

**VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Staff Report - Item 4

TO: Community Advisory Committee
FROM: Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst
SUBJECT: CAC March 28, 2024 Meeting Minutes
DATE: May 23, 2024

Recommendation

Receive, review and approve the attached March 28, 2024 meeting minutes.



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, March 28, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.
City of Woodland Council Chambers
300 First Street, Woodland, California 95695**

Chair Athalye established that there was a quorum present and opened the Community Advisory Committee of Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a meeting on Thursday, March 28, 2024 beginning at 5:03 p.m., held at City of Woodland Council Chambers, located at 300 First Street, Woodland, California 95695.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Raul Athalye (Chair), Keith Taylor (Vice Chair), Lorenzo Kristov, Mark Aulman, Diccon Westworth, Danielle Ballard

Committee Members Absent: David Springer, Jennifer Rindahl, Cynthia Rodriguez

Welcome Chair Athalye welcomed everyone.

Public Comment / Introductions There were no verbal or written public comments on items not on the agenda and not on the Consent Agenda.

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

Legislative/Regulatory: Lorenzo Kristov reported that the Task Group met on March 15th and discussed the State's budget deficit which currently effects climate funding, with an anticipated May budget revision. The Task Group discussed: Senate Bill (SB) 1130, which may affect CARE and FERA customers; Assembly Bil (AB) 817, related to the Brown Act and advisory bodies attending remotely; AB 3107, related to microgrids and public utilities code; AB 3111, which deals with distributed energy resources; and, CPUC's Income Graduated Fixed Charges.

Programs & Outreach: Vice Chair Taylor informed those present that the Task Group met and discussed messaging and strategy. The Task Group have scheduled to meet in a few days discuss the best approach on how to disseminate information; potential resources for VCE Staff; opt out rate; how to encourage customers to opt up to UltraGreen; how to educate the public on VCE's accomplishments; and, how to explain the bill in simple terms.



Staff Report: VCE Executive Officer Mitch Sears informed those present that Staff are doing an analysis of the Income Graduated Fixed Charge (IGFC), with CalCCA possibly providing comments to CPUC. Staff and Cool Davis are moving forward with finalizing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Mr. Sears invited CAC members to attend and help Staff at VCE’s booth at two (2) events coming up in May, Honey Festival on Saturday, May 4th in Woodland and Celebrate Davis on Friday, May 17th at City of Davis Community Park. He informed those present that Staff continue to advertise for two (2) vacancies on the CAC – City of Davis and unincorporated Yolo County, in addition to accepting At-large applications. Mr. Sears informed those present that he attended the ESIG Spring Tech Workshop held in Arizona, and was one of the speakers on the Dynamic Pricing panel. He informed those present that the VCE Board did not hold a meeting in March.

Consent Items

There were no written or verbal comments as identified above.

Vice Chair Taylor made a motion to approve the Consent agenda, Item 4, seconded by Diccon Westworth. Motion passed with Aulman and Ballard abstaining and Springer, Rindahl and Rodriguez absent. The following item was:

- 4. approved February 22, 2024 meeting Minutes.

Regular Agenda

Item 5: Receive update on Electrification Retrofit Rebate Outreach (ERRO) Program and seeking feedback and recommendation from CAC on Concierge Service. (Discussion/Action)

This item was tabled at the CAC’s February 22, 2024 meeting to this meeting. VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles provided an update on the ERRO program and reviewed key aspects of the proposed Concierge Service. The CAC and Staff discussed: details of the ERRO program and Concierge Service; the challenges of reaching out and incentivizing the owner to participate in the program; how to reach low income renters; and, available resources for obtaining home electrification information.

Verbal Public Comment: Leslie Crenna at Cool Davis informed those present that entering into an MOU with VCE is a great opportunity and partnership. Cool Davis has numerous resources and the incentives of the ERRO program are abundant with the Concierge Service simple to use.

There were no written comments.



Aulman made a motion to recommend to the Board to approve the Concierge Service, seconded by Kristov. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Kristov, Aulman, Westworth, Ballard, Taylor, Athalye

NOES: None

ABSENT: Springer, Rindahl, Rodriguez

ABSTAIN: None

Item 6: 2023 Net Margin discussion and receive feedback from CAC. (Discussion/Action)

Mr. Sears introduced this item. VCE Staff Edward Burnham reviewed various options on how to allocate the estimated net margin for 2023. CAC and Staff discussed: reserves including local programs, risks, credit rating, generation rate discount, customer opt outs and opt ins, dividends, and marketing. The CAC provided their feedback to Staff on the scenarios presented.

There were no written or verbal comments.

Mr. Burnham informed the CAC that the 2023 Net Margin item will be presented to the Board at their May meeting for discussion and Staff will be returning in May for the CAC's input on updating the reserves policy and dividend program.

Item 7: Receive an update on California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) BioMAT program. (Information)

Executive Officer Mitch Sears provided the background on the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) BioMAT program expiring at the end of 2025, and included which CCA's are actively participating in the program. He reviewed the program criteria, who is eligible to participate, and the three (3) categories of bioenergy. Staff and the CAC discussed: the request to extend BioMAT program, energy production, contract capacity, funding of program, penalties, bioenergy technology advances, potential impacts to VCE's portfolio, the purpose of the BioMAT program, and public perception of biomass.

Verbal Public Comment: Leslie Crenna commented that there are biomass sources in agriculture in addition to the biodigester located at the water treatment plant. They have been flaring it, so this seems to be the best and readily available biomass resource.

There were no written public comments.

Mr. Sears informed those present that Staff will continue to assess the pros/cons of biomass and the BioMAT program and return to the CAC for further discussion, prior to taking the BioMAT program to the Board.



**Item 8: Receive
2024 Long Range
Calendar.
(Information/Discu
ssion)**

The CAC received the long range calendar and there was no discussion.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

**Item 9: Advisory
Committee
Member and Staff
Announcements.**

There were no announcements.

**Adjournment to
Next Meeting**

The CAC's meeting scheduled for April 25, 2024 has been cancelled. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 5 p.m. at the Yolo County Community Services Department, Cache Creek Conference Room, located at 292 West Beamer Street, Woodland, California 95695. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst