

# REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Directors of the Peninsula Clean Energy Authority (PCEA) Thursday, April 23, 2020 MINUTES

Peninsula Clean Energy Video conference and teleconference 6:30 p.m.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Dave Pine, County of San Mateo

Carole Groom, County of San Mateo
Jeff Aalfs, Town of Portola Valley, *Chair*Rick DeGolia, Town of Atherton, *Vice Chair* 

Madison Davis, City of Brisbane Donna Colson, City of Burlingame John Goodwin, Town of Colma

Roderick Daus-Magbual, City of Daly City Carlos Romero, City of East Palo Alto Catherine Mahanpour, City of Foster City Laurence May, Town of Hillsborough Catherine Carlton, City of Menlo Park Ann Schneider, City of Millbrae

Deirdre Martin, City of Pacifica lan Bain, City of Redwood City Marty Medina, City of San Bruno Laura Parmer-Lohan, City of San Carlos Rick Bonilla, City of San Mateo

Flor Nicolas, City of South San Francisco

John Keener, Director Emeritus
Pradeep Gupta, Director Emeritus

**Absent:** City of Belmont

City of Half Moon Bay Town of Woodside **Staff:** Jan Pepper, Chief Executive Officer

Andy Stern, Chief Financial Officer

Leslie Brown, Director of Customer Care Rafael Reyes, Director of Energy Programs

Joseph Wiedman, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs

KJ Janowski, Director of Marketing and Community Affairs

Kirsten Andrews-Schwind, Senior Manager of Community Relations

Siobhan Doherty, Director of Power Resources Chelsea Keys, Power Resources Manager

Peter Levitt, Associate Manager of Distributed Energy Resources (DER)

David Silberman, General Counsel Shayna Barnes, Administrative Assistant

Anne Bartoletti, Board Clerk/Office Manager/Executive Assistant to the CEO

# A quorum was established.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

#### **ACTION TO SET THE AGENDA AND APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Motion Made / Seconded: May / Bonilla

Motion passed unanimously with correction to the minutes to add Pradeep Gupta, and pulling Item 9 from the Consent Agenda 18-0 (Absent: County of San Mateo, Belmont, Half Moon Bay, Woodside)

# 9. APPROVE PUBLIC RELATIONS CONSULTANT CONTRACT

Ann Schneider reported that the City of Millbrae will not support this expenditure for marketing due to the impact of reduced city funds due to the COVID-19 pandemic. KJ Janowski—Director of Marketing and Community Affairs—reported that this is an extension of a contract with the Public Relations Consultant Peninsula Clean Energy has been working with since December 2019. Jan Pepper—Chief Executive Officer—reported that the funds for this contract come from previous customer payments, and that no taxes were received from the cities.

Motion Made / Seconded: Bonilla / May

Motion passed 17-1 (Opposed: Millbrae, Absent: County of San Mateo, Belmont, Half Moon Bay, Woodside)

# **REGULAR AGENDA**

# 1. CHAIR REPORT

Jeff Aalfs—Chair—reported that he has been virtually attending the Energy Institute at HAAS 2020 Power Conference on Energy Research and Policy. Jeff discussed two papers, entitled, "Effects of Mandatory Energy Efficiency Disclosure in Housing Markets", and "Using Machine Learning to Target Treatment: The Case of Household Energy Use".

#### 2. CEO REPORT

Jan Pepper—Chief Executive Officer—provided an update on staffing, announced that PCE received a BBB+ investment grade rating from Fitch Ratings, and reported that several CARE/FERA (California Alternate Rates for Energy/Family Electric Rate Assistance) customers called and wrote to say 'thank you' for the \$100 on-bill credit that was approved by the Board. Jan also provided an update on PG&E's bankruptcy, and the impact of COVID-19 on load.

#### 3. CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Desiree Thayer—Chair—reported that the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) received an update on the Strategic Plan from Jan Pepper, received an update on Energy Programs from Director Rafael Reyes, and discussed the potential of other communities joining PCE. Desiree also reported that the CAC created a Work Planning Working Group to discuss the CAC's priorities for 2020.

#### 4. APPPOINTMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES

Jeff Aalfs reported that a review of the existing committees and their participation is still pending. Board members came to a consensus to table this item for one month, and Jeff requested that Board members contact him to express interest in the Executive Committee and Audit and Finance Committee.

# 5. APPROVE NEW PENINSULA CLEAN ENERGY RATES BASED ON NEW PG&E RATE UPDATE

Leslie Brown—Director of Customer Care—reported that PG&E will be adjusting rates May 1, 2020, and PCIA (Power Charge Indifference Adjustment) will increase across all rate classes. Leslie reported that the PCIA increase will result in PCE needing to lower generation rates to maintain a net 5% discount on ECOplus rates, resulting in less revenue to PCE.

Leslie reviewed System Average Generation Rates, the Expected PCIA Update May 1, 2020, and the System Average Bundled Rates, outlining the percent change. Leslie announced a new Commercial EV ("BEV" Business Electric Vehicle) Rate being launched May-October 2020, reserved for dedicated EV charging meters.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mark Roest, SeaWave Battery

Motion Made / Seconded: Bonilla / Groom

Motion passed unanimously 19-0 (Absent: Belmont, Half Moon Bay, Woodside)

#### 6. UPDATE ON PCIA AND PROJECTED FINANCIAL IMPACT

Andy Stern—Chief Financial Officer—reviewed background information on PCIA, how PCE calculates its rates, and the PCIA "Cap and Trigger" from the CPUC (California Public Utilities

Commission) decision adopted in October 2018. Andy reviewed anticipated rate changes taking effect May 1, 2020, and the expected PCIA Trigger that could increase PCIA rates October 1, 2020. Andy outlined future budget assumptions and the impact to revenue from PCIA increases, and he introduced potential impacts from COVID-19 and the recession. Board members discussed the PCIA Cap and Trigger mechanism, and how to address the significant increases to PCIA.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mark Roest, SeaWave Battery Tom Kabat, Menlo Spark

#### 7. APPROVE PENINSULA CLEAN ENERGY 2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Jan Pepper reviewed the timeline for the development and review of the Strategic Plan, and outlined the Mission, Vision, Organizational Priorities, and Strategic Goals from 2020 through 2025. Jan reviewed the categories for the Strategic Goals, and reviewed Objectives and Key Tactics to achieve those goals. Jan reviewed the timeline of next steps including implementing the plan and developing metrics, and she outlined a plan for publishing the Strategic Plan with a target date of June 15, 2020.

Board members discussed PCE's commitment to training, Labor, and Policy 10: Inclusive and Sustainable Workforce Policy and Workforce, and reminded the public of Policy 18: Financial Reserves Policy.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mark Roest, SeaWave Battery Tom Kabat, Menlo Spark Gladwyn D'Souza Sri Sukhi

Motion Made / Seconded: Carlton / Bonilla

Motion passed unanimously 19-0 (Absent: Belmont, Half Moon Bay, Woodside)

# 8. BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Donna Colson reported that the City of Burlingame's recovery plan includes investing in their lowest income residents. Catherine Carlton reported that a contractor twice cut power lines in Menlo Park, causing an energy surge backwards into home wiring and appliances. Rick Bonilla reported on a Commute.org campaign to keep cars off the road and offer more people the opportunity to work from home to reduce particulates and GHG (greenhouse gas). Rick recommended a Daily Journal article by John Ford (Telecommuting: Not just a short-term solution). Ann Schneider reported that NGOs (non-government organizations) are introducing a movement to telecommute to reduce traffic, accidents, and the load on police and first responders. Jeff Aalfs suggested this could be the silver lining of what can be achieved without driving.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.