



County of Santa Cruz

COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENT

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 400, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073

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DRAFT MINUTES

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Time: 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Chambers

701 Ocean Street, 5th Floor

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Call to Order 5:03 P.M.

B. Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Weiss, Scholar, Wooninck, Hunt, Kippen, Clark, Culbertson, Damhorst

Absent: None

II. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Announcement by the Chair that Commissioner Bruce has resigned.

The Commission requested a brief update/summary of County response to storm damage with respect to climate change and increasing resilience. Staff provided an update that the short-term response to the emergency generally involves mitigating the immediate threat to public and private infrastructure and repairing damage as fast as possible to reestablish roadway, utilities, drainage systems function. Declared disasters also lead to availability of federal and state hazard mitigation grant funding to study and implement longer term solutions and resilience measures such as evacuation route planning, communications systems improvements, and fire and flood hazard mitigation.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of November 16, 2022 meeting

Motion by Commissioner Culbertson seconded by Commissioner Kippen to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting.

Ayes: Commissioners Scholar, Wooninck, Hunt, Kippen, Clark, Culbertson, Damhorst

Abstain: Commissioner Weiss

IV. PUBLIC INPUT/ORAL COMMUNICATION

None

V. BUSINESS MATTERS

- A. Consider approval of Biennial Report of the Commission to the Board of Supervisors (15 minutes)

Motion by Commissioner Clark seconded by Commissioner Damhorst to approve the 2021-2022 Biennial Report of the COE and submit the report to the Board of Supervisors, as required.

Ayes: Commissioners Weiss, Scholar, Wooninck, Hunt, Kippen, Clark, Culbertson, Damhorst
Abstain: None

- B. Information item on recent local and state decisions regarding solar net energy metering (15 minutes)

The Commission received a presentation from Commissioner Damhorst and discussed the issue.

- C. Consider approval of Work Plan for 2023 – 2024 (30 minutes)

Commissioners agreed all of the workplan issue sections were OK as revised except the Env Justice Issue section. Commissioners Hunt and Kippen agreed to work on that section and bring back to the Commission for final approval in March.

- D. Discuss future agenda topics (15 minutes)

Potential future agenda items discussed by the Commission include an item involving recent CA PUC decisions regarding net energy metering and potential related/responsive actions by 3CE; and an update from OR3 regarding storm recovery as it relates to planning for increased resilience to impacts of climate change.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 P.M.