



***SONOMA CLEAN POWER -- BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
(BOC)***

Record of Proceedings for January 21, 2014

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 9:02 A.M.

Attendance:

Susan Briski, Harry Davitian, Michael Gogna, Bill Mattinson, Paul Brophy, CEO Geof Syphers, SCPA Counsel Steve Shupe, SCP Executive Assistant Stephanie Reynolds, and over forty members of public present.

Amendment to Agenda:

Chair Briski noted that item number three, "Discussion on agenda items for future meetings," would be moved to the end of the agenda, to follow the Resource Planning discussion.

Selection of a Vice Chair:

A review of the duties of the Vice Chair provided by Chair Briski and CEO Syphers. Discussion on the benefits of having the roll filled by a four-year board member.

Public Comment: None

Motion by CM Gogna to appoint CM Davitian fill the roll.
Motion Seconded by CM Paul Brophy.

Action approved by unanimous vote: 5-0-0.

Approval of the November 18, 2013 and December 4, 2013 Meeting Minutes:

Approval of the November 18, 2013 BOC meeting minutes requested. A grammatical error noted by CM Brophy.

Public comment: None

Motion to approve as amended by CM Gogna

Motion Seconded by CM Davitian.

Action approved on a 4-0-1 vote with an abstention by CM Brophy, who was absent on the 11/18 meeting date.

Approval of the December 4, 2013 minutes of the joint Business Operations and Ratepayer Advisory Committees requested.

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve by CM Davitian.

Motion Seconded by CM Harry, Second by CM Mattinson.

Action approved on a 5-0-0 vote.

SCP Planning Workshop (info only)

Presentation by CEO Syphers. Welcome by Syphers and thank you to the public for attending the meeting.

Dates and times for upcoming public workshops noted for those present (2/13 in Sonoma, 2/20 in Santa Rosa and 3/1 in Sebastopol). Interested parties were encouraged to visit the newly redesigned website, which will be unveiled on 1/31 for more information.

Slides reviewed the plans offered by SCP; planning for future energy procurement, how future events (such as drought) may affect procurement, and how the process is open for input and will evolve and be improved on as SCP moves forward with the current, self-imposed, timeline.

A thank you to outside groups such as Net Zero Energy and the Climate Protection Campaign (Woody Hastings present at meeting), and to many members of the public for offering input and advice.

July of 2014 was stated as the target for a draft resource plan.

Discussion on the creation of an “open season” for presentations by energy providers wanting to sell energy to SCP. By channeling these conversations into a short time period each year, SCP staff can limit the time spent evaluating proposals and focus on the other tasks of providing customer service and other program work. The committee responded favorably to this idea.

Metrics for the tracking of SCP’s progress were noted as critical for future planning. In addition to the metrics offered by staff, a request was made that staff recommend a general financial metric.

Staff recommended using the percentage of eligible customers participating in SCP. The committee recommended tracking reasons customers choose to opt out.

Staff recommended tracking the pounds of CO2-equivalent emissions per kilowatt-hour. The committee recommended taking care to somehow recognize the value of customer-owned renewable energy production.

Staff recommended tracking the portion of money spent inside Sonoma County. The committee responded with significant concerns and caution because of the inherent difficulty in determining appropriate value for many types of transactions. Two examples included payments to companies with out-of-county headquarters but using local staff and payments to local companies using foreign-made equipment.

The committee also asked staff to consider how metrics on a per-capita basis might be useful.

Discussion was held on the upcoming public workshops and format. CEO Syphers stated the primary purpose of the workshops is to listen to the public and receive ideas now that SCP is a “real” entity. Basic grounding and introduction will be needed but the intent will not be to spend the entire workshop on education. The goal is to receive good quality input from the public.

Changes to website discussed, including an opt-out button equal in size to the SCP options. Transparency and honesty cited as important factors in the design of the home page and how the options were listed. Ads and educational messages will also be in print media and radio to outreach to potential customers not using the internet.

Chair Briski suggested a similar method as Interface Flor by adopting a high-level goal and creating a step-wise approach to making progress toward that goal.

CEO Syphers suggested that in February and March that the BOC review ideas proposed by the public and return for discussion at the April committee meeting for review. CM Gogna asked staff to recommend criteria for evaluating these proposals.

CM Mattinson commented that the SCP JPA lists specific mandates to follow, not goals. CM Gogna echoed that comment, noting that the JPA describes the purpose for SCP to exist.

CM Gogna stated the need for an SCP Controller to be in place. CEO Syphers stated that the current controller for SCP is the County of Sonoma Auditor Controller.

Reminder that new items to be brought forward on agendas are to be communicated through the Chair who will discuss the priority of agendaizing the item with CEO Syphers.

Items pending for possible discussion at future meetings include:

- Consideration of issues relating to customer service functions, particularly a local or internally-staffed customer call center, including the timing of a transition from contracted service.

- Consider formation of an ad hoc committee (2 members) to review contract negotiations.
- Discuss and have presentations on energy efficiency strategies, portfolio elements and the need to have flexibility to purchase more or less local power based on need.
- Resource planning. If an ad-hoc committee is formed to handle this topic, CM Davitian volunteered to be on the committee.
- Discuss criteria for reviewing proposed program and procurement activities.
- Report out from upcoming public workshops in February and March, to include public comments.
- Updates on status of non-participating cities (info only).
- Any information needed to make the launch successful.
- Prioritization of JPA goals

Public comment:

Ann Hancock, Alan Strachan, Bob Williamson, Woody Hastings, Ned Orrett, Peter Hirst, Dave Erickson, Andy Ferguson, Gary Gerber, Richard Sachen, John Rosenblum, Ken Wells, (Unk speaker), June Brashares, Frank Di Massa, Roy Phillips, Barbara Oldershaw

Agenda Items and Ideas for Future Meetings:

Direction to staff to have a rolling list of suggested future agenda items included with each agenda packet.

Future Meeting Dates:

February 26 - 9:00 A.M. - Noon

March 26, 2014 - 9:00 A.M. - Noon

April 23, 2014 - 1:00-4:00 PM

Public Comment on Matters Not Listed on the Agenda:

There was no public comment on non-agenda items.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned by Chair Briski at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Stephanie Reynolds