

C/CAG

CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

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Resource Management and Climate Protection Committee (RMCP)

Minutes of March 15, 2017 Meeting

In Attendance:

Dave Pine, County Supervisor*
Tom Francis, BAWSCA
Beth Bhatnagar, SSMC Board Member*
Pradeep Gupta, South San Francisco City Council*
Maryann Moise Derwin, Committee Vice Chair, Mayor Portola Valley*
Robert Cormia, Professor Foothill-DeAnza*
Diane Papan, Councilmember, San Mateo*
Michael Barber, Supervisor Pine's Office
Kim Springer, County Office of Sustainability
Rachael Londer, County Office of Sustainability
Johnathan Kelves, Renew Financial
Brandi de Garmeaux

Not in attendance:

Deborah Gordon, Committee Chair, Woodside Town Council*
Don Horsley, County Supervisor*
Bill Chiang, PG&E*
Ortensia Lopez, El Concilio of San Mateo County*
Rick DeGolia, Town of Atherton*

* Committee Member (voting)

1. Introductions
2. Public Comment

There were no public comments

3. Approval of Minutes from February 15, 2017 meeting
(Kim Springer – Committee Staff) Action

No action taken due to lack of quorum. February Minutes moved to next meeting.

4. Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency update on current water supply and conservation (Adrienne Carr, BAWSCA) Presentation, Discussion

Adrienne Carr was not in attendance. The presentation was made by BAWSCA Water Resources Manager, Tom Francis. The presentation is made available online.

Pradeep Gupta: Looking at the historical record of snow pack, commented that there is great variability of the water supply on CA.

Tom Francis: Yes, one could argue that, especially with variable weather from year-to-year, that there is some uncertainty about future drought

Pradeep Gupta: The main point is that we have a discussion about what is our strategy, enough to realize that, right now, there really isn't a strategy. How do we really deal with this situation, given the facts?

The state needed about 375 million acre feet of water this year and we've received over a 1,000,000 million acre feet, so we are in good shape, our reservoirs are full. Calaveras Dam in not full as it is under construction. The water bank is also full, and some dams are being spilled.

Diane Papan: What is the outcomes of the tunnel inspection on Hetch Hetchy.

Tom Francis: The results of the inspections and small repairs is that the tunnels, which are almost 100 years old, are fine.

There is a new program called: "Making Conservation a way of Life". There is a document that is in draft form. Eventually (about five years) this will be a very big program. Part of the program is that the State will look at each community to determine what level of hard scape and landscape, and there will be programs to improve. The water agencies will be asked to develop programs.

Pradeep Gupta: When this program is put in place, will it just be water agencies, or will it include small water users.

Tom Francis: Right now, the governor is targeting residential users for this program. Not sure what they are planning for ag users.

Maryann Derwin: What's the time line for the roll out of the program?

Tom Francis: Probably in 2019. Right now the state has to do a lot of analysis of landscaped and interact with the cities

5. Presentation on PACE financing and utilization in San Mateo County (Jonathan Kevles, Renew Financial) Presentation, Discussion

Jonathan Kelves provided a presentation on the current state of PACE financing in CA and in San Mateo County. The presentation materials are posted online.

Diane Papan: On the does the PACE loan get to supersede a first loan?

Jonathan Kelves: Banks have concerns because PACE assessments are ahead of the first loan. They are ahead of the first loan because they are an assessment and, based on a law from 1911, communities can establish a special assessment districts and because it is paid off via the tax bill, it's just like any other line item on the tax bill. Line item assessments are ahead of the loan in the

case of default. See two page Q&A on this topic, posted online.

Kim Springer: Is it possible to break out the number of water projects from the rest?

Jonathan Kelves: I'll send a revision of this slide deck that shows that.

Tom Francis: I wonder how many utility users are actually aware of the PACE programs?

Jonathan Kelves: You might want to come and present to BAWSCA's water resources group.

Dave Pine: When you look around the Bay Area, what do they look like in terms of number of projects, because 178 isn't a whole lot for such a large county?

Jonathan Kelves: Contra Costa County has been the most active county in the Bay Area, perhaps because there is so much renting of properties in San Mateo County. It may also be that solar lease is more powerful here.

Rachael Londer: It may be that the air conditioning and wall insulation type upgrades are more popular in hotter climates.

6. Presentation on resource conservation library kits

(Rachael Londer, County Staff)

Presentation, Discussion

Rachael Londer gave a presentation on the resource conservation library kits.

The library kits are a spinoff of a similar kit that was developed by Silicon Valley Energy Watch. There is a handbook that describes how to use the tools to evaluate residential energy and water use and exercises for installing the items residents may keep, such as a low flow shower head and LED lightbulb. The handbook will eventually be translated into Spanish and Mandarin.

Bob Cormia: An energy champions club could really leverage this kit.

Dave Pine: How many kits will the libraries have?

Rachael Londer: There will be between two and four kits at each library.

The libraries will replenish the consumables in the kits. If tools are missing, the County's library system will replenish those items. The program will supply the libraries with the kit contents.

7. Presentation on launch of public online data portal for presentation of resource use and greenhouse gas emissions in San Mateo County

(Kim Springer, County Staff)

Presentation Discussion

Kim Springer provided a presentation on the online data portal.

The County has an online open data portal via a software called Socrata with five available dashboards. We received approval to use of the dashboards for posting energy-, water-, waste-, and transportation-related data to provide public information on trends of the GHG emissions and resource use, in some cases by city boundaries in San Mateo County.

One advantage of the data portal is that the data is uploaded and the software allows users to create custom visualizations of the data (graphs and charts). These graphs and charts each have a unique URL that can be linked to other web pages. When the data is updated (a new year of data is added) the URL, and therefore all the linked pages, are updated as well.

Each city has a unique page and city staff have been provided access so that they can update and customize their own pages.

Bob Cormia: It seems easy to navigate and easy to read.

8. Presentation on California Public Utilities Commission and California Energy Commission solar and storage integration in the transition to zero net energy
(Nellie Tong, consultant DNV GL) Presentation, Discussion

Nellie Tong provided a presentation on DNV GL's modeling of integrated energy generation and storage and how this approach affects the cost-effectiveness of zero net energy. The work was funded by the DOE energy and defense funding. (see presentation posted online)

Pradeep Gupta: It is correct that we have the duck curve, but this issue, which historically has been going on for years, has required chasing the time customers use energy. The best solution is dynamic pricing in order to solve the issue.

Bob Cormia: I developed a project model for one of our campuses setting the parameters we had and letting the model design the battery size itself. We found that the battery will be working 24/7. We had added benefit of demand response and frequency regulation, but the cost was significant. What concerns me the most and is your best point, is that the existing grid is not designed for this kind of use. We are promoting distributed solar but also promoting programs such as CCAs, so the issue is compounding. Electric vehicles can be used to re-route the excess energy from residential generation.

Pradeep Gupta: This kind of approach requires continuous optimization and integration, and PG&E needs to be incentivized to transition their technologies rather than being supported for continuing their older infrastructure. There needs to be an economic incentive change to make this transition happen.

Bob Cormia: We can change the grid completely in 15 years, but it's going to take another 30 years to receive the benefits of the cost of that change.

9. Committee Member Updates

Beth Bahtnagar: I have some copies of the SSMC Indicators Report, which has the cost of living as the main indicator this time around.

Kim Springer: The RICAPS and SMCEW program received an Innovative Partnership Award from US EPA. My biggest take away from the conference where we received the award was that corporations and startups are looking for opportunities to fill niches in the green tech space and businesses are looking for solutions that are coming to parity in cost to less green alternatives. It's imbedded, and the current administration isn't going to change that.

Pradeep Gupta: SSF is seriously looking at a water storage project under one of its parks that will store 6 acre feet of water from stormwater of 6,300 square acres of area, and will be cleaned before it goes into storage and could be used for irrigation purposes. This requires coordination with County, C/CAG Caltrans and a lot of permit requirements.

10. Next Regular Meeting Date was confirmed as April 19, 2017