

**VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Staff Report - Item 4

TO: Community Advisory Committee
FROM: Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst
SUBJECT: CAC December 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes
DATE: January 25, 2024

Recommendation

Receive, review and approve the attached December 21, 2023 meeting minutes.



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023
WINTERS COMMUNITY CENTER
MAIN HALL
201 RAILROAD AVENUE, WINTERS, CA 95694**

Chair Aulman established that there was a quorum present and opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a meeting on Thursday, December 21, 2023 beginning at 5:01 p.m., held at Winters Community Center, Main Hall, located at 201 Railroad Avenue, Winters, California 95694.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Mark Aulman (Chair), Raul Athalye (Vice Chair), Marsha Baird, Lorenzo Kristov, Jennifer Rindahl, Cynthia Rodriguez, Diccon Westworth, Danielle Ballard, David Springer (arrived at 5:06 p.m.), Keith Taylor (arrived at 5:40 p.m.)

Committee Members Absent: None

Welcome Chair Aulman welcomed everyone.

Public Comment / Introductions There were no verbal or written public comments on items not on the agenda and on Consent Agenda items.

Brief Task Group and VCE staff Reports **Task Group Reports:**

Legislative / Regulatory: Lorenzo Kristov informed those present that legislatively there is not too much to report; however, there is a lot going on, which the Task Group and VCE Staff are monitoring. On the regulatory side of things, the Net Energy Metering (3.0) decision is being challenged in Court.

Programs & Outreach: Chair Aulman informed those present that he will defer to Item 6 – Formation of Task Groups for 2024.

(David Springer arrived at 5:06 p.m.)

Staff Report / Summary of Board's December 14, 2023 meeting: VCE Chief Operating Officer Gordon Samuel informed those present that the Board at their December 14, 2023 meeting: received a copy of the CAC's 2023 Task Group year-end reports; approved renewal of contracts; accepted GHG free



attributes of large hydro only, with a discussion of nuclear attributes; and, approved the 2024 operating budget and customer rates.

VCE Executive Officer Mitch Sears announced that the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) issued a proposed decision (PD) on the expansion and extension of the AgFIT pilot program. Comments are due soon and it is anticipated that the CPUC will issue their final decision or modifications to their PD in late January 2024. The CPUC's PD expands the area within the PG&E service territory to include commercial, industrial and residential customers and up to 50 MW.

Consent Items

There were no written or verbal comments as identified above.

Lorenzo Kristov made a motion to approve the Consent agenda, seconded by Cynthia Rodriguez. Motion passed with Keith Taylor absent and Marsha Baird abstaining. The following item was:

4. approved November 16, 2023 meeting Minutes.

Item 5: Receive introduction/overview of Agricultural Flexible Irrigation Technology (AgFIT) program. (Information)

Mr. Sears introduced this item and VCE Staff Sierra Huffman presented information slides on the AgFIT program. Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties, this item was tabled to the CAC's January 2024 meeting.

Due to the technical difficulties, Chair Aulman moved Item 7 to the next item on the agenda since Mr. Samuel was attending remotely. Then, following Item 7 would be Items 6, 8 and 9.

Item 7: Power Procurement / Renewable Portfolio Standard Update. (Information)

Mr. Samuel reminded the CAC that LSE's are required to procure a minimum percentage of their load from eligible renewable resources, such as wind, solar, geothermal, small hydro, and are required to achieve interim targets, referred to as compliance periods. Mr. Samuel reviewed VCE's contracted renewable projects, 2023 targets versus actuals, and the outlook on power procurement and renewable portfolio standard (RPS) position. Mr. Samuel reviewed the electricity production of two of VCE's contracted projects – Aquamarine and Resurgence.

(Keith Taylor arrived at 5:40 p.m.)

The CAC and Staff discussed: energy curtailment, possible long-term solutions and/or incentives for Customers, price signals, such as AgFIT, and, the



economics of charging from the grid or from a battery. There were no written or verbal public comments.

**Item 6: Formation of 2024 CAC Task Groups.
(Discussion/Action)**

CAC Members and Staff discussed possible needs of VCE for calendar year 2024. The CAC agreed that other task groups may be formed as needed. There were no verbal or written public comments.

Jennifer Rindahl made a motion to form two task groups: 1) Legislative/Regulatory and 2) Programs & Outreach, seconded by Diccon Westworth. Motion passed.

Staff requested that each task group prepare draft “Charges” outlining their 2024 goals and objectives. The draft “Charges” will be reviewed and discussed at the CAC’s January 2024.

**Item 8: Receive 2023 Long Range Calendar.
(Information/Discussion)**

The CAC reminded staff to add the AgFIT information overview item to the CAC’s January 2024 meeting. There were no written or verbal public comments.

**Item 9: Election of 2024 CAC Chair and Vice-Chair
(effective January 2024)
(Action)**

Marsha Baird nominated Rahul Athalye as Chair for 2024, seconded by Jennifer Rindahl. Motion passed with Rahul Athalye abstaining.

Rahul Athalye nominated Keith Taylor as Vice Chair for 2024, seconded by Mark Aulman. Motion passed.

Item 10: Advisory Committee Member and Staff Announcements.

It was announced that tonight was Marsha Baird’s last CAC meeting. Ms. Baird thanked the CAC Members, Staff and the VCE Board for her 6-1/2 years being on the CAC.

Diccon Westworth announced that he is 100% renewable, carbon free, and has dropped his carbon footprint from 38 to 3. He thanked VCE for assisting him in achieving this milestone by offering UltraGreen.

Lorenzo Kristov commented that doing things locally at the individual, community, and city level is important and there is a huge value to develop local resources and take local action.



Keith Taylor informed those present that U.C. Davis and VCE will be working on local energy capacity this upcoming year.

Vice Chair Rahul Athalye thanked Mark Aulman for being the CAC's Chair this past year.

**Adjournment to
Next Meeting**

The next scheduled CAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 5 p.m. at Woodland Community Chambers (2nd Floor) located at 300 First Street, Woodland, California 95695. The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst