



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Chair Hunter opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a special meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2020 beginning at 5:01 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: Yvonne Hunter (Chair), Marsha Baird (Vice Chair), Gerry Braun, Christine Shewmaker, Mark Aulman, Lorenzo Kristov, David Springer, Christine Casey, Cynthia Rodriguez (arrived at 5:05 p.m.), Jennifer Rindahl (arrived at 5:59 p.m.)

Committee Members Absent: Peter Meyer

Approval of Agenda Christine Shewmaker made a motion to approve the November 19, 2020 meeting Agenda, seconded by Christine Casey. Motion passed with Rodriguez, Rindahl and Meyer absent.

Public Comment / Introductions Cynthia Rodriguez arrived at 5:05 p.m.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Brief task Group and VCE staff Reports **Task Group Reports** – There were no updates from the Task Groups, since updates will be discussed in Item 8 – Year End Review.

11/12/2020 Board meeting summary: Interim General Manager Mitch Sears informed those present that the Board ratified the Strategic Plan and Environmental Justice Statement both with minor additions/changes. The Board approved two (2) power purchase agreements (PPA’s) as the result of the local request for offers for long term renewable powers: 1) Putah Creek Solar Farms, located west side of Winters and 2) Gibson Renewables, located near Madison and Esparto. In addition, the Board received an update on short and long range COVID financial impacts, approved the 2020 net margin allocation, and received an update from VCE Staff on Winters enrollment and engagement activities.



CAC Members and Staff briefly discussed outreach efforts on social media to answer questions and respond to comments made about Winters enrollment.

Staff Report: Mr. Sears informed those present that VCE Staff and Board Chair Don Saylor met via teleconference with California Energy Commission's Commissioner offices to discuss VCE and CCA's role with state policy. Other teleconference meetings are to be scheduled. On the regulatory side, Power Charge Indifference Assessment (PCIA) settlement negotiations continue with the IOUs centering around the under collection of PCIA last year and settling on collecting over the next couple of years. Collecting it over the next couple of years will have a less of an impact. Staff are continuing to work on the Strategic Plan calendar which will most likely be presented to the Board and CAC at the January 2021 meetings. Staff will provide an update on the revised Procurement Plan to the Board in December with a draft revised Procurement Plan to the CAC for their review and input in December; and, to the Board in January 2021.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Consent Items

No items were pulled from Consent; however, the CAC briefly discussed with VCE Staff NEM enrollment participation rate drop and PG&E's renewable rates compared to VCE's rates. VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles informed those present that PG&E has a renewable program that is offered, but only about 1% of their customers are eligible, so it is limited, and their program is not 100% renewable like VCE's UltraGreen program.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Motion made by Shewmaker to approve the November 19, 2020 Consent Agenda items, seconded by Braun. Motion passed unanimously with Rindahl and Meyer absent. The following items were:

1. approved October 22, 2020 meeting Minutes;
2. received customer enrollment update as of November 12, 2020; and,
3. received update on Power Content Label Customer mailer.

Item 8: 2020 Year End Review – Review Committee draft report to the Board

Vice Chair Baird provided a brief recap of the draft CAC summary report highlighting activities over the past calendar year. Task Group reports and a copy of the CAC charge will be attached to the summary report. Shewmaker made a motion to finalize the year-end report with attachments of the Task Group reports and a copy of the CAC's charge to be provided to the



Board for their December 10, 2020 meeting, seconded by Braun. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Hunter, Baird, Braun, Shewmaker, Aulman, Kristov, Springer, Casey, Rodriguez

NOES: None

ABSENT: Rindahl, Meyer

ABSTAIN: None

Item 9: Review and update CAC Charge

Chair Hunter and Vice Chair Baird drafted some suggested edits to the CAC Charge adopted in 2018 to start the discussion of revising and updating the Charge. Those suggested edits have been placed into 3 slides.

After a brief discussion, the CAC formed a subcommittee to work on a draft updated Charge to be provided for the CAC's review at their December 17th meeting. Chair Hunter, Vice Chair Baird and Mr. Braun will be on the subcommittee.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 10 – Receive update on short and long range COVID impacted financial forecast, load, revenue, power costs and Dividend Program (Informational)

VCE Staff George Vaughn reviewed modified and updated set of forecasts due to COVID, specifically addressing two topics related to the fiscal outlook for VCE: (1) updated electricity demand forecast for COVID/recessionary period and beyond (calendar year 2020 to 2022); and (2) updated high-level look at the profitability and cash outlooks for fiscal years ending June 30, 2021 and June 30, 2022. Mr. Vaughn also reviewed the Board's decision to allocate net margin for fiscal year ending 2020 (FY2020) between cash reserves, dividends, and local program reserve (LPR) as follows:

- \$138,000 to the Local Programs Reserve (LPR)
- \$0 to dividends, given the current cash reserve forecast
- The balance (\$6,180,000) to cash reserves to help stabilize customer rates over the next two fiscal years.

Mr. Vaughn provided a very brief review of the Dividend Program Guidelines.

Ms. Baird asked if VCE was able to sell the greenhouse gas (GHG) attributes (large hydro) to offset PCIA. VCE Staff Gordon Samuel informed those present that VCE has not, and VCE does not know what volume we are receiving yet.

There were no written or verbal comments.



**Item 11 – Review
draft updated
Legislative
Platform**

Mr. Sears introduced this item informing those present that the CAC's Legislative/Regulatory Task Group and Mark Fenstermaker of Pacific Policy Group, VCE's lobbyist consultant, worked on updating the Legislative Platform. Mr. Fenstermaker reviewed the background, those areas that were updated and new areas added.

Jennifer Rindahl arrived at 5:59 p.m.

After a discussion several suggested additions/revisions were made:

- #4 Power Cost Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) – not ambitious enough and would like to see verbiage that VCE would support phasing out or sunseting PCIA.
- #6 COVID 19 Response – too broad with language of “support legislation or budget appropriations to alleviate residential and commercial hardship caused by...”. An impact to our utility customers? Find language that balances too broad and too narrow with utility costs and impacts to strengthen #6.
- #9a Environmental Justice – again too broad, should be related to direct and indirect “utility” impacts to underserved communities within VCE service territory.
- Add Strategic Plan and Environmental Justice Statement references in introduction of Leg. Platform since it refers to VCE's mission and vision.

There were no written or verbal comments.

Ms. Hunter made a motion to recommend to the Board to approve the 2021 Legislative Platform with the four (4) additions/revisions listed above incorporated in by VCE Staff, seconded by Mr. Braun. Motion passed by the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: Meyer

ABSTAIN: None

**Item 12: Long
Range Calendar**

VCE Board Clerk informed those present that the CAC's review of the revised Procurement Guide will be added to the CAC's December meeting agenda, with a final revised Procurement Guide to the Board at their January 2021 meeting.



Chair Hunter reminded those present that at the next CAC meeting, Task Groups and Chair and Vice Chair will be discussed and determined.

**Advisory
Committee
Member and
Announcements**

Ms. Shewmaker informed those present that on Tuesday this week, that a group of electric vehicle interest groups formed a lobbying group called ZETA (zero emissions) with a goal of all electric vehicles by 2030. She will forward information and article to Board Clerk for distribution.

Mr. Sears announced that VCE Staff are in the process of scheduling interviews for the Director of Finance and Internal Operations position, thereby coming to the end of the SMUD staffing structure within VCE.

**Adjournment to
Next Meeting**

Jennifer Rindahl made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m. to the next regular CAC meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 5 p.m. via teleconference.

Alisa M. Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst

