MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance duly noticed their regular and Special meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., to be held via Zoom webinar. Chair Dan Carson announced that the Special meeting will be held concurrently with the regular meeting. Chair Carson established that there was a quorum present and began the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Board Members Present: Dan Carson, Jesse Loren, Tom Stallard, Don Saylor, Lucas Frerichs, Wade Cowan

Members Absent: Mayra Vega, Gary Sandy

Welcome
Chair Carson welcomed everyone and thanked Jennifer Archuleta from SMUD for all of her assistance with VCE from launch up until today.

Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda
Chair Carson informed those present that Item 11 – Amendment 22 to the SMUD agreement will be pulled from today’s agenda. Motion made by Director Stallard to approve the May 13, 2021 meeting agenda as amended, seconded by Director Frerichs. Motion passed with Vega and Sandy absent.

Public Comment – General and Consent
Chair Carson opened the floor for public comment for items not listed on the agenda and items listed on the Consent Agenda.

There were no written or verbal comments.

Approval of Consent Agenda
Motion made by Director Loren to approve the consent agenda as amended (tabling Item 11 to the next meeting), seconded by Director Saylor. Motion passed with Vega and Sandy absent.

The following items were approved, ratified, and/or received:
4. April 8, 2021 Board meeting Minutes;
5. 2021 Long Range Calendar;
6. Financial Updated – March 31, 2021 (unaudited) financial statement;
7. Legislative Update from Pacific Policy Group;
8. May 5, 2021 Regulatory update provided by Keyes & Fox;
9. May 5, 2021 Customer Enrollment Update;
10. Community Advisory Committee April 22, 2021 meeting summary;
11. Amendment 22 to SMUD Agreement tabled to next meeting;
12. Amendment 23 to Task Order 2 to SMUD professional services agreement authorizing the CARE, FERA and Arrearage Management Plan bill assistance outbound call campaign as Resolution 2021-011;
13. SACOG Grant – Electrify Yolo project update; and,
14. authorized Interim General Manager to execute the letter from SMUD authorizing SMUD to sell Resource Adequacy to the Central Procurement Entity and VCE assume the PG&E default risk.

Item 15: Discuss policy strategies to plan for incorporation of long term renewable contracts into VCE’s power portfolio and to address fiscal year 2021/2022 PCA and RA cost Impacts. (Discussion)

Interim General Manager Mitch Sears introduced this item and gave a summary of how items 15 (policy strategies) and 16 (load forecast) relate to item 17 (FY21-22 Operating budget). VCE Staff Gordon Samuel reviewed slides summarizing the staff report. Staff are seeking the Board’s input. The Board asked questions and provided input, such as: timing of this item in relation to other subject matter; Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS); and, cost and benefits of Board direction to staff on policies, load forecast and budget. The Board requested that the CAC review and provide a recommendation.

There were no written or verbal public comment.

Item 16: Update on COVID-19 related impacts to load forecast and budget. (Informational)

Mr. Sears introduced this item. Jennifer Archuleta briefly reviewed scenarios presented to the Board in May 2020 regarding COVID, VCE’s load forecast, and COVID assumptions. Also, she reviewed updated assumptions and actual impact.

There were no written or verbal public comment.

Item 17: Fiscal Year 2021/2022 draft Operating Budget update. (Informational / Discussion)

Mr. Sears introduced this item. VCE Staff Edward Burnham provided an update on the FY21/22 draft operating budget. He reviewed annual electricity demand forecast update and impacts; current FY2021 actuals, and FY2022 key factors and budget update. The Board asked questions and provided input, such as: watching future projections; near term forecast of weather patterns within the model; and, looking at cost of service along with rate modification which has been identified in VCE’s
Strategic Plan. The Board requested that Staff provide more information in the modeling, including weather.

The following verbal public comments were provided:

Christine Shewmaker, speaking as the Chair of the CAC, last year the CAC had vigorous “energy” discussion twice before it came to the Board for discussion. This item will be placed on the CAC’s May meeting agenda where she expects another vigorous discussion. The CAC looks forward to bringing their discussion back to the Board. Personally, as a retired scientist, biochemist, and biophysicist, normalizing the weather makes her nervous and it is her opinion that we are not going to have any weather that is normal.

Jim Skeen, he is not a VCE customer. He is disappointed that there has been no mention in any of the Board’s discussions about purchasing energy locally for the benefit of the county. VCE promised lower rates, those have not been delivered. He can see there are some good reasons for that. He is disappointed with the way this is going.

There were no written public comments.

Item 18: Board Member and Staff Announcements

There were no Board announcements.

Mr. Sears informed those present that CalCCA is preparing power cost indifference adjustment (PCIA) modeling, which will help in long range projections. VCE is now a part of CC Power JPA with VCE attending their May 19th meeting as a Board Member. SB 612 is moving forward. Mr. Sears reminded those present that VCE has a power purchase agreement for a small solar / battery storage project located in Winters. VCE has been invited to present general information and objectives to the Yolo County Planning Commission.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2021 at 5 p.m. via video/teleconference.

Public Comment on Closed Session Items

Chair Carson asked if there was any written or verbal comment from the public on any of the Closed Session items. There were no written or verbal public comments. Chair Carson informed those present that it is anticipated that there will be no reporting out after Closed Session. Mr. Sears suggested a 5 minute recess before starting Closed Session.
Adjournment

Chair Carson adjourned the regular Board meeting at 6:26 p.m. to go into Closed Session after a 5 minute recess.

Item 14: CLOSED SESSION: VCEA General Legal Counsel and Public Employee Performance Evaluation

The Board started their Closed Session at 6:34 p.m. and adjourned their meeting at 7:30 p.m. There was nothing to report out.

Alisa M. Lembke
VCEA Board Secretary