COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

The agenda for this meeting was posted on October 5, 2018. Chair Matty Tittman called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

Members present: Norman Bell, Jerome Carman, Colin Fiske, Vice Chair Larry Goldberg, Pam Halstead, Tom Hofweber, Dennis Leonardi, Kit Mann, Craig Mitchell, Chair Matty Tittman. Members absent: Richard Johnson, Luna Latimer, Kathy Srabian and Board Liaison Michael Sweeney.

Staff present: Executive Director Matthew Marshall, Demand Side Management Director Lou Jacobson, Community Strategies Manager Nancy Stephenson, Clerk of the Board Lori Taketa.

Approve minutes of August 21, 2018 Special Meeting

Chair Tittman invited public comment. No one came forward to speak. Chair Tittman closed public comment.


Oral Communications

Chair Tittman invited public comment. No one came forward to speak. Chair Tittman closed public comment.

Humboldt Wind Project

Terra-Gen Senior Director of Wind Development Nathan Vajdos made a presentation to the committee by phone, describing his company and its experience developing wind energy projects in California.

Mr. Vajdos gave an overview of the Humboldt Wind project’s location, maximum size, and interconnection to the electrical grid at PG&E’s Bridgeville substation. The project’s progress through the Humboldt County-administered California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process was described, as were the access routes to the project site, biological behavior and impact studies, visual impact simulations and decommissioning plans.

Mr. Vajdos stated the project is anticipated to avoid the release of 372,000 metric tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere, to generate $25 million in property tax for the County in the first 10 years, and $7.7 million in sales tax during the life of the project. He stated the project is anticipated to be operational by the end of 2020.
The project’s potential energy offtakers, the possibility of RCEA purchasing some of the project’s electricity, seismic testing, turbine size and noise levels, acreage of vegetation to be cleared for fire safety around transmission lines, and grid capacity and electricity demand were discussed.

Chair Tittman invited public comment. No one came forward to speak. Chair Tittman closed public comment.

**CCE Customer Program Proposal Timeline, Process Presentation**

CCE Customer Programs Subcommittee member Carman presented a staff report on the subcommittee’s recommended customer program timeline and process. Mr. Carman stated the subcommittee agreed that RCEA should not solicit fully-developed proposals but follow a two-step process.

In Step 1, brief program abstracts would be accepted year-round, and abstracts submitted by a deadline would be considered for the current year funding cycle.

In Step 2, the CAC subcommittee and RCEA staff would review the abstracts, request more information as needed, and present the selected proposals to the full committee.

Mr. Carman stated the initial year’s timeline was accelerated and project abstracts would be solicited from the RCEA Board of Directors, Community Advisory Committee, and staff. Timelines for subsequent years would be less compressed and abstracts would be solicited from the public.

The varying customer program funding levels each year, program adherence to RCEA’s Board program requirements, 1-year subcommittee membership terms, program selection process transparency, the need to align the abstract solicitation and public education to the scoring rubric, and the goal of presenting the timeline and process to the RCEA Board in November were discussed.

Chair Tittman invited public comment. No one came forward to speak. Chair Tittman closed public comment.

*M/S Mann, Hofweber: By consensus, the Committee agreed to approve the proposed timeline and two-step solicitation process and recommend both for Board approval.*

**Update on offshore wind project, Repower Humboldt Strategic Plan, CCE Customer Program Implementation (Information only)**

Executive Director Marshall reported that RCEA submitted an offshore wind lease request to the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and that it is anticipated that RCEA will know by the first quarter of 2019 whether there is competitive interest in the lease area or not. If there is no competitive interest, the offshore wind project partners would acquire site control. If there is interest, the project partners would consider participation in an auction process.

Mr. Marshall anticipated that RCEA’s Comprehensive Action Plan for Energy (CAPE) would likely be updated next year.

Director of Demand Side Management Jacobson reported that RCEA had begun implementation of the Board-approved CCE customer programs, that 12 agencies are participating in the Public Agency Solar program and that residential energy efficiency kits are being provided to customers. Mr. Jacobson reported that the rebate program and electric vehicle charging cluster program are not yet being implemented.
Chair Tittman invited public comment. No one came forward to speak. Chair Tittman closed public comment.

**Member Reports**

Committee member Fiske requested the committee discuss RCEA’s roles and next steps to encourage all Humboldt County jurisdictions to set a goal of achieving 100 percent clean renewable energy through RCEA’s Community Choice Energy Program by 2025. Chair Tittman requested that Member Fiske give a short presentation about different jurisdictions’ resolutions to that end at the next committee meeting.

Committee member Goldberg commended Staff Manager Stephenson for a well-produced Energy Month insert in the North Coast Journal.

Committee member Fiske introduced Connor McGuigan, who will be working at the Humboldt County Planning Department on the County’s climate action plan and suggested requesting an update from Mr. Connor at a future meeting.

Committee member Carman stated that San Francisco, Santa Monica, Berkeley, and Marin and Sonoma Counties were partnering with Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) to request an energy efficiency cost effectiveness study and requested that RCEA consider partnering in the request.

**Summarize actions, outcomes, Board communication items, next steps**

Chair Tittman summarized that the committee approved the Community Choice Energy (CCE) customer program process and timeline pending Board approval and requested that the next CCE program subcommittee meeting be scheduled.

Chair Tittman adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Taketa  
Clerk of the Board

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**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, January 8, 2019, 6 - 7:30 p.m.  
RCEA Offices  
633 3rd Street, Eureka, CA 95501