

MCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 16, 2021
7:00 P.M.

This Meeting was conducted pursuant to the requirements of [Assembly Bill No. 361](#) (September 16, 2021) which allows a public agency to use teleconferencing during a Governor-proclaimed state of emergency without meeting usual [Ralph M. Brown Act](#) teleconference requirements. Committee Members, staff and members of the public were able to participate in the Committee Meeting via teleconference.

Present: Denise Athas, City of Novato
Edi Birsan, City of Concord
Tom Butt, City of Richmond, Board Chair
Barbara Coler, Town of Fairfax
Cindy Darling, City of Walnut Creek
Gina Dawson, City of Lafayette
David Fong, Town of Danville
Ford Greene, Town of San Anselmo
Maika Llorens Gulati, City of San Rafael
Kevin Haroff, City of Larkspur
Janelle Kellman, City of Sausalito
C. William Kircher, Town of Ross
Teresa Onoda, Town of Moraga
Aaron Meadows, City of Oakley
Katy Miessner, City of Vallejo
Leila Mongan, Town of Corte Madera
Devin Murphy, City of Pinole
Scott Perkins, City of San Ramon
Gabriel Quinto, City of El Cerrito
Matt Rinn, City of Pleasant Hill
Christina Strawbridge, City of Benicia
Scott Tonnesen, Alternate, City of Fairfield
Holli Thier, Town of Tiburon
John Vasquez, County of Solano
Sally Wilkinson, City of Belvedere and City of Mill Valley
Brianne Zorn, City of Martinez

Absent: John Gioia, Contra Costa County
Patricia Ponce, City of San Pablo
Katie Rice, County of Marin
Shanelle Scales-Preston, City of Pittsburg
Brad Wagenknecht, County of Napa

**Staff
& Others:** Jessica Brooks, Assistant Board Clerk
Michael Callahan, Senior Policy Counsel
Stephanie Chen, Senior Policy Counsel

Darlene Jackson, Board Clerk
Vicken Kasarjian, Chief Operating Officer
Justin Kudo, Senior Strategic Analysis and Rates Manager
Ami Kundaria, Administrative Services Assistant
Catalina Murphy, Legal Counsel II
Zae Perrin, Manager of Customer Operations
Evelyn Reyes, Administrative Services Assistant II
Garth Salisbury, Director of Finance and Treasurer
Lindsay Saxby, Director of Power Resources
Shalini Swaroop, General Counsel & Director of Policy
Dawn Weisz, Chief Executive Officer

1. **Roll Call**

Chair Butt called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with quorum established by roll call.

2. **Board Announcements (Discussion)**

There were no announcements.

3. **Public Open Time (Discussion)**

Chair Butt opened the public comment period and there were comments made by member of the public Howdy Goudey.

4. **Report from Chief Executive Officer (Discussion)**

CEO Dawn Weisz, reported the following:

- Welcomed Scott Tonnesen, Alternate representing the City of Fairfield.
- MCE's 2021 Impact Report highlights:
 - We delivered more than 90% carbon-free energy to over 1 million people and businesses this year
 - We gave out over \$4 million dollars in energy efficiency rebates, and launched a FlexMarket program that is now being replicated across the state
 - We installed over 1,000 EV charging ports in our communities
 - We achieved an "A" credit rating due to strong financial management
- On the equity front
 - MCE Cares Credit Program has helped 30,000 customers to date. We were successful in making sure our customers could take full advantage of the Arrearage Management Program which has already helped customers eliminate more than \$1 million dollars in energy debt.
 - We distributed free energy-saving kits to almost 800 families, free smart thermostats to over 200 families, and helped over 100 families get weatherization upgrades. Almost every day of the week, we have crews in the field conducting audits and retrofits, to help our customers save energy.

- We dedicated \$3 million to workforce development activities, connecting folks with green jobs.
- We launched a new solar discount rate that gives income-qualified folks 100% renewable energy with a 20% bill discount.
- We added “community benefits” as a new part of our power supply bids, raising the bar for suppliers to support equity and bolster our communities.
- To put all the work in perspective, since 2010, we have committed over \$2 billion to get new California renewable energy projects built, creating hundreds of good-paying jobs, and meeting the state’s SB 100 carbon-reduction target 13 years early.
- In preparation for next year, our policy team has been coordinating with our new federal lobbyist to identify federal and state funding opportunities that are a good fit for MCE’s goals and program priorities. We are especially interested in opportunities to bring renewable energy, efficiency, and storage to underserved communities, and to help emerging technologies that could provide RA/reliability resources. These opportunities will be a big focus of our work in 2022.
- As a reminder, MCE will have an administrative shut down between December 26 - 31 and we will not be holding our regular Executive or Technical Committee meetings the first week of January. However, there will be a virtual Special Executive Committee meeting on Friday, January 21 at 12:00 P.M. noon and we look forward to seeing some of you there.
- Due to recent fluctuations in COVID cases and CDC guidance, we have pushed our “in-person” office reopening from January 4th to January 18th, and will be reassessing any new guidance from the CDC in early January to determine if additional delays are warranted.

5. Consent Calendar (Discussion/Action)

- C.1 Approval of 11.18.21 Meeting Minutes
- C.2 Approved Contracts for Energy Update
- C.3 Fourth Agreement by and Between Marin Clean Energy and Strategic Energy Innovations
- C.4 Sixth Agreement with The Energy Alliance Association (TEAA)
- C.5 First Amendment to First Agreement with Thorn Run Partners

Chair Butt opened the public comment period and there were no comments.

Action: It was M/S/C (Perkins/Birsan) to **approve Consent Calendar items C.1 – C.5**. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (Absent: Directors Gioia, Rice, Wagenknecht, Scales-Preston, and Ponce).

6. Presentation of the Climate Action Leadership Award (Discussion)

Stephanie Chen, Senior Policy Counsel, introduced this item and addressed questions from Board members.

Chair Butt opened the public comment period and there were no comments.

Action: No action required.

7. Assembly Bill No. 361: New Teleconferencing Legislation Resolution No. 2021-11 Authorizing Continued Remote Teleconference Meetings for the Board of Directors and Every Committee of the Board of Directors Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e); and Resolution No. 2021-12 Delegating Authority to Technical Committee to Adopt Findings Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) (Discussion/Action)

Catalina Murphy, Legal Counsel II, introduced this item and addressed questions from Board members.

Chair Butt opened the public comment period and there were no comments.

Action: It was M/S/C (Thier/Quinto) to:

1. Adopt proposed Resolution No. 2021-11 Authorizing Continued Remote Teleconference Meetings for the Board of Directors and Every Committee of the Board of Directors Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e); and
2. Adopt proposed Resolution No. 2021-12 Delegating Authority to Technical Committee to Adopt Findings Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e).

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. (Absent: Directors Gioia, Rice, Wagenknecht, Scales-Preston, and Ponce).

8. MCE Rate Adjustments (Discussion/Action)

Garth Salisbury, Director of Finance and Treasurer, Justin Kudo, Senior Strategic Analysis and Rates Manager, and Zae Perrin, Manager of Customer Operations introduced this item and addressed questions from Board members.

Chair Butt opened the public comment period and there were comments from member of the public Howdy Goudey.

Action: It was M/S/C (Coler/Athas) to:

1. Direct staff to increase system average rates on January 1, 2022 by \$0.003/kWh.
2. Direct staff to implement additional increases to system average rates of up to \$0.017/kWh while achieving a minimum 2% discount relative to PG&E rates, following the implementation of PG&E's 2022 Energy Resource Recovery Account and/or associated changes to the PCIA.

Motion carried by roll call vote. (Yea: 24, Nay: 1; Absent: Directors Gioia, Rice, Wagenknecht, Scales-Preston, and Ponce).

9. MCE Bonding (Discussion)

Director Haroff, introduced this item and addressed questions from Board members.

Chair Butt opened the public comment period and there were no comments.

Action: No action required.

10. Report on Successful Completion of Renewable Energy Prepayment Transaction (Discussion)

Garth Salisbury, Director of Finance and Treasurer, Lindsay Saxby, Director of Power Resources, and Michael Callahan, Senior Policy Counsel, introduced this item and addressed questions from Board members.

Chair Butt opened the public comment period and there were no comments.

Action: No action required.


11. Board Matters & Staff Matters (Discussion)

There were none.

12. Adjournment


Chair Butt adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m. to the next scheduled Board Meeting on January 20, 2022.

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Tom Butt, Chair

Attest:

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Dawn Weisz, Secretary