



SONOMA CLEAN POWER AUTHORITY  
BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 23, 2016

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting called to order by BOC Chair Dowd at 9:00 A.M.

Committee members present: Dick Dowd, Ken Wells, George Beeler, Bill Mattinson, Paul Brophy

Staff Present: CEO Geof Syphers, General Counsel Steve Shupe, Director of Programs Jan McFarland, Internal Operations Manager Stephanie Reynolds

**II. BUSINESS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REGULAR CALENDAR:**

1. **Approve the April 21, 2016 meeting minutes of the Sonoma Clean Power Business Operations Committee (9:00 A.M.)**

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve minutes, as presented by CM Wells

Seconded by CM Mattinson

Motion approved 4-0-1 (Brophy, abstain)

2. **Receive update on Operations and financial performance. Discuss programs and regulatory issues and provide direction as appropriate (9:02 A.M.)**

CEO Syphers updated committee members on current news including: PG&E Diablo Nuclear Plant closing by 2025; Peninsula Clean Energy hired Chief Executive Officer, Jan Pepper; Silicon Valley Clean Energy hired CEO Tom Habashi and plans to start service in the summer of 2017. Visits to the Mendocino County is still deliberating on whether or not they would want service from Sonoma Clean Power and has asked for a more detailed proposal..

Chair Dowd asked for more info on what the goals are for other newly formed CCA programs and if they compare with SCP's goals. CEO Syphers stated there is not enough information on the new CCA programs, yet. He also reported on a newly formed trade association, which would aid CCAs to have a more unified voice at the CPUC and during the lawmaking process. The trade association's goal is to come up with a funding structure and potentially hire staff in 2017. Dues for the association have not been finalized but are estimated at \$50,000 per year, per member agency, with a possibility of different types of membership. Chair Dowd expressed the importance of the trade association starting and the need to stay abreast of lobbying issues.



*Business Operations Committee Meeting  
June 23, 2016*

Six Electric Vehicle (EV) test drive events are planned for 2016

Discussion on future marketing campaigns. CEO Syphers stated that EverGreen and other specific programs will be a focus of future marketing efforts.

CM Beeler asked about SCP's work on fuel switching. Programs Director Jan McFarland stated that the current focus is on the EV program but SCP will be working towards pilot programs to get Sonoma County off of fossil fuels in homes and businesses.

Public Comment:

Andy Ferguson asked about SCP's Regulatory Manager's roles in CPUC proceedings. CEO Syphers stated there is a current need to deal with regulatory issues in house and the newly formed trade association can support with legislature and CPUC issues to coordinate a response with other CCA programs. SCP still needs to be present as an individual entity.

**3. Receive report and presentation on electric vehicle program planning and provide direction as appropriate (9:32 A.M.)**

CEO Syphers provided a detailed presentation on program activities and what SCP is planning for the future programs. Long term efforts are needed to maintain local control of programs. SCP continues to look for opportunities to work with local entities to grow programs and offer help to the community. He also spoke about the need to strategize management of energy load with increased solar in the mix. Over production negatively impacts values. Work to self-balance and match needs to supply is a Programs focus.

Brandt Arthur from the Regional Climate Protection Authority/Sonoma County Transportation Authority (RCPA/SCTA) was present and spoke on work he is doing on mapping infrastructure locations for EV charging stations.

Programs Director Jan McFarland spoke about working to increase smart charging during the day, expanding the market for local energy, both solar and geothermal. SCP is working in partnership with the California Independent Systems Operator, Lawrence Berkeley National Labs, and the SCTA/RCPA to expand use of EVs in Sonoma County. The Drive Evergreen program's early strategies include building on the experience of driving EVs, increasing driver acceptance/interest and to recruit daytime charging locations.

SCP is also working with SCWA to explore the load shaping of energy use when water pumping.



*Business Operations Committee Meeting  
June 23, 2016*

*Recess for break at 10:28 A.M.  
Reconvene from Break at 10:38 A.M.*

CM Mattinson asked about the financial commitment to start the EV program. CEO Syphers responded that the discounts on vehicles is to be provided by manufacturers, with a possible additional incentive to low income/CARE customers and that SCP is coordinating with PG&E to ensure there will not be a conflict. CM Wells suggested a battery warranty would provide peace of mind on used vehicles and that programs should be easy to find and easy to use. He suggested a multi-year program budget. CM Beeler spoke on the issue of finding trained electricians familiar with the variety of EV charging stations available. CM Brophy commented on the confusion between SCP's EverGreen product and the Drive Evergreen Program.

Programs Director Jan McFarland stated the window of opportunity for bulk purchases would be specific and limited. Incentive funds provided by SCP would be ongoing, only limited by a set number to ease budget tracking. She stated service to the low income/disadvantaged community is something SCP is taking seriously, starting with definitions present in CARE-FERA programs.

Chair Dowd spoke about a long-term budget and how that may not be practical, locking in a budget for a set time period. Important to stay nimble while going forward as new technology and obstacles come about.

Public Comment:

Doron Amran noted a local group driving around the world in EVs. There are long-range goals and there needs to be a focus on dealers who do not make money on cars, but on service. CEO Syphers stated that SCP will be focusing the story to the public on low maintenance costs.

Mike Nicholls thanked staff and committee for presentation and comments. He stated the importance of dealing with range anxiety and that GIS mapping will assist, as it has with wireless and broadband availability.

Jake Gold spoke on daytime incentives, charging data needs to be collected from current charging stations, commented on the use of park-and-ride areas and other options for charging.

Bob Williamson stated that Boulder, CO is a good example to follow. Important to look at projects on a long term basis, just recognize as a recurring part of budget. He would like to see statistics on GHG savings for dollars invested.

Andy Ferguson cautions on assumptions on behavior. Current technology is changing quickly. Important to examine present day data to be sure GHG numbers are not underestimated.

Shelly Browning commented on discounts from dealers and SCP. Suggests coinciding with other State and Federal benefits available to make the most during the purchase time.



*Business Operations Committee Meeting  
June 23, 2016*

CM Mattinson expressed concern with the lack of advertisements for EVs locally. CM Wells asks that the program also include motorcycles, three-wheelers, and other vehicles.

**4. Review and recommend approval of Third Amended Agreement for Professional Services with the Sonoma County Water Agency (11:41 A.M.)**

CEO Syphers provided a background on the work done for SCP by the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA). The amended agreement provides for a continuation and refinement of the scope of work. The new amendment includes an increase of \$256,000.

Chair Dowd expressed support for the amendment and feels the funds have been well spent to date. CM Mattinson stated appreciation for the value and help with staff. CM Brophy expressed concern for the lack of deliverables in the scope. CEO Syphers clarified that the contract is not a place to turn to for a major long-term effort or project. SCWA is more of a background source when staff is unable to complete work. CM Beeler stated that other consultants with more energy backgrounds/expertise should be worked with, as well, to build on SCP's technical resources. CM Wells expressed concern with the financial data and would like to see more detail in all consultant agreements.

Public Comment:

Mike Nicholls asked for clarification on admin fees on top of hourly rates. CEO Syphers stated the hourly rate is all inclusive for each employee.

Motion to recommend amendment of the SCWA contract by CM Mattinson.  
Seconded by CM Wells.

Motion passed: 5-0-0

**III. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS (11:55 A.M.)**

None

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

None

**V. ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned by Chair Dowd at 11:56 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Reynolds,  
Internal Operations Manager