

ITEM 6A

Desert Community Energy Board Meeting Minutes January 8, 2024



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 Lisa Middleton at 3:00 p.m. at Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room, 300 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Members Present

Councilmember Lisa Middleton, *Chair*
Finance Director Veronica Chavez, *Vice Chair*

Member Jurisdiction

City of Palm Springs
City of Palm Desert

3. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS (IF ANY)

None

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Donald Zeigler, resident of Palm Desert, addressed the Board regarding item 7A and his concern with the increased financial obligations the item could bring to the City of Palm Springs. Mr. Zeigler recommended the Board explore microgrid technology.

Resident Rosario Avila joined the meeting via Zoom, to inquire whether item 7A was reviewed at the Palm Springs City Council meeting.

5. BOARD MEMBER / DIRECTOR COMMENTS

DCE Program Manager David Freedman announced the DCE Board will not meet next month and will be rescheduling the April meeting date as Chair Middleton will be out of town on business.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

IT WAS MOVED BY FINANCE DIRECTOR CHAVEZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MIDDLETON TO APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

A. Approve Minutes from the November 20, 2023, Board Meeting

B. Adopt Resolution 2024-01 to Authorize Investments in the California Treasurer's Local Agency Investment Fund

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 2 AYES.

**Councilmember Middleton
Finance Director Chavez**

**Aye
Aye**

7. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. Contract Amendments with The Energy Authority

Mr. Freedman presented the staff report.

Brief member discussion ensued with Mr. Freeman answering questions from the Board.

IT WAS MOVED BY FINANCE DIRECTOR CHAVEZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MIDDLETON TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AMENDMENTS TO THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT AND TASK ORDER 2 WITH THE ENERGY AUTHORITY, INC., EXTENDING THE TERM UNTIL JANUARY 22, 2027 AND REPLACING THE CREDIT SOLUTION WITH A GUARANTY FROM THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

**Councilmember Middleton
Finance Director Chavez**

**Aye
Aye**

B. Update on Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System Selection

Contracts Analyst Allen McMillen presented the staff report and introduced Michele Riazzi, Senior Consultant with BerryDunn, who presented the timeline of the current procurement process.

Member discussion ensued with Ms. Riazzi answering questions from the Board.

No action was taken as this was an information item.

C. Carbon Free Business Recognition Program

Management Analyst Emily Langenbahn presented the staff report.

No action was taken as this was an information item.

8. INFORMATION

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

A) Attendance Record

B) Unaudited Year-to-Year Financial Report as of October 31, 2023

- C) January 2024 Rate Adjustment Summary
- D) Solar Opportunities along Indian Canyon Drive
- E) Pursuit of DCE's Investment Grade Credit Rating
- F) Renewable and Mid-Term Reliability 2023/2024 Request for Proposals
- G) Roll out of SCE's Solar Billing Program

9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Brad Anderson, resident of the City of Rancho Mirage, expressed his concerns regarding the size of the DCE Board.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The February meeting is being cancelled. The next DCE meeting will be held March 18, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the Large Conference Room at Palm Springs City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, 92262.

Chair Middleton requested staff compile a quick overview and evaluation of microgrids and provide it to Board at a future meeting date.

11. CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to closed session at 3:27 p.m.

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Name: CPUC Resource Adequacy Proceedings (K.23-05-017; Citation No. E-4195-0156; R.23-10-011)

The closed session concluded at 3:38 p.m.

In reporting out of closed session, Ryan Barron, DCE's Legal Counsel, stated that on December 20, 2023, and January 3, 2024, DCE received citations from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in a total amount of \$275,451.60 for certain resource adequacy deficiencies related to August and September 2023 month ahead resource adequacy filings. The Board has unanimously to direct DCE staff and its legal counsel to appeal those citations with the CPUC Code Enforcement division.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Freedman adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elysia Regalado
Management Analyst- Administration