



## Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance

### Action Minutes

### Ventura County Regional Energy Alliance Board Meeting

February 18, 2021

10:30 a.m.

#### No Location- Zoom Meeting

#### 1. Welcome/ Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Executive Director Sue Hughes at 10:30 a.m.

#### 2. Roll Call

Directors Present:

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Richard Araiza       | City of Santa Paula                       |
| Scott Quady          | Calleguas Municipal Water District        |
| Gabriela Basua       | City of Oxnard                            |
| Laura Hernandez      | City of Port Hueneme                      |
| Mike Judge           | City of Simi Valley                       |
| Matt LaVere          | County of Ventura                         |
| Christina Villaseñor | City of Fillmore                          |
| Sofia Rubalcava      | City of Ventura                           |
| Ed Jones             | City of Thousand Oaks                     |
| Joshua Chancer       | Ventura County Community College District |
| Mark Austin          | Ventura Regional Sanitation District      |

Directors Not Present:

|                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Matthew Almaraz | Ventura Unified School District |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|

#### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

Executive Director Sue Hughes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 4. Oath of Office for New VCREA Directors

The following Directors were sworn in by Executive Director Sue Hughes:

Christina Villaseñor  
Gabriela Basua  
Richard Araiza  
Raul Avila  
Sofia Rubalcava  
Matt LaVere  
Joshua Chancer

## **5. Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Upon motion of Director Hernandez, seconded by Director Chancer, the Board elected Director LaVere as Chair of the Board.

Upon motion of Director Jones, seconded by Director Austin, the Board elected Director Hernandez as Vice Chair of the Board.

## **6. Minutes from the September 17, 2020 VCREA Board Meeting**

Upon motion of Director Austin, seconded by Director Quady, the Board received and filed the Minutes of the September 17, 2020 meeting. Director Quady requested that the word "alternate" be removed next to his name under Roll Call.

## **7. Agenda Review**

Staff member Kelly Cattnach requested that Item #14 be removed from the agenda.

Upon motion of Director Villaseñor, seconded by Director Judge, the Board accepted the change to the agenda.

## **8. Public Comments**

None

## **9. Board Member Comments**

None

## **10. Javier Saucedo Contract Amendment**

Staff member Alejandra Telléz provided a brief overview of Mr. Saucedo's various roles and responsibilities as well as highlighted his valuable expertise demonstrated within VCREA.

Upon motion of Director Judge, seconded by Director Edmonds, the Board approved Javier Saucedo's contract amendment.

## **11. Service Rates**

Staff member Alejandra Telléz, provided an overview of the Service Rates being presented. Ms. Telléz stated that VCREA staff members are County employees implementing the VCREA program. VCREA rates are calculated based on the County Service Rates in addition to additional overhead associated with implementing the VCREA program.

Upon motion of Director Judge, seconded by Director Austin, the Board approved the Service Rates for VCREA supporting staff.

## **12. 2021 Meeting Schedule**

Staff member Kelly Cattnach provided an overview of the two options presented before the Board, meeting four times annually or meeting six times annually. After some discussion amongst the Board, four meetings a year was approved.

Approved schedule:

February 18, 2021  
May 20, 2021  
August 19, 2021  
November 18, 2021

Upon motion of Director Quady, seconded by Director Austin, the Board approved the 2021 Meeting Schedule.

## **13. Ready, Set, Go Ventura County Electric Vehicle Project**

Staff member Heather Allen provided a summary of the Board Letter and was available to answer any questions.

Chair LaVere, Vice Chair Hernandez, and Director Judge acknowledged staffs' efforts in being awarded the grant.

Upon motion of Vice Chair Hernandez, seconded by Director Judge, the Board approved the delegation of authority for the following:

1. Approve and Sign the Clean Transportation Program Grant Agreement with the California Energy Commission to Implement the Ventura County Electric Vehicle Ready Community Blueprint.
2. Approve and Sign Contract with Mixteco/Indígena Community Organizing Project to Implement the Community Electric Vanpool.
3. Approve and Sign Contract(s) for Yet to Be Determined EV Coach(es).
4. Approve and Sign Memorandum of Understanding with Gold Coast Transit District to Implement the GOnow Microtransit Route.
5. Approve and Sign Memorandum of Understanding with City of Thousand Oaks to Implement the Electric Bus Accelerator Pilot Project.
6. Approve and Sign Memorandum of Understanding with County of Ventura General Services Agency to Implement the Electric Remote Motor Pool Expansion.
7. Manage and Administer the Ready, Set, Go Electric Ventura County Project.

## **14. Program Update**

Removed from agenda

## **15. General Updates and Announcements**

Staff member Alejandra Telléz discussed potential opportunities to work on projects including recycling and food waste recovery, projects dealing with sustainable issues beyond energy efficiency. With the passage of recent legislation, certain mandates will be put on cities and counties for such efforts requiring additional planning and implementation. VCREA currently does

not have the capacity to undertake such projects; however, if the Board deems it appropriate, there is potentially the opportunity to hire local workforce to assist.

Chair LaVere and Vice Chair Hernandez stated that if there are regional environmental initiatives that VCREA can be pursuing that align with VCREA mission and goals, then they support those efforts.

Director Quady commented on Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) and their effect on agencies in the region. He stated that many agencies are starting to look at how they can independently operate during PSPS events. Director Quady inquired about any potential grant opportunities available in the future to assist with such efforts.

Staff member Heather Allen highlighted efforts found in the Program Update. She congratulated Ocean View School District and Oxnard Union High School District for their recent purchases of electric buses (eBuses). She also shared that VCREA applied for a Drive Electric Earth Day grant to host five events during the week of April 19<sup>th</sup> through April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. Allen also shared information pertaining to the recently launched Home Energy Saving DIY Toolkits. Outreach efforts for the launching of this program were shared.

**16. Next Meeting- Scheduled for May 20, 2021**

**17. Adjournment**

Chair LaVere adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m.