

**VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Staff Report - Item 5

TO: Community Advisory Committee
FROM: Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst
SUBJECT: CAC August 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes
DATE: September 23, 2021

Recommendation

Receive, review and approve the attached August 26, 2021 meeting minutes.



**MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 2021
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Chair Christine Shewmaker opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in a meeting on Thursday, August 26, 2021 beginning at 5:02 p.m. via videoconference 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, Mark Aulman, Lorenzo Kristov, David Springer, Jennifer Rindahl

Committee Members Absent:

**Welcome and
Approval of Agenda**

Yvonne Hunter made a motion to approve the August 26, 2021 meeting Agenda, seconded by Jennifer Rindahl. Motion passed.

**Public Comment /
Introductions**

Chair Shewmaker opened the floor for general public comments and on consent items. 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 Task Group: Yvonne Hunter informed those present that the legislative session is soon ending. Lorenzo Kristov informed those present that SB 99 did not get through the appropriations committee. Ms. Hunter informed those present that SB 99 is a two year bill, so possibly could be taken up next year. Mr. Kristov informed those present that the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) held a workshop on a draft Distributed Energy Resources Action Plan seeking public input.

Outreach Task Group: Mark Aulman informed those present the Task Group met to discuss and get an update on the long duration storage project. The Task Group will be providing an update to the CAC at their next meeting.

Programs Task Group: Marsha Board informed those present that VCE Staff Rebecca Boyles has been working on OhmConnect outreach and interviewing candidates for the Program Community Engagement Specialist position. The Task Group is working on the electric vehicle (EV) program and David Spring has been working on a dual heat pump replacement program.

Rates Task Group: VCE Staff Edward Burnham reported that the Staff have been working on models and different scenarios.



Carbon Neutral Task Group: A status report will be presented during this meeting under the Regular agenda.

Staff Report: Interim General Manager Mitch Sears informed those present that the Board has given the direction to present, discuss and solicit feedback on rates with the CAC at the September meeting. Mr. Sears continued to provide an update: OhmConnect program is moving forward with outreach efforts; the CPUC has asked for more information on the POLARIS pilot program application; discussion by CC Power on long term storage Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) continues; the groundbreaking at Putah Creek Energy Farm was a success and was well attended, including a few CAC Members; Staff continue to work on bringing on a Program Community Engagement Specialist; and, one community event (City of Winters Festival de la Comunidad – Carnitas Festival) has been cancelled and one community event (Celebrate Davis) has been moved to a virtual event.

Consent Items

Ms. Hunter made a motion to approve the August 26, 2021 Consent Agenda items, seconded by Lorenzo Kristov. Motion passed. The following items were:

5. approved July 22, 2021 meeting Minutes;
6. received customer enrollment update as of August 18, 2021; and,
7. received update on SACOG Grant – Electrify Yolo Project.

There were no written or verbal comments.

Item 8: Carbon Neutral Task Group update. (Informational)

Chair Shewmaker introduced this item. VCE Staff Gordon Samuel introduced Ezra Beeman and Maggie Riley from Energeia, USA, VCE's consultant preparing the 100% carbon free portfolio study.

Staff, Task Group CAC members, and Ezra Beeman provided an overview of the group's activities, specifically plans and progress of the agreement with Energeia USA to study and present options for VCE to achieve a 100% carbon neutral resource portfolio by 2030. The update included a review by CAC task group members of the Carbon Neutral Task Group's charge and tasks; an overview of the timeline of the study; and definition of terms (Renewable Electricity, Carbon Free Electricity, Hour by Hour // 24/7, and carbon neutral).

Staff then reviewed our load profile over the year as contrasted to planned Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs). The consultants then reviewed project scope, schedule and status; and, reviewed key future zero carbon generation, renewable energy, and storage technologies.

The CAC discussed with Staff and Energeia about technologies, needs, information, and analysis that will be performed by Energeia. The CAC members provided feedback to Staff.



Verbal public comment: Charles Ehrlich encouraged Staff to look at the peak conditions in summer and in winter and to look at alternative storage and local technologies, examples are available locally.

There were no written comments.

Item 9: Discussion on possible restructuring of the Community Advisory Committee. (Discussion/Action)

Chair Shewmaker introduced this item and Staff are requesting input from the Members on possibly restructuring the CAC due to the historic difficulty for VCE to fully fill CAC vacancies. VCE Staff Edward Burnham summarized the Staff Report contained within the packet.

Staff presented three options for review and discussion, as outlined in the Staff Report – 1: staying as is, 2: at large members, 3: use of alternates.

Each Member present provided their feedback. General consensus of the CAC was the importance of having some applicants from all jurisdictions and qualified applicants appointed to the CAC.

Members noted that recruitment efforts have been difficult as several individual Members have reached out to their community to solicit applicants; however, those that have been contacted are already serving on other Committees and do not have the bandwidth to be appointed to another committee.

The CAC agreed that the cities of Davis and Winters seats should be filled now, and active solicitation should continue to fill the city of Woodland and unincorporated Yolo County seats. The CAC asked staff to discuss recruitment efforts by the respective individual Board members and discuss with the entire Board the possibility of restructuring the CAC to include some at large members. The CAC thought that at-large members could be chosen based on a variety of approaches, including limiting to one additional from another jurisdiction, knowledge or interest areas such as rural, etc.

Lastly, in the long term, the CAC feels that VCE is best served with a CAC that has a full complement of 12 members.

There were no written or verbal public comments.

Item 10: 2021 Long Range Calendar. (Informational)

Chair Shewmaker informed those present that at the CAC's October meeting, she has asked CAC Member Lorenzo Kristov to give an introduction on resiliency, which may start further discussions among the CAC. She further noted that the CAC's September meeting looks full, so some items may be moved to consent as information.

Marsha Baird noted that the FY 20-21 Operating Budget / RPS agenda item is informational, not an action item. Mr. Sears confirmed that at the Board's September meeting no action will be taken.



There were no written or verbal public comments.

**Advisory Committee
Member and
Announcements**

Lorenzo Kristov informed those present that the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) recently opened up proceedings on power system issues and resources, a proceeding which will run for years. Mr. Kristov will provide to the VCE Board Clerk the rule making and comments he filed, to be shared with the CAC.

Mr. Sears informed those present that Staff are continuing to track the Governor's discussion on remote meetings, Brown Act, and Executive Orders regarding this subject. He asked that if the Governor's orders are not extended, please send him your thoughts on who should chair the CAC or if you have any questions.

Chair Shewmaker informed those present that AB 1395 (Climate Crisis Bill) is moving forward, which includes the goal of carbon neutrality by 2045.

**Adjournment to
Next Meeting**

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m. The next regular CAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 5 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst