

## VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

### Staff Report - Item 5

---

**TO:** Community Advisory Committee

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

**SUBJECT:** CAC April 28, 2022 Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** May 26, 2022

---

#### **Recommendation**

Receive, review and approve the attached April 26, 2022 meeting minutes.



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022  
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Chair David Springer opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2022 beginning at 5:02 p.m. via videoconference pursuant to the Brown Act and Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361). The Board of Directors found that the local health official recommended measures to promote social distancing and authorized the continuation of remote meetings for the foreseeable future.

**Welcome and Roll Call**

Committee Members Present: David Springer (Chair), Marsha Baird (Vice Chair), Yvonne Hunter, Christine Shewmaker, Mark Aulman, Lorenzo Kristov, Cynthia Rodriguez

Committee Members Absent: Gerry Braun, Jennifer Rindahl

**Welcome and Approval of Agenda**

Motion made by Mark Aulman to approve the April 28, 2022 meeting agenda, seconded by Yvonne Hunter. Motion passed with Gerry Braun and Jennifer Rindahl absent.

**Public Comment / Introductions**

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

**Brief task Group and VCE staff Reports**

**Task Group Reports**

Leg/Reg: Yvonne Hunter provided the status on two proceedings at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC): Provider of Last Resort (POLR) and alternative distribution system operation models. Ms. Hunter informed those present that a number of bills were reviewed and talked about: AB 1287 (Bradford) a proposal to increase CCA's financial assurances; AB 2878 (Aguiar- Curry) deals with forest waste biomass management training, how to improve management of forest waste; SB 1158 (Becker) deals with various aspects of reporting electricity portfolio and greenhouse gas emissions; and, SB 1020 (Laird/Atkinson) proposing the Clean Energy Jobs and Affordability Act of 2022, which is part of the Senate Democrats' climate change package. It would put in interim goals for renewable energy as it relates to SB 100 and sets up a new state agency to receive funding for different sustainability and climate initiatives. Lastly, the policy on how VCE reviews bills and takes positions is being reviewed and updated. The Task Group will bring to the CAC at a future meeting for the CAC to make a recommendation to the Board to adopt the updated procedure. Lorenzo Kristov provided an update on the Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 CPUC proceeding, which was



halted back in December 2021 by the CPUC to study the issues and reconsider their proposed decision. The CPUC has been silent on when they may issue a new proposed decision or what action is forthcoming. Another item is that there are bills in both house of the legislature to give PG&E money for underground lines. Those monies would go into the transmission and distribution rates.

Outreach: Mark Aulman informed those present that the proposal to shift Yolo County's non-solar accounts to VCE's UltraGreen option will go to the Board of Supervisors on May 24<sup>th</sup>, this proposal is endorsed by the Yolo County Climate Action Commission. He has reintroduced this shift to the City of Woodland for a phased in approach. He announced that VCE will have new bus ads emerging soon and pictures of the ads will be showcased at the CAC's next meeting. The OhmConnect program has new life, and the CAC was asked to promote the program through their own personal networks. The Task Group looked at earned media and getting new "op eds"; discussed programs and ways to provided information to the public; and, invited Members to participate in VCE's booth at the California Honey Festival on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> in Woodland.

Energy Resilience: Mr. Kristov informed those present that the Task Group was going to pursue the project idea of contacting a school within VCE territory to serve as a resilience hub by installing solar panels and battery storage to operate as a community hub when grid power goes out. Contacts have been made within the Joint Unified School District Board and administrative structure, and upcoming conversations are planned. The goal is to identify a partner school that would be interested in developing a project proposal with VCE. Lastly, he updated those present that no date has been determined for the public forum on Community Energy Resilience and will most likely be planned for in the next few months.

Programs: Marsha Baird informed those present that the Task Group did not meet, and that the Electric Vehicle program is on the regular agenda.

**April 14, 2022 Board meeting update:** Executive Officer Mitch Sears informed those present that the Board received a presentation by OhmConnect on the program; approved VCE's participation in the Goal Line CC Power project; and, received the financial six (6) month audit. Ms. Baird pointed out to those present that the Board received on consent the SACOG – Electrify Yolo Project update and asked Mr. Sears to provide the status on ap; Mr. Sears approved process for appointing At-Large seats. Actual appointment is scheduled for the Board's May meeting. Board Subcommittee approved the Chair and Vice Chair to evaluate applications with staff and to make recommendation.



**Staff Report:** Mr. Sears informed those present that the California Honey Festival is scheduled for next Saturday on May 7<sup>th</sup>. He informed those present that Staff are tracking a Department of Commerce anti-dumping and circumvention case that has to do with the manufacture of photovoltaic (PV) panels, because the case has potential implications to one of our developing PV plus storage projects. An intern for VCE will be working for VCE, starting in the summer, who comes out of the UC Davis Graduate School of Management energy program. They will be helping Staff analyze the impacts of drought on energy use within VCE's service area. Staff are closely tracking SB 1020, which is designed to advance the State's climate goals. Lastly, he recognized the work that VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles and Sierra Huffman and Keyes & Fox have done to move the AgFIT program forward to launch in May. This program is the first of its kind in the state using dynamic pricing in the agricultural sector to send hourly price signals and to test whether or not farmers are able to move energy use out of the critical hours out of the day into times when there is more renewable energy on the grid.

#### **Consent Items**

Chair David Springer informed those present that Item 6 – Quarterly Customer Enrollment Update will be pulled from the Consent Agenda. Staff are fine-tuning the report. Mr. Kristov pointed out that on Item 6 – Customer Dividend and Programs Allocation report there was an error in the report where it reads "... for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022" and it should probably be "...2021...". VCE Staff Edward Burnham confirmed that the 2022 was incorrect and it should be 2021. As mentioned above, there were no verbal or written public comments on the Consent Items. Marsha Baird made a motion to approve the Consent agenda with Item 6 – Customer Enrollment pulled and an error in Item 8 – Customer Dividend and Programs Allocation staff report with the correction to the year, seconded by Mark Aulman. Motion passed with Yvonne Hunter abstaining and Jennifer Rindahl and Gerry Braun absent. The following items were:

5. approved March 24, 2022 meeting Minutes;
7. received 2022 long-range calendar; and,
8. Received update on Customer Dividend and Programs Allocation, with the corrected year.

#### **Item 9 – Review and consider recommendation on Customer program concept: Electric Vehicle Rebates Program. (Discussion/Action)**

VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles and Sierra Huffman presented highlights of the program design, implementation and fiscal impacts of Phase 1 of the Electric Vehicle (EV) Rebates program, which is focused on stacking VCE's rebate on top of other available rebates and tax credits. The CAC discussed with Staff: potential caps on the distribution of funds to non-low-income customers, future phases of the program, outreach efforts, target audiences, eligibility, and market demand study. Members provided Staff with additional feedback and suggestions. There were no written or verbal public comments.



Mark Aulman made a motion that the CAC recommend the Board adopt Phase 1 of VCE's Electric Vehicle Rebate Pilot Program, seconded by Christine Shewmaker. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Baird, Hunter, Shewmaker, Rodriguez, Kristov, Aulman, Springer

NOES: None

ABSENT: Braun, Rindahl

ABSTAIN: None

**Item 10: Receive information on VCE load and power costs forecasting. (Information/Discussion)**

VCE Staff Gordon Samuel provided a summary on load and power costs used to forecast VCE's energy, resource adequacy (RA), renewable portfolio standard positions, as well as multiple regulatory filings. Staff reviewed retail load by customer class, historical temperature data within VCE's territory, impact of electric vehicle adoption and building electrification, load forecast process and submittals, implications of an inaccurate forecast, and power cost modeling. The CAC asked questions and discussed with Staff: forecast reconciliation, fulfilling and meeting load profile, how "seasonality" and weather, such as heat waves and/or unanticipated warmer temperatures during the fall/winter, are incorporated within forecast, frequency of adjustments, program planning to reduce customer electricity usage during peak hours, short term energy prices, net energy metering, and electric vehicle to grid integration. Staff will present information on forecasting - revenues and budget at the CAC's May meeting. There were no written or verbal public comments.

**Advisory Committee Member and Announcements**

Ms. Shewmaker informed those present that Attorney Generals of 16 States along with at least 4 environmental organizations and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District filed a lawsuit against the United States Postal Service for not including electric vehicles in their future purchase plans for their fleet. Mr. Aulman reported that the average miles per gallon for a USPS gasoline vehicle is 8. He has been keeping the pulse on the various Climate Action Plans in the area, noting that participation in VCE has had an impact on their ability to meet their greenhouse gas reduction goals. Mr. Kristov mentioned that the state of Florida passed Net Energy Metering (NEM) legislation which will cause costs on solar adopters; however, due to massive backlash in the state, the Governor vetoed the bill.

**Adjournment to Next Meeting**

Chair Springer announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 26, 2022 at 5 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke  
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst