

# MEETING MINUTES COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023 1:00 P.M.

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CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF AB 2449 WHICH SUSPENDED CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE BROWN ACT, MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE PARTICIPATED IN THE FEBRUARY 16, 2023, MEETING IN PERSON AND BY REMOTE ATTENDANCE.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

(1:02 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:02:42)

Chair Morris called the meeting to order.

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

Staff present: Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer; Michael Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer; Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs; Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations; Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning and Analytics; Kate Kelly; Director of Public Relations and Marketing; Chad Asay, Director of the Advanced Energy Center; and Carolyn Glanton, Programs Operations Manager.

Chair Morris stated that Item 10 would be heard before Item 9.

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

(1:04 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:04:13)

Public Comment: None

## **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR**

(1:05 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:05:29)

 Approve January 19, 2023, Draft Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

- 2. Receive Emergency Consumer Protections for Natural Disaster in Sonoma Clean Power Authority's Service Territory
- 3. Approve Rescheduling the Community Advisory Committee May 2023 Meeting Date to May 11, 2023
- 4. Receive Legislative and Regulatory Updates
- 5. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve the Proposed Budget Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve the February 16, 2023, Community Advisory Committee Consent Calendar by Member Dowd

Second: Member Nicholls

Motion passed by roll call vote

AYES: Quinlan, Morris, Dowd, Kelly, Wells, Nicholls, Booth, Lipp

ABSENT: Fenichel, Hollinshead, Johnson

## **COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR CALENDAR**

6. Discuss and Provide Feedback on Future Remote Meetings Pursuant to AB 2449

(1:08 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:08:38)

Josh Nelson from Best, Best and Krieger LLP, Special Counsel for SCP, discussed future remote meeting rules for the Board of Directors and Community Advisory Committee (CAC). He discussed different types of remote meetings including traditional public meeting rules, modified rules pursuant to AB 361, and new guidelines pursuant to AB 2449. He stated that the rules under AB 361 would end March 1, 2023.

Member Nicholls asked if the remote locations should be accessible, per the American Disabilities Act, and Special Counsel Nelson answered that yes this is the best practice. Geof Syphers, CEO, added that the new rules apply only to Committee Members and not the public. Special Counsel Nelson said that Members must request the ability to attend remotely. CEO Syphers requested Committee Members notify the Clerk of the Board and/or himself of anticipated absences to aid with ensuring the meeting can proceed with a quorum.

Special Counsel Nelson added that a quorum of the Committee must attend from a single physical location within SCP's jurisdiction and any Member attending virtually will have to have their camera on. Vice Chair Quinlan asked if there were any additional restrictions for Members attending outside of the Continental U.S. and Special Counsel Nelson answered that there were not.

Public Comment: None

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

(1:25 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:25:29)

Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations, reminded the Committee of the upcoming tour of the Geysers Geothermal Facility. She announced Point. Arena became the first city in Mendocino County to switch accounts over to EverGreen. Chad Asay, Director of the Advanced Energy Center (Energy Center), gave an update on the Energy Center and the milestones reached which included surveying customers, educating youth, and Congressional visits. Director Reynolds then spoke about the Water and Energy education program. CEO Syphers discussed the Census Track participation report which showed customer participation rates by area in SCP territory.

Member Nicholls asked what outreach was being done regarding energy education in West Sonoma County Schools and Director Reynolds responded that she would provide him with the data. Member Dowd spoke about businesses and energy efficiency. Chair Morris stated that an energy toolkit would be useful to have at the Energy Center and CEO Syphers responded that SCP's existing toolkits can be checked out for free at local libraries.

Public Comment: None

8. Recommend the Board Authorize the CEO or his Designee to Execute Geothermal Opportunity Zone (GeoZone) Cooperation Agreements with Chevron New Energies, Cyrq Energy Inc., and Eavor Inc

(1:45 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:44:57)

This item was split into three separate votes and public comments on each perspective Cooperation Agreement.

Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning and Analytics, gave a background on the GeoZone and explained the Cooperation Agreements were with Chevron New Energies, Cyrq Energy Inc., and Eavor Inc. He explained that staff had put

together the three Cooperation Agreements that will allow them to demonstrate their technology and if successful, the technology will be scalable.

Member Wells asked if Lake County was included in the discussions and CEO Syphers responded that they were, but Lake County Supervisors want to understand the specifics of what is involved before considering joining the GeoZone and SCP will continue to work with them. Member Lipp asked about Federal grants for Cyrq and Director Tracey responded that they were due soon. Chair Morris asked if language regarding obtaining permits is included in the in the agreements and Director Tracey answered that permits are necessary but not a prerequisite to the agreements. Chair Morris also asked if local tribes had been brought into the discussion and CEO Syphers said that two had been in discussions with SCP, but Director Tracey explained that none of the contracts were currently contemplating projects on tribal land. Chair Morris asked if each contract anticipated scaling up to 200 MW if the pilot projects were successful and Director Tracey answered in the affirmative. Chair Morris expressed that Chevron brings a history of fossil fuels with it and CEO Syphers explained that he has communicated those same concerns with Chevron from the first meeting as well.

Motion to Recommend the Board Authorize the CEO or his Designee to Execute Geothermal Opportunity Zone (GeoZone) Cooperation Agreement with Chevron New Energies by Vice Chair Quinlan

Second: Member Wells

Public Comment: Woody Hastings raised concerns as to a contract with Chevron.

Motion passed by roll call vote

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

Motion to Recommend the Board Authorize the CEO or his Designee to Execute Geothermal Opportunity Zone (GeoZone) Cooperation Agreement with Cyrq Energy Inc. by Member Dowd

Second: Vice Chair Quinlan

Public Comment: Woody Hastings encouraged SCP to maintain engagement with stakeholders and outreach regarding the Geysers.

Motion passed by roll call vote

AYES: Quinlan, Morris, Dowd, Kelly, Wells, Nicholls, Booth, Lipp

ABSENT: Fenichel, Hollinshead, Johnson

Motion to Recommend the Board Authorize the CEO or his Designee to Execute Geothermal Opportunity Zone (GeoZone) Cooperation Agreement with Eavor by Vice Chair Quinlan

Second: Member Dowd

Public Comment: None

Motion passed by roll call vote

AYES: Quinlan, Morris, Dowd, Kelly, Wells, Nicholls, Booth, Lipp

ABSENT: Fenichel, Hollinshead, Johnson

9. Discuss 2023 Community Advisory Committee Goals

(2:50 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:50:12)

This item was heard after Item 10.

Chair Morris opened the conversation into the Committee's goals for 2023 by asking the Committee for input. Vice Chair Quinlan requested, and Ad Hoc Committee be established to discuss further and bring recommendations back to the CAC.

Member Wells stated that this was just the beginning of the conversation. CEO Syphers clarified that the Committee should not only ask itself what SCP is not doing effectively, but also point out what is working and what should be amplified. He stated that the Committee should create milestones and take into consideration what SCP and the Committee can achieve in a current year.

Member Nicholls stated that the Committee needs to be more proactive with the community and equity and Vice Chair Quinlan stated that there should be more diverse voices on the Committee.

Chair Morris created an Ad Hoc Committee made up of Member Wells, Vice Chair Quinlan, and a third member to be appointed after the meeting to provide the opportunity to Members who were absent.

Vice Chair Quinlan requested that this item be added to the CAC Agenda in March.

Public Comment: Woody Hastings discussed community-based organizations, CCA promotion and expansion, and distributed energy resources for grid reliability.

10. Review Programs Strategic Action Plan and Provide Feedback as Appropriate

(2:17 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:17:33)

This item was heard before Item 9.

Carolyn Glanton, Programs Operations Manager, presented the Draft Strategic Action Plan (the Plan) and thanked the Programs Team. She stated that the Plan was intended for SCP customers and partners and combined the equity framework, near term actions, long term goals, and strategies to address the climate crisis. She stated that the next step was to create a metric for programs. She then invited the Committee to share their ideas.

Member Lipp mentioned that the CPUC recategorized statewide new construction as market transformation over energy savings. Vice Chair Quinlan stated that SCP may want to reconsider Objective 1.4 to take into consideration the value of injecting funding and CEO Syphers stated that SCP would take that into consideration. Chair Morris stated that the GridSavvy Rewards Program e-cards option was too cumbersome, and Ms. Glanton stated that it would not be done in the future. Member Nicholls asked what the average rebate was under GridSavvy and Kimberly Beltran, Technical Programs Manager, answered that it was between \$20-\$40. Chair Morris asked if the Energy Center could explain incentives under the Inflation Reduction Act.

Public Comment: None

11. Receive 2022 Annual Report

(3:14 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 02:14:26)

Kate Kelly, Director of Public Relations & Marketing, discussed SCP's 2022 Annual Report entitled "Powering Everyday Moments." She pointed out the highlights including Notes from the CEO, the Advanced Energy Center, Fast Charge for All, Power Procurement, Leadership, Financials, and Caring for Customers.

Member Wells asked if the Brand Awareness Survey would be repeated, and Director Kelly answered yes it would annually. Chair Morris asked how the Annual Report was distributed and Director Kelly answered that it was

distributed electronically and was available on the SCP website. Member Nicholls mentioned that the City and County of San Francisco were using QR Codes in their Annual Report to point to detailed information and this may be a good way for SCP to get more information out.

Public Comment: None

# **COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(3:22 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 02:22:15)

None.

## **ADJOURN**

(3:22 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 02:22:42)

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

**Respectfully Submitted,** 

Darin A. Bartow, JD Clerk of the Board