

Desert Community Energy Board
Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2021
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

Councilmember Geoff Kors, Chair
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan, Vice Chair

Agency

City of Palm Springs
City of Palm Desert

DCE Staff & Consultants

Tom Kirk
Katie Barrows
Benjamin Druyon
Trisha Stull
Erica Felci
Joanna Stueckle
Claude Kilgore
Jeff Fuller
Jaclyn Harr
Don Dame

The Energy Authority
The Energy Authority
DCE Consultant

Others Present

David Freedman
Kim Floyd
Maricruz Osorio
Patrick Tallarico

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

David Freedman, Chair of the DCE Community Advisory Committee, said he supported the staff recommendation for Item 5C to appoint Maricruz Osorio to the CAC, as well as supported Item 6C to create a distributed energy resources program.

Kim Floyd, member of the DCE Community Advisory Committee and the Sierra Club, also shared his support for Item 6C.

4. BOARD MEMBER / DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Chair Kors acknowledged Maricruz Osorio for volunteering to serve on the DCE Community Advisory Committee, which continues to work with the DCE Board on carbon free initiatives and energy savings. Chair Kors highlighted a USA Today story noting DCE's reduction of GHG emissions in Palm Springs. He also thanked the Board, staff, residents and businesses for their work on DCE.

Katie Barrows provided an update from staff, sharing a social media video on reducing pool pump usage.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approve Minutes from Board Meeting of June 21, 2021

B. Approve Minutes from Board Meeting of July 7, 2021

C. Re-appoint existing members of the Community Advisory Committee for additional two-year terms, and appoint Maricruz Osorio of Palm Springs to fill a vacancy on the CAC for a two-year term

D. Approve Amendment #3 to the Consulting Services Agreement between DCE and Don Dame to provide implementation and operations support for an additional not-to-exceed amount of \$27,000 annually for three fiscal years

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER KORS TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 2 AYES.

Councilmember Jonathan

Aye

Councilmember Kors

Aye

6. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. Update to the Joint Powers Agreement – Katie Barrows

Ms. Barrows presented the staff report, including potential revisions to the JPA. Tom Kirk noted the challenge of a two-member board as it pertains to voting and further described the staff recommendation. Member discussion ensued.

CHAIR KORS APPOINTED A SUBCOMMITTEE CONSISTING OF COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN TO WORK WITH STAFF AND LEGAL COUNSEL TO EXPLORE OTHER VOTING OPTIONS AND REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD.

B. DCE's Financial and Procurement Update – Jaclyn Harr, The Energy Authority

Jaclyn Harr, The Energy Authority, gave an update on the financial forecast for 2021 and 2022 including revenue and energy power prices. Ms. Harr also updated the Board on DCE's procurements and associated regulations. Brief member discussion ensued.

There was no action taken as this was an information item.

C. Creation of a Distributed Energy Resources Program – Katie Barrows

This was an informational item. There was no discussion.

7. INFORMATION

The following items were put in the agenda packet for members' information :

- A. Attendance Record**
- B. Update on DCE Program Activities**
- C. Bill Assistance Program**
- D. Potential funding from California Arrearage Payment Program**
- E. Unaudited Financial Report for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021**

Councilmember Jonathan inquired about some of the line items in 7E, and staff stated they would clarify the financial report at the next Board meeting.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next DCE meeting will be held September 20, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. either via Zoom webinar or in-person.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Trisha Stull