have a residential bill sample on the website currently. Ms. Hunter suggested that this is possibly something that the Customer Outreach Task Group could work on.

Chairperson Braun suggested that all CAC Task Groups should look at ways to assist the customer.

Outreach Task Group: Ms. Hunter announced that the Outreach Task Group are currently reviewing eight (8) responses received to the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Customer Outreach and Marketing Services. It looks like we received responses from talented firms.

Regulatory/Legislative Task Group: Ms. Hunter reported that position letters have been sent. The Task Group is currently tracking two (2) or three (3) bills that are still alive and will work with Ms. Lembke and/or Ms. Shewmaker on tracking and sending out the appropriate letter(s) to the Governor.

Mr. Parks announced that a Joint Rate Mailer, comparing VCE's rates to PG&E's rates, the design is not negotiable, which must be sent out by September 1st and sent to all customers. Only four (4) rates could be selected and compared to PG&E's rate, a Joint Rate Mailer each for residential, agricultural and commercial customers.

Interim General Manager Mitch Sears reminded those present that a Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) charge is based on a complicated formula. It is where excess generation is sold off by PG&E, due to the excess they have because of Customers receiving generation from VCEA or any other CCA. This cost is passed on to the Customer and shows up on PG&E billing statements. The PCIA charge has been reviewed by an Administrative Law Judge this past year, who came out with his proposed decision (PD) which was okay; not too detrimental to either party; and staying relatively the same as it is currently with further decisions to be made in future phases. However, an alternate proposed decision (APD) has come out which increases the PCIA about 30%, which has caused discomfort for all CCAs. Individual CCAs and CalCCA are setting up ex-parte meetings with CPUC Commissioners' office staff to address this APD. CPUC will be making a decision soon, potentially as soon as September 13th, the same day that the next VCEA Board meeting is scheduled.

Chairperson Braun stated that the Energy Commission has on their website a synopsis on both the PD and APD. He will send out the links to Ms. Lembke who will disseminate the links to the CAC Members.

Ms. Hunter stated that the impacts or lack of impact of rates, as a result of the fires might be useful in CalCCA's messaging.

Mr. Kristov asked if they are allowed to modify either the PD or APD during their live meetings? Mr. Sears answered yes.

Mr. Flynn stated that he believes that if they make "substantial changes" to the PD or APD, that it needs to go out for public comment for, he thinks, 30 days. But we would need to check on the current rules.

**Consent Agenda –
Approval of July
30, 2018
Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Chairperson Braun announced to those present that there was only one item on the Consent Agenda, the draft July 30, 2018 CAC meeting minutes. Staff received a request from Resident Kate Kelly, who wanted to clarify her public comments in the draft minutes. Specifically amending Item 7, under public comment, comments made by Ms. Kelly, as a consultant for Defenders of Wildlife. Kristov made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda item, the July 30, 2018 meeting minutes as amended, seconded by Hunter. Motion passed unanimously by the following vote:

AYES: Braun, Shewmaker, Hunter, Springer, Kristov, Baird

NOES: None

ABSENT: Aulman

ABSTAIN: Flynn

**Net Energy
Metering (NEM)
Policy
Amendment
Update**

Mr. Parks provided an update of the August 1st Woodland workshop held on Net Energy Metering (NEM) and reviewed the workshop follow up slide. He reviewed with those present the policy amendment recommendations for existing NEM customers and for those who install solar in the future referred to as new NEM customers. Mr. Flynn asked if there was a proposed cutoff date. Mr. Parks replied that we have new customers as of VCE's launch date of June 1, 2018. These Customers currently have a true up date of April. Mr. Kristov asked about the customer who opted out, they move, and a new person moves in - are the new residents automatically opted into VCEA? Mr. Parks answered yes.

Mr. Parks explained (Slide 7) why he is now choosing February as the true up date rather than April. He did the modeling and in February they will be using their accrued credits by February and owe monies. He reviewed (Slide 10) the financials and impacts on VCE's net position. VCE would still be carrying approximately \$838,000 as a receivable, not actually "cash in the bank". Ms. Hunter asked if he factored in the commercial customers and Mr. Parks answered yes.

Chairperson Braun would like to encourage people to decarbonize their home. A discussion occurred. It was suggested that VCE provide information to customers on how to reduce their emissions with the desire for VCE to become a resource and partner in this goal.

Ms. Baird asked if there was different information in the slides presented tonight than in the packet. Mr. Parks answered yes.

Mr. Parks reviewed with those present (Slides 11 and 12) the proposed NEM policy amendment of which there were a total of fifteen (15) proposed. A discussion on verbiage occurred. It was suggested that verbiage in items 14 and 15 be changed and that item 13 be deleted.

Chairperson Braun asked if the items listed on Slides 11 and 12 would be communicated to customers. If yes, it was suggested that VCE define "wholesale" and to clarify that purchasing and selling prices are different. Mr. Parks informed those present that VCE is using PG&E's wholesale amounts. Chairperson Braun suggested that a footnote on what is "wholesale" be added on the website and this concern should be communicated to the Board.

Ms. Hunter made a motion to recommend to the Board that the amended Net Energy Metering policy be adopted as written on Slides 11 and 12 revised as follows: in items 14 and 15 the verbiage of "beginning in 2019" be changed to "beginning in June 2018" and the deletion of item 13, seconded by Chairperson Braun. Chairperson Braun opened the motion up for discussion.

Numerous clarifying questions were asked by the CAC members, such as: tracking time of usage, NEM Customers "donation" of their generation credit, and "Legacy" customers. It was suggested that for future discussion, considering NEM customers as a local resource.

Ms. Hunter amended her motion, to add a new item #3, if a residential NEM customer is on monthly billing they can request to move back to annual billing if their annual bill is less than \$500 for a consecutive two-year period, Chairperson Braun seconded the amended motion. Motion passed unanimously by the following vote:

AYES: Braun, Shewmaker, Hunter, Springer, Kristov, Baird, Flynn

NOES: None

ABSENT: Aulman

ABSTAIN: None

**Community
Advisory
Committee
Administration**

Chairperson Braun informed those present that information is being presented to the CAC Members for their review and discussion. He stated that he is not necessarily looking for a motion, but rather a starting point for discussion. The following items were discussed:

A. Progress Report Development – Ms. Baird provided a draft report for review which includes an outline for the launch phase (first year) portion and goals for year 2 of the

draft report. She asked that the Members start thinking about how they would complete the report and provide their feedback to her by mid-September. Chairperson Braun added that the individual Task Group reports highlighting all of their accomplishments would be a great place to start for developing an informative report for the Board. Braun, Shewmaker and Baird will use the Task Group summaries and the recommendations summary provided to draft the report in addition to any other "highlights" provided by individual members. Chairperson Braun also stated that challenges and issues should be the inspiration of year 2 goals. Ms. Baird would like to provide a draft progress report to the Members for their review at their next meeting scheduled for Monday, October 1st. The thought is that there is no due date to get the progress report to the Board.

B. CAC Second Year Workplan, including reviewing IRP Action Plan Activities – Chairperson Braun informed those present that what is in the packet is an example – a list for the Committee to pick up if Staff can assist with the development of some of the items. A part of 2nd years' work would be to look at those action plan activities. There might be other items to be added and there probably should be a discussion with Staff on what can be worked on within Staff availability. Mr. Kristov encouraged each Member to contribute their own items and ideas, then everyone can "brainstorm" together later.

C. Review/recommend update to CAC charge – Chairperson Braun informed those present that what is presented in the packet is the original "charge" and suggested revisions/updates now that VCEA is past its launch and into a different phase. There was a brief discussion on what should be included in the CAC charge. Chairperson Braun suggested that the Energy Task Group should review what actions should be taken then presented to the Members at the next CAC meeting.

D. Terms (length) of Members Appointment and how to stagger the terms – Ms. Shewmaker wanted this subject to be discussed amongst the Members. A discussion occurred. It was suggested that the "classes" be changed to expire to 2019, 2020, and 2021 considering that Members have already served a year on the CAC. Ms. Hunter made a motion to adopt the organization of CAC Members' terms with two changes 1) terms for each of the "classes" would be changed to expire on 2019, 2020, and 2021 respectively and 2) delete the section that the Vice Chair moves up to the Chair after a year to officers are selected every year, Ms. Shewmaker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the following vote:

AYES: Braun, Shewmaker, Hunter, Springer, Kristov, Baird, Flynn

NOES: None

ABSENT: Aulman

ABSTAIN: None

E. Solicitation of New Members/Appointment by Board – Chairperson Braun announced that there are now two vacancies on the CAC: Yolo County and the City of Woodland. He asked if the Members had any thoughts or suggestions on how to advertise for the vacancies so that recommendations can be made to the Board for appointment. A comment was made that within the Staff Report, the CAC is referred to as a "subcommittee", which it is not. Please change it to Advisory Board or what is most appropriate for their Committee. Several ideas and suggestions were made and discussed. Chairperson Braun asked that Staff find out from the Cities and County what recruitment process they use and to come back with a suggestion on a formalized process.

F. Task Group Assignments and Requests for Task Group Assistance – Chairperson Braun reminded those present that according to the Brown Act, the Task Groups are

working on a specific “task” for a limited amount of time. He suggested that the “tasks” each Group works on be reviewed and renewed yearly.

G. Recording of Board meetings – Ms. Shewmaker wanted input from the other Members on whether VCEA Board meetings should be recorded. The Members discussed this subject and asked Staff to convey to the Board that the CAC Members agreed that Board meetings should be recorded.

H. Long Range Calendar – The CAC received calendars for the remaining year of 2018 and the full year of 2019. Chairperson Braun and Mr. Sears agreed to look at the long-term calendars and come up with ideas. They are to keep in mind the outcome of the PCIA proposed decision and the CPUC Green Book status as both of these items will most likely have an impact to CCA policies.

**Advisory
Committee
Member and Staff
Announcements**

Mr. Sears announced that Mr. Parks worked with Yolo, Davis and Woodland on a SACOG Grant application, which was submitted. In summary, the application proposed level 2 DC fast chargers, Davis mobile chargers, and an electric shuttle as a pilot in Davis.

Mr. Kristov informed those present that he attended a City of Davis Council meeting wherein he expressed his supporting opinion of all electric, no gas, for new construction during the Valley Climate Action Center matter.

Mr. Sears informed those present that he had a discussion with SMUD on their electrification efforts.

Mr. Sears informed those present that the Request for Proposals for Long Term Renewables has been advertised and that Staff will be going back to the Board at their September meeting to provide an update.

Next Meeting

Next CAC meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 1, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at the Davis Senior Center, located at 646 “A” Street, Davis, CA 95616.

Adjournment

Hunter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Springer. Motion passed unanimously by the following vote:

AYES: Braun, Shewmaker, Baird, Kristov, Hunter, Springer, Flynn

NOES: None

ABSENT: Aulman

ABSTAIN: None

Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.



Alisa Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst