MEETING MINUTES
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025
1:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

(1:00 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:00:06)

Chair Lipp called the meeting to order.

Committee Members present: Chair Lipp, Vice Chair Kelly, Members Hollinshead, Soto, Dowd, Wang, Hagen, Heffler, and Nicholls. Member Morris was absent.

Staff present: Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer; Michael Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer; Garth Salisbury, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations; Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs; Miles Horton, Legislative Policy & Community Engagement Manager; Chris Golik, Senior Finance Manager; Ryan Tracey, Director of Planning & Analytics; Darin Bartow, Compliance Manager; Danielle McCants, Customer Operations Manager; Carolyn Glanton, Programs Operations Manager; Leif Christiansen, Commercial Accounts Manager; Karen Flores, Clerk of the Board

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSENT CALENDAR

(1:03 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 00:02:45)

1. Approve July 17, 2025, Draft Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
2. Receive Monthly Financial Report
3. Receive Geothermal Opportunity Zone Update
4. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve the Proposed Budget Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 to Allocate the Board-Approved $500,000 Grant for The Economic Launchpad Hub to the Marketing & Communications Budget Line
5. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve and Delegate Authority to the CEO or Designee to Execute an Agreement for Professional Services with

Maher Accountancy for an Amount Not-to-Exceed $982,044, through June 30, 2028

6. Recommend the Board of Directors Adopt Resolution 2025-05 Attesting to the Accuracy of Sonoma Clean Power Authority's 2024 Power Source Disclosure Annual Report
7. Approve Community Advisory Committee Meeting Dates for 2026 Calendar Year
8. Recommend the Board of Directors Adopt Resolution 2025-06 Delegating Investment Authority to the Treasurer
9. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve Adding Sonoma Clean Power Authority's Chief Financial Officer to the Authority's Energy Risk Management Policy

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve the September 18, 2025, Community Advisory Committee Consent Calendar by Member Dowd

Second: Member Nicholls

Motion passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Lipp, Kelly, Hollinshead, Soto, Dowd, Wang, Hagen, Heffler, Nicholls

ABSENT: Morris

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGULAR CALENDAR

10. Receive Internal Operations Report and Provide Feedback as Appropriate

(1:05 p.m. – Video Time Stamp: 00:04:45)

Stephanie Reynolds, Director of Internal Operations, discussed the various types of events hosted at the Customer Center and relayed the recruitment opening for the Community Advisory Committee. Leif Christiansen, Commercial Accounts Manager, provided an update on efforts to help small businesses reduce their electricity costs. Member Heffler shared that he met the manager of Grocery Outlet and believes they could benefit from speaking with Mr. Christiansen regarding the spike in their usage and electricity cost and offered to connect the two. Vice Chair Kelly asked if SCP performs rate analyses prior to visiting customers onsite. Mr. Christiansen explained how customers were proactively identified for this process, including the rate analysis tool. Member Soto commented on the indirect financial benefits that customers could be seeing as part of participating in the Commercial Energy Assistance Program. Member Nicholls asked if SCP has worked with the agricultural community on rate payer savings. Mr. Christiansen shared that SCP has worked with Sonoma County Wine Growers, including hosting a webinar on how to read their bills for their members.

Garth Salisbury, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, provided some background regarding the rate change that occurred on September 1st. He explained that the adjustment is designed to build some additional reserves as regulatory and market uncertainties are likely to significantly impact customer rates in 2026 and 2027. Geof Syphers, Chief Executive Officer, explained that SCP has reserves to help stabilize customer rates. Member Nicholls expressed concern for newer Community Choice Aggregators (CCA) who might not have reserves to pull from. Vice Chair Kelly asked if SCP automatically adjusts rates if PG&E changes their rates to which CEO Syphers replied SCP does not in part because SCP tries to stabilize rates as much as possible with fewer rate changes throughout the year. CEO Syphers provided an update on Lake County expansion discussions and outreach.

Public Comment: None

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

(1:44 p.m. – Video Time Stamp: 00:43:40)

Neal Reardon, Director of Regulatory Affairs, provided an update on the California Public Utilities Commission CPUC's recent PCIA decision, which now calculates customer credits using a blend of recent and historical market prices. Director Reardon shared that the County of Sonoma submitted a Public Records Act (PRA) request to the CPUC. Chair Lipp asked about the CPUC's PRA response deadline. Director Reardon also discussed progress under SB 1221, which requires utilities to identify 30 communities ready for full electrification. He said SCP is participating to identify opportunities within its service area and support statewide implementation. CEO Geoff Syphers emphasized that electrification not only supports climate goals but also helps avoid future financial burdens from maintaining gas infrastructure. He said SCP aims to reduce reliance on gas to protect future generations from these costs.

Chair Lipp asked what the decarbonization effort looks like for SCP jurisdiction. Member Dowd inquired about programs to help customers electrify their homes. Director Reardon shared theswitchison.org, a website customers can use to find state and local incentives. Director Reardon added that Governor Newsom issued an executive order which aims to fast-track energy projects eligible for federal tax credits by 2027, directing agencies to identify and accelerate qualifying developments. He said it's unclear whether the focus is on existing or new contracts, but welcomed the emphasis on transmission planning, noting that rushed procurement without infrastructure readiness leads to higher costs and delays. Lastly, he shared how SCP met with the governor's senior energy advisor, who was receptive to concerns about affordability and supportive of SCP's transmission advocacy.

Miles Horton, Legislative Policy & Community Engagement Manager, shared updates on SCP's sponsored geothermal bills: AB 527, which exempts exploration wells from CEQA, and AB 531, which streamlines approval for geothermal projects under 50 MW. HE said both bills await the governor's signature. Mr. Horton also noted that the legislature passed a climate and energy bill package, including renewal of the cap-and-trade program and SB 254, which SCP supported for its provisions on public financing of transmission infrastructure. Member Hollinshead asked what it would look like for the GeoZone project if the governor signs the two bills. CEO Syphers explained that SCP advocates for federal investment to de-risk initial projects, citing Utah's FORGE model as an example that spurred private sector growth, created jobs, and reduced costs.

Public Comment: None

12. Receive an Update on Sonoma Clean Power Authority's Internship Program Structure and Recent Developments

(2:11 p.m. – Video Time Stamp: 01:10:00)

Danielle McCants, Customer Operations Manager, provided an update on SCP's internship program. Chair Lipp and member Heffler expressed their gratitude and praise for the program. Member Wang asked if students with specific majors are recruited. Ms. McCants explained that students from all majors are encouraged to apply.

Public Comment: David Harris expressed appreciation for the value SCP provides through its internship program, noting that it is a benefit not widely known to the public. Eli Weinsweig, Executive Director of the CTE Foundation, thanked SCP for continued partnership and creating opportunities for young people.

13. Recommend the Board of Directors Approve and Authorize the Chief Executive Officer or His Designee to Negotiate and Execute Professional Services Agreements with All In Heating and Cooling LLC (Not-To-Exceed $130,000) and Synergy Companies, Inc. (Not-To-Exceed $488,000) For Smart Thermostat Installations and Appliance Assessments, Both Through December 31, 2027

    (2:30 p.m. – Video Time Stamp: 01:29:35)

    Carolyn Glanton, Programs Operations Manager, presented an update on a new initiative aimed at expanding customer participation in the GridSavvy Rewards program through increased access to smart thermostats. Ms. Glanton explained that while customers can currently purchase discounted devices or enroll their own, many face challenges with installation. She explained that in an effort to resolve this, SCP would like to partner with two contractors: All-In Heating and Cooling LLC for Mendocino County and Synergy Companies, Inc. for Sonoma County. Ms. Glanton detailed the potential partners' involvement: they will install smart thermostats at no cost for low-income CARE/FERA customers with central air conditioning, enroll the devices in the program, and collect appliance data to support future SCP initiatives. She explained that installers will also educate customers about the program and device functionality with the goal being to complete 1,000 installations by the end of 2027.

    Member Hollinshead asked if the installation price also includes the thermostat itself. Ms. Glanton explained that the smart thermostat is not included in the price. Chair Lipp recommended that SCP think about tracking a variety of benefits of the program.

    Public Comment: John Bechtel spoke about the average cost of the unit and installation per a Google search. Michael Koszalka, Chief Operating Officer, explained that the cost also includes an appliance saturation survey which includes documenting every energy using appliance in the house, which will be valuable information that will help SCP design programs in the future.

Motion to Recommend the Board of Directors Approve and Authorize the Chief Executive Officer or His Designee to Negotiate and Execute Professional Services Agreements with All In Heating and Cooling LLC (Not-To-Exceed $130,000) and Synergy Companies, Inc. (Not-To-Exceed $488,000) For Smart Thermostat Installations and Appliance Assessments, Both Through December 31, 2027, by Member Hollinshead

Second: Member Heffler

Motion passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Lipp, Kelly, Hollinshead, Soto, Dowd, Wang, Hagen, Heffler, Nicholls

ABSENT: Morris

COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

(2:43 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:42:55)

Vice Chair Kelly shared his thoughts on a challenge within his field of affordable housing, where when more housing is created it brings the price of housing down which creates fear within the community. He wondered how similar dynamics may be at play within the energy sector.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

(2:46 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:46:16)

Public Comment: David Harris explained that he has used PG&E's rate analysis tool and will be going to the SCP Customer Center to see what SCP's rate analysis will suggest.

ADJOURN

(2:48 p.m. - Video Time Stamp: 01:47:22)

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Flores

Karen Flores
Clerk of the Board