

Draft Minutes

Community Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday, June 14, 2021 6:00pm

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If you have anything that you wish to be distributed to the Committee, please email it to the clerk by 5:00 pm the day prior to the meeting.

C1. Welcome & Roll Call

Present: Members: Hu, Laundry, Liu, Padilla, Swaminathan, Talreja, Pacheco,

Muetzenberg, Vice-Chair Franch and Chair Sutter

Excused: Member Eldred

Note: Member Hu served as an alternate for Member Eldred.

C2. Oath of Office for New CAC Members Member Hu

C3. Public Comment

This item is reserved for persons wishing to address the Committee on any EBCE-related matters that are not otherwise on this meeting agenda. Public comments on matters listed on the agenda shall be heard at the time the matter is called. As with all public comment, members of the public who wish

to address the Committee are customarily limited to three minutes per speaker and must complete an electronic <u>speaker slip</u>. The Committee Chair may increase or decrease the time allotted to each speaker.

Aleta Dupree spoke in support for building electrification, solar + storage and time of use policies. Aleta Dupree also spoke in support of EBCE becoming a municipal utility district in order to control transmission and distribution. Aleta spoke in support for the CCAs and for equitable investment in electric vehicle charging stations that are freely available to the public.

C4. Approval of Minutes from May 17, 2021 (5 minutes)

Member Padilla motioned to approve the minutes. Member Liu seconded the motion which passed 7/0. Abstain: Members Swaminathan, Talreja and Pacheco.

C5. CAC Chair Report (15 minutes)

Chair Sutter provided guidelines for CAC virtual meeting procedure and instructions for how to find public meeting recordings. Chair Sutter also commended Member Padilla on her last day on the CAC.

C6. Legislative Update (20 minutes, Informational Item)

Staff will provide an update to the CAC on the legislative bill tracker and recommended bill positions. Note that this item will build on information in the report previously covered in Item 15 of the May 19, 2021 EBCE Board Meeting.

The Committee discussed

Clarification of NEM policy

Audrey Ichinose spoke regarding the proactive steps that EBCE should take in response to the failure of AB 1139 to pass out of committee. Audrey Ichinose cautioned that PG&E will continue to attempt to undermine rooftop solar, and that EBCE should try to reform PUC 218, the paragraph that makes it difficult to aggregate behind the meter rooftop solar.

Jessica Tovar encouraged EBCE to support policies that protect and strengthen access to local solar solutions for the community. Jessica Tovar also stated that she expects that bills like AB 1139 will be introduced within the next year, which EBCE should prepare to oppose.

Vaughn asked about possible savings benefits that result from EBCE's NEM policies.

C7. EBCE Budget for PY 2021-2022 (45 minutes, Action Item)

Staff will describe the PY2021-2022 budget and CAC members can ask questions regarding budget items. The CAC will take action to advise the board.

The Committee discussed

- Questions about local call center budget, RPS and location
- Vehicle electrification funding sources
- Timeline for Vehicle to Building (V2B) solar and storage pilot
- Low or zero emissions zones
- Building electrification workforce development funding amount
- Energy efficiency funding allocation
- Funding sources for vehicle electrification program at the Port of Oakland
- Justification for 25% increase in operating budget
- Community Investment budget explanation
- Sponsorships and Events budgets
- Vehicle electrification fast charger installation cost
- Local call center funding
- Funding goals for current stage of Medium/Heavy Duty transportation electrification
- Long term costs for building electrification operations
- Relationship between Local Development and Procurement budgets
- Contingency budgets for greater than expected supply costs

Aleta Dupree spoke in support of the LDBP budget and for overbudgeting for the summer months to prepare for severe weather events.

Kate Duggin spoke in support of building public charging hubs for electric vehicles, and for the Connected Communities program to leverage housing services programs to assist AMP eligible customers to cover rent and mortgage payments.

Vaughn asked questions about hydrogen-hybrid vehicles

Audrey Ichinose spoke in support of using social equity metrics to develop a provisional assessment of the local development budget.

Jessica Tovar spoke in support of providing community innovation grants in addition to debt relief funds going forward.

Member Padilla motioned to approve the EBCE Budget for PY 2021-2022. Vice-Chair Franch seconded the motion which passed 8/0. Excused: Member Hu. Abstain: Members Talreja and Pacheco

C8. Possible EBCE Bill Relief Program (40 minutes, Informational Item)

CAC will discuss the possibility of proposing a new EBCE bill relief program.

Potential sources of useful information is the report by Environmental Justice Solutions of the nine focus groups with predominantly customers of EBCE (here and also linked on the EBCE website under Connected Communities Focus Groups) to understand challenges faced by EBCE customers and help determine intervention strategies aimed at reducing debt and disconnections. Additionally, available programs to help with bills are located on the EBCE website under Energy Bill Assistance (here).

The Committee discussed

- Subsidy or forgiveness program to retain eligible customers in AMP program
- Possibility for across-the-board credit

Kate Dugan asked about utilizing local vs federal guidelines to assess eligibility for arrearage management programs.

Jessica Tovar stated that East Bay Clean Energy Alliance would hold a press conference event on June 15, 2021 to address the potential end of the moratorium at the end of the month. Jessica Tovar stated that details about the press conference are available at localcleanenergy.org.

C9. CAC Member and Staff Announcements including requests to place items on future CAC agendas

Member Landry thanked Member Padilla for her service and expertise on Member Padilla's last day.

C10. Adjournment to Monday, July 19, 2021