

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	20-LITHIUM-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	Lithium Valley Commission
<b>TN #:</b>	241267
<b>Document Title:</b>	Meeting Action Minutes for December 16, 2021 Meeting
<b>Description:</b>	Meeting Action Minutes for December 16, 2021 Meeting for the Lithium Valley Commission.
<b>Filer:</b>	Elisabeth de Jong
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Commission Staff
<b>Submission Date:</b>	1/24/2022 11:21:53 AM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	1/24/2022

**Lithium Valley Commission  
Meeting Action Minutes – December 16, 2021**

The Lithium Valley Commission meeting was called to order on December 16, 2021, at 9:00 AM by Lithium Valley Commission Chair Silvia Paz.

### Attendance: Lithium Valley Commissioners

- Steve Castaneda
- Rod Colwell
- Miranda Flores
- James C. Hanks
- Ryan E. Kelley
- Luis Olmedo
- Silvia Paz
- Frank Ruiz
- Manfred Scott
- Jonathan Weisgall

Commissioners Roderic Dolega, Martha Guzman Aceves, Arthur Lopez, and Thomas Soto were not in attendance.

### Agenda

Due to time limitation, the Chair deferred two agenda items to the next meeting:

- Updates to Schedule, Agenda Topics, and Presentation for Upcoming Public Meetings
- Review and Possible Amendment of Workshop Topics and Planning

### Presentations

A compiled set of the presentations identified below has been docketed and can be found here: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/getdocument.aspx?tn=240969>.

- This meeting had a total of 83 attendees.
- During the informational items of the agenda, Rafael Aguilera, a High Roads Field Specialist with the California Workforce Development Board (CWDB), presented on the California Development Board grant opportunity. Renee Webster-Hawkins, a Senior Attorney with the Chief Counsel’s Office, presented on California Energy Commission rulemaking to streamline powerplant siting regulations.
- Following these items, the Lithium Valley Commissioners discussed two agenda items, “Acknowledgement of Community and Stakeholder Questions and Feedback, and Possible Plan to Address or Incorporate Comments and Requests in the Work of the Lithium Valley Commission” and “Consideration of Sub Body Changes.” Agenda items and discussions were followed by public comment.

## Voting Items

### 1. Accept Action Minutes from October Meeting

*Commissioner Jonathan Weisgall moved to approve the minutes from the October 28, 2021 public meeting, and Commissioner Steve Castaneda seconded. The item was approved by a roll call vote of 9 commissioners in favor of approval.*

- Record of Votes:
  - Steve Castaneda - Yes
  - Rod Colwell - Yes
  - Roderic Dolega - Absent
  - Miranda Flores - Yes
  - Martha Guzman Aceves - Absent
  - James C. Hanks - Yes
  - Ryan E. Kelley – Yes
  - Arthur Lopez - Absent
  - Luis Olmedo - Yes
  - Silvia Paz - Yes
  - Frank Ruiz - Yes
  - Manfred Scott - Abstain
  - Thomas Soto - Absent
  - Jonathan Weisgall - Yes

## Next Steps

- Next meeting to be held on January 27, 2022 @ 1:30 PM via Zoom.
- The Lithium Valley Commissioners requested the CEC to create:
  - Three fact sheets on the following topics: the Lithium Valley Commission, Lithium Extraction Technology, and the Permitting/Regulatory Process.
  - An updated sub body list to reflect changes announced by Chair Paz.

## Items of Interest and Resources Referenced During the Meeting

- Items e-filed to the [Lithium Valley Commission Docket](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=20-LITHIUM-01) can be found here: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=20-LITHIUM-01>
- Legislation updates by CEC Office of Governmental and International Affairs
  - Legislature in recess to reconvene January 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Final Day to introduce new legislation is February 18<sup>th</sup>
- Media updates from CEC Media and Public Communications Office; articles relating to lithium
  - NBC News, General Motors to source rare earth metals domestically for its electric vehicles (12/9/2021) <https://www.nbcnews.com/business/autos/general-motors-announces-deal-source-rare-earth-metals-electric-vehicl-rcna8265>
  - Clean Technica, Lithium Brine Bummer Could Turn Into Bonanza Soon (12/5/2021) <https://cleantechnica.com/2021/12/05/lithium-brine-bummer-could-turn-into-bonanza-soon/>

- Automotive News, At a toxic lake in Calif., enough lithium to transform North America's EV industry (11/29/2021) <https://www.autonews.com/manufacturing/salton-sea-california-has-enough-lithium-transform-north-americas-ev-industry>
- LA Times, Can lithium cure what ails the Salton Sea?(11/27/2021) <https://www.latimes.com/environment/story/2021-11-27/can-lithium-cure-whats-ailing-the-salton-sea>
- Popular Science, Lithium Valley' could save one of the most polluted areas in California (11/30/2021) <https://www.popsci.com/environment/lithium-valley-salton-sea/>
- Think Geoenergy, Permits in place for geothermal Lithium production at the Salton Sea (11/22/2021) <https://www.thinkgeoenergy.com/permits-in-place-for-geothermal-lithium-production-at-the-salton-sea/>
- VICE, The First Days of 'Lithium Valley' Are Here (11/18/2021) <https://www.vice.com/en/article/xgdxv3/the-first-days-of-lithium-valley-are-here>
- Green Car Congress, CTR begins drilling at Hell's Kitchen Lithium and Power (11/16/2021) <https://www.greencarcongress.com/2021/11/20211116-ctr.html>
- LA Times, Drilling for 'white gold' is happening right now at the Salton Sea (11/15/2021) <https://www.latimes.com/business/story/2021-11-15/drilling-for-white-gold-is-happening-right-now-at-the-salton-sea>
- Resources provided and/or discussed by Lithium Valley Commissioners
  - <https://www.bherenewables.com/include/pdf/fact-sheet-lithium.pdf>
- Resources provided and/or discussed by public commenters
  - [https://ucdavis.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8nLy0M3s9rqigVo](https://ucdavis.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8nLy0M3s9rqigVo)
  - [https://ucdavis.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_8nLy0M3s9rqigVo?Q\\_Language=ES](https://ucdavis.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8nLy0M3s9rqigVo?Q_Language=ES)
  - <https://swcareerconnections.org/>