



**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 2021
8:45 A.M.**

******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, AND THE ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF SONOMA TO SHELTER IN PLACE TO MINIMIZE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS PARTICIPATED IN THE MARCH 4, 2021 MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bagby called the meeting to order at approximately 8:48 a.m.

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

Staff Members present: Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer; Mike Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer; Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations; and Harriet Steiner, Special Counsel.

II. BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve February 4, 2021 Draft Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
2. Delegate Authority to the CEO to Execute Fourth Amendment to Contract with Sixth Dimension LLC to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Amount by \$33,086 to \$393,979 through April 1, 2021 for the Advanced Energy Center
3. Delegate Authority to the Chief Executive Officer to Execute the Second Amended Agreement for Professional Services with Sixth Dimension, LLC, to increase the Not-to-Exceed Amount by \$330,277 to \$927,390 through August 31, 2021 for the SCP Headquarters Project
4. Delegate Authority to the CEO to Amend and Extend a Professional Services Agreement with TRC Engineers, Inc. for the Advanced Energy Build Program to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Contract by \$31,500 to \$2,848,000 and Extend the Term through December 31, 2022

5. Approve an Extension of Customer Service Policy A.6a – 2020 COVID-19 Emergency Consumer Protection Policy

Public Comment: None

Motion to Approve the March 4, 2021 Consent Calendar by Director Rogers

Second: Director Fudge

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

III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR CALENDAR

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

CEO Syphers began the report by announcing that the City of Petaluma voted to join EverGreen and then gave thanks to Vice Chair King and all those involved.

CEO Syphers continued with more news that the final one-megawatt ProFIT project achieved commercial operation marking the completion of the ProFIT program. He gave thanks to SCP staffers Rebecca Simonson and Nelson Lomeli for their work on the project.

CEO Syphers then added that California Community Power (CC Power) officially launched on February 17, 2021 and is currently made up of eight operating member CCA's from around California; Girish Balachandran from Silicon Valley Clean Energy was selected as Chair with Dawn Weisz from MCE as Vice Chair. The first goal for CC Power is joint procurement of long-duration storage. He continued with an update regarding a new compliance requirement from the CPUC regarding supplier diversity efforts; the full report was distributed to the Board following the meeting.

Cordel Stillman, Director of Programs, spoke on an electric bike incentive program that launched March 8, 2021. The program provides a \$1,000 incentive to income-qualified individuals in underserved communities to purchase an electric bike which is intended to be a means of transportation that could replace a vehicle.

Public Comment: Ben Peters commented about the electric bike program saying that he thinks it is a great program but advised there may be regulatory concerns due to weight limits, trail access, and transit.

Director Hopkins appreciated the public comment and recommended checking with RCPA/SCTA. Director Fudge added that e-bikes are allowed on SMART multi-use paths and on trains. Vice Chair King commented that this topic came up in the recent Petaluma City Council meeting and suggested that SCP look into the regulations and provide the information to participating customers.

Director Elward noted that Rohnert Park is a university town and recommended focusing on lighter weight and smaller e-bike options.

Director Landman recommended staff put together a guide covering standards and regulations for transit, paths, etc. that can be included in the packet when a customer is approved for their voucher to help guide their e-bike purchase.

Director Hopkins looks forward to learning more about the topic and would like to see a follow-up survey to find out how voucher recipients are using their e-bikes.

Director Rogers commented on a recent SCTA presentation that covered average car trip length statistics based on a 2017 survey. He later provided a link to the presentation - [available here](#). Cordel Stillman, Director of Programs, added information to help answer some questions brought up in the discussion. Participants in the voucher program will be asked to complete a survey; SCP is working with the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition on a number of areas including a safety class for participants, providing a free bike helmet, and they hosted a webinar about e-bikes which contained a lot of this information. The webinar will be on the website in the near future.

Director Elward asked about the possibility of an e-bike rental option. Director Stillman answered that some cities have instituted electric bike and scooter programs, but SCP is not considering a rental option at this time. Director Elward encouraged finding ways to make the program more inclusive and equitable.

Public comment: Eris Weaver from the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition joined the discussion late and did not hear all questions but said that there is already a lot of information available to help participants shape their decisions and further offered to answer any more questions.

7. Receive Legislative and Regulatory Updates, Approve Positions on AB 843 CCA Access to CPUC Bioenergy Funds, SB 612 Ratepayer Equity Act, HR 763 Carbon Fee and Dividend, and Provide Other Direction as Appropriate

Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs, provided a brief update about PG&E's rate change that was implemented on March 1st which affected three different categories of rates: energy generation, which directly affects PG&E customers only; transmission and distribution, which affects everyone regardless of service provider; and the exit fee (PCIA) which affects CCA customers, including SCP.

Public Comment on Regulatory Updates: None.

CEO Syphers continued with the legislative portion of the update. The CalCCA sponsored Senate Bill 612, which is authored by Senator Portantino and seeks to address the legacy contracts of the investor-owned utilities, is gaining support and now has 14 coauthors.

With direction from the Board, CEO Syphers provided a high-level overview of the bills listed in the packet materials and staff's recommended positions.

Director Gjerde expressed support for the bill by Congressman Mike Thompson (HR 848 - *bill number corrected from "HR 7330" in the original packet*) and recommends sending a letter of support as soon as possible.

Public Comment on Legislative Updates: None.

Director Landman recommended supporting SB 612 but would like to have more public input on AB 843 before recommending support.

Harriet Steiner, Special Counsel for Sonoma Clean Power Authority, advised that since the item is labeled as "Receive and File" on the agenda, any actions require a roll-call vote.

Motion to approve positions on AB 843, SB 612, HR 763, and the addition of HR 848 by Vice Chair King.

Director Rogers requested to exclude AB 843 from the action.

Vice Chair King amended the motion and removed AB 843 from the action; Motion to Approve Positions on SB 612, HR 763, and HR 848 [*note: bill number corrected following the motion and was originally listed as "HR 7330"*] by Vice Chair King.

Second: Director Rogers

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

Motion to return to the April meeting with more information on AB 843 by Vice Chair King.

Second: Director Landman

Motion passed by roll-call vote: 6-3-0

8. Receive Update on Vacancy on the Community Advisory Committee, Appoint ad hoc Committee for Recruitment and Provide Other Direction as Appropriate

CEO Syphers began by thanking Community Advisory Committee member Bill Mattinson, who recently resigned from the Committee. This resignation leads to an immediate vacancy on the Committee, in addition to the five upcoming vacancies later this year when terms end. CEO Syphers recommended the Board establish an ad hoc committee during this meeting, or soon after, to allow a reasonably long search period in order to find candidates that help the Committee's composition better reflect the communities that we serve.

Public Comment: Ben Peters recommended that staff research other CCA's to find out how they structure their committees and look for best practices.

Dick Dowd, current member of the Community Advisory Committee, notified the Board that during the CAC's last meeting on February 18, 2021, Mike Nicholls was elected as Chair and Karen Baldwin was re-elected as Vice Chair. He also recommended keeping the diversity, equality, and inclusivity of the Committee in mind.

Motion to approve the ad hoc committee consisting of Director Elward, Director Hopkins, Director Gjerde, and Director Slayter by Director Landman.

Second: Director Rogers

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

9. Receive Draft Programs Equity Framework and Provide Feedback and Direction as Appropriate

CEO Syphers reminded the Board that during his last performance review, he and SCP staff were tasked with working to develop an equity plan across every aspect of the organization. This process would begin with customer programs, move into community engagement education and outreach, and then move onto other aspects of the organization over time. The framework for customer programs will be building on the JPA about how we think about designing, operating, and evaluating customer programs and supplements the JPA's goals that are strictly environmental in nature. He sees this as a beginning of a process, a starting point, and is expected to naturally evolve over time.

Nelson Lomeli, Program Manager, echoed CEO Syphers' comment that this framework is a first step in striving to ensure that all of SCP's programs are serving all of its customers, specifically targeting customers in underserved, under-invested, and marginalized communities. He thanked the Greenlining Institute for their *"Equitable Building Electrification - A Framework for Powering Resilient Communities"* which was used as a basis for creating SCP's framework.

Program Manager Lomeli then provided a high-level overview of all steps included in the framework while emphasizing that it is not a plan or a program, but rather a guide on how SCP will develop future programs. As outlined in the report, there are multiple opportunities for the public to provide input on the framework.

Chair Bagby and Directors Fudge, Elward, Rogers, and Hopkins recommended several groups to contact for outreach purposes.

Vice Chair King suggested that Board members email recommendations rather than verbally give lists of groups; he also recommended involving high schools and thinks that the framework is excellent.

Public Comment: None.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Director of Internal Operations, Stephanie Reynolds, answered Vice Chair King's earlier question that the Advanced Energy Center's website is expected to launch the week of March 8, 2021.

Public Comment: None

V. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chair King announced that Petaluma City Council unanimously banned the construction of any future gas stations - the first city in the country to do so. He also commented on an article from the New York Times about battery storage in Utah apartment complexes being advertised as amenities.

Director Fudge stated that the Town of Windsor is still pushing to adopt EverGreen town wide.

VI. ADJOURN

Chair Bagby adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Beau Anderson
Clerk of the Board