



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2020  
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Chair Yvonne Hunter opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a special meeting on Thursday, June 25, 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, \*\*Jennifer Rindahl (\*\* left meeting at 6:58 p.m.), Peter Meyer, and \*David Springer (\*arrived at 5:31 p.m.)

Committee Members Absent: Chris Casey

**Approval of Agenda** Gerry Braun made a motion to approve the June 25, 2020 meeting Agenda, seconded by Mark Aulman, motion passed with Jennifer Rindahl abstaining, and Chris Casey and David Springer absent.

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

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

**Outreach Task Group:** Mr. Aulman informed those present that the task group reviewed newspaper insert to be published in the Sacramento Bee and a meet and greet with Rebecca Boyles, VCE's new Director of Customer Care and Marketing, to discuss plans moving forward.

**Programs Task Group:** Marsha Baird informed those present that VCE Staff Jim Parks will review programs later in the meeting.

**Strategic Plan Task Group:** An update was provided in VCE Interim General Manager Mitch Sears' staff report.

**Rates Task Group:** Lorenzo Kristov informed those present that there was nothing to report.

**Leg/Reg Task Group:** Chair Hunter informed those present that the task group and VCE Staff continue to meet every two (2) weeks. Mr. Kristov informed those present



that on the regulatory side, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) issued a decision on microgrid provisions (Senate Bill 1339) directing IOU's to develop locally.

**6/11/2020 Board meeting summary:** Mr. Sears informed those present that the Board approved updating VCE's Procurement Plan, a power purchase agreement with Rugged Solar, the Net Energy Metering (NEM) Donation Pilot program; and adopted VCE's fiscal year 2020-2021 operating budget.

**Staff Report:** Mr. Sears provided an update of the Strategic Plan process and timeline. Mr. Sears commented that the article on microgrids provided by CAC Member Lorenzo Kristov was informative.

### Consent Items

Chair Hunter asked Staff to add more information into the Customer Enrollment update and what was the status of VCE's outreach efforts to those customers who have opted out to return back as VCE customers. Christine Shewmaker made a motion to approve the consent items, seconded by Mark Aulman. Motion passed with Chris Casey and David Springer absent, and Jennifer Rindahl and Peter Meyer abstaining. The following items were:

1. approved May 28, 2020 special meeting Minutes;
2. received customer enrollment update as of June 18, 2020.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

### Item 7: Energy Efficiency and Outreach Programs Update (Informational)

(CAC Member David Springer arrived at 5:31 p.m.)

VCE Staff Jim Parks reviewed recent accomplishments, program plan outline, specific newer programs, and Net Energy Metering (NEM) Donation Pilot program.

The CAC Members congratulated Mr. Parks on his retirement and thanked Jim for his commitment, knowledge, positive attitude, help, and his openness to comments.

There were no written or verbal comments.

### Item 8: Review and provide recommendation on VCE Legislative Platform (Action)

Mr. Sears introduced this item and Mark Fenstermaker of Pacific Policy Group (PPG). Mr. Fenstermaker reviewed the background of why the legislative platform was drafted and provided an overview of the current process on how VCE takes positions on legislative bills. He reviewed the nine (9) issue areas that are to be covered by the Legislative Platform document and reminded those present that the intent of the Legislative Platform document is to provide guidance to VCE Staff.

Comments and suggestions were provided by the CAC members:

- 1) Issue Area #2a (1<sup>st</sup> bullet point) referring to restructuring the electricity utility sector, forming utilities, and expanding municipalization – the Board has taken action on this subject matter but the CAC has not;



- 2) Issue Area #7b (2<sup>nd</sup> bullet point) referring to renewable energy generation sources and supporting legislation that increases opportunities for biomass generation – not sure why biomass is called out separately, also never discussed by the CAC and the need to discuss and define biomass locally;
- 3) There is no mention of addressing environmental racism and could this be included within the document; and,
- 4) Misspellings and inconsistent usage of terms in Issue Areas.

There was a discussion on whether it is appropriate to include the second bullet point of Item 7 as biomass is included in the first bullet point, also the need for VCE to define “local renewable resources”, what to focus on and the manpower relating to municipalization efforts, and that there is no mention in the draft to address legislation related to environmental injustice.

Christine Shewmaker made a motion to recommend to the Board to approve the Legislative Platform with the removal of the second bullet point in Issue Area #7, referred to as “7b”, with the inconsistent terms and typographical errors identified corrected, and to address 7b separately, seconded by Mark Aulman. Motion passed by the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Casey

Christine Shewmaker made a motion to address how biomass is defined at the next CAC meeting, seconded by Gerry Braun. After a brief discussion by the Members, Ms. Shewmaker amended her motion to address at the next CAC meeting how VCE defines local renewable resources, amended motion accepted by Gerry Braun.

Motion passed by the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Casey

**Update on  
Integrated Resource  
Plan (IRP) process.  
(Informational)**

Mr. Sears reviewed the updated IRP calendar, where VCE is in the process, and what to expect.

**Update on request  
for offers for local  
renewable projects  
and Incremental  
Resource Adequacy.  
(Informational)**

VCE Staff Gordon Samuel provided an update on the local renewable request for offer (RFO) and the joint request for information (RFI) for incremental Resource Adequacy (RA). VCE has joined with Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA) on the request for information for long duration storage. Mr. Samuel reviewed a summary of responses received and the timeline.



(CAC Member Jennifer Rindahl departed at 6:58 pm.)

General discussion about central buyer, storage projects that will be considered more in depth, types of storage, demand response, and the difference between battery storage.

**Long Term Calendar**

Chair Hunter reminded those present that the November and December meetings have been scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, instead of the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday due to the meetings landing on national holidays.

Mr. Kristov asked if a bidder responds to VCE's RFO with a project with county or city owned property, does VCE have the right to look at how the property was obtained, rights to use the land, and was their community engagement. He suggested that this be a future CAXC agenda item.

Ms. Shewmaker asked if power portfolio content updates could be provided by Staff monthly or at least quarterly. Mr. Sears and Mr. Samuel informed those present that demand is seasonal, which makes it difficult to provide information that is useful and helpful on a regular basis. This is the reason why the information is usually presented on an annual basis; however, they are working with Staff on ways to provide information on a more regular basis.

**Advisory Committee Member and Announcements**

Ms. Shewmaker informed those present that it was announced that electric large trucks will be coming into the market as early as 2021.

VCE Staff Alisa Lembke provided information on VCE's policy on Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS). City of Winters residents will not be included in VCE's notification of a PSPS event until early 2021, when VCE starts enrolling Winters residents. Currently, Pacific Gas & Electric does not share with the CCAs those customers with medical conditions and/or vulnerable communities.

Mr. Sears provided brief updates on PG&E's bankruptcy and PG&E's efforts to regionalize.

**Adjournment to Next Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m. to the next regular scheduled CAC meeting for Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 5 p.m. via teleconference.

Alisa Lembke  
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst