



MEETING MINUTES

Yolo County Climate Action Commission

September 26, 2022 | 4:00 PM – 6:30 PM

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Suzanne Reed, District 1 Appointee
Robin Datel, District 2 Appointee
Mark Aulman, District 3 Appointee (*not in attendance*)
Andrew Truman Kim, District 4 Appointee (**VICE-CHAIR**)
Adelita Serena, District 5 Appointee
Chris White, Technical Lead
NJ Mvondo, Environmental Justice Lead (**CHAIR**)
Bernadette Austin, Climate Scientist/Subject Matter Expert
Pelayo Alvarez, Climate Scientist/Subject Matter Expert
Mica Bennett – At Large
Ken Britten – At Large

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:

Sarah Morgan, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
Camille Kirk, UC Davis

SUPERVISORS:

Supervisor Don Saylor, Yolo County Board of Supervisors, District 2
Supervisor Jim Provenza, Yolo County Board of Supervisors, District 4

MEETING MINUTES

- 1. Authorize remote (teleconference/videoconference) meetings by finding, pursuant to Assembly Bill 361, that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.**
- 2. Land Acknowledgement** (*read by A. Serena*)
- 3. Approval of the Agenda**

Decision: Approve

Approved By / Seconded By: K. Britten / R. Datel

Ayes: S. Reed, R. Datel, A. Kim, A. Serena, C. White, NJ Mvondo, B. Austin, P. Alvarez, M. Bennett, K. Britten

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: M. Aulman

4. Public Comment

- A question was asked if County staff had data on the County's cooling centers.

5. Approve August 22, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Decision: Approve

Approved By / Seconded By: K. Britten / M. Bennett

Ayes: S. Reed, R. Datel, A. Kim, A. Serena, C. White, NJ Mvondo, B. Austin, P. Alvarez, M. Bennett, K. Britten

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: M. Aulman

6. Staff Announcements/Reports (Staff)

- A question was asked about how the Sustainability Analyst Position would be funded.
 - Staff hopes that the funds for this position will not be in contingency, but rather appropriated directly during the Board of Supervisors meeting. This will speed up the hiring process.
- A question was asked if the Ag. Retrofits Early Action Project will come to the Commission prior to going before the Board of Supervisors (BOS).
 - Staff will bring the updated Ag. Retrofits Early Action Project to the Commission prior to going to the BOS.

Public Comment:

- A question was asked if the Ag. Retrofits Early Action Project is planned to go to the Board in November.
 - Staff is continuing to revise the project description based on feedback received to date.
 - Staff will come to the Commission with a new proposal prior to going before the BOS.

7. Updates from Working Groups

- Working Group updates were shared.

Public Comment:

- No public comment.

8. Presentation on UC Davis Climate and Sustainability Planning Efforts (C. Kirk)

- A presentation was given detailing UC Davis Sustainability Initiatives, including academic, operational, and institutional initiatives. Information was shared on the partnerships UC Davis has across the UC system, as well as the effort to incorporate social justice into sustainability work. An overview was provided of the Campus Advisory Committee on Sustainability (CACS).
- A question was asked about whether there are examples of UCs collaborating with city governments on climate projects and what the potential of a collaboration between the two would look like.
 - UC Davis is already collaborating with the City of Davis on electric transit projects, for example; more examples of collaborative efforts can be shared with the Commission.
- A question was asked if there is a system of food waste and edible food recovery on campus that feeds into UC Davis Sustainability food operations.
 - There is campus food production that ends up in the dining commons, and pre-consumer waste is collected and put in a biodigester.
 - UC Davis is working to collect more for composting but has a fairly robust food recovery network.
- A question was asked if UC Davis Sustainability is considering any wind energy supply or battery storage options.
 - Almost yearly, UC Davis conducts an informal study and is looking at expanding solar on campus.
- A question was asked about if the land that UC Davis owns will incorporate carbon capture strategies, if those strategies will be incorporated into climate action planning, if UC Davis is quantifying potential carbon capture from the land they own, or if they are considering using this as an educational feature.
 - UC Davis has attempted to estimate the carbon capture and storage they are achieving in habitat restoration projects in Russell Ranch, for example. UC Davis has considered applying more compost, though this won't count towards emissions reductions because the University has been doing this for a while.
- A question was asked about if there is anything to directly improve vehicle charging infrastructure on campus.
 - UC Davis is continuing to determine how much more EV charging they need. UC Davis is continuing this work and exploring collaborative opportunities with the County.
- A request was made to hear more about the accessibility and affordability of these sustainability efforts to low- and middle-income families in the future.

Public Comment:

- A question was asked if UC Davis is considering agrovoltaics.
 - UC Davis is continuing to stay on top of evolving technology and scale it in the future.

9. Discussion Item: Receive Update and Provide Feedback on Website Beta Test Version 1.0

- Information was provided on the updated climate action and sustainability website, the beta test process, and associated communications initiatives.
 - County staff will be launching the Climate Action & Sustainability social media accounts (Instagram and Facebook) in October.
 - County staff aim to launch the Climate Action & Sustainability Newsletter in October.
 - County staff will continue to make edits to the website to prepare for its publication.
 - Staff asked for Commission members to share relevant Yolo County images with staff for inclusion in website.
- A suggestion was made to build out the Sustainability tips with more information and recommendations for what residents could do to support sustainability.
- A suggestion was made to add social media pages to the website and consider adding TikTok.
 - Staff will consider additional social media accounts pending future staff capacity.
- A suggestion was made to explain how the Climate Compact and the Commission work together, and how they will collaborate down the road.
- A suggestion was made to consolidate information relating to the history of climate action in Yolo County into a standalone page.
- A suggestion was made to utilize metrics to better understand who visits the website.
 - There are no visitation/click metrics available for the County's webpage, however staff sees basic metrics on open rate for eNotifications. Staff will begin utilizing metrics for social media page management once the pages launch in October.
- A suggestion was made to collaborate with the new Yolo Youth Commission on internships and/or social media content creation.
- A question was asked if UC Davis could be added to the Regional Collaboration page.
 - Staff will add UC Davis and Yolo RCD to the Regional Collaboration page.

Public Comment:

- A question was asked if bios of the Commission members could be added to the website.
 - Staff will consider this request as the website evolves.

10. Commission Member Reports, Comments, Future, Future Agenda Items

11. Long Range Calendar

- A question was asked about creating another working group for collaborative efforts within the County and if there could be a few Commission members involved in existing collaborative efforts.
 - Staff cannot invite members of the Commission to join the UC Davis Campus Advisory Committee on Sustainability.
 - Staff will share additional updates on this topic once more collaboration opportunities exist.

12. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at: 6:43 PM
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