

# VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

## Staff Report - Item 5

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**TO:** Community Advisory Committee

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

**SUBJECT:** CAC March 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** April 22, 2021

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### **Recommendation**

Receive, review and approve the attached March 25, 2021 meeting minutes.



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING  
THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021  
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Chair Christine Shewmaker opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a meeting on Thursday, March 25, 2021 beginning at 5:02 p.m. via video/teleconference pursuant to the Provisions of the Governor's Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, which suspends certain provisions of the Brown Act and the Orders of the Public Health Officers with jurisdiction over Yolo County, to shelter in place and to provide for physical distancing.

**Welcome and Roll Call**

Committee Members Present: Christine Shewmaker (Chair), Cynthia Rodriguez (Vice Chair), Yvonne Hunter Marsha Baird, Gerry Braun, Lorenzo Kristov, Jennifer Rindahl, Peter Meyer (telephonically), David Springer (arrived at approximately at 5:41 p.m.)

Committee Members Absent: Christine Casey, Mark Aulman

**Approval of Agenda** Yvonne Hunter made a motion to approve the March 25, 2021 meeting Agenda, seconded by Lorenzo Kristov. Motion passed with Springer, Aulman and Casey absent.

**Public Comment / Introductions** There were no written or verbal public comments.

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

Leg/Reg Task Group: Yvonne Hunter informed those present that the Task Group continues to meet every other week. At their last meeting, outreach methods were discussed for potential partners, organizations, and agencies to support the CalCCA sponsored bill on power charge indifference adjustment (PCIA).

Outreach Task Group: Chair Mark Aulman was absent. Ms. Hunter informed those present that the Task Group held a special meeting to discuss how best to reach out to Customers to get their input. VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles shared the different calls that come into Customer Service, how they are categorized, and the best way to retain a customer when they would like to opt out of VCE. The Customer Service Team aim to educate the customer so that the customer can make an informed decision when they are considering opting out. The Task Group also previewed new website material and Staff's process of getting the website updated.



Programs Task Group: Marsha Baird informed those present that Staff will be giving an update later in the agenda.

Rates Task Group: Lorenzo Kristov informed those present that the Task Group had a meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the possibility of engaging a consultant to do an analysis on rate options. The Task Group worked on drafting a scope of work and how to structure it. Staff have sent a draft for the Group's review and comments. Their next meeting is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup> to have a follow up discussion.

Carbon Neutral Task Group: Cynthia Rodriguez informed those present that the Task Group has been meeting every other week. They have been working on a draft plan to assess the ability to meet both carbon neutral by 2030 and carbon free hour by hour by 2030 goals. The Group has been working on honing down on the definitions of renewable carbon free and carbon neutral hour by hour. Staff has laid out a timeline for completing the draft plan which includes large obligations for Staff and the Task Group. At their last meeting, VCE Staff Gordon Samuel shared the first draft statement of work for a contractor to help design draft portfolios and work is ongoing. Recent work from SMUD, Los Angeles and other agencies should help form this work as work on this subject is being worked on throughout the State.

**3/11/2021 Special Board meeting summary:** Interim General Manager Mitch Sears provided highlights of the March 11, 2021 Board meeting: ratification of VCE's support of Senate Bill 612 (SB 612) and Assembly Bill 843; Board adoption of building electrification statement as recommended by Staff and the CAC; and, per VCE's rate policy, considered PG&E's March 2021 rates and supported VCE's continuation to match PG&E's generation rates.

**Staff Report:** Mr. Sears informed those present that later in the agenda, Staff will talk about SB 612 legislation and looking for support. There are regulatory items in play right now: PCIA settlement agreement, restructuring resource adequacy (RA) market, and NEM 3.0 proceeding. A preliminary draft fiscal year 2021/2022 operating budget is being prepared to be presented to the Board at their April meeting, with further discussion at their May meeting, and final Board adoption at their June meeting. There are pending reappointment of CAC Members, 2 out of the 3 appointments will be seeking reappointment by the Board at their June meeting. Outreach efforts will be made regarding CAC seat availability. Mr. Sears informed those present that VCE's application for membership to the CC Power JPA, is scheduled to be considered by CC Power JPA's Board at their April meeting. Mr. Sears anticipates that our membership request will be accepted.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

**Consent Items** Chair Shewmaker informed those present that there were a few corrections made to the February 25, 2021 meeting minutes: 1) on page 2, Carbon Neutral Task Group and



2) on page 4, legislative bill number and name. These corrections have already been communicated to the Board Clerk. Ms. Hunter made a motion to approve the March 25, 2021 Consent Agenda items with corrections to the February 25, 2021 meeting minutes, seconded by Marsha Baird. Motion passed with Aulman, Casey and Springer absent. The following items were:

1. approved February 25, 2021 meeting Minutes as amended; and,
2. received customer enrollment update as of March 17, 2021.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

**Item 7: Progress update on draft 3-Year Customer programs Plan (Discussion)**

Mitch Sears introduced this item. VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles provided a progress update on the development of the 3-year programs plan. Ms. Boyles reviewed the background, structure and outline of the draft plan, plan phases, and overview of those phases. VCE Staff Tessa Tobar reviewed the customer programs survey. Ms. Boyles would like the CAC's feedback on the draft and offered to answer any questions.

(David Springer arrived at approximately at 5:41 p.m.)

Questions and comments were provided regarding: specific programs, such as dual heat pumps, switching fuel sources from gas/propane to electricity, within phases; before implementing an electrification program, it was suggested to look at the audience (commercial, residential, agriculture); concentrate on programs that are low cost to implement; add to the programs criteria, the benefits to the customer; programs should be developed and implemented that benefit disadvantage communities; and, ways to prioritize programs.

A verbal public comment was provided by Connor Gorman. He supports developing programs for marginalized communities; and, asked that when programs are developed to take into account economics, low income customers, and programs that require no up front monies.

There were no written public comments.

**Item 8: Senate Bill 612 - Rate Payer Equity: Discuss VCE outreach opportunities related to 3/11/21 Board action to support the legislation. (Discussion)**

Chair Shewmaker introduced this item and reiterated that Staff are seeking input from CAC Members on organizations that could potentially provide SB 612 (ratepayer equity) support letters. Mark Fenstermaker of Pacific Policy Group, VCE's lobbyist consultant, was present and summarized that this statewide bill is in regards to customers, specifically CCA customers, that are charged for "power charge indifference adjustment" (PCIA) but do not receive the attributes of the energy procured. He provided an overview and status of this bill sponsored by California Community Choice Association (CalCCA). Mr. Fenstermaker informed those present that two hearings are set: April 12<sup>th</sup> and April 26<sup>th</sup>; he anticipates that SB 612 will be on the April 26<sup>th</sup> hearing agenda.



Staff and CAC Members discussed process, the purpose of letters of support, and ideas of what types of organizations could be pursued for support.

Mr. Sears asked that suggestions on organizations to contact for support be sent to him via email. Staff can determine the best suited person to reach out to the organization(s) for support. There were no written or verbal public comments.

**Item 9: Long Range Calendar**

Chair Shewmaker asked if any of the Task Groups wanted to hold a date for their report on the calendar. Ms. Hunter informed those present that today's item on SB 612 should be considered the Legislative/Regulatory Task Group report. Chair Shewmaker noted that at the CAC's April meeting, Sacramento Municipal Unified District (SMUD) will provide a presentation on SMUD getting to carbon free by 2030. She also noted that on SMUD's website there are webinars on their plan, which provide background and information.

Chair Shewmaker also noted that CalCCA has *tentatively* scheduled their annual meeting for November 29<sup>th</sup> through December 1<sup>st</sup> to be held in San Jose. This has been added to the calendar and that this meeting will be a "hybrid" meeting, in person and via video/teleconference.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

**Advisory Committee Member and Announcements**

Ms. Hunter announced that she is looking for specific types of photographs for VCE: solar photovoltaic (pv) buildings/residences located within Yolo County and electric and/or hybrid vehicles driven by CAC Members. If anyone has suggestions of solar pv locations, please send her an email.

Gerry Braun informed those present that he has joined another Community Choice Aggregate (CCA) Community Advisory Committee located in the state of Virginia, said CAC will moving forward on doing a technical study.

Chair Shewmaker asked if a list of legislative bills that Staff and Leg/Reg Task Group are "tracking" could be shared with the CAC. Ms. Hunter informed those present that the list is long, but an abbreviated list could be shared.

**Adjournment to Next Meeting**

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m. The next regular CAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 22, 2021 at 5 p.m. via videoconference.

Alisa M. Lembke  
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst