

Desert Community Energy Board  
Meeting Minutes  
November 16, 2020  
2:30 pm



Held via Zoom videoconference

The audio file for this meeting can be found at: <http://www.desertcommunityenergy.org>

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the DCE Board was called to order by Chair Geoff Kors, City of Palm Springs, at 2:31 p.m. via Zoom videoconferencing, which was pursuant to Gov. Newsom's executive order governing how meetings are held during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

**Members Present**

Mayor Geoff Kors, Chair  
Mayor John Aguilar  
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan, Vice Chair

**Agency**

City of Palm Springs  
City of Cathedral City  
City of Palm Desert

**DCE Staff & Consultants**

Katie Barrows  
Benjamin Druyon  
Valdemar Galeana  
Erica Felci  
Trisha Stull  
Oscar Vizcarra  
Peter Satin  
Jaclyn Harr  
Colin Cameron  
Jeff Fuller  
Bryon Vosburg  
Don Dame  
Brian Rix

The Energy Authority  
The Energy Authority  
The Energy Authority  
The Energy Authority  
DCE Consultant  
Burke Rix Communications

**Others Present**

David Freedman  
Shelley Kaplan  
Kim Floyd  
Patrick Tallarico

Community Advisory Committee  
Community Advisory Committee  
Community Advisory Committee  
City of Palm Springs

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no public comments made on agenda items.

**4. BOARD MEMBER / DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

Mayor John Aguilar announced this would be his last DCE meeting due to the recent city council election. Mayor Kors, Councilmember Jonathan and Katie Barrows all expressed appreciation to Mayor Aguilar for his service on the DCE Board.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN AND SECONDED BY MAYOR AGUILAR TO:**

**A. Approve Minutes from Board Meeting of September 21, 2020 with revisions**

**B. Authorize the Executive Director to notify Southern California Edison by November 20, 2020, of DCE’s intent to participate in SCE’s Arrearage Management Plan**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 3 AYES.**

<b>Mayor Aguilar</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilmember Jonathan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Kors</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**6. DISCUSSION / ACTION**

**A. Financial Performance Update –** Jaclyn Harr, The Energy Authority

Jaclyn Harr, of The Energy Authority, updated the Board on DCE’s recent financial performance and discussed possible options moving forward. Member discussion ensued.

No action was taken as this was an informational presentation.

**B. Establishment of Rate Stabilization Schedule –** Don Dame, DCE Energy Consultant

Don Dame, DCE Energy Consultant, discussed and recommended a rate stabilization schedule for DCE. Member discussion ensued. Mayor Kors proposed a modification to the recommendation presented in the staff report, in order to reflect rates over the course of a year. Additional discussion was held among members, and staff proposed language to reflect the Board direction.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN AND SECONDED BY MAYOR AGUILAR TO ADOPT DCE RESOLUTION 2020-07 APPROVING A DCE RATE STABILIZATION SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2020 AND INCORPORATING ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE TO UTILIZE A 12-MONTH CONTIGUOUS AVERAGE RATE COMPARISON PERIOD.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 3 AYES.**

<b>Mayor Aguilar</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilmember Jonathan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Kors</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**C. Residential Time-Of-Use Transition Bill Protection – Katie Barrows**

Katie Barrows discussed a rate change by Southern California Edison, which is transitioning customers to time-of-use rates and outlined a resolution to protect DCE customers who are automatically transitioned to these rates.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR AGUILAR AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2020-08 TO ADOPT A 12-MONTH BILL PROTECTION FOR DCE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS WHEN THEY ARE AUTOMATICALLY TRANSITIONED BY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON TO TIME-OF-USE RATES.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 3 AYES.**

<b>Mayor Aguilar</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Councilmember Jonathan</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Mayor Kors</b>	<b>Aye</b>

**D. Update on DCE Activities – Katie Barrows**

Katie Barrows provided an update on DCE’s activities and community outreach and informed the Board of possible programs coming in the future.

No action was taken.

**E. Legislative Update – Katie Barrows**

There was no legislative update.

**7. INFORMATION**

- A. Attendance Record**
- B. Unaudited Financial Report for July 1 to October 31, 2020**

These items were placed on the agenda for the Board’s information.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Shelley Kaplan thanked the Board for its work on DCE.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next DCE meeting will be held December 21, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. via Zoom videoconference.

**10. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Trisha Stull*