# VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

**Staff Report – Item 3**

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**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk / Administrative Analyst

**SUBJECT:** October 8, 2026 Board meeting and October 23, 2026 Board Workshop (Special Meeting) Minutes

**DATE:** November 12, 2026

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**RECOMMENDATION**

Receive, review and approve the attached October 8, 2026 regular Board Meeting Minutes and the October 23, 2026 Board Workshop (Special Meeting) Minutes.

Attachments:
1. October 8, 2026 regular Board meeting Minutes; and,
2. October 23, 2026 Board Workshop (Special Meeting) Minutes

**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE**
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING**
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026**

The Board of Directors of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance duly noticed their regular meeting for Thursday, October 8, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. to be held at City of Davis Community Chambers located at 23 Russell Boulevard, Davis, California 95616. Board Chair Jesse Loren established that there was a quorum present and began the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

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| Board Members Present: | Jesse Loren (Chair), Tania Garcia-Cadena (Vice Chair), Tom Stallard, Shiela Allen, Richard Casavecchia, Donna Neville, Bapu Vaitla, Lucas Frerichs (Attending remotely) |
| Members Absent: | |

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| Item 1: Welcome and Approval of the Agenda | Chair Loren welcomed everyone and announced that Board Member Lucas Frerichs is attending remotely for "just cause". Chair Loren also announced that because Director Frerichs is attending remotely for just cause, a roll call vote will be taken for items on the Agenda. Director Frerichs announced that he is attending remotely because he is in Santa Clara County attending the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Executive Committee meeting as he is on the Executive Committee. He informed those present that there is nobody under or over the age of 18 in his presence.<br><br>Chair Loren announced that items 8 and 9 will be switched so that the voting item (Item 9) will come first on the Regular Agenda. Director Stallard made a motion to approve the October 8, 2026 Agenda as amended, seconded by Director Allen. A verbal vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously. |
| Item 2: Public Comment – General and Consent Items | There were no written or verbal public comments not on the agenda or on the consent items. |
| Items 3-7: Approval of the Agenda and Consent Agenda Items | Motion made by Director Allen to approve the Consent agenda items, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia-Cadena. A verbal vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously. The following items were:<br>3. Approved September 10, 2026 Board meeting Minutes;<br>4. Received 2026 long range calendar; |

5. Received Treasurer's Report: July 31, 2026;
6. Received September 2026 regulatory update dated September 30, 2026 provided by Keyes & Fox; and,
7. Received the Enterprise Risk Management biannual update. (Information)

Item 9: Adopt Power Project Selection Criteria Guidelines. (Action) / Resolution 2026-018

VCE Staff Chad Curran informed those present that the Guidelines were draft to establish criteria that can be used to evaluate long-term power projects. The Guidelines were developed to memorialize, enhance, and be consistent with VCE's past practices; and, to align with and complement VCE's Strategic Plan goals. He further informed those present that the draft Guidelines are very similar to other CCA's that have adopted project selection criteria/policy. He pointed out that the draft Guidelines were presented to the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) at their August 28, 2026 meeting and Staff have updated the Guidelines to address CAC and public feedback. Mr. Curran reviewed the Guidelines and informed those present that a few corrections were made to this item's Staff Report and the updated Staff Report will be posted to VCE's website.

The Board and Staff discussed topics, such as: the draft Guidelines, large load data centers, the procurement market, VCE's power portfolio, habitat conservation, workforce development, prevailing wage, local projects, and, renewable and carbon free energy.

**Written public comment** was received October 7, 2026 from CCA Workforce & EJ Alliance. The Board Clerk announced that this written public comment has been provided to the Board and will be posted to the website within 24 hours of this meeting.

**Verbal Public Comment:** Eric Veium of CCA Workforce & EJ Alliance supports the Guidelines and has a deep appreciation of VCE Staff and the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for drafting a strong policy. Mr. Veium briefly reviewed three (3) suggestions that were made in their written public comment: 1) show how projects measured up, 2) keep the Guidelines when VCE procures power with others, such as CC Power, and 3) recognize a Habitat Conservation Plan within the Guidelines. He looks forward to a collaborative relationship with VCE Staff and the Board.

Motion made by Director Allen to adopt the Power Project Selection Criteria Guidelines with the addition of "…. including compliance with

any applicable Habitat Conservation Plan" to the second bullet point within Section 2.7 Environmental Responsibility on page 5 of the Guidelines, seconded by Director Neville. Motion passed as Resolution 2026-018 by the following vote:

AYES: Garcia-Cadena, Frerichs, Stallard, Allen, Vaitla, Neville, Loren
NOES: Casavecchia
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Item 8: Legislative End of Session updated provided by Pacific Policy Group. (Information)

Mark Fenstermaker of Pacific Policy Group provided an overview of the end of the 2026 Legislative Session and highlights of Governor Newsom's focus on legislation dealing with wildfires, depreciation of infrastructure, and policy changes. He provided the outcome of some legislative bills that were of interest to CCAs, such as data centers, and the California Public Utility Commission's (CPUC's) authority regarding resource adequacy and Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA). Mr. Fenstermaker touched upon elections and the transition within the Governor's office and legislature – the outcome is unknown at this time. There were no written or verbal public comments.

VCE Chief Financial Officer Edward Burnham announced that VCE hired Christian Filbrun, who will handling legislation and regulatory items.

Item 10. Board Member and Staff Announcements

There were no comments from the Board. Chair Loren thanked VCE for having a booth at the Carnitas Festival. Mr. Burnham informed those present that the Power Content Label (PCL) will be distributed soon and outreach on VCE's 86% renewable and 100% carbon-free will soon follow thereafter. The Board has a scheduled workshop on Friday, October 23, 2026, which will be led by a facilitator. VCE Staff continue to engage with Gibson partners during the due diligence phase and the PCIA ERRO proceeding outcome was not favorable to CCAs. Staff will be bringing back to the Board a PCIA and rates "study session" at their next regular Board meeting.

Item 11. Announcement / Adjournment

Chair Loren announced that the Board's next regular meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2026 at the City of Woodland Council Chambers located at 300 First Street, Woodland, California 95695. There being no further regular business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke
VCEA Board Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE**
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS BOARD STRATEGY WORKSHOP**
**(SPECIAL MEETING)**
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026**
**9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

The Board of Directors of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance duly noticed a Board Strategy Workshop (Special Meeting) scheduled for Friday, October 23, 2026 at 9 a.m. to be held at Hotel Winters, Vineyard Room, located at 12 Abbey Street, Winters, California 95694. Board Chair Jesse Loren established that there was a quorum present and began the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

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| Board Members Present: | Jesse Loren (Chair), Tom Stallard, Donna Neville, Bapu Vaitla, Lucas Frerichs, Albert Vallecillo (Alternate City of Winters) |
| Members Absent: | Richard Casavecchia, Shiela Allen, Tania Garcia-Cadena (Vice Chair) |

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| Item 1 and 2: Welcome, Roll Call and Approval of the Agenda | Chair Loren welcomed everyone and informed those present that this is a workshop, a Special meeting, and no action will be taken by the Board today other than approving the Agenda. VCE Chief Executive Officer Mitch Sears provided an introduction to this Workshop.<br><br>Director Vaitla made a motion to approve the October 23, 2026 Special meeting Agenda, seconded by Director Stallard. Motion passed with Directors Casavecchia, Allen and Garcia-Cadena (Vice Chair) absent. |
| Item 3. Public Comment – General and Consent Items | There were no written or verbal public comments not on the agenda or on consent items. |
| Items 4: Board Strategy Workshop. (Discussion) | Girish Balachandran of GB Endeavors introduced himself and provided his background and outlined the goals of this Workshop. Mr. Balachandran facilitated several exercises and discussions and received input from the Board Members on VCE's accomplishments, goals and objectives as VCE moves forward. |

The Board and Staff discussed various subjects, such as: VCE's accomplishments, goals, roles of each Board Member, governance, the complexities of energy and CCA's, the needs of the communities, learning styles, identification of ways to improve knowledge, suggestions and expectations of Staff, the long range calendar, and review cadence of VCE's policies and guidelines.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 5: Board Member and Staff Announcements

Mr. Balachandran thanked those present for attending and having an engaging conversation. Each Board Member thanked Mr. Balachandran for leading the Workshop and the Staff for their work on preparing for this Workshop. Each Board Member provided their key "take aways".

Mr. Sears and VCE Staff Edward Burnham provided a recap of the Workshop. Mr. Burnham informed those present that a staff report summarizing this workshop will be provided to the Board at their November 2026 meeting.

Item 6: Announcement / Adjournment

Chair Loren announced that the Board's next regular meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, November 12, 2026 at the City of Woodland Council Chambers located at 300 First Street, Woodland, California 95695. There being no further regular business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke
VCEA Board Secretary