

YOLO COUNTY CLIMATE CHANGE

March 3, 2008

MINUTES AND NOTES

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor **Matt Rexroad** welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Gary Sandy, as a representative of UC Davis, for hosting the meeting. Supervisor Rexroad asked that each jurisdiction make a brief report on recent actions related to climate change.

CITY OF WOODLAND

City Manager **Mark Deven** indicated that the city had established a citizens committee that would begin meeting on March 13th and that also in March the council would be discussing the “Yolo County Climate Change Compact.”

WASHINGTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Director of Maintenance and Operations **Ron Hickey** described the PG&E “Public Goods” program and the district’s adoption of a Climate Action Plan and the district’s direction to him to make the school district “as green as possible.”

DAVIS JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Energy Manager **Rachel Milbrodt** reported on progress towards implementing the district’s Energy Management plan.

CITY OF WEST SACRAMENTO

Mayor **Christopher Cabaldon** indicated that the city and Washington Unified School District held a joint meeting to discuss climate change, that the city was working closely with the SACOG climate change committee, that the ICLEI baseline inventory of greenhouse gas emissions was nearly complete and the city was turning its attention to policy development to implement reductions, and that plans for solar installations at the Port and on City Hall were moving forward.

CITY OF DAVIS

Councilmember **Stephen Souza** indicated that there was a potential project for 20 megawatts of photovoltaic electricity production on the outskirts of Davis, that the Science Action Team had begun meeting, and that **Mitch Sears** had been assigned responsibility for city energy programs. Mr. Sears also reported that their ICLEI baseline for community energy use was nearly complete, the city was now looking at applying to the California Climate Action Registry, and they were exploring several new

programs, including an incentive program for city employees to buy bicycles and use them to commute to and from work.

UC DAVIS

Sid England stated that UC Davis had completed its second annual submittal to the Climate Action Registry, and that this second submittal encompassed all 6 of the Kyoto greenhouse gases. They are the first UC campus to do so. They are also, pursuant to an agreement between college and university presidents, incorporating emissions from employee commutes into their greenhouse gas emissions inventory, that they are moving forward on their refrigerator replacement program, with a potential savings of .5 million kilowatts per year, with a payback period of only 5 years, and had recently held a very successful “Focus the Nation” event.

YOLO-SOLANO AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Representing the Y-SAQMD, **Matt Jones** indicated that the district stood ready as a resource for all the jurisdictions in the room, for modeling energy use and for providing information on energy efficiency programs and the CEQA process.

WINTERS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Gary Cook reported on the progress of the new library building, including the Ice-Bear technology, and also indicated that there is now an online energy management software program that the district was installing for a cost of \$30,000 with a 1-year payback.

YOLO COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Lisa Baker, Executive Director, indicated that they were undertaking several activities to encourage staff buy-in for energy efficiency programs and that they had partnered with the Davis Energy Group and the Department of Energy as a beta site for 20 energy efficient hot water heaters; no cost to the YCHA, reduced energy bills for 4 years, then they own the system. They have also conducted energy audits in conjunction with PG&E, have replaced energy inefficient refrigerators, are weatherizing their buildings, and are purchasing pilotless ignition gas stoves. They have reduce their work week to 4 9 hour days, allowing them to close for one day a week, reducing the need for heating, air-conditioning, lighting, etc for a savings of more than \$6,000 to date. They are conducting an energy audit and are looking into purchasing green janitorial cleaning supplies.

CITY OF WINTERS

City Manager **John Donlevy** reported on the Winters EARTH (Energy, Agriculture, Recycling and Conservation, Transportation, Habitat) program. They held a community meeting on the 5 topics on January 29th, facilitated by experts in each field, and are convening a follow-up meeting on March 13th. In addition, they will hold an “EARTH Festival” on May 17th with events, displays, and activities (including a community forum jointly sponsored by the city and county). They are looking at establishing a baseline for energy use in city buildings, would like to see the Compact group consider a joint application for a consultant to construct a baseline of energy use community wide, and are creating a Climate Change Element for their General Plan.

SOLANO COUNTY

Matt Walsh, and **James Leland**, visitors and observers from Solano County, made a brief presentation on activities in Solano County, including updating of the General Plan to include energy efficiency and greenhouse gas policies.

YOLO COUNTY

In the interest of time, Supervisor **Matt Rexroad** gave an abbreviated report on Yolo County climate change activities, including passage by the Board of Supervisors of the Yolo County Climate Change Compact, a new fleet management program, a countywide green purchasing program, Professor Niemeier's audit of county buildings and vehicles, and the creation of a climate change page on the county web site. He later referred people to **Terry Vernon** from Yolo County General Services for a more complete list of recent actions.

COUNTY SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

Cara Martinson gave an update on state efforts to meet the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets required by AB 32, and the likely role that local governments will play in helping meet those reductions. The state will be looking to cities and counties for reductions in vehicle miles traveled, through increased density in new development, focus on infill, and various incentives for non-automobile transportation options.

CONDUCTING AN ENERGY AUDIT

UC Davis Professor **Deb Niemeier** presented a PowerPoint description of the energy audit and report her engineering class had done for Yolo County buildings and vehicles. The information from this report is applicable to any jurisdiction. It sets out a methodology, and also identified specific strategies to increase energy efficiency along with the anticipated payback period for each one.

PG&E PROGRAMS AND INCENTIVES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Clay Schmidt, Manager of the Energy Efficiency Team, along with about a dozen personnel with responsibility to work with the jurisdictions in the room, presented materials and spoke about the variety of rebates and incentive programs available to local governments. These presentations are summarized in a packet of materials distributed at the meeting. The central message was that PG&E was ready and eager to help local governments and each city, school district, or other entity should contact their representative in order to discuss a specific program for that jurisdiction.

James Morante announced two programs for Yolo County: a "Residential Shade Tree" program and a pilot program for a curriculum for middle schools complete with materials for students to take home to their parents.

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