

# MEETING MINUTES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2022 1:00 P.M.

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# \*\*\*\*AB 361\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*HYBRID MEETING (IN PERSON AND REMOTE ATTENDANCE)\*\*

CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF AB 361 WHICH SUSPENDED CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE BROWN ACT, MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE PARTICIPATED IN THE OCTOBER 20, 2022, MEETING IN PERSON AND BY REMOTE ATTENDANCE.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

(1:03 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:03:21)

Vice Chair Morris called the meeting to order.

Committee Members present: Vice Chair Morris, and Members Fenichel, Hollinshead, Dowd, Kelly, Wells, Nicholls, Booth, and Lipp. Chair Quinlan and Member Johnson were absent.

Staff present: Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer; Michael Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer; Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations; Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs; Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning and Analytics; Kate Kelly, Director of Public Relations and Marketing; Chad Asay, Director of the Advanced Energy Center; Chris Golik, Revenue Manager; Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning and Analytics; Brant Arthur, Program Manager; and April Varellas, Brand Manager.

## PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

(1:05 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:05:15)

Public Comment: Michael Heffler (email comment attached)

## **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR**

(1:07 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:07:23)

- 1. Approve September 15, 2022, Draft Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- 2. Receive the Geothermal Opportunity Zone Update
- 3. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve and Delegate Authority to the CEO or his Designee to Execute the Second Amendment to an Agreement with The Engine is Red, with a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$140,000
- 4. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve and Delegate Authority to the CEO or his Designee to Execute Agreement for Professional Services with Maher Accountancy Through June 30, 2024, with a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$450,000
- 5. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve Continued Use of Updated B-6 Rate Effective October 1, 2022

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve the October 20, 2022, Community Advisory Committee Consent Calendar, as corrected, by Member Nicholls

Second: Member Hollinshead

Motion passed by roll call vote

AYES: Morris, Fenichel, Hollinshead, Dowd, Kelly, Wells, Nicholls, Booth, Lipp ABSENT: Quinlan, Johnson

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR CALENDAR**

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

(1:10 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:10:43)

Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations, discussed trainings for teachers and field trips to the Advanced Energy Center (Energy Center). She also discussed Energy Center attendance and customer participation rates. Geof Syphers, CEO, stated that Leuwam Tesfai is the new Head of the Energy Division for the CPUC. He mentioned the upcoming 2022 - 27<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Parties Climate Talks which Directors Rogers and Elward will be attending along with representatives from the Sonoma County Board of

Supervisors and Sonoma Water. He added that SCP will help fill the funding gap for this trip with a \$35,000 donation.

Member Dowd requested more discussion regarding the water supply and the GeoZone. Vice Chair Morris asked if contractors interested in working with SCP customers to implement technologies through the Energy Center need to contact the Energy Center and Chad Asay, Director of the Energy Center, responded yes.

Public Comment: None

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

(1:23 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:23:29)

Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs, discussed PG&E applying with the California Public Utilities Commission seeking approval to transfer generation assets to a new subsidiary, Pacific Generation LLC and mentioned the first round of feedback is due November 1, 2022. Director Reardon discussed PG&E's plans to install "fast-trip" devices on sections of distribution lines which would shut the system off automatically if necessary and stated this is an issue SCP needs to look into.

Member Booth asked if other CCAs are involved in the discussion regarding the fast-trip system and Director Reardon responded that SCP is looking into working with other CCAs. Member Wells asked if this story was in the mainstream press and Director Reardon explained it had been mainly discussed in the energy press. Member Kelly asked if there is any evidence that fast-trip systems prevent fires and CEO Syphers responded that it is designed to be adjusted for sensitivity, so SCP will have to wait and see as there are still many unknows about the devices and how they will be utilized.

Vice Chair Morris asked if PG&E will be able to set up new power sources through Pacific Generation and Director Reardon answered that it is not what PG&E has described, but he would report back based on guidance in the application.

Public Comment: None

8. Receive Overview of Workplace Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Research Project Proposal and Provide Feedback as Appropriate

(1:44 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:45:02)

Brant Arthur, Program Manager, introduced this item by pointing to the SCP parking lot as an example of EV charging at the workplace and there has been a lot of interest in EV charging at workplaces. It is the goal of SCP to work with local businesses to allow affordable options for those who cannot charge at home. He stated that SCP would be looking for four businesses to work with. CEO Syphers added that SCP wants to pursue this program aggressively. Member Nicholls asked if there was a possibility that rates could be changed due to daytime charging. CEO Syphers responded that this would be important to watch and Rebecca Simonson, Director of Programs, added that one of the topics of this project will be to help inform SCP and test different rate structures without a rate overhaul.

## **Public Comment:**

Gerald Glaser explained that stationary storage is an expensive proposition, requested SCP work with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission on workplace charging.

Steve Pierce asked SCP to approach the West County School Board with their EV plan.

9. Discuss Future Opportunities for Distributed Renewable and Storage Resources within the Sonoma Clean Power Service Territory

(2:17 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:17:35)

CEO Syphers introduced this item as an extension of the same item from the September 15, 2022, meeting. He explained that while the discussion was brief the Committee did begin to incorporate the idea for distributed renewable and storage facilities in the desire to electrify everything.

Member Hollinshead stated that currently there is only one model of electrical distribution, and this is a problem if the world wants to hit its climate goals by 2040. Member Hollinshead further explained that he wanted to determine how to best use the electrical grid more efficiently. CEO Syphers responded that the most efficient use of the grid is an important goal.

Public Comment: Gerald Glaser said discussing this would be cost effective and worthwhile.

Steve Pierce stated that financing could be an SCP issue.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(2:49 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:50:13)

Member Hollinshead announced Ukiah City Utilities had created a program which is the equivalent of SCP's EverGreen program.

# **ADJOURN**

(2:50 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:50:33)

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darin A. Bartow, J.D. Clerk of the Board