VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report – Item 15

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Mitch Sears, Executive Officer
       Edward Burnham, Director of Finance and Operations
       Alisa Lembke, VCE Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst

SUBJECT: Consider Appointment(s) to vacant At-Large seats on Community Advisory Committee

DATE: May 12, 2022

RECOMMENDATION
1. Receive the Board Chair and Vice Chair recommendations to the full Board for appointments to the two vacant Community Advisory Committee At-Large seats.
2. Consider Appointment(s) to vacant At-Large seats on Community Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS
Based on Board Item 14 on April 14, 2022, the Board directed the Board Chair and Vice Chair to review and provide recommendations to the full Board for the appointments to the two vacant Community Advisory Committee (CAC) At-Large seats. The two vacant CAC At-Large seats are in the 3rd Class of Committee members, with a term that expires in June of 2024. The consecutive term for Class 3 would be from July 2024 to June 2027.

The Board Chair and Vice Chair have completed the application review and candidate discussions as outlined in the recruitment/selection guidelines for recruiting and considering CAC applicants for the At-Large seats adopted by the Board Item 15 on October 24, 2021. The selection criteria are:

Recruitment/Selection Guidelines
Ideal candidates for At-Large CAC seats possess subject matter expertise/experience related to the goals contained in the VCE Strategic Plan, including:

- Energy Sector (e.g. procurement)
- Community engagement
- Environmental justice
- Agricultural Sector
- Grid reliability and sustainability
- Decarbonization
Candidates that represent historically underrepresented communities in VCE’s service territory and/or are historically underrepresented in the Energy Sector professions are encouraged to apply for the CAC in general and specifically the At-Large CAC seats.

Professional Sectors that tend to intersect with VCE activities include but are not limited to those listed below. Ideal candidates for At-Large CAC seats possess professional experience in one or more of the following sectors:

- Legal (specialties in energy sector/regulatory)
- Financial (banking, accounting, auditing)
- Energy (procurement, regulatory, planning, engineering)
- Agricultural
- Community Engagement/Outreach/Customer Service (community organizing, legislative, public relations, marketing)
- Research (energy sector, decarbonization)

Note: Consideration of diversity in subject matter expertise/experience to avoid overrepresentation of a single area of importance (e.g. financial sector), was included by the Board as an overall factor.

**Board Committee**

The Board Chair and Vice Chair reviewed the applications and would like to acknowledge the richness of the applicant pool and our gratitude that so many greatly qualified people are willing to serve on our CAC. A total of four applicants submitted materials for consideration. While each possessed important qualifications, based on the selection guidelines and materials submitted by the applicants the two that the Board Chair and Vice Chair felt best fit the guidelines are:

- Kristin Jacobs – Agricultural/Customer Service
- Keith Taylor – Energy Sector Research

The two candidates not recommended at this time are:

- Mark Braly
- Maris Samsel

**CONCLUSION**

Staff recommends the Board consider Appointment(s) to the two vacant At-Large seats based on the recommendations of the appointed Board committee.

**Attachment**

1. CAC At Large Applications (4)
PERSONAL DATA SHEET

Name: Jacobs, Kristin, E.  Are you at least 18 years old? yes
Last  First  Middle
Home Address:  Number/Street
Davis CA 95616  City/State/Zip
Email Address:  Daytime Phone  Evening/Weekend Phone
Business Title or Occupation: Sustainability Manager
Company/Organization:  
Address:  Street Address  Fresno CA 93711  City, State and Zip
Which Valley Clean Energy jurisdiction do you reside in?
☑ City of Davis  ☐ City of Woodland  ☐ County of Yolo (Unincorporated)  ☐ City of Winters
If you do not reside in Valley Clean Energy’s jurisdictions, please include a separate statement to address why you are applying for this committee.
Are you seeking to fill an At-Large Seat? ☑ Yes  ☐ No

Background Information:
Why do you wish to serve as a member of the VCE Community Advisory Committee?

I would like to be apart of California’s energy diversification movement and gain connections within the industry. Agriculture makes up a significant portion of California’s energy usage but needs more representation within the state’s agencies, especially during this time of change.
What experience/perspective would you bring to the committee? Please reference the professional sector and related professional experience below for At-Large member applications in this section.

Being connected to both family and corporate farming operations, I hear and understand multiple viewpoints and I would bring a fresh perspective from large scale agriculture within Yolo, Fresno, Tulare, and other southern counties. I would be able to offer practical feedback from the fields to proposed regulations and initiatives.

I work with influential agricultural companies that are motivated to explore alternative methods of operating that are cheaper, simpler, and more stable than current processes.

Please list your previous and present governmental and civic experience. Indicate when, position and duties:

no direct experience. Attend the Yolo County Sustainable Groundwater Agency meetings.

List any special training or experience you have that you feel would benefit your committee service:

As an alumni of UC Davis's Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems program, I was exposed to a broad range of 'sustainability' sectors and theories. Still well connected to the college, I am up to date with ongoing research in multiple areas of study.
Do you have any interests or associations which might present a conflict of interest?
If yes, please explain:

No

What do you feel are your most important qualifications?

Working directly with farmers for the last few years have given me direct knowledge of their energy needs and some perspectives about the energy sector. While I understand many perspectives of farmers, I do not necessarily agree with all of them. My ability to understand differing perspectives and communicate clearly with both sides yields willingness to participate in various trials and projects.

What do you see as some of the significant issues facing the community in the next few years that might pertain to Valley Clean Energy’s Community Advisory Committee?

Some major issues I foresee are battles between PGE and the state or counties revolving around infrastructure maintenance and/or energy source diversification. I can imagine cases being brought up where PGE is not meeting state and/or resident expectations and VCE or similar agency proposes alternative solutions. I believe that as agencies like VCE develop and gain popularity in communities, they will have more resources to provide more options and stronger solutions.
What do you hope to accomplish as a committee member?

I hope to help bridge communication between agricultural communities and VCE and similar agencies. Many entities in the agricultural sector have no opposition to alternative energy sources but do not have the time to research such options. Additionally, the agriculture industry has many innovative ideas about energy efficiency and sustainability. However, the majority of the professionals do not have the connections or time to voice their ideas to agencies like VCE.

I am aware of the obligations and responsibilities of this committee and am willing and able to fulfill this commitment should I be appointed: (Initial here: KJ)

Please attach your resume or any additional information or statements which you feel would be helpful to the Valley Clean Energy Board of Directors in reviewing your qualifications.

AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE

I understand that in connection with this application for appointment, the information contained herein will be made available to the general public upon request. I further understand that if appointed, I may be required to take the oath of office and may be subject to requirements for filing financial disclosure statements.

Please Sign Here  3/27/22  Date

NOTE: This document is a public record and may be disclosed/released pursuant to the California Public Records Act.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Applications will be kept on file for two years. This application will expire on: 3/30/2024

Date of appointment by the Valley Clean Energy Board: ______________

Length of term: ______________

Is this a re-appointment? ______________
I am a big advocate of everything the VCE has accomplished. I remain concerned about the subordinate position that all CCAs have with regard to their investor-owned counterparts. I would be of service to VCE and other CCAs as the sector matures, and seeks to achieve parity in the market and policy discourse with the investor-owned counterparts. I would do this by bringing about my applied knowledge of similar initiatives around the U.S., as well as my deep connections to the U.S. electric co-op system (a force multiplier for such consumer-owned utilities). It is also a desire to build-out UC Davis Energy and Efficiency and UC Cooperative Extension programming to connect the sector to third party, university research and development assets.
What experience/perspective would you bring to the committee?

I am actively involved in research and development with the national electric co-operative sector, and seek to bring my knowledge and institutional resources to the California CCA system. Much like the electric co-ops, the CCAs provide for remarkable climate change mitigation practices, and allow the voice of ratepayers to be heard and acted upon in the electricity sector.

It would be my intention to draw-down my theory and practice with the electric and purchasing co-op sectors to assist VCE in enhancing its strategic objectives, and growing its capability to operate independent of major investor-owned utilities over time.

Please list your previous and present governmental and civic experience. Indicate when, position and duties:

March 2001-January 2003: Legislative Aide, Congressman David Phelps. Provided analyses of key policies and legislation.
April 2010-August 2012: Board Director, Common Ground Food Co-op, Urbana, IL. Governance oversight. Planned and coordinated a major growth campaign.
January 2014 - July 2017: Board Director/Board Chair, Indiana Cooperative Development Center, Indianapolis, IN. Led a strategic planning initiative.

List any special training or experience you have that you feel would benefit your committee service:

I am trained as a practitioner and research in governance. I am a trained facilitator. I study and have practiced board governance and consumer-stakeholder oriented management. Further, I understand multi-level governance better than most, which is a key asset for VCE as it seeks to more deeply engage with its CCA association in forming new support system organizations.
Do you have any interests or associations which might present a conflict of interest? If yes, please explain:

While I do not receive any material benefit, my connections with the electric co-op sector could be seen as a conflict of interest. That said, I currently receive no compensation for my work with the sector.

What do you feel are your most important qualifications?

As one of the only scholars of electric co-ops, I have deep knowledge of consumer-oriented electric utilities. I have a working and scholarly understanding of multilevel governance, so critical to the operations of the CCA sector. What's more, I have an understanding of the overlapping forms of governance and contracting necessary for CCAs to operate in California. And in my role with the UC system, I can further assist VCE and the CCAs with accessing experts, policymakers, and industry support systems.

What do you see as some of the significant issues facing the community in the next few years that might pertain to Valley Clean Energy’s Community Advisory Committee?

Many of the CCAs have made significant pledges in order to secure public support for their creation. I want to assist VCE in meeting and exceeding their public obligations.

It is also clear there needs to be strong planning for a future where the major investor-owned utilities are in constant economic and climate distress. This then involves developing CCA standalone capabilities to break dependency on the incumbent providers where possible. Resiliency
What do you hope to accomplish as a committee member?

First, I would like to assist with the further development of VCE’s long-term strategic plan. I would like to assist VCE layout its full menu of options on everything from carbon neutrality to achieving economies of scale/scope. This then involves the second piece, which is the further development of the CCA system itself. I would like to bring to bear my extensive connections with the national electric co-op system. This involves the third piece, which is connecting VCE and the CCA system to the electric co-op business network on matters such as finance, marketing, customer relations, distributed energy, and other utilities services.

I am aware of the obligations and responsibilities of this committee and am willing and able to fulfill this commitment should I be appointed: (Initial here: KT)

Please attach your resume or any additional information or statements which you feel would be helpful to the Valley Clean Energy Board of Directors in reviewing your qualifications.

AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE

I understand that in connection with this application for appointment, the information contained herein will be made available to the general public upon request. I further understand that if appointed, I may be required to take the oath of office and may be subject to requirements for filing financial disclosure statements.

Please Sign Here

May 15, 2021
Date

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Applications will be kept on file for two years. This application will expire on: 5/15/2023

Date of appointment by the Valley Clean Energy Board: ____________

Length of term: ____________

Is this a re-appointment? ________________
Return to:

Valley Clean Energy
604 Second Street
Davis, CA 95616

VALEY CLEAN ENERGY
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APPLICATION

PERSONAL DATA SHEET

Name: Braly Mark
Are you at least 18 years old? yes

Home Address: DAVIS, CA 95618
Number/Street
City/State/Zip

Email Address: 
Daytime Phone
Evening/Weekend Phone

Business Title or Occupation: retired

Company/Organization: 

Address: 

Street Address City, State and Zip

Which Valley Clean Energy jurisdiction do you reside in?

☑ City of Davis ☐ City of Woodland ☐ County of Yolo (Unincorporated) ☐ City of Winters

If you do not reside in Valley Clean Energy's jurisdictions, please include a separate statement to address why you are applying for this committee.

Background Information:
Why do you wish to serve as a member of the VCE Community Advisory Committee?
I am interested in VCE pursuing a goal of 100% renewable energy and efficiency sited within the VCE service territory partly for economic reasons.
What experience/perspective would you bring to the committee?
I was founding president, Valley Climate Action Center, Davis, CA. This is a non-profit whose mission is to support the City of Davis in implementing its climate action plan.

Founding president of State Assistance Fund for Energy, California Business and Industrial Development Corporation (SAFE-BIDCO). SAFE-BIDCO was a state-sponsored and funded non-profit corporation which made loans to small businesses in the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries.

Director, Mayor’s Energy Office, City of Los Angeles. Energy advisor to Mayor Tom Bradley and City Council. Coordinator of the city’s internal energy conservation program. Principal investigator for the “Energy LA Action Plan,” a comprehensive energy element for the city’s general plan which won the American Planning Association’s award for best urban plan of the year.

Administrator and researcher, Environmental Quality Laboratory, California Institute of Technology. EQL was a think-tank devoted to energy efficiency and renewable energy. It focused initially on the implementation of the federal Clean Air Act in the Los Angeles Basin. Co-author of: “Smog: A Report to the People.”

Please list your previous and present governmental and civic experience. Indicate when, position and duties:
Past chair of the City of Davis Planning Commission, past chair of board of directors of Community Housing Opportunities Corporation (CHOC); past vice chair of City of Davis Business and Economic Development Commission; former member, City of Davis Natural Resources Commission, member City of Davis Climate Action Team, which submitted a climate action plan to City Council; member, City of Davis Community Energy Choice Advisory Committee

List any special training or experience you have that you feel would benefit your committee service:
I was founding president, Valley Climate Action Center, Davis, CA. This is a non-profit whose mission is to support the City of Davis in implementing its climate action plan.

Founding president of State Assistance Fund for Energy, California Business and Industrial Development Corporation (SAFE-BIDCO). SAFE-BIDCO was a state-sponsored and funded non-profit corporation which made loans to small businesses in the renewable energy and energy efficiency industries.

Director, Mayor’s Energy Office, City of Los Angeles. Energy advisor to Mayor Tom Bradley and City Council. Coordinator of the city’s internal energy conservation program. Principal investigator for the “Energy LA Action Plan,” a comprehensive energy element for the city’s general plan which won the American Planning Association’s award for best urban plan of the year.

Administrator and researcher, Environmental Quality Laboratory, California Institute of Technology. EQL was a think-tank devoted to energy efficiency and renewable energy. It focused initially on the implementation of the federal Clean Air Act in the Los Angeles Basin. Co-author of: “Smog: A Report to the People.”
Do you have any interests or associations which might present a conflict of interest? If yes, please explain: no

What do you feel are your most important qualifications?
Familiarity with market and technology of renewable energy and efficiency

What do you see as some of the significant issues facing the community in the next few years that might pertain to Valley Clean Energy's Community Advisory Committee?
impact of PG&E bankruptcy, possible purchase of distribution assets, growth of service territory
What do you hope to accomplish as a committee member?

VCE emphasis on locally sourced clean energy

I am aware of the obligations and responsibilities of this committee and am willing and able to fulfill this commitment should I be appointed: (Initial here: 

Please attach your resume or any additional information or statements which you feel would be helpful to the Valley Clean Energy Board of Directors in reviewing your qualifications.

Authorization and Release

I understand that in connection with this application for appointment, the information contained herein will be made available to the general public upon request. I further understand that if appointed, I may be required to take the oath of office and may be subject to requirements for filing financial disclosure statements.

[Signature]

Please Sign Here

23 June 2021

Date

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For Official Use Only

Applications will be kept on file for two years. This application will expire on: 6/29/2023

Date of appointment by the Valley Clean Energy Board: 

Length of term: 

Is this re-appointment? 
**PERSONAL DATA SHEET**

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<th>Name: Samsel Maris Kay</th>
<th>Are you at least 18 years old? Yes</th>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Home Address:</th>
<th>Davis, CA 95616</th>
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<th>Email Address:</th>
<th>Daytime Phone</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend Phone</th>
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<tr>
<th>Business Title or Occupation: Environmental Services Intern</th>
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<th>Company/Organization:</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address:</th>
<th>Woodland, CA 95695</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Street Address</td>
<td>City, State and Zip</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which Valley Clean Energy jurisdiction do you reside in?

- [✓] City of Davis
- [ ] City of Woodland
- [ ] County of Yolo (Unincorporated)
- [ ] City of Winters

If you do not reside in Valley Clean Energy’s jurisdictions, please include a separate statement to address why you are applying for this committee.

Are you seeking to fill an At-Large Seat? [ ] Yes   [✓] No

**Background Information:**

Why do you wish to serve as a member of the VCE Community Advisory Committee?

I am deeply passionate about clean energy as a means to combat the effects of climate change. I am a steadfast advocate for the environment, and believe the duty of repairing the planet has fallen to my generation. I believe serving on the advisory board would provide me with excellent experience in understanding the implementation of environmental technology, while allowing me to participate in governmental action.
What experience/perspective would you bring to the committee? Please reference the professional sector and related professional experience below for At-Large member applications in this section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience Bringing to the Committee</th>
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<td>I have experience working in local government, through the lens of environmental services. I am highly involved with policy implementation and logistics. As an intern, I work with a variety of government departments, and oversee my own projects. I believe I have a unique perspective as a student, and as a parent. I am a member of the Davis community, and have a vested interest in its future, as it is where I am raising my family, and getting my education. As a college student, I will be party to the latest scientific information the university system has to offer, and would use that knowledge to supplement my stance on issues presented to me.</td>
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Please list your previous and present governmental and civic experience. Indicate when, position and duties:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Previous Experience</th>
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<tr>
<td>I am currently an intern for the City of Woodland Environmental Services, and have been since July of 2021. I have participated in the compilation of the new building project sustainability guide, which was used to create a set of guidelines for the upcoming Tech Park project. I have overseen the implementation of SB 1383, a food waste bill, at the Leisureville senior living association, where I devised a logistical plan to help the residents and staff comply with the new waste bill. I often represent Environmental Services at City events, such as National Night Out and the Honey Festival. I am also the Director of Sustainability at Woodland Community College, where I am part of the New Building Committee as a sustainability advisor, and help to implement new campus sustainability projects. I plan events, such as campaigns and recruitment efforts, for the Associated Students of Woodland Community College, and the WCC Earth Day activities. I speak at district-wide events, such as the Yuba Community College Convoation, alongside WCC President Art Pimentel, and Congressman John Garamendi.</td>
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List any special training or experience you have that you feel would benefit your committee service:

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<tr>
<th>Special Training or Experience</th>
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<tr>
<td>I have participated in theatre and performing arts as an actor, singer, dancer, and director for most of my life. I use this experience to aid in public speaking, and interpersonal skills. I feel that theatre is one of the most cooperative activities one may choose to partake in, and requires the equal effort and trust of everyone involved. I also participate in a coding and drone flying class at my college, where I assembled my own drone remote, and am learning how to code in Python script, which signals commands to my drone. I believe this experience will help me in the environmental field, as technology progresses, and is relied upon heavily.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do you have any interests or associations which might present a conflict of interest?  
If yes, please explain:
I have no interest in conflicting associations.

What do you feel are your most important qualifications?
I believe I have an intuitive ability to empathize with many points of view. I have come from very humble origins, and understand the lives of many, because I have lived in so many ways. I believe my youth gives me the best voice to advocate for what is urgently needed, as I understand there is no allowance for hesitation in the face of climate danger.

What do you see as some of the significant issues facing the community in the next few years that might pertain to Valley Clean Energy's Community Advisory Committee?
I believe one large concern for Davis residents are the blackouts that many people have experienced due to corporate negligence in wildfire territories. Citizens should not have to suffer due to the blatant greed and incompetence of popular energy companies. I also believe that, as the weather in Northern California grows hotter every year, residents will rely exponentially on energy to provide safety and comfort. Above all, I believe that residents of our community crave transparency. People want to be able to trust who they give their money to, and large, for-profit corporations have taken advantage of the pandemic in a wholly unsurprising way.
What do you hope to accomplish as a committee member?
I hope to gain experience in advising policymakers, and improve the quality of life for myself and my community.

I am aware of the obligations and responsibilities of this committee and am willing and able to fulfill this commitment should I be appointed: (Initial here: [MS])

Please attach your resume or any additional information or statements which you feel would be helpful to the Valley Clean Energy Board of Directors in reviewing your qualifications.

AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE

I understand that in connection with this application for appointment, the information contained herein will be made available to the general public upon request. I further understand that if appointed, I may be required to take the oath of office and may be subject to requirements for filing financial disclosure statements.

Please Sign Here

Date

3/11/22

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
Applications will be kept on file for two years. This application will expire on: 3/6/2024
Date of appointment by the Valley Clean Energy Board: 
Length of term: 
Is this a re-appointment?