

**VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Staff Report - Item 5

TO: VCEA Community Advisory Committee
FROM: Alisa Lembke, Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst
SUBJECT: CAC Draft February 28, 2019 Meeting Minutes
DATE: March 28, 2019

Recommendation

Receive, review and approve the attached draft February 28, 2019 CAC meeting Minutes.



MINUTES OF THE VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, February 28, 2019

Chair Braun opened the Community Advisory Committee of the Valley Clean Energy Alliance in regular session beginning at 5:32 p.m. at the Davis Senior Center located at 646 A Street, Davis, California.

Welcome and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Gerry Braun (Chair), Christine Shewmaker (Vice-Chair), Marsha Baird (Secretary), Mark Aulman, David Springer and Lorenzo Kristov (arrived at 5:34 p.m.)

Committee Members Absent: Yvonne Hunter and Christine Casey

Approval of Agenda

Christine Shewmaker made a motion to approve the February 28, 2019 Agenda, seconded by Mark Aulman. Motion passed unanimously with Yvonne Hunter and Christine Casey absent.

Public Comment

Chair Braun opened the floor for public comment.

Matt Williams, resident of Davis and Chair of the City of Davis Finance and Budget Advisory Committee, commented that as a rate payer and with the disruption by PG&E, he suggests to “double down” on efforts on getting solar to customers. Getting NEM customers enrolled will make VCE self-reliant within our own micro-grid. In addition, he strongly feels that VCE should be opting up customers and offering incentives for those people to opt up and go 100% renewable. Being self-reliant is to our benefit.

John Mott-Smith commented that he tries to make the meetings but has been having problems getting to them, he is here to listen in.

Chair Braun thanked the public for their comments and closed the public comment period.

VCEA Staff and Advisory Task Group Reports

Chair Braun opened up the Staff and Advisory Task Group report period. The Legislative / Regulatory and Rates and Dividend task groups decided to provide status reports during Item #11: Task Group Charges.

Staff Lisa Limcaco informed those present that the California Public Utilities Commission approved the Energy Resource Recovery Account (ERRA) last week on Thursday, which means that PG&E has fifteen (15) days to produce an advice letter with the new rates. The AET (annual electric true-up) will go into effect March 1st. AET will increase generation rates about 1%, ERRA generation rates were supposed to drop about 2%, but most likely will see an overall rate increase.

Outreach Task Group: Mr. Aulman, Chair of the Outreach Task Group, provided an update of what the Outreach Task Group has been working on, such as: reviewed



comments to website and had conference call on same, discussed opt up widow cling, provided input and conference call regarding draft updated outreach plan, and assisted with small opt up brochure.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Shewmaker made a request to pull Item 7: “CAC to recommend to Board to approve the updated Strategic Marketing and Communications Plan” from the Consent Agenda and move it to the Regular Agenda.

Marsha Baird made a request to pull Item 6: “Customer Enrollment Update” from the Consent Agenda and move it to the Regular Agenda.”

Chair Braun announced to those present that Items 6 and 7 would be addressed first during the Regular Agenda.

Approval of January 24, 2019 Committee Meeting Minutes

Ms. Baird made a motion to approve the January 24, 2019 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Aulman. Motion passed unanimously with Yvonne Hunter and Christine Casey absent.

Regular Agenda: Receive Customer Enrollment Update

Ms. Baird asked reiterated Chair Braun’s request at the January 2019 CAC meeting, that information about NEM customers be added to the Customer Enrollment chart/update. Chair Braun suggested that possibly a pie chart of enrolled and not enrolled yet (potential). Chair Braun opened it up for Member discussion and public comment.

Public Comment: Mr. Williams commented that it is his thought that the CAC should be looking at the intended audience for this NEM information and suggested that showing how much people are saving through their enrollment might have more meaning and impact. For example: showing what people have saved and have VCE be able to drill down on the information when asked questions.

Ms. Shewmaker made a motion to receive the Customer Enrollment update as of February 21, 2019 and asked that Staff add NEM information to the updates that are provided, seconded by Mr. Aulman. Motion passed unanimously with Yvonne Hunter and Christine Casey absent.

Outreach Plan

Ms. Shewmaker asked for this item be pulled from the Consent Agenda because it does not address climate concerns. One of the items outlined in the CAC’s Progress Report dated December 2018, specifically in the Phase 2 portion outlining suggested projects and activities to be addressed in 2019, is to “encourage and inform public discourse regarding the need and urgency to address climate concerns”. Ms. Shewmaker made a motion to include in the Marketing and Communications Plan throughout, education on the urgency to address climate change, seconded by Chair Braun. Chair Braun opened it up for discussion.

After a thorough discussion, Ms. Shewmaker amended her motion to have Green Ideals, Staff, and the Outreach Committee include verbiage throughout the Plan about educating on the urgency to address climate change and recommend that the VCE Board of Directors approve the updated



Strategic Marketing & Communications Plan with the additional language, seconded by Mr. Aulman. Motion passed unanimously with Yvonne Hunter and Christine Casey absent.

Solar Home and Business/Rate Option Review

Chair Braun moved this item to after the videoconference call with Green Ideals, VCE's customer outreach and marketing consultant.

Videoconference Call with Green Ideals

Introduction of Susan Bierzychudek of Green Ideals, Valley Clean Energy's customer outreach and marketing consultant, to the Advisory Committee. Chair Braun thanked her for making herself available for this evening. She briefly reviewed first year goals and objectives and provided the status of a few of the projects currently being worked on with VCE Staff and Outreach Task Group.

Informational: Solar Home and Business Enrollment / 100% Renewable Rate Option Review

100% Renewable Rate Option Review: VCE Staff Jim Parks reviewed informational slides covering the cost of opting up to Ultra Green (100% renewable), estimated costs for local governments to opt up, and approximate costs for school districts to opt up. A question and answer period followed. It was suggested that larger window clings be made for businesses who have opted up.

Ms. Shewmaker made a motion to recommend to the Board to consider their individual Agencies (local governments) considering opting up their municipalities, seconded by David Springer. Chair Braun opened the floor for discussion.

It was suggested that Staff provide financial information (costs and benefits) on each jurisdiction, including calculations of greenhouse reduction, cost, etc., to the Board.

After some discussion, Ms. Shewmaker pulled her motion. Chair Braun made a motion to recommend to the Board to consider their individual Agencies (local governments) opting up to Ultra Green and request that Staff provide relevant cost and benefits to them at their next Board meeting, seconded by Mr. Springer. Motion passed unanimously with Yvonne Hunter and Christine Casey absent.

Solar Home and Business [(Net Energy Metering (NEM)] Enrollment: Ms. Baird provided a report from the Rates and Services Task Group. The task group reviewed solar home and business (Net Energy Metering "NEM") enrollment; looked at how to bring NEM customers to VCE sooner than scheduled; reviewed numerous different scenarios with a variety of factors; and looked at the possibility of bringing in residential customers prior to commercial customers. The task group always keeping in mind VCE's financials, PG&E bankruptcy and PCIA rates. The task group is very interested in moving forward with bringing in NEM customers as soon as possible. The task group would like to invite the other Members for their ideas, brainstorming and suggestions on ways to look at things.

A question and answer period followed, with suggestions that Staff and the task group look at NEM generation capacity and time of use.



**Rate Structure
Possible Dividend
Program for 2020
Fiscal Year**

Ms. Limcaco reviewed several slides that covered the following: background (slide 5), purpose of the staff report and presentation (slide 6), key considerations (slide 7), rate design impacts on customer op-outs (slide 8), financial stability (slide 9), necessary cash reserves (slide 10), allocation of surplus and options both local programs and/or dividend (slides 11-12), and allocation of net margin (slides 13-14).

A discussion of the information occurred resulting in several suggestions: 1) the possibility of a customer giving their dividend to a specific program of their choosing, 2) encourage and educate customers as to why they should opt up, and 3) the need for the CAC to discuss local programs.

Lastly, Ms. Limcaco reviewed the draft recommendation of the rate structure that will be presented to the Board at their March meeting asking for the Board's comments. Ms. Baird asked that if Members had ideas of local programs that they be brought to the Rates and Services Task Group.

**2019 Community
Advisory
Committee Task
Groups**

Chairperson Braun introduced this item and asked that each Task Group Chair briefly outline their charges.

- A. Introduce 2019 Task Group Chairs and receive / approve proposed Task Group charges for three (3) task groups:
 1. Outreach – Mark Aulman highlighted the charges.
 2. Legislative / Regulatory – Lorenzo Kristov highlighted the charges as Chair Yvonne Hunter was absent this meeting.
 3. Rates and Services - Ms. Baird highlighted the charges. David Springer asked to be excused from the task group due to conflicting schedules on Thursdays. Ms. Shewmaker asked Mr. Springer to do a presentation on local programs for the March 28th CAC meeting. Mr. Springer agreed to do a presentation.

Mr. Kristov made a motion to approve the 2019 Task Group charges, seconded by Mr. Aulman. Motion passed unanimously with Yvonne Hunter and Christine Casey absent.

- B. Ms. Shewmaker provided an update and informed those present that Interim General Manager Mitch Sears informed the CCAs on their CalCCA call that VCE's CAC was interested in interacting with other CCA advisory committees and if any of the CCAs had an issue to let him know. Ms. Shewmaker was informed that Mr. Sears will follow up with the CCAs again at their next CalCCA call to ensure that there are no objections to this request.

**Receive and
Amend 2019 CAC
Long Range
Calendar**

The CAC received a copy of the Board and CAC Long Range Calendar for 2019. It was requested that the local programs presentation by CAC Member David Springer be added to the March 28th meeting agenda.



**Advisory
Committee
Member and Staff
Announcements**

Mr. Kristov announced that at the next City of Davis Council Chambers meeting scheduled for next week on Tuesday, March 5th the Council will address and adopt a Climate emergency Declaration, thereby addressing the urgency to address climate change and to reiterate the city's dedication to this issue.

There were no other announcements.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the City of Woodland Council Chambers located at 300 1st Street, Woodland, California.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Alisa M. Lembke
Board Clerk/Administrative Analyst