

**VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Staff Report - Item 5**

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**TO:** VCEA Community Advisory Committee  
**FROM:** Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst  
**SUBJECT:** CAC February 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes  
**DATE:** April 23, 2020

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**Recommendation**

Receive, review and approve the attached February 27, 2020 meeting minutes.



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020**

Chair Hunter opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in regular session on Thursday, February 27, 2020 beginning at 5:31 p.m. at Davis Senior Center, Senior Activities Room, located at 646 A Street, Davis, California.

**Welcome and Roll Call**

Committee Members Present: Yvonne Hunter (Chair), Marsha Baird (Vice Chair), Christine Shewmaker, Mark Aulman, Lorenzo Kristov, Davis Springer

Committee Members Absent: Gerry Braun, Christine Casey

**Approval of  
Agenda**

Lorenzo Kristov made motion to approve the February 27, 2020 meeting Agenda, seconded by David Springer, motion passed with Gerry Braun and Christine Casey absent.

**Public Comment /  
Introductions**

There was no public comment.

**Brief task Group  
and VCE staff  
Reports**

Outreach Task Group: Mark Aulman reported that the Task Group is preparing their annual strategic outreach plan with a meeting tomorrow with Staff. Items to be reviewed include message development and areas of improvement. The Task Group recently reviewed and revised the frequently asked questions (FAQ) on the website, opt back in letter, and graphics for an energy efficiency page.

Leg/Reg Task Group: Chair Hunter reported that the Task Group continues to have their meetings with Staff and Pacific Policy Group.

Programs Task Group: Marsha Baird reported that the Task Group is trying to find a date every other week for a meeting.

Strategic Task Group: No Chair yet for this Task Group - to be determined.

Interim General Manager Mitch Sears reminded those present to be mindful of their health and safety due to the Coronavirus. Mr. Sears provided an update



of the Board's 2/13/20 Board meeting informing those present that the Board approved VCE's first Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for a 50 MW project located in Kings County. Another PPA for 72 MW hopefully coming soon for the Board to review possibly at their April meeting. Mr. Sears continued with informing those present that the Board reviewed PG&E's offer of GHG-free attributes and the CAC's recommendation on this subject. The Board tabled the item and provided feedback after discussing with Staff. VCE Staff Gordon Samuel updated the CAC of the Board's discussion. Mr. Samuel informed those present that no ruling has been made by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Mr. Samuel also looked into the wavier language and reported that the wavier is related to the 2020 attributes only. Lastly, Mr. Sears shared that CAC Members Gerry Braun and Christine Shewmaker were recognized for their past (and present) service on the CAC.

#### **Consent Items**

Marsha Baird made a motion to approve the consent items, seconded by Mr. Aulman. Motion passed with Lorenzo Kristov abstaining and Gerry Braun and Christine Casey absent. The following items were:

1. approved January 23, 2020 regular meeting Minutes;
2. approved February 5, 2020 special meeting Minutes; and,
3. received the Customer Enrollment update as of February 20, 2020.

#### **Discussion on local / regional renewable Request for Offers (RFO) solicitation criteria**

Mr. Sears introduced this item and informed those present that he and Mr. Samuel met with Kate Kelly of Defenders of Wildlife and Stephanie Dashiell at the Nature Conservancy who attended via telephone. Mr. Samuel informed those present that he is looking for the CAC's input on key parameters to be included in the local/regional long term renewable request for offers (RFO) planned for issuance in late March / early April 2020. Ms. Samuel reviewed the purpose and goals of the local/regional RFO adding that preference should be given to new build and those projects that are in line with VCE's goals. He reviewed and received input on the following parameters:

1. Definition of local/regional resources – Suggestions were made to use weighting criteria to assess projects and to analyze the project of its economic, employment, benefits, etc. to Yolo County.
2. Siting criteria – Suggestions were made to look at Nature Conservancy and Defenders of Wildlife recommendations on how to assess the RFO on this criteria; look at whether the project is consistent with Yolo County's ordinance, land use, and conservation policies and plans; and, possibly consider parameters not outlined in the Staff Report, such as the ones provided by Defenders of Wildlife.
3. Development status criteria – Suggestion to also look at interconnection aspects of the proposed project.



4. Acceptable technologies – Suggestion were made that staff be open to looking at other technologies if provided in the proposal.
5. Existing versus new-build – Suggestion to possibly approach the agricultural community to building an array on idle farmland.
6. Timing – Suggestion to consider projects that are dual or multi-use of a site, such as a retention pond with solar or agricultural sites used to grow a crop and have solar.

Kate Kelly, consultant to Defenders of Wildlife provided two (2) handouts to those present: 1) Smart Green Energy Procurement Tools and 2) Environmental Risk and Resource Planning. Ms. Kelly works with Ms. Stephanie Dashiell (Nature Conservancy) educating others on “least conflict”. Least conflict is a concept where there are the least amount of natural resources and land use conflicts, for example wildlife, farmland, land use, water etc. She recommends that the criteria listed in a RFO for submitting a project be in line with VCE’s goals and standards, local conservation plans and community values.

#### **Task Groups**

Chair Hunter asked that each task group prepare their proposed charges/projects and assign a chair if not already designated, for the CAC’s review. If the task group is not currently “active”, then the task group is to provide a sentence or two briefly describing their charge. Chair Hunter asked that the drafts be sent to the Board Clerk by Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> in order for the CAC to review at their March meeting.

#### **Strategic plan**

Mr. Sears introduced this item then turned over the slide presentation to VCE Staff George Vaughn. Mr. Vaughn reviewed the slides and informed those present that the Board reviewed the outline/framework at their February 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The Board considered cadence, key rolls, and the roll of the CAC. The Board asked that the CAC review, support and provide feedback on a strategic plan drafts; and, assist with reaching out to stakeholders and customers for input. Mr. Sears informed those present that the Board has asked VCE Staff Jim Parks to create interview questions for key customers and the Board is looking for the CAC to attend and participate in these interviews. The information gathered would be provided to the Board to give them guidance in the development of the plan. Mr. Sears informed those present that the scheduled February 24<sup>th</sup> strategic planning meeting has been pushed to Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> when all Board Agencies are represented.

#### **PCIA-ERRA Update**

Mr. Sears informed those present that VCE Staff presented Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) and Energy Resource Recovery Account (ERRA) information to the Board at their February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. The slide deck that Mr. Sears shared with the Board has been updated and is being presented to



the CAC. Mr. Sears informed those present that VCE Staff, Tim Lindl of Keyes & Fox, and East Bay Community Choice (EBCC) staff met with four (4) of the five (5) California Public Utility Commissioners' (CPUC) offices to speak with staff about Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) impacts to CCAs. Staff heard the CCA issues of the difficulty for CCAs to be viable, such as VCE, who is newer of the CCAs; and, the PCIA increase is a non-starter for newer CCAs.

Mr. Sears reviewed slides explaining the background of PCIA, PCIA volatility, the effects of PCIA on VCE revenue, staff's analysis, fiscal year 2020/2021 impacts explained in three different scenarios, mitigation strategies, and conclusions based on staff's preliminary assessment.

Those present discussed: why PCIA is being increased, whether there is a market for PG&E to sell of their excess load departure, will generation rates go up or down, when PCIA will terminate, when CCAs will have more information on the increase, ideas on mitigation strategies, .

**Long Term  
Calendar  
Advisory  
Committee  
Member and Staff  
Announcements**

Board Clerk Alisa Lembke pointed out to those present that two of the Board's meeting have been scheduled in the City of Winters at the Fire/Police Station.

Christine Shewmaker announced that SB 100 would be under attack soon due to a new bill: AB 1941 (Gallagher), which is proposing 1) to pause the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) program, which would allow PG&E to focus monies on fixing the grid; 2) large hydro within the top 40% would combine down within the 60% range; and, 3) bioenergy purchased so would have to continue to purchase it. Chair Hunter will ask the Legislative/Regulatory Task Group to look into it.

Mr. Sears informed those present that staff is asking the Board to appoint Winters residents to the CAC possibly at their March meeting: current Yolo County member David Springer and another Winters resident. This would leave two (2) vacancies for the unincorporated areas of Yolo County. Board Chair Saylor has been advised.

Ms. Lembke informed those present that the Board's special meeting / Strategic Planning workshop scheduled for March 23<sup>rd</sup> will not be held at the City of Woodland Council Chambers as VCE's Board agenda announcements states. Ms. Lembke is looking for a more informal setting. Mr. Sears informed those present that he hopes to have a draft workshop agenda prepared for the Board's March 12<sup>th</sup> special meeting which starts at 4 p.m., not 5:30 p.m.



**Adjournment to  
Next Meeting**

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m. to the next regular scheduled CAC meeting also the IRP Workshop for Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the City of Woodland Council Chambers, located at 300 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Woodland, Davis Senior Center – Senior Activity Room, located at 646 A Street, Davis, California.

Alisa Lembke  
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst