

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report - Item 5

TO: Community Advisory Committee

FROM: Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: CAC January 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes

DATE: February 25, 2021

Recommendation

Receive, review and approve the attached January 28, 2021 meeting minutes.



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2021
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Chair Hunter opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a special meeting on Thursday, December 17, 2020 beginning at 5:02 p.m. via teleconference pursuant to the Provisions of the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, which suspends certain provisions of the Brown Act and the Orders of the Public Health Officers with jurisdiction over Yolo County, to shelter in place and to provide for physical distancing.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Christine Shewmaker (Chair), Cynthia Rodriguez (Vice Chair), Yvonne Hunter Marsha Baird, Gerry Braun, Lorenzo Kristov, David Springer, Christine Casey (departed at 6:15 p.m.), Jennifer Rindahl (departed at approximately 7:03 p.m.), Peter Meyer (joined at 5:19 p.m.)

Committee Members Absent: Mark Aulman

Approval of Agenda Yvonne Hunter made a motion to approve the January 28, 2021 meeting Agenda, seconded by Marsha Baird. Motion passes with Aulman and Meyer absent.

Public Comment / Introductions There were no written or verbal public comments.

Task Group and VCE staff reports **Task Group Reports**

Legislative/Regulatory Task Group – Ms. Hunter informed those present that the Legislative Platform was adopted by the Board at their last meeting. A couple of changes were made, those changes can be found in the Board's meeting packet on this item. The Task Group met last Friday at the request of Staff to discuss a few upcoming legislative bills and are waiting for the Task Group to be formally approved at tonight's meeting.

Outreach Task Group: Since Mark Aulman was absent, Ms. Hunter provided an update that the Task Group has been working with Staff on the Marketing Plan and SWOT analysis and on messaging of the power content label.

Programs Task Group: Ms. Baird informed those present that the Task Group has been working with Staff on the Program Plan with the goal to have the Plan ready for the CAC's review in the next month or two.



Strategic Plan Task Group: No meeting was held.

Rates Task Group: No meeting was held.

1/21/2021 Special Board meeting summary: Interim General Manager Mitch Sears informed those present that several items were approved by the Board: CAC Charge incorporating the 3-year Strategic Plan and Environmental Justice statement; Jim Parks Consulting agreement was extended for another year and now includes key accounts tasks; VCE's participation in the Arrearage Management Plan (ARM); Power Purchase Agreement with NextEra; acceptance of large hydro attributes for 2021 from Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E); and, the 2021 Procurement Plan.

Peter Meyer joined at 5:19 p.m.

Staff Report: Mr. Sears introduced Edward Burnham as the new Director of Finance and Internal Operations replacing George Vaughn. The legislative session is getting under way with CalCCA sponsoring a bill on PCIA (power charge indifference adjustment). Within the CPUC, proceedings/discussions are moving forward on the energy outage events that occurred in 2020 and how to remedy the issues so that in 2021 and beyond the same issues do not occur. VCE and a few other CCAs submitted comments proposing potential pilot programs within their service territories. Staff have briefed the Programs Task Group on these potential pilot programs. Lastly, there was a significant weather event that occurred. Staff have been in communication with PG&E, the Board and Agencies to assist in spreading information to the areas and help PG&E understand our areas' needs.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Consent Items

Ms. Baird informed those present that corrections were made to the Programs Task Group report portion of the December 17, 2020 minutes. The wording changes have already been submitted to the Board Clerk. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Ms. Baird made a motion to approve the January 28, 2021 Consent Agenda items with corrections to the December 17, 2020 meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Hunter. Motion passed unanimously with Meyer and Aulman absent. The following items were:

5. approved December 17, 2020 meeting Minutes as amended; and
6. received customer enrollment update as of January 20, 2021.

Item 7: Receive update on VCE's adopted 3-year Strategic Plan (Informational)

Mr. Sears introduced this item. VCE Staff George Vaughn reviewed slides providing an update [timeline, progress to date, Monday.com (project management tool), and next steps] on the VCE's adopted 3-year Strategic Plan. It was recommended that when Staff meets with the agencies, the topic of near term resiliency be discussed.



Staff will be providing at a minimum an annual update to the CAC and Board, possibly quarterly updates when needed. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 8: review and discuss formation of CAC Task Groups for 2021 (Discussion)

Chair Shewmaker informed those present that tonight, it is the goal to firm up the task groups for 2021 and have each task group prepare and present a draft “charge” and selected Task Group Chair to the CAC for approval at their February meeting. Chair Shewmaker suggested that each task group provide a substantive report once during the year when the task group thinks it is appropriate.

Mr. Sears reviewed Staff’s recommendation for the CAC to form five (5) task groups for 2021. The following task groups were discussed.

1. Legislative/Regulatory: works with VCE’s lobbyist and VCE Staff to provide feedback, technical information and strategic advice on key legislative and regulatory issues facing VCE and the CCA community in general.

It was suggested that this task group focus on the first year of the two-year legislative session. The primary staff contact will be Mitch Sears. Task group members will be Yvonne Hunter, Lorenzo Kristoff, and Jennifer Rindahl.

2. Outreach: collaborates with VCE staff and consultants on community outreach to, and liaison with, member communities by assisting in the development of public information strategies, planning, and materials related to VCE policies and programs.

It was suggested that messaging on the implementation of the strategic plan and Environmental Justice statement be included in the group’s charge. The primary staff contact will be Rebecca Boyles. Task group members will be Yvonne Hunter, Mark Aulman (to be confirmed as Chair), Christine Casey, and Marsha Baird.

3. Programs: planning and implementation of Customer Programs that meet with VCE’s mission.

It was suggested that a plan on how to “spend” the programs monies identified in the fiscal year 2020-2021 budget be incorporated into the group’s charge. In addition, the charge should include “collaborating with or assisting VCE Staff” rather than the group “planning and implementation of...”. The primary staff contact will be Rebecca Boyles. Task group members will be David Springer and Marsha Baird.

4. Rates: assist staff, consultants and VCE Board in reviewing, considering and evaluating existing and/or new rate options.

Members discussed the goals of this task group and suggested that “rates” be looked at more broadly. The primary contact will be Gordon Samuels. Task group members will be Lorenzo Kristof, Gerry Braun.



5. Strategic Plan (Decarbonization and Carbon Neutrality): assist staff, consultants and VCE Board in the implementation of VCE's 3 year Strategic Plan with focus on the decarbonization roadmap and 100% carbon neutrality by 2030.

Members had a lengthy discussion on the scope of this task group. It was suggested that this task group primarily focus on decarbonization and carbon neutrality; and, assist others to meet their decarbonization goals and reach carbon neutrality as it relates to the energy sector. The members also noted that many of the strategic plan goals are covered by the other task groups. This task group is to be renamed "Decarbonization and Carbon Neutrality". The primary contact will be determined later. Task group members will be Gerry Braun, Christine Shewmaker, Cynthia Rodriguez and, as needed, Lorenzo Kristov to assist with grid discussions.

Lastly, it was suggested that all of the task groups incorporate environmental and social justice into their "charge". There were no written or verbal public comments.

Yvonne Hunter made a motion to adopt the five (5) Task Groups, listed above, for 2021, seconded by Jennifer Rindahl. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Hunter, Baird, Braun, Shewmaker, Kristov, Springer, Casey, Rindahl, Meyer, Rodriguez

NOES: None

ABSENT: Aulman

ABSTAIN: None

Christine Casey departed at 6:15 p.m.

Item 9: Receive 2021 Strategic Marketing Plan and make recommendation to the Board. (Discussion/Action)

VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles reviewed the 2021 Strategic Marketing Plan. The members provided their comments and suggestions, and asked questions. Ms. Boyles will report back to the CAC on how their feedback was incorporated into the Plan. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Ms. Hunter made a motion to recommend that the 2021 Strategic Marketing Plan be presented to the Board for consideration of adoption, seconded by Jennifer Rindahl. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Hunter, Baird, Braun, Shewmaker, Kristov, Springer, Rindahl, Meyer, Rodriguez

NOES: None

ABSENT: Aulman, Casey

ABSTAIN: None

Item 10 – Receive quarterly power procurement update. (Informational)

VCE Staff Gordon Samuel provided an update on the 2020 Power Content Label, it's targets and forecast, and the year to date deliverables. There were no written or verbal comments.



Item 11 – New Building Electrification. (Discussion/Action)

Mr. Samuel provided the background and purpose of bringing this item of “new building electrification” to the CAC. Members asked questions, discussed possible recommendations to the Board, and provided feedback. This item will be tabled and rediscussed at the CAC’s February meeting when more information can be provided. Staff will reach out to the local jurisdictions and see what help and support they can provide VCE on developing policy options; where they are in the process; and, what additional steps should be taken. There were no written or verbal comments.

Jennifer Rindahl departed at approximately 7:03 p.m.

Item 12: Discuss VCE joining the California Community Power Agency Joint Powers Authority and make recommendation to the Board. (Discussion/Action)

Mr. Samuel reviewed the background, purpose, and highlights of the California Community Power (CC Power) Joint Powers Authority (JPA). Members asked questions and discussed this item. There were no written or verbal comments.

Ms. Hunter made a motion that the CAC recommends to the Board that Valley Clean Energy join as a member of the California Community Power Agency Joint Powers Authority, seconded by Gerry Braun. Motion passed by the following vote:
AYES: Hunter, Baird, Braun, Shewmaker, Kristov, Springer, Meyer, Rodriguez
NOES: None
ABSENT: Aulman, Casey, Rindahl
ABSTAIN: None

Item 13: Long Range Calendar

Members made suggestions to the long range calendar: SACOG grant update provided first to the CAC, then update provided to the Board; schedule a representative from SMUD to discuss their carbon neutral goal at either the CAC’s April or May meeting; and add “building electrification” item to the CAC’s February meeting.

Advisory Committee Member and Announcements

Mr. Sears informed those present that the City of Davis is in the processing of signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOS) between VCE and the City for the SACOG Electrify Yolo grant project. This will free up VCE’s share of the grant monies for the project to begin in the City of Winters.

Adjournment to Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m. The next regular CAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 5 p.m. via teleconference.

Prepared by: Alisa M. Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst