



**MARIN ENERGY AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, May 2, 2013  
7:00 P.M.**

**SAN RAFAEL CORPORATE CENTER, TAMALPAIS ROOM  
750 LINDARO STREET, SAN RAFAEL, CA 94901**

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Damon Connolly, City of San Rafael, Chair  
Kathrin Sears, County of Marin  
Bob McCaskill, City of Belvedere  
Alexandra Cock, Town of Corte Madera  
Len Rifkind, City of Larkspur  
Ken Wachtel, City of Mill Valley  
Denise Athas, City of Novato  
Tom Butt, City of Richmond  
Carla Small, Town of Ross  
Ford Green, Town of San Anselmo  
Ray Withy, City of Sausalito  
Emmett O'Donnell, Town of Tiburon

**Absent:** Larry Bragman, Town of Fairfax

**Staff:** Dawn Weisz, Executive Officer  
Elizabeth Kelly, Legal Director  
Beckie Menten, Energy Efficiency Coordinator  
Alex DiGiorgio, Community Affairs Coordinator  
Emily Goodwin, Internal Operations Coordinator  
Greg Brehm, Resource Coordinator  
Shalini Swaroop, Regulatory Counsel  
Greg Stepanicich, General Counsel  
John Maher, Maher Accountancy  
Darlene Jackson, Clerk

**Closed Session: 6:30 PM**

**Public Session: 7:30 PM**

**Agenda Item #1- Board Announcements (Discussion)**  
None

**Agenda Item #2 – Public Open Time (Discussion)**

None

**Agenda Item #3 – Report from Executive Officer (Discussion)**

Executive Officer Dawn Weisz reported on the following:

- Green Power Partnership - All Marin County cities and towns that are MCE customers have been added to EPA Green Power Partnership website. Road signs are being delivered to respective cities and towns by MCE. If jurisdictions have not yet received their sign or want a formal council presentation they can request support from MCE staff.
- MEA's Better Business Bureau certification has been approved and we now have the ability to use the BBB logo on our marketing materials, website and Energy Efficiency program.
- GenPower, one of the facilities providing renewable power to MEA, had a ribbon cutting ceremony where MEA Account Manager Justin Kudo was able to attend, reporting back it was an exciting and educational event. MEA is purchasing 4 MW from GenPower.

**Agenda Item #4 – Consent Calendar (Discussion/Action)**

- C.1 Minutes from 4.4.13 Board Meeting
- C.2 Monthly Budget Report
- C.3 Report on Approved Contracts
- C.4 Payment to Green Ideals Contract Overage
- C.5 Budget Amendments

**M/s Greene/Athas (Passed 12-0-1) approved all items on the consent calendar. Director Bragman was absent.**

**Agenda Item #5 – Deep Green Local Renewable Development Fund (Discussion/Action)**

Executive Officer Weisz informed the Board that this exciting project was presented and previously discussed at both Technical Committee and Executive Committee meetings. She discussed the key focus of the CCA Program was the development and implementation of local energy resources. Tying this goal to revenue from Deep Green customers is a great way to add distributed generation and other energy programs responsive to customer interests.

Through an ongoing evaluation of MCE's service territory, staff has identified a variety of potential project development sites suitable for solar projects.

**MCE's Developed Projects**

- MCE would develop and own projects to support long term goals for renewable power supply and cost stability.
- MCE's service territory has a variety of potential of project development sites to consider.
- The MCE 'Local Renewable Development Fund' could be created and linked to Deep Green Customer participation to spur additional project development and Deep Green customer lead generation.

Resource Coordinator Greg Brehm presented on the program progress to date.

**First Project:**

- Visibility and interest in local renewable projects is likely to stimulate additional Deep Green customer enrollments, and thereby provide support for more local projects in the future.

**Pre-Development and Budget & Timeline:**

- Site Control
- Site Plan
- Single Line Diagram

Ms. Weisz provided clarification related to an adjustment to show \$51,536 rather than \$52,000 as the exact amount of funds recommended for transfer from the MEA operating fund into an MEA Local Renewable Development Fund to cover expenses related to MEA Renewable Project Development. A press release will be issued introducing this project to the community.

Ms. Weisz and Mr. Brehm responded to questions from the Board related to pre-development costs, actual building costs and various options for project funding.

**M/s Sears/Withy (Passed 12-0-1) approved recommendation to direct staff to transfer \$51,536 from the MEA operating fund into a MEA Local Renewable Development Fund to cover expenses related to MEA Local Renewable Project Development. Director Bragman was absent.**

**Agenda Item #6 Energy Efficiency Update and Standard Offer Program (Discussion)**

Energy Efficiency Coordinator Beckie Menten recognized Mr. Dimarea Young, a RichmondBUILD student who was killed the first day of program training implementation in Richmond. MCE employees have donated funds to several nonprofit organizations in Richmond to recognize Mr. Young, as well as recognizing him on the MCE website and sending condolence cards to RichmondBUILD and the Young Family

Ms. Menten provided the following update on the Standard Offer Program

- Brochures in English & Spanish are now available
- Upgrades to web portal have been made and it will be updated on a regular basis. She encouraged each Board member to visit the website
- Total Portfolio Electricity Consumption
- Potential available in commercial and industrial sectors
- Potential available in agricultural sector in particular – PGE offers agricultural rebates but they do not have a program geared toward their customers in the standard offer fashion
- Potential available in streetlight program
- MCE program constraints
- Optimistic view
- Next steps

Ms. Menten responded to questions from the Board and a request from Director Tom Butt that a few hypothetical cases are presented to assist in better understanding how the standard offer program really works.

**Agenda Item #7 – Communications Update (Discussion)**

Community Affairs Representative Alex DiGiorgio provided the following update:

- Described business outreach, media briefings and community event and meeting participation. He commended colleague Elena Velez on an excellent job of reaching the Spanish-speaking churches and

communities at large. MCE will be represented at the Cinco de Mayo celebration in Richmond on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

- Richmond customer participation
- Article in Pacific Sun – very exciting

Mr. DiGiorgio commended Communications Director Jamie Tuckey on a great job in City of Richmond advertising campaign.

Mr. DiGiorgio responded to questions from the Board and request to provide the Board with percentage of opt ups at the next meeting.

**Agenda Item #8 – Regulatory Update (Discussion)**

Legal Director Elizabeth Kelly provided update on:

- PG&E “Green Option” Settlement
- What the Green Option proposes
- Green Option creates cross-subsidies
- How we can encourage green opportunities that are offered in a fair and equitable marketplace
- How we can ensure a competitive environment for CCA’s

Ms. Kelly responded to questions from the Board. Chair Connolly commented that all of the Board comments are well taken. He was in Sacramento recently, met with the key legislative staff in charge of this Green Option being incorporated into proposed AB1014. He raised some of the same issues that Ms. Kelly presented in an attempt to advise legislative staff of fair and equitable parameters to consider, if the Green Option remains included in draft legislation.

**Agenda Item #9 Board Member & Staff Matters (Discussion)**

Chair Connolly complimented MEA staff on new shirts.

**Agenda Item #10 – Adjourn**

8:56PM

  
Damon Connolly, Chair, Marin Energy Authority

ATTEST:

  
Dawn Weisz, Executive Officer

