

DOCKETED

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**Lithium Valley Commission
Meeting Action Minutes – February 16, 2022**

The Lithium Valley Commission meeting was called to order on February 16, 2022, 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
- Arthur Lopez
- Luis Olmedo
- Silvia Paz
- Frank Ruiz
- Jonathan Weisgall

California Public Utilities Commission Representative is currently vacant. Lithium Valley Commissioners Roderic Dolega, Manfred Scott, and Thomas Soto were not in attendance. Lithium Valley Commissioner James Hanks and Vice Chair Ryan Kelley joined after the initial roll call was taken. Lithium Valley Commissioners Jonathan Weisgall, Miranda Flores, James Hanks, and Vice Chair Ryan Kelley left before the meeting concluded.

Agenda

As the Commission did not have a quorum available to complete voting on the items on the agenda, Chair Paz announced the continuance of the February 16, 2022, Lithium Valley Commission meeting to the next meeting scheduled for February 24, 2022. The items to be continued from the February 16, 2022, meeting agenda, are the following:

- Discussion and Possible Action on Lithium Valley Commission Proposed Recommendations Related to Governor Newsom’s Proposed 2022-2023 Budget.
- Discussion and Possible Approval of Lithium Valley Commission Comment Letter on Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) Planning Phase Draft Guidelines.

California Energy Commission (CEC) staff agreed to provide noticing for the continuance of the February 16, 2022, Lithium Valley Commission meeting.

Summary of Discussion

- Chair Paz led the conversation of the agenda item Discussion and Possible Action on Lithium Valley Commission Proposed Recommendations Related to Governor Newsom’s Proposed 2022-2023 Budget. Lithium Valley Commissioners discussed and presented proposed recommendations and actions related to the current state budget and legislative processes:

- Chair Paz proposed a vote to assign two Lithium Valley Commissioners, herself and Vice Chair Kelley, to represent the Lithium Valley Commission in meetings with legislators and requested support from CEC staff.
- Chair Paz summarized items where the discussion indicated consensus among the Lithium Valley Commissioners present:
 - Incentivizing green technology and extending possible green certifications to different industries or businesses.
 - Investing in vocational and higher education and developing STEM and environmental literacy at all grade levels to build a local educated and diverse workforce.
 - Pursuing community workforce agreements with developers to expand and give access to community members to be part of the process and offer job opportunities beyond geothermal industry jobs.
- Commissioners Weisgall, Olmedo, and Colwell also presented their own of proposed recommendations.
- Chair Paz briefly summarized the agenda item on Discussion and Possible Approval of Lithium Valley Commission Comment Letter on Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) Planning Phase Draft Guidelines.
- The agenda items and discussions were followed by public comment.

Voting Items

Motion to request the CEC to support Lithium Valley Commissioners in meeting with the legislators and further exploring the options where consensus was seen during this meeting. And to have Chair Silvia Paz and Vice Chair Ryan Kelley delegated with the authority to represent the Lithium Valley Commission when meeting with legislators.

Commissioner Steve Castaneda moved to approve this item, and Commissioner Rod Colwell seconded. Vote was called, but meeting attendance had fallen below quorum; thus motion did not pass.

- Record of Votes:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Steve Castaneda - Yes ○ Rod Colwell - Yes ○ Roderic Dolega - Absent ○ Miranda Flores - Unavailable ○ James C. Hanks - Unavailable ○ Ryan E. Kelley - Unavailable ○ Arthur Lopez - Yes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Luis Olmedo - Yes ○ Silvia Paz - Yes ○ Frank Ruiz - Yes ○ Manfred Scott - Absent ○ Thomas Soto - Absent ○ Jonathan Weisgall - Unavailable
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A compiled set of the materials identified below has been docketed and can be found here: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/event/workshop/2022-02/lithium-valley-commission-meeting>

- This meeting had a total of 78 attendees.

Next Steps

- Next meeting to be held on February 24, 2022 @ 1:30 PM via Zoom.
- Vice Chair Kelley asked to discuss the Imperial County Plan for Lithium Valley in the next meeting. CEC staff received and docketed the document after this meeting.
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=241584&DocumentContentId=75550>

Items of Interest and Resources Referenced During the Meeting

- Items e-filed to the [Lithium Valley Commission Docket](#) can be found here:
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=20-LITHIUM-01>
- Other Resources provided:
 - Draft CERF Letter:
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=241550&DocumentContentId=75515>