I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dowd called the meeting to order at 1:00pm and then requested a moment of silence for those affected by the Kincaide Fire.

Committee members present: Chair Dowd, and Members Chaban, Como, Fenichel, Nicholls, Sizemore, Quinlan, and Wells.

Staff present: Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer; Michael Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer; Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations; and Jessica Mullan, General Counsel.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

None.

III. COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve September 17, 2019 Draft CAC Meeting Minutes

2. Recommend that the Board Approve Amended and Restated Power Purchase Agreements with Bodega Energy West, LLC and Petaluma Energy East, LLC Under ProFIT Program

3. Recommend that the Board Approve First Amendment with Sixth Dimension for Contract Management Services to Increase the Budget by $74,849 for the Advanced Energy Center

4. Recommend that the Board Approve First Amendment with Sixth Dimension for Contract Management Services to Increase the Budget by $49,630 for the 431 E Street Headquarters Project

Motion to adopt the November 13, 2019 Community Advisory Committee Consent Calendar by CM Sizemore

Second: CM Nicholls

Motion passed: 8-0-0

IV. COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR CALENDAR

6. Receive Operations Report and Provide Input as Appropriate

Director of Internal Operations Stephanie Reynolds introduced two new staff members, Scott Lawrence, Commercial Accounts Specialist, and Scott Salyer, Programs Manager. She then provided an update on the Community Advisory Committee recruitment process and that the Board ad hoc directed staff to extend the deadline to allow for a greater pool of candidates. Director Reynolds noted that the Yearly Audited Financial Statements will be presented to the Board of Directors at their next meeting for approval; CEO Syphers stated that the audit did not make any material adjustments to the financial statements.

Public comment: None.

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

Chief Executive Officer Geof Syphers noted Director of Regulatory Affairs Neal Reardon was at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) submitting information regarding a potential plan for early prepayment of the Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) exit fee. CEO Syphers then detailed a recent deadline at the end of October for Resource Adequacy year-ahead compliance and challenges associated with market rules for the filing requirements changing at the last-minute. He noted that SCP was one of approximately nineteen entities that filed a request for waivers, which means that SCP was not able to fill 100% of its year-ahead Resource Adequacy obligations; similarly, PG&E and San Diego Gas and Electric were unable to fulfill their obligations. He then detailed PG&E’s waiver filing, which included comments that certain obligations that the CPUC assigned were impossible to fulfill, as the obligations were greater than the total amount of capacity that exists for at least one local area. CEO
Syphers described how SCP was within 1% of total obligations, and noted staff’s extraordinary efforts to fulfill the obligations.

Director of Customer Service Erica Torgerson updated the Committee on a CPUC filing that stated PG&E needs to show cause on why they should not be sanctioned by the Commission for failing to properly communicate with its customers, local governments, critical facilities, and public safety partners during the recent Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events. She then detailed another CPUC filing that ordered an investigation into whether the PG&E shutoffs were the “last option” available to the company to ensure public safety, and that SCP along with some other CCAs, requested an investigation into this matter, which the CPUC subsequently agreed to pursue.

Public comment: Deborah Tavares spoke about PG&E rates, electric vehicles, and PG&E controlling fuel sources for transportation.

8. Receive an Update on Advanced Energy Rebuild and Select an Option for an Advanced Energy Build Program in 2020 to Recommend to the Board for Approval

Director of Programs Cordel Stillman updated the Committee on the Advanced Energy Rebuild program which has received 180 applications to date and is set to expire at the end of December. He noted that PG&E will continue this program independent of SCP and will extend it throughout their service territory. He then detailed how staff is requesting that the Board reallocate any remaining program dollars into a proposed successor program, which would provide incentives for new all-electric residential construction and not just those rebuilding due to the 2017 wildfires. Director Stillman outlined staff’s preferred recommendation to fund up to 500 homes with a maximum budget amount of $2,816,500.

CM Nicholls noted his support for staff’s recommendations. CM Como suggested a name change for the proposed successor program to minimize confusion, since it is an entirely new program separate from the Advanced Energy Rebuild initiative.

Public comment:
Deborah Tavares spoke about REACH codes and PACE energy financing programs.
Barry Sovel spoke about supporting the Advanced Energy Build program.
Motion to recommend that the Board approve an Advanced Energy Build program in 2020 with a maximum budget amount of $2,816,500 for 500 homes by CM Quinlan.

Second: CM Nicholls

Motion passed: 8-0-0


CEO Syphers highlighted the challenges facing PG&E with grid reliability and grid safety, and outlined potential actions, if any, that SCP could take moving forward given these issues.

Director Stillman then spoke about current initiatives SCP is undertaking in these areas, such as: negotiating a contract for assisting commercial customers with energy audits to identify their energy needs during a planned power outage; entering an agreement with TerraVerde for analyzing municipal solar systems; looking at battery storage options for schools with significant solar systems; issuing a request for information to battery suppliers for additional information about the current state of the industry; developing a residential battery storage program which could roll out at start of the next fiscal year; working on an on-bill financing program for the Advanced Energy Center so customers can select energy-saving technologies and finance on their power bill; and potential microgrid projects for the community of Oakmont in East Santa Rosa.

CEO Syphers requested feedback from the CAC in the following areas: staff researching public ownership options; costs of taking over grid infrastructure; any of the items that Director Stillman mentioned (see above paragraph); and the potential responses outlined in the staff report for this item.

Chair Dowd stated his support for localized power in the form of microgrids and recommended that staff collaborate with local stakeholders to pursue opportunities in this area. CM Nicholls noted the need for providing power for local first responders such as fire stations—especially in rural areas—and his support for microgrids to ensure public safety. CM Como noted the value of microgrids but also highlighted more systemic issues around grid safety and reliability, which in his view, are largely the result of PG&E’s deferred grid maintenance and inaction by the CPUC from an oversight perspective. CM Wells suggested that staff explore providing technical assistance for customers who are considering installing backup battery
systems, given how challenging this process may be from a permitting and construction standpoint.

Public comment: Deborah Tavares spoke about the community’s experience during the PSPS event as well as risks with battery storage.

V. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

VI. ADJOURN

Chair Dowd adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beau Anderson
Clerk of the Board