



Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance

Action Minutes

Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Board Meeting

April 16, 2015

10:15 a.m.

Ventura Regional Sanitation District
Board Meeting Room
1001 Partridge Drive, Suite 150
Ventura, California 93003

1. Welcome/ Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Long at 10.17am.

2. Roll Call

Members present:

Kathy Long, Chair	County of Ventura
Cheryl Heitmann, Vice Chair	City of Ventura
Jon Sharkey	Ventura Regional Sanitation District

Larry Kennedy	Ventura County Community College District
Joel Price	City of Thousand Oaks
Douglas Tucker	City of Fillmore
Barbara Fitzgerald	Ventura Unified School District
John Procter	City of Santa Paula

Members not present:

Bert Perello	City of Oxnard
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3. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Long led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Oath of Office for New VCREA Board Members

Chair Long administered the oath of office to Mr. John Procter of Santa Paula.

5. Approve Minutes of October 16, 2014 Meeting

Upon motion of Mr. Sharkey, seconded by Mayor Cheryl Heitmann, abstained by 3, the Board approved Minutes of the October 16, 2014 meeting.

6. Agenda Review

The agenda was approved as presented by consensus.

7. Public Comments



Jan Dietrick, a small business owner in Ventura, expressed her desire for the County to embark on Community Choice Energy. She shared information pertaining to a CCA workshop in LA on May 18, 2015 as well as additional resources. She sees a vision for her business and feels the possibilities are endless and feasible.

Katty Merrill, speaking on behalf of Community Energy Choice, is passionate about it. She stated that community energy choice is an ethical decision making it feasible to more residents. With community energy choice, rules don't have to be in place and we can take advantage of the resources we have here. Regional options will allow us to partner with other communities and take advantage of renewable energy that might not make sense to SCE. She encouraged attendance at the conference and to start investigating. She shared that it has worked in other places and thinks it will work here.

Jackson Piper, supports Community Choice Energy and thinks it is a smart move for the future. He stated that it makes sense to become a more localized energy entity rather than the utilities handling all that. He stated that it would be beneficial in generating revenue and would help solve part of climate change issues. Other counties have seen that it is beneficial and feels there is a lot of incentive for Ventura County to do it as well.

Chris Williamson from the City of Oxnard gave an update regarding the replacement power plant proposal. SCE has contracted with NRG, tentatively, to construct a 180 foot stack next to the existing Mandalay Bay plant. The proposal states that the structure will be built between 2018-2020, and at some time in the future, tear down the old one. The City filed a protest with the CPUC back in December, raising issues concerning sea level rise and the safety and reliability of the plant, given issues with the sea level rise. The City filed its testimony with the PUC and there is to be a local public hearing with officials from the PUC in early May in Oxnard. Following, scheduled for May 27-29, a trial/hearing at the PUC in San Francisco regarding all protests to PUC. In the meantime, the NRG is to file with the CEC for the permit to build the plant which will trigger a separate series of procedures, including a CEQA review of the environmental issues with that site location. No formal position on the power plant taken by city council other than filing the protest, which is seen as due diligence and part of coastal planning and this is what our coastal mapping is showing and to get it out there now.

Brian Brennan announced the Climate Symposium at CSUCI on April 17, 2015.

8. Board Member Comments

Mayor Cheryl Heitmann shared the City of Ventura's Mayor's Challenge taking place in the month of April. The program encourages Ventura residents to sign the petition/survey online at mywaterpledge.com and pledge to conserve energy, primarily focuses on water. Currently, Ventura is #1 in the entire country thus far for participation. The program's intent is to bring awareness about water conservation and encourage residents to be more involved. Ms. Heitmann also announced the City of Ventura's participation in the HERO program.

Mayor Douglas Tucker stated Fillmore's participation in the HERO program as well. Additionally, Mayor Tucker thanked the Board as well as VCREA staff for the hard work being done by all and Fillmore's achievement of Platinum level in energy conservation, the first city in Ventura County to reach Platinum level. He thanked the Board for initially coming together to form such a partnership and will continue to walk the walk.

Larry Kennedy shared that at the recent Community College Trustee Meeting, the Board approved a contract with Green Charge Network involving work with a peak demand system where batteries will be charged during non-peak time then utilize during peak time to save on energy costs. Documents Provided.



John Procter stated that it is good to be back as well as Santa Paula's participation in the buy-back of the waste water treatment plant.

Joel Price shared that Thousand Oaks had a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Hill Canyon Waste Water Treatment Plant. The plant has achieved 100% energy efficiency by utilizing the solar array and cogen engine. Thousand Oaks is very proud of its accomplishment.

Chair Kathy Long announced the County of Ventura's plans to install a 1MG solar array in the parking lot at the Government Center as well as the Juvenile Justice Center. Chair Long also shared the passing of Bruce Fischer, Energy Manger for GSA.

9. Annual Financial Audit for FY 2013/2014

Ms. Hughes provided extra copies if needed and introduced Regina Williams from Ventura Regional Sanitation District, who was present to answer any questions.

Mayor Tucker questioned the increase in expenditures and decrease in revenue and was wondering if that would continue to be the trend. Ms. Hughes shared that some of the increases maybe due to community outreach events. Ms. Cattnach stated that the expenses have decrease and not increased and as for the revenue, revenue has decreased as Mayor Tucker stated, resulting from no other funding sources other than the partnership.

Upon motion of Mayor Tucker, seconded by Mayor Cheryl Heitmann, and duly carried, the Board received and filed the Annual Financial Audit for FY 2013/2014.

10. 2015 Partnership Contract Extension

Ms. Hughes reminded the Board that this action was to ratify the contract. Since the Board had not met since October of last year, Chair Long signed the contract extension in December allowing work to continue as well as to continue to receive funding. Chair Long asked if any changes were made to the extension and Ms. Hughes stated no, the extension is identical to the contract, with the exception of the termination period now being December 2015 and the funding amount change.

Upon motion of Barbara Fitzgerald, seconded by Mayor Douglas Tucker, and duly carried, the Board ratified the 2015 Partnership Contract Extension.

11. SCE Flight #5.6: Local Government Strategic Plan Strategies Contract Extension

Ms. Hughes reminded the Board that this item consists of two parts. Ms. Hughes signed the 5.6 contract extension on February 11, 2015 in order that work and funding could continue. The requested action for 5.6 was to ratify the contract extension with SCE 5.6.

Ms. Hughes stated that in order to do the work relating to 5.6, Anacapa Consulting was hired. Because of the contract extension with 5.6, the Board is being asked to approve a contract extension with Anacapa so that work can continue on the regional inventory and Climate Action Plans. Chair Long asked if those finding will be brought back and presented to the Board and Ms. Hughes stated yes.

Upon motion of John Sharkey, seconded by Joel Price, and duly carried, the Board ratified the contract with SCE and approved the contract extension with Anacapa Consulting.



12. Partnership Program Update

Ms. Hughes shared Fillmore's accomplishment of Platinum level. Additionally, pointed out the list of municipal projects that are happening within the Partnership since Jan 2015, listed by city. \$242,718.06 in incentives are tied to that list of projects. Finally, Ms. Hughes shared the list of upcoming community events and asked the Board to update VCREA staff on any events their cities are participating in that were not listed. The Ventura County fair was discussed but Ms. Hughes shared that having a booth at the fair is quite costly. Mayor Douglas Tucker shared that many cities do their own events, Fillmore's May Festival being one of them.

Barbara Fitzgerald inquired if emPower includes landscaping and whether they offer services for water efficiency. Ms. Hughes replied unfortunately no. Mayor Cheryl Heitmann shared that the City of Ventura offers programs regarding water efficiency. Mr. Saucedo clarified that emPower does hot water heaters through the program.

Upon motion of Mayor Douglas Tucker, seconded by Mayor Cheryl Heitmann, and duly carried, the Board received and filed the Partnership Program Update.

13. General Updates and Announcements

Ms. Hughes kindly reminded the Board to submit their 700 forms.

Ms. Hughes also shared with the Board the CalRecycle proposed criteria for the Greenhouse Gas reduction Grant and Loan Programs. A Public Meeting will be held on April 21, 2015. Application materials for FY 2015-16 will tentatively be available in May 2015 with applications due in June/July 2015. All information can be found online.

Ms. Hughes also announced the upcoming Community Choice Energy workshop on May 18, 2015 that was also announced in Public Comments. Mayor Cheryl Heitmann asked VCREA for a report back on the workshop at the next Board Meeting. Chair Long also suggested perhaps the TAC become engaged in the CCA subject.

14. Items for Future Agenda

CCA workshop May 18, 2015- Report Back

Electrical Vehicle Chargers Overview- John Proctor-Where they are in the County and what sort of policies are involved. Joel Price suggested perhaps including alternative fuel vehicles as well.

Solar- Mayor Tucker requested a presentation on solar. The school districts and County are doing projects. Sometimes there is difficulty in penciling those projects out so a presentation on how those programs work and are effective would be beneficial.

NRG Update- Mayor Heitmann requested that the Board remain updated on what is happening with the City of Oxnard and NRG.

15. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting is Thursday July 16, 2015 at 10:15 a.m.

If there is no business to handle, the board can decide whether to meet or not.

16. Adjournment

Chair Long adjourned the meeting at 11.10 a.m.