

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
CITY OF ALAMEDA PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD**

April 18, 2022

1. ROLL CALL

President Serventi called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. On roll call, the following commissioners were present: President Serventi, Commissioner Giuntini, Commissioner Gould, Commissioner McKenna, City Manager Levitt.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

Cyndy Johnson, member of the Bike Walk Alameda Board, thanked AMP for their continued support, specifically with the help of their map and sponsorship of Bike to Wherever Day coming up on Friday, May 20. She also invited the group to the Alameda Bike Festival on May 22 at the Bay Farm School. Cyndy also asked to follow up on a letter sent in February proposing that AMP incentivize the purchase of e-bikes. She emphasized the importance of using e-bikes to replace car use and provided some statistics on the benefit and popularity of e-bikes over cars and traditional bikes.

Tom Lent from the Climate Action Center in Berkeley complimented AMP's incentive program for electric vehicles and encourages AMP to expand that program to include electric bikes. He mentioned that other public utility providers have launched e-bike incentive programs.

Drew Dara Abrams from Bike Walk Alameda echoed previous comments. He bought an e-bike last year to replace car trips. E-cargo bikes are able to carry children and/or groceries and he has used it for many such trips. Local bike shops are already offering some discounts on e-bikes, and it makes a difference in purchase decisions.

Catherine Egelhoff commented that CASA also endorses the Bike Walk Alameda proposal for e-bike rebates from AMP. She recognized the hard work AMP has done creating incentives for a variety of programs and hopes an e-bike rebate will be added.

Miriam Ordin from Bike Walk Alameda noted that a recent San Francisco Chronicle article highlighted Alameda as having a high quality of life and pointed out the bike-ability of our city was part of the metrics that gave Alameda a high ranking.

President Serventi thanked the commenters and said the PUB will take the comments to heart and see what they can do.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. By Motion, Authorize the General Manager to Increase Two Outstanding Purchase Orders with Hitachi Energy USA Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$8,800.

With a motion from Commissioner Giuntini and a second from Commissioner Gould, the Board unanimously approved the single consent calendar item.

President Serventi welcomed Alameda Mayor Ezzy Ashcraft and thanked her for participating in this special meeting.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Workshop: Annual Strategic Planning Workshop

A1. Presentation on California Energy Policy Landscape

i. Guest Speaker: Severin Borenstein, Faculty Director of the Energy Institute at Haas and Member of the Board of Governors of the California Independent System Operator

Following a presentation by Severin Borenstein, President Serventi thanked him for his presentation and said that many points Mr. Borenstein made will be part of future discussions.

Commissioner Gould thanked Mr. Borenstein for his presentation, but hesitated to devalue solar just on a cost basis, citing other benefits including a reduction in transmission need, environmental benefits, and that creating more incentivized rooftop solar would increase electrification as it would allow for a back-up source of power. Mr. Borenstein noted that many transmission costs are static and not dependent on how many people are using them. On the point of increasing electrification, the redundancy value is largely private and going to wealthier customers, not benefiting the system as a whole.

Commissioner Giuntini thanked Mr. Borenstein for his presentation, stating that the information provided will be beneficial moving forward into discussions of strategic planning and the budget for next year.

Alameda resident Doug Linney asked about increasing electrification as a statewide goal and how funding for rebates can come from a more progressive tax base to increase equity among low-income customers. Mr. Borenstein stated that a study of where distributed resources are bringing the most value to the grid is important in creating true equity for rates/payments for low-income customers

Resident and former commissioner Ann McCormick weighed in on the urgency of rate design and suggested that we do not currently have the right price signals to encourage electrification and ensure equity. She believes there is an urgency for Time of Use (TOU)

rates for non-EV drivers and more work to do in the ability of personal analysis in customers' usage.

Mr. Borenstein mentioned that TOU rates don't reflect costs well. He is a bigger fan of critical peak pricing than of TOU as it allows a utility to increase rates significantly on a select number of days per year, and creates more urgency for customers to make a change on those days.

President Serventi thanked Mr. Borenstein for his presentation and the value it will add during upcoming rate design discussions.

ii. Guest Speakers: Randy Howard, General Manager of Northern California Power Agency

iii. Guest Speakers: Northern California Power Agency and California Municipal Utilities Association Staff

Following presentations by Randy Howard, General Manager of Northern California Power Agency (NCPA), Patrick Welch and Frank Harris from California Municipal Utility Association (CMUA), and Scott Tomashevsky and Jane Cirrincione at NCPA, President Serventi thanked the group for their time and thought-provoking information.

A2. Annual Report on Alameda Municipal Power's Five-Year Strategic Plan Key Performance Indicators, January 2021 - January 2022

i. Presentation by General Manager Nicolas Procos

Following a presentation by General Manager Procos, President Serventi asked if it would be appropriate to adjust the Strategic Plan issue from an energy efficiency focus to one of electrification.

Commissioner McKenna asked for clarification on the intent of the energy efficiency issue in the Strategic Plan. General Manager Procos clarified that the goal of the energy efficiency issue was solely to reduce load. Commissioner McKenna agreed with President Serventi's recommendation to adjust the Strategic Plan issue to focus on electrification/overall efficiency and not focus on one specific tactic. General Manager Procos clarified that AMP is meeting the tactics around energy efficiency/electrification, but the key performance indicators (KPI) don't necessarily align well, and perhaps the KPI should be adjusted. Commissioner McKenna suggested that we should also be considering what the "next thing" is in energy efficiency. What we all were pushing a couple of years ago has somewhat become a standard in the community. What's next that we can get out ahead of?

Commissioner Gould asked if there was a commercial rate for EV charging to attract more businesses to the island. General Manager Procos said that AMP does not have any special rates, but there are rebate programs for commercial EV charging installation.

Commissioner Gould reiterated that it would be advantageous to have a commercial EV charging rate that would bring more commercial infrastructure to the island.

Commissioner Gould stated that he believes Alameda needs more clean, local generation to increase resiliency and energy security. He hears from people on the island that they are interested in creating resiliency hubs and he thinks solar hubs would be beneficial. He recommended a review of the eligible renewable generation (ERG) program.

Commissioner Giuntini said that after Mr. Borenstein's presentation about equity in rate plans she wonders if AMP should look at comparing rates to competitors beyond PG&E in the future. General Manager Procos mentioned that AMP's rates are high compared to other Northern California municipal utilities, which was why AMP pushed so hard for no rate increases over the past two fiscal years.

President Serventi thanked AMP staff for putting together such a comprehensive meeting, the public who listened in, and the Mayor for participating

6. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Ezzy Ashcraft was appreciative of the workshop and the amount of information provided. She recognized the importance of electrification and thanked the Board and AMP staff for leading the way on that front.

7. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

New from Board members

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – NON-AGENDA (Public Comment)

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT

President Serventi adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.