



**DESERT COMMUNITY ENERGY
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA**

**Thursday, January 15, 2026
4:00 p.m.**

**Burke Rix Conference Room
431 South Palm Canyon Drive
Suite 206
Palm Springs, CA 92262**

Members of the public are encouraged to submit comments in connection with the Desert Community Energy Community Advisory Committee meeting by email to: cvag@cvag.org by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the CAC meeting.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Vice Chair Noel Loughrin, City of Palm Springs
Roll Call
Agenda Modifications P3

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**
This is the first of two opportunities to address the Committee. Any person wishing to address the Desert Community Energy Community Advisory Committee on items appearing on this agenda may do so at this time. Please limit comments to 3 minutes. At the discretion of the chair, additional public comment time and/or opportunities during the meeting may be granted.

3. **STAFF COMMENTS**
[Ralph M. Brown Act](#)

4. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. **Approve the meeting minutes from June 9, 2025** P4

5. **DISCUSSION / ACTION**

- A. **Election of Community Advisory Committee Officers** – Savannah Gil P6

Recommendation: Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the Community Advisory Committee to serve through June 30, 2026

- B. **DCE’s New Customer Energy Efficiency Program** – Lisa McNeilly P7

6. **INFORMATION**

- A. Discussion Topics Schedule P8

7. **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**
Any CAC member wishing to share comments may do so at this time.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
This is the second of two opportunities to address the Committee. Any person wishing to address the Committee on items not appearing on this agenda may do so at this time. Please limit comments to 2 minutes. At the discretion of the chair, additional public comment time and/or opportunities during the meeting may be granted

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
The next meeting of the **Desert Community Energy Board** will be held on February 9, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. at the Large Conference Room at Palm Springs City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, 92262.

The next **DCE Community Advisory Committee** meeting will be held on March 9, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. in Palm Desert.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**



DESERT COMMUNITY ENERGY COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Voting Members	City
Noel Loughrin, CAC VICE CHAIR	Palm Springs
Donald Barrett	Palm Springs
Berlinda Blackburn	Palm Desert
Paul Murphy	Palm Desert
Bernard Rottner	Palm Springs
Donald Zeigler	Palm Desert

ITEM 4A

Desert Community Energy
Community Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2025



1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the DCE Community Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Erin Boyd at 3:05 PM at the CVAG Main Office, 74199 El Paseo, Suite 100, Palm Desert, CA 92260.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Members Present

Don Barrett
Berlinda Blackburn
Erin Boyd, Chair
Paul Murphy
Bernard Rottner
Donald Zeigler

City of Residency

Palm Springs
Palm Desert
Palm Springs
Palm Desert
Palm Springs
Palm Desert

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. STAFF COMMENTS

Savannah Gil announced that she will go on scheduled leave in September 2025.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approve the meeting minutes from April 2, 2025

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. PAUL MURPHY AND SECONDED BY MS. BERLINDA BLACKBURN TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES.

THE MOTIONS CARRIED WITH 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION, AND 1 MEMBER ABSENT

Don Barrett	Abstain
Berlinda Blackburn	Aye
Erin Boyd	Aye
Noel Loughrin	Absent
Paul Murphy	Aye
Bernard Rottner	Aye
Donald Zeigler	Aye

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION

A. Extreme Heat Impacts and Resiliency Practices

Savannah Gil presented information to the Committee and answered questions from members.

A discussion between Committee members ensued regarding additional program ideas for DCE.

B. Meeting Schedule

Brief member discussion ensued regarding future meeting dates.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The June DCE Board meeting will meet on Monday, June 19, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at the Large Conference Room at Palm Springs City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, 92262.

The next upcoming CAC meeting will be the second Monday of August at 3:00 p.m. in Palm Springs. The location will be shared with members in July.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Erin Boyd adjourned the meeting at 4:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Savannah Gil
Program Specialist – Energy & Sustainability*

ITEM 5A

Desert Community Energy
Community Advisory Committee
January 15, 2026



STAFF REPORT

Subject: Election of Community Advisory Committee Officers

Contact: Savannah Gil, Program Specialist III (sgil@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the Community Advisory Committee to serve through June 30, 2026

Background: In March 2019, the DCE Board established a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) in order to provide a structured opportunity for community members to participate in DCE, as well as help ensure that efforts to educate and inform member communities about Community Choice Energy are broad and inclusive. The first members of the CAC were appointed by the DCE Board at the June 17, 2019, Board meeting.

At the DCE Board meeting on October 21, 2024, the Board reappointed five existing CAC members and appointed one new member for the Fiscal Year 2025/26 term. The Board appointed two more CAC members at its December 9, 2024, meeting. At its December 9, 2024, meeting, the CAC elected Erin Boyd as Chair and Noel Loughrin as Vice Chair.

As of August 2025, the Chair and one other CAC member have submitted their resignations. The Vice Chair will fill this role until a new Chair and Vice Chair are elected. Currently, the CAC has a total of six members.

The CAC does not have a formal officer rotation or a set policy for selecting the Chair and Vice Chair. Staff recommends that the CAC provide nominations and elect its officers for the remainder of the Fiscal Year 2025/26 term.

Fiscal Analysis: The CAC is a volunteer group, and staff support for the CAC is covered under existing resources.

ITEM 5B

Desert Community Energy
Community Advisory Committee
January 15, 2026



STAFF REPORT

Subject: DCE's New Customer Energy Efficiency Program

Contact: Eman Nazir, Management Analyst (enazir@cvaq.org)

Overview: Desert Community Energy (DCE) has submitted an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to receive funding through the Elect-to-Administer (ETA) framework, which allows Community Choice Aggregators to reinvest energy efficiency Public Purpose Program (PPP) charges collected from customers into local, customer-facing programs. In anticipation of a successful application, staff are preparing to launch the Community Energy Savings Program, DCE's first customer-facing energy efficiency initiative.

The program includes a **Small Business Direct Install (DI) pilot** that provides no-cost installation of a defined set of high-impact efficiency measures, such as HVAC optimization and refrigeration upgrades for eligible small businesses. The pilot will be supported by **Energy Outreach Kits** used as a marketing and engagement tool with simple, easy-to-install products like LED bulbs. Measures were intentionally selected based on established CPUC cost-effectiveness standards to ensure reliable savings and program viability.

Program Status Update:

- [September 2025](#): DCE Board authorized submission of the Tier 3 Advice Letter and Elect-to-Administer (ETA) application to the CPUC.
- [November 2025](#): Staff provided the Board with a status update confirming submittal of the ETA application.
- Current Status: The application is under CPUC review and certification; program launch is anticipated several months following approval.

Engagement with the Community Advisory Committee (CAC): As DCE prepares for implementation, staff is seeking the Community Advisory Committee's input to help ensure the program is accessible, well-targeted, and responsive to local needs—particularly for small businesses and hard-to-reach customers.

The CAC's insights will help shape outreach strategies, partnerships, and engagement approaches to maximize participation and community impact as the program moves toward launch. Staff will also share these insights with the DCE Board.

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Meeting Date	Discussion Topic	Note:
1/27/2025	DCE Consultant Presentation: TEA	Completed
4/2/2025	DCE Consultant Presentation: BRC	Completed
6/9/2025	Extreme Summer Heat: Impacts and Resiliency Practices	Completed
8/11/2025	CANCELED	Topic moved to January 2026
January 2026	Community Investment: Customer Programs	
March 2026	DCE Billing Explained	
May/June 2026	Current CCA Landscape and Best Practices	
Jul/Aug 2026	Data Transparency (i.e. Customer Enrollment)	
Sep/Oct 2026	Outreach Engagement: Marketing Messaging	
Nov/Dec 2026	Advocating for DCE Enrollment: CAC Involvement	