



Draft Minutes

Community Advisory Committee Meeting

Monday, May 15, 2023

6:00 pm

In Person:

The Lake Merritt Room
Cal State East Bay - the Oakland Center
In the Transpacific Centre
1000 Broadway, Suite 109
Oakland, CA 94607

Or from the following locations:

- 3602 Thornton Ave, Fremont, CA 94536
- Starbucks - 20663 Rustic Dr. Castro Valley, CA 94546
- Sister Cities Gallery - 835 E 14th Street San Leandro CA 94577

Via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84794506189>

Or join by phone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 929 205
6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 847 9450 6189

Meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals who need special assistance or a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, or who have a disability and wish to request an alternative format for the meeting materials, should contact the Clerk of the Board at least 2 working days before the meeting at (510) 906-0491 or cob@ebce.org.

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 Landry, Hu, Liu, Lakshman, Souza, Lutz, Vice Chair Hernandez and Chair Eldred.

Excused: Members Swaminathan, Talreja and Kaur.

Presenters and Staff:

JP Ross - EBCE staff
Nick Chaset - EBCE staff
Jason Bartlett - EBCE staff
Alec Ward - EBCE staff
Feby Boediarso - EBCE staff
Michael Quiroz - EBCE staff
Raïssa Ngoma - EBCE Assistant Clerk
Adrian Bankhead - EBCE Clerk

C2. 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 [speaker slip](#). The Committee Chair may increase or decrease the time allotted to each speaker.

Igor Tregub, Strategic Partnerships Director of the California Seller and Storage Association thanked the committee for its work in environmental and climate justice. He also requested that a discussion about rooftop solar and storage for low-income communities be added to a future agenda.

Tom Kelly raised concern about EBCE's default product, Bright Choice, being higher in greenhouse gas emissions than PG&E. He also expressed concern about EBCE's handling of the \$15 million to Children's Hospital and the \$8.5 million purchase of the Downtown Oakland building. He requested that there be a Board discussion pertaining the future of the property and the funds invested.

Jessica Tovar, East Bay Power Alliance, reminded the committee of the history of the local development plan, and emphasized the urgency of local jobs and community programs for historically marginalized groups.

Richard Esteves commended EBCE for its Medical Baseline program, which supplies \$1,000 rebates on portable Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) to vulnerable residents during power outages. Esteves highlighted that the program would now be able to provide free Tesla battery systems for low-income residents within fire zones. He asked for the CAC's input on determining how much of the 800+ free battery systems will be allocated for EBCE's families.

C3. (17:28) Approval of Minutes from April 15, 2023

Member Landry motioned to approve the minutes with corrections to Vaughn's name and Tom Kelly's comments under item C4. CAC Chair Report. Member Lutz seconded the motion which passed 6/0.

Abstain: Members Hu and Pacheco.

Excused: Members Swaminathan, Talreja and Kaur.

Tom Kelly requested that corrections be made to his comments in the minutes under item C4. CAC Chair Report. He requested that “potentially” be changed to “would”, “in 2019” to “since 2019” and “reasoned” to “claimed”.

C4. (21:51) CAC Chair Report

The CAC Chair reported:

- Staff is working on securing a central location for the June 7th 6-8pm hybrid public meeting on committee grant.
- Members of the body requested more information on the process of achieving 100% renewable energy as a base product.
- Peninsula Clean Energy's grid analysis on clean energy procurement costs for hourly electricity demand and the goal to reach 100% clean energy by 2025.
- A request for a letter of support for “Power Up the People”, a community program providing clean energy for critical public facilities.

Jessica Tovar sought more information on the “Power Up the People” project and expressed interest in community involvement for the project. She also praised existing organizations that are already implementing microgrids installation in community trusted locations.

The Committee discussed:

- **(39:29) Member Lutz** asked whether the “Power Up the People” program is targeted for municipal facilities or public facilities.
- **(41:11) Member Pacheco** inquired about the total estimate EBCE is going to match for the Power Up the People project and whether private partners can be revealed at this time.
- **(44:00) Member Hu** sought more information about the Department of Energy fund distribution timeline and asked for staff's thoughts about proposed plans for the fund.

- **(46:49) Member Liu** sought clarification concerning the amount of funding EBCE applied for and the expected timeline for fund distribution if awarded.
- **(50:01) Member Souza** inquired about Power Up the People's ownership agreement and whether EBCE would own the batteries.
- **(52:39) Member Lutz** asked whether the purpose of the committee grant workshop is to solicitate community feedback on grant distribution or to gather feedback on existing plans.

Member Landry motioned to support the letter of support. Member Pacheco seconded the motion which passed 8/0.

Excused: Members Swaminathan, Talreja and Kaur.

C5. Draft FY 2023-24 Budget (CAC Informational Item)

Review the draft budget for the next fiscal year

The Committee discussed:

- **(1:22:52) Chair Eldred** asked whether the increase in numbers on slide 5 is specifically related to EBCE's default product, Bright Choice.
- **(1:29:29) Member Lutz** brought to attention that the building electrification and healthy communities description omitted building upgrades beyond electrification. He asked for clarification on the matter.
- **(1:34:28) Member Hernandez** sought clarification about the real estate asset and whether there is a plan to put it back on the market.
- **(1:36:36) Member Pacheco** inquired more information on who is included in the workforce training program network and whether the network already exists.
- **(1:40:30) Member Landry** was curious about the rationale behind the reduction in Renewable 100 incentive, and asked for clarification on what carbon free energy encompasses beside wind, solar and hydro.
- **(1:46:03) Member Souza** spoke regarding programs intended to help residents reduce their carbon footprints.
- **(1:47:54) Member Hu** encouraged staff and the community to investigate the Community Resilience Centers program.
- **(1:52:57) Chair Eldred** asked for clarification on slide 8 about the \$13.7 million dividend for Bright Choice customers. She also requested that staff include metrics on adoption rates of EVs for when programs are being rolled out.

(1:23:49) Tom Kelly expressed that more reserves should be allocated towards carbon-free electricity. He also asked for clarification about whether the "other operations revenue" amount mentioned in slide 9 is a payment.

(1:25:49) Jessica Tovar raised concern about the \$2 million for community resilience, stating that it should be more centered on community efforts. She also suggested that the induction cooktop project be its own item to allow community input and build transparency. She added that Community Innovation grants should be offered annually.

(1:27:36) Elsa Wefes-Potter, Local Clean Energy Alliance, agreed with Jessica Tovar's comments and called for a re-evaluation of EBCE's funding priorities. Wefes-Potter urged that community resilience and transportation electrification programs better address the needs of the community especially for historically marginalized groups.

C6. Legislative Update

Update on recommended bill positions and EBCE's bill tracker

The Committee Discussed:

- **(2:19:45) Member Pacheco** echoed the LCA and Jessica Tovar's comments on the loss of autonomy and control over resources. He also expressed concern about the impact of the AB 538 on outsourcing jobs especially if energy resources are procured from out of state.
- **(2:21:12) Chair Eldred** recommended that staff oppose AB 538 since there seem to be no amendments that would remedy the impact of the bill.
- **(2:28:28) Member Souza** reiterated that AB 538 should be watched until amended, but also studied.

Member Lutz motioned to support staff's recommendations with the addition of taking an opposed stance on AB 538. Member Pacheco seconded the motion which passed 6/0.

Abstain: Members Hu and Lakshman

Excused: Members Swaminathan, Talreja, Kaur and Hernandez.

(2:17:11) Elsa Wefes-Potter spoke in opposition to AB 538, stating that EBCE would lose its autonomy and control over resources to provide local clean energy. Wefes-Potter also highlighted that this bill would have a negative impact on local investments.

(2:18:35) Jessica Tovar encouraged members to oppose AB 538 and agreed with Elsa Wefes-Potter's comments that AB 538 would lead to an outsource of jobs and bring a lot of dirty energy.

C7. Load Management Standards Interim Compliance Plan (CAC Action Item)

Requesting Board approval of an interim compliance plan for the California Energy Commission's Load Management Standards

The Committee Discussed:
No discussion by the committee.

Member Pacheco motioned to approve the minutes. Member Lutz seconded the motion which passed 7/0.

Abstain: Member Hu.

Excused: Members Swaminathan, Talreja and Kaur.

(2:33:19) Jessica Tovar spoke on behalf of East Bay Clean Power Alliance, expressing support for staff recommendation.

C8. CAC Member and Staff Announcements including requests to place items on future CAC agendas

- **Member Landry** requested to agendize the governors and PMC incentives to strengthen rooftop solar and storage for renters and multi-families. She also proposed adding building expense and the quality conservation services letter for free battery installation for medical baseline objectives.
- **Member Lutz** requested an update on the resource adequacy fine.
- **Member Hu** proposed that staff return with an update or memo on bills that will be moving forward.
- **Member Souza** requested to hear additional information about energy efficiency programs.

Jessica Tovar announced a webinar on May 24th called "Lithium Mining Behind the Curtain: What's Equity in an Extractive Energy Transition?" More information about the webinar can be found at localcleanenergy.org

C9. Adjournment to Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 6:00 pm