

C/CAG

CITY/COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

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Meeting Minutes

Resource Management and Climate Protection Committee (RMCP)

155 Bovet Rd. - Ground Floor Conference Room

San Mateo CA, 94402

Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 Time: 3:00 p.m.

*****HYBRID MEETING - IN-PERSON AND BY VIDEOCONFERENCE*****

Committee Members in Attendance:

Donna Colson – Burlingame (Chair)
Tom Francis – BAWSCA (Vice Chair)
Adam Loraine – San Mateo
Gina Papan – Millbrae
Rick DeGolia - Atherton
Jeff Smith – Sares Regis Group

Committee Members not in Attendance

Alex Fernandez – Filoli
Christine Kohl-Zaugg – Sustainable San Mateo County
Dave Pine – County of San Mateo
Deborah Ruddock – Half Moon Bay
Sue Beckmeyer – Pacifica
Ortensia Lopez - El Concilio
Bill Chiang - PG&E

Additional Attendees

Kim Springer – C/CAG
Sean Charpentier – C/CAG
Amy Dao – BAAQMD
Susan Wright – County OOS
Nicole Sandkula - BAWSCA
Michael Barber – Supervisor Pine Staff
Peter Dreckmeier – Tuolumne River Trust
Charles Schwab – Pacifica Public
Carol Steinfeld – Sierra Club
Drew – Public

Note: All presentations for this meeting have been posted on the C/CAG RMCP Committee website:
<https://ccag.ca.gov/committees/resource-management-and-climate-protection-committee/>

Meeting was called to order at 3:07 P.M.

1. Roll Call and Introductions

Committee member and staff introduced themselves.

Committee staff completed Roll Call and, with only five members present, a quorum of Committee members was not achieved.

2. Public Comments on items not on the agenda

There were no public comments.

3. Approval of minutes of the February 15, 2023 RMCP Committee meeting.

Without a quorum, the Committee chair moved on to the next item on the agenda. Member Papan noted that neither she nor Member Loraine were listed as present for the February Committee meeting per the minutes. Staff will update.

4. Presentation on California Energy Commission Activities Supporting the Evaluation of Energy Storage and Long Duration Energy Storage to Support California's Zero Carbon Future.

Mike Gravely, Energy Storage Technical led, and the California Energy Commission (CEC), provided a presentation on activities at the Commission supporting the evaluation of energy storage and long-term energy storage to support California's Zero Carbon Future.

The CEC is one of three main agencies involved in California's energy systems and planning for future needs. The CEC has multiple programs related policy and standards, developing innovation in areas such as storage and renewable generation, energy infrastructure, and collaboration with other government actors. The CEC is helping reach the 100% carbon neutral goal in 2045. Renewables alone will not allow the State to achieve that goal 24/7; storage is key.

The CEC runs the state's Energy Program Investment Charge program, funded by the CPUC through 2030 at this time. The CPUC invests approximately \$130M per year from Public Good Charges for this program, run by the CEC. This is a significant source of innovation funding for the State. Energy storage, particularly long-term storage, which the State defines as 8 hours or longer) is a considerable focus. It is estimated that 40-50 gigawatts of storage will be needed by 2045. Currently, there are 5 GWs installed, and the goal is 15 GW by 2032, 1 GW of that being long-term storage. Renewables will also need to multiply by 2045: Solar and Wind need to triple, and Battery Storage needs to grow by eight times. Lithium Ion is currently 99% of the existing storage, it is not long-term storage, and there are many other storage technologies, both chemical, thermal, and mechanical. A challenge of achieving State long-term storage goals is quickly establishing viability, cost effectiveness, financial conditions that entice investment, and reliability.

The Committee asked questions related to expansion of renewables and storage and phasing out of non-renewable generation, other sources of energy, progress on residential battery storage, how to support progress on long-term storage, residential storage, and grid-level storage and how to balance, effect of NEM3, battery fire safety, recycling or repurposing of batteries, vehicle to grid, and the viability of hydrogen storage. Public attendees had questions about time of release of water from dams and how to balance that with needs for river recreation and generation.

5. Presentation by the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Partnership on developments in Hydrogen infrastructure in California and beyond.

Keith Malone with the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Partnership (H2FCP) provided a presentation on developments in the deployment of Hydrogen and Hydrogen vehicles. Keith shared the broad membership of the HFCP, drivers of renewable Hydrogen production, the federal infrastructure reinvestment, Inflation Reduction Act, and other factors influencing development of Hydrogen Hubs in the US, targets for reducing cost of renewable Hydrogen, Hydrogen projects in CA, and developments in vehicles and trucks.

The Committee asked questions related to reliability of water supply for Hydrogen, use of Hydrogen for rail, the H2FCP's take on use of Hydrogen for energy storage, waste conversion technologies, space requirements for H2 fuel tanks and how H2, and cost of infrastructure.

The public commented on work in Palo Alto for waste conversion and Chair Colson mentioned the idea that a lot of the members of H2FCP are, in fact, also oil producers and that if they are helping driving the shift to Hydrogen with their investments, this is something to keep in mind.

6. Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency update on winter storms and water supply and drought conditions in San Mateo County.

Tom Francis, Senior Water Manager at BAWSCA and member of the RMCP Committee, provided a presentation on the storms and supply condition in San Mateo County.

The governor still has not lifted the drought declaration. Large and continuous winter storms and large amounts of snowfall have put the current water year in the record books. Reservoir levels are in pretty good shape and snowpack is at an all-time record for this time of the year. Precipitation forecasts continue into the coming weeks.

In addition, probably due to the rain, water use is considerably down from previous years. Due to operation costs, it's possible water rates could increase.

Committee member asked questions related to how water rate information and education is delivered to customers, and how the storms will recharge the aquifers (groundwater banking).

Public members shared updates from SFPUC meetings and their projection for what these storms mean to water flows in the rivers and wildlife, the need for agencies to all provide hybrid meetings post COVID as C/CAG does, how to raise one's hand by phone, and clarification on the potential need for a rate increase.

Staff asked if a rapid snowpack melt would affect the long-term outlook on water supply. Staff added that California DWR has a groundwater level tracking system, which can show how water levels might change from these storms.

7. Committee Member Updates

There were no Committee member updates.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: April 19, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 5:13 P.M.

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