

## **CLEAN ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD**

### **DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**February 23, 2023 (Thursday)**

**11:00AM – 1:00PM**

**\*\*Meeting was open to the Public \*\***

### **Virtual Informational Gathering Meeting**

CEAB website hosted at [energy.virginia.gov](https://energy.virginia.gov), direct link [here](#)

Recording available [here](#) using the password: GfgMmus9

#### **Call to Order**

Susan Kruse, Board Chair officially called the meeting to order at 11:16 am.

#### **Roll Call**

Present: Susan Kruse, Kirk Johnson, KC Bleile, Will Cleveland, Doug Lamb, Toni Ostrowski, Taylor Brown, Carmen Bingham, Al Christopher.

Not Present: Sam Brumberg, Kendyl Crawley Crawford, William Greenleaf, Sarah Nerette, Katherine Bond

Virginia Energy Staff: Carrie Hearne, Aaron Berryhill, Ed Cronin, Michael Skiffington, Austin Counts, Brook Vernon

Recognition of Al Christopher, Director of State Energy Office for serving as the Virginia Department of Energy designee in lieu of interim director Will Clear and following the retirement of former board member John Warren.

#### **January Meeting Minutes Approved**

Motion to review and approve the previous meeting minutes from the January 2023 meeting was made by Kirk Johnson and the motion was seconded by Will Cleveland. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

#### **Status Update of the 2022 CEAB Annual Report**

Carrie Hearne, Virginia Department of Energy Associate Director briefed the board and stated that the report had been presented to the Governor's office and it is in their queue for review. Ms. Hearne reported that the General Assembly has taken priority and the report will be reviewed following session. Virginia Energy will email Susan Kruse, Board Chair once any further actions take place.

#### **General Assembly Policy Update**

Michael Skiffington, Virginia Department Energy Director of Policy and Planning provided a high-level overview of bills relating to the Clean Energy Advisory Board from the 2023 General Assembly session.

#### **Clean Energy Advisory Board Committee Updates**

Chair Susan Kruse requested updates from CEAB Committees, including the Policy Committee, Stakeholder Engagement and Marketing, and Program Development Committees.

- The Policy Committee began by reporting that the committee has not met but anticipate meeting shortly after session is over. The Committee Chair voiced concerns regarding failed legislation and that it addressed key matters relating to the Clean Energy Advisory Board's authority. These will be discussed at the next Policy Committee Meeting.
- The Stakeholder Committee Chair reported that they have also not met since October, but plans will be made to regroup before the next full board meeting to discuss ways to prepare as a board to be ready for community outreach engagement, as well as to gather best practices once the project is developed.
- The Program Development Committee Chair reported that the committee met virtually on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Request for Information drafted by the staff of Virginia Department of Energy. Carrie Hearne, Associate Director stated that it was Virginia Energy's goal to release the RFI by March 1<sup>st</sup>, pending internal agency review relating to FOIA and how the RFI can be released.

### **Federal Funding Presentation by Virginia Department of Energy**

An overview of federal funding and sources Virginia Department of Energy is tracking, along with respective deadlines for applications were presented to the board by Carrie Hearne. Board discussion surrounding federal funding, additional IRS guidance, provisions, as well as the need for coordinating efforts with various Virginia agencies and other stakeholders, such as Virginia Housing. The board was encouraged to contact Bettina Bergoo regarding any further guidance issued.

### **Overview of RFI**

A brief overview of the basic sections within the Request for Information was discussed, highlighting program design components and questions to inform the further development of a LMI Residential Solar Program. Carrie Hearne suggested that the board review the RFI in further detail and to reach out regarding what stakeholders should be included in distribution of the RFI.

### **Board Housekeeping Note**

Susan Kruse reminded the board that OAG services are charged and that the board has a right to request guidance, however members should let Susan or Carrie know beforehand so that resources can be streamlined.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Board Next Steps**

Committee Chairs affirmed committee meetings to take place before the next regular board meeting. Clarification was given that only one out of every four committee meetings may be virtual, per a state policy, and none can be held virtually back to back (see Board bylaws for details).

### **Next CEAB Meeting Established**

The next Clean Energy Advisory Board meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11 am with a location to be determined.

### **Conclusion**

The meeting adjourned at 1:13 pm.