

WCE Board of Directors

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Joint Meeting of the WCE Board of Directors and Technical Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Todd Rigby at 1:17 p.m., on August 11, 2021, in WRCOG's office, Citrus Conference Room.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Rigby led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Board of Directors:

- City of Eastvale - Todd Rigby (Chair)
- City of Hemet - Russ Brown
- City of Jurupa Valley - Chris Barajas
- City of Norco - Ted Hoffman
- City of Perris - Rita Rogers
- City of Wildomar - Ben Benoit*

*Arrived after roll call

Technical Advisory Committee Members:

- City of Jurupa Valley - Rod Butler
- City of Norco - Andy Okoro
- City of Perris - Ernie Reyna

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR – (Hemet / Norco) 5 yes; 0 no; 0 abstention. Items 5.A and 5.B were approved.

A. Summary Minutes from the July 14, 2021, Joint Meeting of the WCE Board of Directors and Technical Advisory Committee

Action:

1. Approved the Summary Minutes from the July 24, 2021, Joint Meeting of the WCE Board of Directors and Technical Advisory Committee.

B. Second Extension of Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Agency Budget

Action:

1. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-13; A Resolution of the Board of Directors of Western Community Energy extending the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Agency Budget through September 2021.

6. REPORTS / DISCUSSION

A. WCE Delinquency and COVID-19 Relief Programs Update

Andrew Ruiz, WRCOG Chief Financial Officer, reported that residential delinquencies have gone down compared to prior month, totaling approximately \$4.2M. Commercial delinquencies have gone up compared to the prior month, totaling approximately \$915k. Overall, delinquencies of 60+ days total approximately \$5.1M. While staff originally estimated delinquencies at 6%, they are down to approximately 5%.

In January 2021 staff were directed to create a COVID-19 Relief Work Plan in order to distribute available resources throughout the subregion. Staff identified needs in rent and utility assistance, business support grants, and low-income debt forgiveness. Social media efforts were created, a webpage was created, and physical mailers were sent out.

Chris Gray, WRCOG Deputy Executive Director, added that there currently are no existing programs that pay funds directly to the utilities except for low-income customers.

Action:

1. Received and filed.

B. NEM Customers Update

Dave Wright, WCE Interim General Manager, reported that Net Energy Metering (NEM) customers have solar systems which produce power for use by that customer. In some instances, the customer produces more energy than they need. When a customer produces more energy than they need, WCE is obligated to pay them for the excess energy produced.

There are approximately 16,700 NEM customers, of which 4,700 currently have a credit. This value averages \$150 per customer. Because WCE has filed for bankruptcy protection, it cannot cash-out customers' credit, and are currently evaluating ways to address this, as this cash-out process does not transfer with the customer when going back to Southern California Edison.

Action:

1. Received and filed.

7. REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Kurt Wilson indicated that in recognition of Rosh Hashanah, staff would like to know if this body would like to move the next meeting of September 8, 2021, to September 1, 2021; the Board had no objections.

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items requested for future agendas.

9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no general announcements.

10. CLOSED SESSION

- Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation - Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4) - Two (2) potential cases
- Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation pursuant to 54956.9(d)(1) - Case number: 6:12-12821 (US Bankruptcy Court, Central Division)

There were no reportable actions.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next Joint Meeting of the WCE Board of Directors and Technical Advisory Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at 1:15 p.m., on the Zoom platform. Board and Committee members will have the option of attending this meeting in-person.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Joint Meeting of the WCE Board of Directors and Technical Advisory Committee adjourned at 2:23 p.m.