Redwood Coast Energy Authority
633 3rd Street, Eureka, CA 95501
Phone: (707) 269-1700 Toll-Free (800) 931-7232 Fax: (707) 269-1777
E-mail: info@redwoodenergy.org Web: www.redwoodenergy.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

December 16, 2021 - Thursday, 3:30 p.m.

Notice of this meeting was posted on December 12, 2021. Chair Sheri Woo called a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Redwood Coast Energy Authority to order on the above date at 3:32 p.m., stating that the teleconference meeting was being conducted pursuant to the AB 361 Brown Act open public meeting law revisions signed into law on September 16, 2021, and Governor Newsom's State of Emergency Proclamation of March 4, 2020. Chair Woo stated that the posted agenda contained public teleconference meeting participation instructions.

PRESENT: Vice Chair Stephen Avis, Chris Curran, David Grover, Mike Losey, Sarah Schaefer, Frank Wilson, Chair Sheri Woo. ABSENT: Scott Bauer, Mike Wilson. STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT: Power Resources Director Richard Engel; Blue Lake Rancheria Sustainability and Government Affairs Director Jana Ganion; Humboldt Area Foundation Health and Nonprofit Resources Program Manager Amy Jester; Executive Director Matthew Marshall; Customer Service Coordinator Summer Sanderson; Community Strategies Manager Nancy Stephenson; Clerk of the Board Lori Taketa, Deputy Executive Director Eileen Verbeck.

There were no reports from member entities nor comments from the public on non-agenda items. Executive Director Marshall introduced Deputy Executive Director Eileen Verbeck to the Board members, who welcomed her to RCEA. Chair Woo closed the non-agenda item public comment period.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- **3.1** Approve Minutes of November 18, 2021, Board Meeting.
- **3.2** Approve Disbursements Report.
- **3.3** Accept Financial Reports.
- **3.4** Authorize Extension of RCEA Resolution 2021-7 Ratifying Governor Newsom's March 4, 2021, State of Emergency Proclamation and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings of RCEA's Legislative Bodies for the Period December 29, 2021, through January 27, 2022, Pursuant to Brown Act Revisions.
- **3.5** RCEA Public Agency Coalition Enterprise (PACE) Board of Directors Representative Amendment
  - 3.5.1 Repeal Resolution 2020-7 Designating the Official Representative and Alternate Representative to the PACE JPA Board of Directors
  - 3.5.2 Adopt Resolution 2021-8 - Designation of the Official Representative and Alternate Representative to the PACE JPA Board of Directors, and
  - 3.5.3 Authorize the Deputy Executive Director to Sign All Applicable Documents.

3.6 Approve Resolution 2021-9 Authorizing the RCEA Deputy Executive Director Access to Criminal History Information for Personnel Administration Purposes.

3.7 Adopt Resolution 2021-10 Updating Financial Management Policy to Reflect Staff Position and Duty Changes.

Director Woo requested that item 3.1, the November 2021 minutes, be removed from the consent calendar.

M/S: Grover, Losey: Approve consent calendar items 3.2 through 3.7.

The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote. Ayes: Avis, Curran, Grover, Losey, Schaefer, F. Wilson, Woo. Noes: None. Absent: Bauer, M. Wilson. Abstain: None.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

Chair Woo requested that the spelling of Morro Bay be corrected in the Executive Director's update section of the November 2021 minutes.

There was no public comment on this item and no member of the public requested removal of items from the consent calendar. Chair Woo closed the public comment period.

M/S: Avis, Grover: Approve consent calendar item 3.1 Minutes of November 18, 2021, Board Meeting with the requested correction.

The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote. Ayes: Avis, Curran, Grover, Losey, Schaefer, F. Wilson, Woo. Noes: None. Absent: Bauer, M. Wilson. Abstain: None.

NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Humboldt Area Foundation CORE Hub presentation by Amy Jester, Humboldt Area Foundation Health and Nonprofit Resources Program Manager, and Jana Ganion, Blue Lake Rancheria Sustainability and Government Affairs Director

Ms. Ganion and Ms. Jester introduced the Humboldt Area Foundation and Wild Rivers Community Foundation's Redwood Region Climate and Community Resilience (CORE) Hub project. The CORE Hub's goal is for Humboldt County to be the first proven carbon sequestering rural and tribal area in the United States.

Ms. Ganion described RCEA as being a positive catalyst for affordable clean energy in the region, and listed RCEA-led projects in which the Blue Lake Rancheria has participated, including distributed generation development, installing electric vehicle charging infrastructure, developing low-carbon microgrids, and the demand-response incentive pilot program.

Ms. Ganion presented CORE Hub's community education materials. She outlined current global and regional climate change impacts; Humboldt County's dependence on imported natural gas—supplied to the region through one 10" pipeline—for the actual electrons used locally; Humboldt County's tenuous connection to the greater electrical grid—through a transmission and redundant line running through wildfire-prone areas—which cannot import all the power needed regionally; and sea-level rise's projected impacts on Humboldt County's natural gas power plant, nuclear waste storage area and wastewater treatment plants. Ms. Ganion emphasized the regional need for equitable, decarbonized resilience by 2030, the timeframe current science identifies for humans to mitigate the climate disaster. Ms. Ganion pointed out that being at the forefront of this work improves the region's chances of accessing resources to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and become more resilient at the same time. Federal and state funding programs are seeking to support regions that are organized and collaborating across governments, agencies and community groups. The CORE Hub is a way to coordinate regional collaboration and provide information to support knowledgeable decision making, without competing with or duplicating existing efforts.

The directors discussed ways the CORE Hub could support regional offshore wind energy development, how the program is being received by the community so far, and outreach to access state resources.

Chair Woo invited public comment. There were no comments from the public on non-agenda items. Chair Woo closed the public comment period.

5.2 Community Advisory Committee Proposed 2022 Work Goals

Executive Director Marshall presented the Community Advisory Committee's proposed 2022 work goals. Board members supported all proposed goals but expressed concern about commenting on environmental impact reports (EIR) for major projects due to staff workload concerns and because the task could require large amounts of CAC volunteer time. It was suggested that EIR comments be submitted through different jurisdiction governing bodies. The directors asked that the goal be removed from the list or reworked. Possible adjustments to the goal included alerting the Board to projects on which to comment and suggesting comments on major projects for 2022 only with clear guidelines based on staff time, staff's identification of projects appropriate for RCEA comment and Board approval. Chair Woo offered to communicate the Board's wishes to the CAC. Vice Chair Avis offered to review initial study questions to identify those pertaining to RCEA's scope.

Chair Woo invited public comment. There were no comments from the public on non-agenda items. Chair Woo closed the public comment period.

Chair Woo stated there was no CCE business, nor old business to discuss.

STAFF REPORTS

10.1. Update from Executive Director (Information only)

Executive Director Marshall stated that offshore wind development activity will increase in 2022 but there was nothing to report this month. Staff is working with The Energy Authority (TEA) to formulate a bridge solution to a projected cash shortfall in February and March 2022 resulting from delayed power charge indifference adjustment and PG&E rate changes. A potential agreement with MCE to guarantee the Sandrini Solar Project's $4 million security deposit for six months combined with a cash loan from TEA may adequately address the problem.

Director Grover thanked Executive Director Marshall for keeping RCEA initiatives moving forward despite pandemic challenges. Community Strategies Manager Stephenson described

RCEA's end-of-year promotion where $100 will be donated to Food for People for each business signing up for an energy saving assessment. No member of the public responded to Chair Woo's invitation for comment.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests for future agenda items from the directors or the public.

CLOSED SESSION

Chair Woo invited public comment on agenda item 12.1 – Public Employee Performance Evaluation, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1): Executive Director.

There was no public comment on this item. The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:05 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 6:13 p.m.

RCEA General Counsel Nancy Diamond stated that the Board had successfully concluded its annual evaluation of Executive Director Marshall and will consider providing a merit salary increase at its meeting in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Lori Taketa
Clerk of the Board