MEETING MINUTES
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2019
1:00 PM

50 Santa Rosa Avenue, Fifth Floor, Santa Rosa, California

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dowd called the meeting to order at 1:00pm

Committee members present: Baldwin, Chaban, Como, Dowd, Mattinson, Nicholls, Quinlan, and Wells

Staff present: Geof Syphers, CEO; Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations; Jessica Mullan, General Counsel.

Director of Internal Operations, Stephanie Reynolds, updated the Committee on meeting management practices such as comment cards that have been introduced to ensure efficient meetings.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Public comment:
Deborah Tavares spoke on the Solaren agreement with PG&E and other matters.

III. COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve January 24, 2019 CAC Meeting Minutes

Public comment: none

Minutes of January 24, 2019 CAC meeting, adopted by general consent.

IV. COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR CALENDAR

2. Elect Chair and Vice Chair

Director Reynolds introduced the item by noting there is no limit to the number of terms that a Chair or Vice Chair may serve and that nominations may also be declined.
Motion to elect CM Dowd as Chair by CM Nicholls
Second: Vice Chair Mattinson

Chair Dowd accepted the nomination, noted his enjoyment of working throughout the years with SCP, and his appreciation for the efforts of his fellow members to ensure the Committee’s success. CEO Syphers then apprised the Committee on a written communication from CM Brophy detailing his support for Chair Dowd serving an additional term.

Motion passed: 8-0-0

Motion to elect CM Mattinson as Vice Chair by CM Quinlan
Second: Joel Chaban

Motion passed: 8-0-0

Public comment:
Deborah Tavares asked about liability issues associated with CAC members serving on the Committee as unelected appointees.

Chair Dowd requested GC Mullan to report back with concerns, if any.


Director Reynolds introduced this item by noting that the Cloverdale ProFIT project has given a 30-day notice of the project’s operational date. CEO Syphers then provided an update on PG&E’s bankruptcy, including SCP’s First Day Motions at bankruptcy court, and an agreement from PG&E that revenues collected on behalf of SCP belong to SCP, which allows revenues to continue to be paid to SCP throughout the bankruptcy process. Following this, CEO Syphers detailed CalCCA’s advocacy efforts and advised the Committee that he will continue to report out throughout the bankruptcy proceedings.

Chair Dowd asked about impact on ratepayer costs due to bankruptcy; CEO Syphers stated he can’t speculate about the magnitude at this time, but that SCP is committed to protecting customers.

CM Baldwin asked about the “wires only” option and implications for SCP and whether CCAs are supporting the “wires only” approach; CEO Syphers stated that CCAs are advocating “wires only” as it will allow greater focus on grid safety and reliability.

CM Quinlan asked if there is any material change in the relationship between SCP & PG&E related to the bankruptcy; GC Mullan stated that there are no material changes to report.
Director Reynolds then provided an update on the annual Form 700 filings, a 431 E St. value engineering meeting, EverGreen outreach to member jurisdictions, and current participation rates.

CM Quinlan asked about lower participation rates in unincorporated Mendocino County and Director Reynolds detailed possible factors such as a greater sense of individualism among Mendocino residents and an affinity for PG&E given the utilities maintenance of the grid in the County’s rural locations.

CEO Syphers then updated the Committee on the significant measured drop in customer load, including a recent meeting between SCP and PG&E staff, and a determination that a probable, but non-proven factor, is a decline in cannabis cultivation in the residential sector.

Following this, Director of Public Relations and Marketing, Kate Kelly, detailed SCP’s mission statement update, including efforts by a Board ad-hoc committee and stakeholder outreach. She then introduced the new mission statement, which is: Sonoma Clean Power is turning the tide on the climate crisis, through bold ideas and practical programs.

CM Nicholls asked about the load drop and whether other CCAs were seeing this same drop; Power Services Manager Rebecca Simonson detailed variation among some other CCAs she has surveyed, such as Redwood Coast and Peninsula Clean Energy.

Director Reynolds updated that Committee on a volunteer tree planting day that SCP staff will be participating in, the upcoming Rebuild Green expo, compiled monthly financial statements, and a Request for Proposals for vendors for the Energy Marketplace.

Public comment:

Deborah Tavares, spoke on PG&E outages and accounting for lost revenue in these instances, along with the proposed PG&E Solaren project.

4. Receive Legislative and Regulatory Updates and Provide Input as Appropriate

Director of Regulatory Affairs, Neal Reardon, introduced the Regulatory Update by noting the Energy Resource Recovery Account hearing set for Feb. 21st. He then apprised the Committee that the Alternate Proposed Decision, which as written by CPUC Commissioner Guzman Aceves, would prevent PG&E from increasing the PCIA fee in several ways. Director Reardon detailed the CPUC proposal to establish a single buyer for Resource Adequacy across the state and a recent update to the plan; he then noted that a number of IOUs have expressed concern about the
proposal so the CPUC will now hold a series of workshops with stakeholders as opposed to implementing the proposal in the immediate term.

CEO Syphers introduced the Legislative Update by noting that the deadline for putting bills into print is Feb. 22nd. He updated the Committee on AB56 by Garcia, which is a study bill to create a central statewide buyer for the purchase of Resource Adequacy and renewables for all utility providers; CEO Syphers advised the Committee that CalCCA voted to oppose this bill. He then stated that CalCCA has asked Senator McGuire to push a spot bill focused on IOUs and cost transparency. Finally, he noted that Senator Bradford has two bills—one of which is a spot bill concerning restructuring PG&E, and the other would require that all Load Serving Providers report on the population diversity, e.g., women-owned businesses, LGBTQI, disabled veterans, etc., of their contract recipients for energy and energy services.

CM Wells asked about the proposed Sempra Energy bill and what percentage of their territory has CCAs serving them; CEO Syphers confirmed that no CCAs currently serve Sempra’s service territory.

Public comment:

Deborah Tavares spoke on several topics including legislation and the composition of PG&E’s Board of Directors.

5. Review and Recommend that the Board Approve Proposed Budget Adjustments for FY 18/19 to Revenues, Energy Expenses, Service Fees to PG&E, Legal Fees, Program Expenses, and Several Additional Categories.

CEO Syphers introduced the item, which is a mid-year adjustment based on significant events such as the load drop, CPUC correction to billing services fees, and PG&E bankruptcy-related legal fees. He noted his recent request to SCP’s Programs department to slow the implementation of any new programs, as this will allow for increased reserves in advance of any adverse impacts to SCP’s budget from the PCIA decision. Finally, CEO Syphers addressed each budget item on a line-by-line basis.

*CM Nicholls left at approximately 2:28pm*

Public comment:

Deborah Tavares spoke about grants and the SCP budget.
Motion to recommend that the Board Approve Proposed Budget Adjustments for FY 18/19 to Revenues, Energy Expenses, Service Fees to PG&E, Legal Fees, Program Expenses, and Several Additional Categories by CM Wells

Second: CM Como

Motion passed: 7-0-0

6. Recommend that the Board Authorize the General Counsel to Amend SCP’s PG&E Bankruptcy-Related Legal Services Agreements with Boutin Jones, Inc. and Engel Law P.C.

General Counsel Jessica Mullan introduced item by noting that the agreements were necessary for legal work needed as a result of the PG&E bankruptcy and clarified the contract terms, scopes of service, and the total value of the agreements.

CM Quinlan asked about the need for two firms; General Counsel Mullan detailed the respective roles of two firms and the need for both.

CM Chaban asked about the not-to-exceed amount and whether that amount is enough; General Counsel Mullan stated the process for changing contract terms should the need arise.

CM Como stated his support for staff’s approach.

Public comment: none

Motion to recommend the Board Authorize the General Counsel to Amend SCP’s PG&E Bankruptcy-Related Legal Services Agreements with Boutin Jones, Inc. and Engel Law P.C. by CM Baldwin

Second: CM Chaban

Motion passed: 7-0-0

7. Recommend Board Approval of a Contract for Construction Management Services with Sixth Dimension, LLC. at 741 4th Street

Programs Manager Chad Asay detailed the agreement for the Advanced Energy Center, the competitive RFP process, and selection of Sixth Dimension, LLC. for construction management services.

CM Baldwin asked Counsel for any concerns she may have, and General Counsel Mullan advised CM Baldwin that the agreement contains SCP’s
standard terms and protections, and based on these factors, she does not have any concerns in awarding the contract.

CM Wells asked if Sixth Dimension is also the company providing construction management services for 431 E St.; Programs Manager Asay confirmed this is the case. Chair Dowd asked about progress of Center in terms of permitting and Programs Manager Asay stated that the project is still in design phase.

Public comment:

Deborah Tavares spoke about her construction background and increased electromagnetic frequencies that projects like this bring in.

Motion to Recommend Board Approval of a Contract for Construction Management Services with Sixth Dimension, LLC. at 741 4th Street by CM Mattinson.

Second: CM Baldwin

Motion passed: 7-0-0

V. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Dowd advised the group that CM Nicholls left early due to a previously noted commitment.

VI. ADJOURN

Chair Dowd adjourned the meeting at 2:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beau Anderson
Clerk of the Board