TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk / Administrative Analyst
SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes from February 11, 2021 Board Meeting
DATE: March 11, 2021

RECOMMENDATION

Receive, review and approve the attached February 11, 2021 Board meeting Minutes.
MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance duly noticed their regular meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 4:00 p.m., to be held via Zoom Webinar. Chair Dan Carson established that there was a quorum present and began the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

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

Members Absent:

Welcome Chair Carson welcomed those in attendance.

Approval of Agenda / Designation of Board Subcommittee Motion made by Director Frerichs to approve the February 11, 2021 Board meeting agenda, seconded by Director Sandy. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Carson announced the Board Subcommittee Members: Jesse Loren (City of Winters), Don Saylor (Yolo County), Tom Stallard (City of Woodland), and himself, Dan Carson (City of Davis).

Public Comment Chair Carson opened the floor for public comment. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Approval of Consent Agenda / Resolution 2021-005 Motion made by Director Sandy to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Director Loren. There were no written or verbal public comments. Motion passed unanimously. The following items were approved, ratified, and/or received:
4. January 21, 2021 Board Special meeting Minutes;
5. 2021 Long Range Calendar;
6. Financial Updated – December 31, 2020 (unaudited) financial statement;
7. Legislative updated provided by Pacific Policy Group;
8. February 3, 2021 Regulatory update provided by Keyes & Fox;
9. February 3, 2021 Customer Enrollment Update;
10. Community Advisory Committee January 28, 2021 meeting summary;
11. Update of Valley Clean Energy customer rates for 2021 to match Pacific Gas & Electric’s generation rates; and,
12. changes to employee medical benefits offered by Valley Clean Energy and updates to the Employee Handbook as Resolution 2021-005.

Item 13: Consider approval of 2021 Valley Clean Energy
Interim General Manager Mitch Sears introduced this item. VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles provided a review of the 2021 Outreach and Marketing Plan. The Board asked questions and provided input. Suggestions were made: outreach
Outreach and Marketing Plan  
Messaging to address opt outs should be tailored to the individual communities; there should be an emphasis on metrics – where VCE is at now, then later outcomes and areas of emphasis to be incorporated into next year’s plan; and, focusing on the customer’s needs, product explanation, and the importance of local control. There were no verbal or written public comments.

Director Loren made a motion to adopt the 2021 Outreach and Marketing Plan, seconded by Director Vega. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Sandy, Vega, Cowan, Frerichs, Saylor, Stallard, Loren, Carson
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Item 14: Consider joining California Community Power Agency Joint Powers Authority / Resolution 2021-006  
Mr. Sears introduced this item. VCE Staff Gordon Samuel reviewed slides and provided a summary of the California Community Power Agency (CC Power) Joint Powers Authority (JPA).

The Board asked questions and made comments. Items discussed were: JPA staff capacity and how the JPA will interact with California Community Choice Association (CalCCA); the origin of this JPA; the difference between the JPA and CalCCA; what types of energy products might be considered by the JPA; and, whether this JPA has been publicized and supported. There were no verbal or written public comments.

Director Frerichs made a motion to approve Valley Clean Energy’s membership in the California Community Power Agency Joint Powers Authority and authorize the Interim General Manager to execute the JPA agreement in consultation with legal counsel, seconded by Director Saylor. Motion passed as Resolution 2021-006 by the following vote:

AYES: Sandy, Vega, Cowan, Frerichs, Saylor, Stallard, Loren, Carson
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Item 15: Update on Time of Use (TOU) Rates and implementation schedule. (Informational)  
Mr. Sears introduced this item. Ms. Boyles reviewed slides and provided a brief update on Time of Use and the implementation schedule. The Board briefly discussed whether the COVID-19 pandemic has an impact on TOU versus load.

Ms. Boyles mentioned that the next step is to bring the question of bill protection to the Board for discussion at a future meeting. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 16: Update on SACOG Grant “Electrify Yolo”  
Mr. Sears introduced this item and informed those present that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) grant between VCE and the City of Davis has been signed.
Electric Vehicle (EV) Project. (Informational)

VCE is working directly with the City of Winters on their EV installation project, and the grant projects are moving forward. The Board expressed concern that the grant projects will extend beyond the grant’s expiration date. Mr. Sears informed those present that the funding mechanism has been an issue; however, VCE Staff has been in contact with the other jurisdiction staff and will continue to do so to move the projects along. The Board emphasized the need for VCE to market these projects as an example of what VCE can do now and in the future. The Board would also like to see signage while the work is going on. There were no written or verbal public comments.

Board Member and Staff Announcements

Mr. Sears informed those present that Mark Fenstermaker of Pacific Policy Group, VCE’s lobby consultant, briefed the Board Subcommittee on a few legislative bills. The Subcommittee gave direction to move forward on supporting two bills related to: 1) CalCCA’s efforts related to power charge indifference charge (PCIA) or “above market costs” and 2) expanding participation in biomass projects to Community Choice Aggregates (CCAs). Mr. Sears informed those present that VCE Staff have been working on setting up presentations with the various jurisdictions on VCE’s 3-year Strategic Plan and other items happening on the staff level.

Director Frerichs informed those present that two (2) new appointees have been assigned to the California Energy Commission (CEC) and to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), both are from Yolo County. This is an opportunity to start building relationships.

Chair Carson informed those present that the City of Davis Council will be addressing their 2021 legislative platform at their next meeting. The draft platform includes support of VCE’s legislative efforts.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2021 at 4 p.m. via webinar/teleconference.

Adjournment

Chairperson Carson adjourned the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke
VCEA Board Secretary