

Meeting Summary
Yolo County Climate Action Commission
September 30, 2021 | 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Commissioners:

Suzanne Reed, District 1

Robin Datel, District 2

Mark Aulman, District 3

Andrew Truman Kim, District 4

Adelita Serena, District 5

Chris White, Technical Lead

NJ Mvondo, Environmental Justice Lead

Board Subcommittee on Climate

Supervisor Don Saylor, District 2

Supervisor Jim Provenza, District 4

Summarized Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome from Supervisors
2. Introductions
3. Reference Documents
4. Commission Appointments
5. Introduce Commission Charter
6. Review Working Group Structure
7. Early Actions Framework and Funding
8. Schedule Next Meeting
9. Next Steps

General Action Items

- County will send out template and post template on website for early action proposals
- County will clarify when Commission officers will be appointed, and ensure it is reflected in updated Charter
- County to remove example working groups from Charter
- County to build out the purpose of Commission in Charter based on Emergency Resolution
- County will update website to make goals more accessible and transparent to the public and to add a public email list to keep public informed
- County will extend deadline on Early Action proposal submissions to October 18th

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome from Supervisors and Introductions
 - a. Supervisor Provenza
 - i. Vision to make Yolo County a leader in reducing carbon emissions, especially in agricultural sector
 - ii. Commission designated to advise County staff on how to meet County's ambitious GHG reduction goals
 - b. Supervisor Saylor
 - i. Need to move beyond planning to streamline project implementation
 - ii. Most of the actions in 2011 CAP were not implemented
 - iii. Upcoming event: "Impact of Climate Change on Yolo County Agriculture"
 - iv. Opportunity for Yolo Compact to collaborate with this Commission
 - v. Early actions will set the stage for the work of this Commission
 - vi. Collaboration across jurisdictions will be necessary to realize County's goals aren't exactly aligned and we should work with them on better alignment

- vii. A variety of folks working together on important issues and this group should focus on topics others aren't focused on so that we can create aligning progress working across the region. Focus on actions closely aligned with the mission of the Commission.

No public comment on this agenda item

2. Introductions

- o Each Commissioner made a brief introduction of themselves to the group.

No public comment on this agenda item

3. Reference documents

Staff described several documents that the Commission could use as reference and how to access them.

No public comment on this agenda item

4. Commission Appointments

- o Commissioners will submit top 3 candidates for two remaining at-large positions by October 18th.
- o Commissioners are free to contact applicants directly if they have any questions
- o NJ Mvondo asked how Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation would participate in the Commission
 - Yocha Dehe will participate via a non-voting ex-officio role
- o M. Aulman asked how the Commission should consider the preferred position of applicants
 - County staff requests Commissioners submit top 3 candidates regardless of preferred position on application
- o S. Reed asked where to access applications
 - Commissioners received an email from the County with Dropbox link

County Constraints - Staff made brief presentation on constraints for this effort and how they plan to address them:

- o Limited funds for staff/consultant time to support Commission
- o Limited funds (\$1M) for implementation of early actions
- o Need to develop actions systematically to ensure County/stakeholder support
- o Look to outside funding opportunities for early implementation
- o Climate Action Plan does not need to be fully complete to start early implementation of action items

No public comment on this agenda item

5. Introduce Commission Charter

- o Commission will approve Charter at next meeting pending changes/edits requested by Commissioners
- o A. Kim asked what are the duties of Commission Officers and what is the process/timeline for appointment of Officers.
 - Charter specifies duties of officers. Officer appointments would occur after adoption of the Charter.
- o S. Reed suggested Officer appointments should occur after next meeting
 - County staff will consider revising timeline of officer selection
- o S. Reed requested the Commission webpage be reformulated to be more accessible and transparent to the public.
 - The County can accommodate the request to make Commission materials available on the webpage.
 - Supervisor Saylor supports S. Reed's request to make Commission information accessible.

- R. Datel suggested adding more depth to the section of the Charter describing the purpose of the Commission to incorporate a wider range of goals.
 - The County will revise language to expand on the purpose of the Commission. The Commission will need to approve modified language.
- M. Aulman asked if Supervisors would be present at all Commission meetings, or how the Commission would communicate with the Board on action items and reporting.
 - Communication with the Board can happen in several ways. Largely up to the Commission. If there is a specific project identified, opportunity to present at Board meeting.
 - Supervisor Provenza urges Commissioners to send regular reports to the Board. Individual Commissioners should keep Supervisor updated.
 - Supervisor Saylor emphasized the strength of the Commission bringing forward proposals to the Board. Urged Commissioners to send recap emails to Supervisors after meetings. Strongest recommendations are those made collectively.
- A. Kim asked if there will be another document that speaks to when Commissioners would need to recuse themselves due to conflict of interest
 - This will be discussed at Brown Act Training
 - County will consider adding conflict of interest statement to Charter

Public Comment

- Christine Shewmaker had difficulty finding when the meeting was taking place. As the Commission moves forward, it is important to conduct public outreach.

6. Review of Working Group Structure

- Minimum of two commission members per working group, but not all working group members need be Commissioners
- J. Provenza suggested working groups be created as needed and should maximize flexibility
- C. White suggested that working groups be created by sector or industry (i.e. industry, goods movement, etc.)
- Through the working groups, the Commission can identify parallel efforts that are mutually supporting of the Commission and pull it in to the group to avoid duplicative efforts
- A. Kim asked if any Commissioner could form a working group.
 - Working group formation would be voted on by the Commission per Charter
- S. Reed suggested working groups address opportunities for carbon and methane removal in addition to emissions reductions. Suggestion that sequestration and storage be different working groups than those involved in agriculture and forestry.

No public comment on this agenda item

7. Early Actions Framework and Funding

- A. Kim asked if the criteria focus should be on unincorporated and underserved areas
 - Focus on unincorporated areas would have priority over those that do not benefit unincorporated areas
- County does not have authority within County jurisdictions, though cross-jurisdictional collaboration is necessary to meet County's goals
- C. White asked how the County prefers to receive Early Action proposals.
 - The County will send out a template to submit early actions to the Commission and post on a website for the public to submit ideas.

Public Comment

- Christine Shewmaker asked how the public can weigh in on or submit early actions.

1. Send to T. Echiburu (taro.echiburu@yolocounty.org) or C. Tschudin (Charlie.Tschudin@yolocounty.org). The Commission would be prioritizing Early Actions, but input from the public is welcome and encouraged.

State and Federal Funding

- \$3.7B in California State budget for climate resilience over the next 3 years
- Expectation that Infrastructure and Jobs Act will pass, providing 4 years of climate action funding at the federal level
- Opportunity to partner with jurisdictions for federal/state grants.
- S. Reed asked who we should send to share helpful information with County Staff/Commission
 - Commissioners can send information to J. Olsen (jolsen@civicspark.lgc.org) or C. Tschudin (Charlie.Tschudin@yolocounty.org)

Grant Strategy

- Partnering on applications with other prime applicants is another opportunity.
- Grant funding timeline is early next year to mid-year, M. McCormick suggests tracking deadlines for funding opportunities
- P. Marchand suggests a 3-year strategy and the County start applying for grants 6 months prior to submission
- A. Kim question on when ARP proposal will be discussed
 - Proposal went to the Board. County staff included the attachment to inform the Commission of actions already taken by the Board. ARP provides this Commission \$1M for the Commission to provide recommendations on how to allocate.

No additional public comment on this agenda item

8. Schedule Next Meeting

- Schedule regular meeting time
 - Conflict on Thursdays
 - Preference for evenings
 - S. Reed believes Commission should be meeting every month
 - County to send doodle poll for next meeting

9. Next Steps

- Brown Act Training
 - Reminder to not *reply-all* to emails
- Prepare to vote on two new members at October meeting
- Submit feedback on charter & working group structure by Oct. 7th
- Submit ideas for early actions from template provided by Oct. 14th
- Suggestion by T. Echiburu to extend deadlines for applicant review