



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

PO Box 190 | Huntington Beach CA 92648

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

6:00 PM – Regular Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM.

ROLL CALL

Board Members: Tony Soriano, Bud Benneman, KC Fockler, Joan Siegal, Kathleen McGowan

Liaison: Kayla-Acosta-Galvin

City Staff: Tess Nguyen

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sandy Smallshaw- Resident, wanted to attend

Mark Sheldon- Resident- Spoke about getting City Fleet off fossil Fuels, brought up Dan Kalmick's resolution #30 from last meeting about getting it done before power authority was set up. Discussed incorporating micro-grids into city.

Mike Elliott- Resident, wanting to see how our board was run, and just visiting. He is on the Infrastructure Board.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of Minutes – October 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve: Joan

Second: Bud

Yay- 4 Nay-0 Abstain- 1

Motion Passes

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS. 6:05 pm

1. Speaker: Antonia Castro-Graham, Chief Operating Officer of Orange County Power Authority- Background on OCPA. Community Choice. Discussed what it is all about. How energy is delivered. CPUC will lower generation price by 4% Various consultants helping council members. Direct access market where people can choose who they want to buy from. Utilities/SCE buy long term energy rates for up to 20 years. 2002 AB117 establishes CCA SB790 Creates a code of conduct about why PG&E cannot go after their old customers directly. 21 CCA's in CA cover 10 mill residents currently. Competitive prices. State has a portfolio of almost 100% renewable for long-term investment. Projections are that 75% of CA will be under under CCA's in 3 years.

OCPA has almost 700,000 residents within its limits.

They would provide Energy efficient Programs: Customer programs will help lower bill prices. Use CPUC funds to lower bill. By YE they will submit plan to Elect how to administer funds...how they will be used. i.e.: EV Power stations. Money could be used for micro grids etc.

Commercial and Indus customers will be offered in Jan/Fed. In March-Residents will be offered it. OCPA will offer 100% renewable as an option. Antonia said, "Electrons get jumbled up and you do not know where it comes from". So how do you know you are actually getting Solar?

Purpose is to get to 100% renewable energy

*For Cities

*Targeted rebate program for residents in using:
New Refrigeration, certain Lighting

Nexus between water use and energy use. Pumping H2O is expensive, Poseidon is expensive. So how do you remedy the fact that you will need more power in order to get more water for Californians.

Primal Elements (Case History) Company here in HB....75,000 sq. ft. building. Products sold all over. 99% of product made here in HB. HB helped them go green: reuse, reduce, recycle their product.

OCPA Wants to help manage peak energy usage for each household.

OCPA wants to really help disadvantaged customers. Looking at colleges to have programs where students can learn the business and get a certificate on running Solar. JC's, like GWC, want to help them match up what customers need and get JC students to intern for them and they can in-turn get a future job. Green Collar workforce plan!

Train Energy auditors through the program. Train under on Title 24...and other codes that fall under it.

Bud asked, what type of coursework? Would it be under continuing Ed at GWC or IVC in sustainability courses?

Joan, asked how will it be advertised to city residents? A: Letters will be going out to customers shortly. SCE will be asking for a distribution rate increase, so residents need to be aware- especially if you have solar. They will have call centers to help residents figure out their best options.

Green Business Network- The City of HB lost funding from Air Coast Air Quality. \$30,000/year. So it is gone right now.

AES Plant- AQMD fined them and money is available to city, someone needs to follow up to see if the city gets any of this money.

Jerry Muzinski- SCE is pushing batteries for consumers and industrial buildings. Battery fires are hard to put out...Antonia responded, those are unintended consequences, like how to get rid of Solar Panels? Batteries? Etc. Lithium mining is a horrible industry, but it is needed for batteries.

2. Orange County Power Authority Community Advisory Committee Report
Antonia Castro-Graham, Chief Operating Officer of the Orange County Power Authority, made a presentation about the goals and activities of the Orange County Power Authority.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Environmental Impact Reports

Tess- Board Name Change is final: We will be the Environmental and Sustainability Board. Board will have changes in a few months. Until then, Business as usual.

Joan- Has there been any sand/sediment testing? Kathleen said she thought the city was still working on it. Tony mentioned that Patriot and other Entities were still cleaning it up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Executive Committee (Soriano, Benneman)
Nothing to report.
2. Education and Outreach (Benneman, Fockler)
 - a. Art Contest- discussed the contest flyer. Tess- Board may change in Jan. so contest may not happen. Items going to council in a week to discuss the changes of the committees and we need to wait to see if the board will move forward with contest.
KC asked if we should we still have it?
Joan asked should we reach out to Liaisons?
Tony asked if they are still talking about Bi-monthly meetings, and going to just 6/year.
Joan said we don't want to alienate the sponsors by not having the event.
KC said we don't have the prizes yet so we are not going to offend them.
Sandy asked are the Boards dissolving? Tess asked her to look at the Oct 19th minutes from City Council about the changes to City Boards and Commissions.
Mike said his board, the Infrastructure Board, is worthless...so it should be dismantled.
Mark mentioned that Kalmick wanted boards to be changed, needs to be put into law... maybe we should speak on Art Contest at next CC Meeting (keep it going).
3. Natural Resource Management and Open Space (McGowan, Siegal)
 - a. Orange County Oil Spill Water Quality Sampling Results (Draft Report) Available to all to review.
Nothing new
Kathleen mentioned that since we will be going to Sustainability...maybe reviewing General Plan ahead of time to see what programs should be reviewed, kept, eliminated, would help to determine our function.
Tony said he agrees it should be looked at...especially waste reduction. Micro-grids at UCI are up and coming, so we need to review our plan for future.

4. Green Economy (Fockler, Siegal, Soriano)
 - a. Sustainable Business Certificate Program

Dead right now. No money to proceed. Joan- City Council may or may not want to proceed. Kathleen said that maybe we can bring items to next meeting to discuss from a sustainability standpoint to see if it makes sense to incorporate those into our new duties. Tess- asked that the board get items for the agenda and articles too in order to discuss Kathleen's idea.

MEMBER COMMENTS

KC- nothing to report

Joan- Poly-Aromatic Hydrocarbons Benzo (a) pyrene is what the city should worry about in the sand samples

Tony-No Comments

Bud- Env/Sus Board- Should go forward with contest. Why would CC not vote no on it?

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Motion- Joan
Second-Bud
Yay- 5 Nay- 0
Motion Passes

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental Board is Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 6:00 PM in Room B-8, Lower Level, Huntington Beach City Hall.

INTERNET ACCESS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD AGENDA AND STAFF REPORT MATERIAL IS
AVAILABLE PRIOR TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETINGS AT:

<https://huntingtonbeach.legistar.com/>