



**MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2021  
8:45 A.M.**

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**\*\*\*\*GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20\*\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\*GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20\*\*\*\***

**\*\*RE CORONAVIRUS COVID-19\*\***

CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS N-25-20 AND N-29-20 WHICH SUSPEND CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE BROWN ACT, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS PARTICIPATED IN THE JUNE 3, 2021 MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE.

Prior to the meeting, the Alternate Director from the Town of Windsor, Esther Lemus, was sworn in by the Clerk of the Board.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Bagby called the meeting to order at approximately 8:49 a.m.

Board Members present: Chair Bagby, Vice Chair King, and Directors Landman, Peters, Elward, Slayter, Lemus, Gjerde, and Hopkins.

Staff present: Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer; Michael Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer; Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations; Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs; Rebecca Simonson, Director of Planning & Analytics; Chad Asay, Programs Manager; Joshua Nelson and Harriet Steiner, Special Counsel.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approve May 6, 2021 Draft Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
2. Approve an Extension of Customer Service Policy A.6a - 2020 COVID-19 Emergency Consumer Protection Policy

Public Comment: None

Motion to Approve the June 3, 2021 Board of Directors Consent Calendar by Director Hopkins

Second: Director Landman

Motion passed by roll call vote: 9 - 0 - 0

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR CALENDAR**

3. Receive Internal Operations and Monthly Financial Report and Provide Direction as Appropriate

Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer, and Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations, introduced SCP's new Special Counsel, Joshua Nelson from Best Best & Krieger, LLP. Outgoing Special Counsel, Harriet Steiner, expressed gratitude for her partnership with SCP as well as high praise for her colleague.

Special Counsel Nelson provided updates on the Governor's orders regarding the Brown Act waivers in place. Notice will be provided in advance when the waivers are rescinded, and in-person public meetings are required to resume. Due to ongoing changes, further updates are expected and will be discussed in upcoming meetings.

Director Reynolds then presented a video tour of the Advanced Energy Center (Center), which can be viewed at the following link: [Advanced Energy Center Virtual Tour](#), and announced the soft opening of The Center, scheduled on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

*Director Rogers joined the meeting at approximately 9:10 a.m.*

Director Hopkins asked questions about the incentives available for the technologies and services offered through the Energy Center, as well as barriers to participation in the incentives. Chad Asay, Programs Manager (PM), responded that all incentives, including the On-Bill Finance program, are currently live on the Advanced Energy Center website. PM Asay will be in contact with Director Hopkins to learn more about the barriers she encountered with her own project and the specifics of the situation.

Vice Chair King asked if there is a resource available that lists all the contractors and technologies they are trained on. PM Asay responded that all of that information is available through the website. A consumer can select the technology they are interested in, and they will be matched with a qualified contractor.

Director Peters requested that, when safe and possible to resume in-person meetings, PM Asay attend a Fort Bragg City Council meeting to present the video tour of The Center and answer questions in person.

Public Comment: None

4. Introduction to the Internal Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) Process

Rebecca Simonson, Director of Planning & Analytics, presented a high-level introduction of the Internal Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) process. She explained the goals and objectives of the process and that the public presentations and input portions of the process will take place during Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings. During the May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 CAC meeting, Ryan Tracey, Senior Energy Analyst, provided a full presentation of the process, which can be viewed at [this link](#); the slides shown were included in the 6/3/21 BOD packet materials. The first public input survey launched, in both English and Spanish, on 5/20/21 and will be posted on the SCP website when available.

Public Comment: None

5. Receive Legislative and Regulatory Updates and Provide Direction as Appropriate

The Legislative and Regulatory report began with brief updates from Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs, on the topics detailed in the staff report, including PCIA on IOU bundled bills, lump sum prepayment of the PCIA obligation, allocation of IOU resources, PG&E Wildfire liability costs, and the CPUC Order to investigate IOU PSPS practices.

CEO Syphers continued by providing an update on SB 612, which passed the Senate and will head to the State Assembly. He encouraged Directors and their respective jurisdictions to re-file their letters in support of the bill with the Chair Holden and the Assembly Energy and Utilities Committee. He then spoke briefly on AB 1139, which aims to reform Net Energy Metering. This Bill was amended again and while staff does not currently recommend any position on the Bill, they will continue to monitor its progress.

Director Rogers asked if CEO Syphers expects SB 612 to be retained as one of the author's Bills for the current year, or if it may be held and reintroduced next year. CEO Syphers responded that the Author, Senator Portantino, has already indicated he will maintain it as one of his twelve Bills for this year, however that does not preclude it from becoming a two-year Bill.

Public Comment: None

Chair Bagby called for a five-minute recess at 9:53 a.m.; the meeting resumed

at 9:59 a.m.

6. Adopt an Updated SCP Energy Risk Management Policy

CEO Syphers presented an updated Energy Risk Management Policy to the Board. The proposed Policy consolidated several existing Board-approved policies to create a more cohesive and clearer guide to procurement-related decisions while limiting the Authority's exposure to unnecessary risks.

Director Slayter asked if CalCCA is planning on instituting an industry-wide policy similar to this one. CEO Syphers replied that although CalCCA has not reached a conclusion, they are encouraging all member CCAs to improve their risk management policies. Director Slayter continued to ask whether staff is looking into obtaining a credit rating. CEO Syphers replied that in the past, he encouraged the Board not to pursue a credit rating, however the situations have changed and will reconsider this assessment. Finally, Director Slayter also requested staff keep the Board apprised of updates regarding Western Community Energy's bankruptcy declaration.

*Director Peters left the meeting at an unspecified time, between approximately 9:59 a.m. and 10:13 a.m.*

Public Comment: None

Motion to Adopt an Updated SCP Energy Risk Management Policy by Vice Chair King.

Second: Director Landman

Motion passed by roll call vote: 9 - 0 - 0

7. Approve the Proposed Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 with no Change to Rates on July 1, 2021

Michael Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer, provided a brief summary of the changes between the draft budget, which was discussed during the May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Board of Directors meeting, and the current proposed budget. The proposed budget, which, if approved, would be implemented at the start of the fiscal year on July 1, 2021, would not change customer rates until early 2022.

Director Landman asked how much it would cost SCP to subsidize customer rates even more, to eliminate the 5% difference between SCP's rates and PG&E's. CEO Syphers replied that it would cost approximately \$28 million per year in cash; SCP would use all of its reserves within 3 years to do this.

Director Landman then asked for some information on the results of the focus groups in terms of customer awareness and understanding of SCP. COO Koszalka answered that, anecdotally, customers primarily care that their bills are reasonable and that their lights come on. Staff also learned that an accessible source of credible information is important and that the Advanced Energy Center will play a key role in providing this resource. Additionally, staff will provide Spanish language outreach to Spanish-speaking customers in the future, but were advised to work through trusted community sources instead of directly delivering those messages.

Vice Chair King asked COO Koszalka to clarify the forecast projections and revenues.

Public Comment: None

Motion to Approve the Proposed Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 with no Change to Rates on July 1, 2021 by Director Gjerde.

Second: Director Elward

Motion passed by roll call vote: 9 - 0 - 0

8. Discuss the Development of a Community Engagement, Education, and Outreach Program and Provide Feedback and Direction as Appropriate

*Director Peters rejoined the meeting at approximately 10:42 a.m.*

Claudia Sisomphou, Communications Specialist, introduced what is known internally as the Empower program with an overview of the vision and purpose. This program will help SCP broaden its education and outreach efforts, strengthen community trust, and improve SCP's engagement with all customers.

Director Slayter asked for clarification on the usage of the \$40,000 from the Marketing Department's budget; Sisomphou described the existing Community Outreach program already in place, and elaborated on how this new Empower program would complement those efforts to allow SCP to fund other events and ideas that do not fit into the more rigid Community Outreach program guidelines. Director Slayter also advised that there may be some synergistic opportunities where the Advanced Energy Center could provide a venue or meeting place for community partners.

Public Comment: None

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

## **PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

Public Comment: None

## **ADJOURN**

Upon the guidance of Harriet Steiner, Special Counsel to the Sonoma Clean Power Authority, Chair Bagby adjourned the public meeting to enter into closed session at approximately 10:55 a.m.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board of Directors of the Sonoma Clean Power Authority considered the following in closed session:

### 9. Public Employment: Appointment - Special Legal Counsel

Closed session convened at approximately 10:55 a.m.

Closed session concluded at approximately 11:09 a.m.

There was no reportable action from Closed Session.

Respectfully submitted,



Beau Anderson  
Clerk of the Board