

CHCF-A Administrative Committee (CHCF-A AC)
Meeting Minutes for March 12, 2020
1:30pm

Venues:

California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 3212, San Francisco, CA 94102

892 Rimrock Drive, Swall Meadows, CA 93514

Telephone Conference Phone Bridge:

Access: (877) 692-8578

Participant Code: 7035345

Attendees:

Present – Committee Members

- Stephen Kalish*, Chair (Community Based Organization)
- Patrick Hogle (Public Advocates Office)

Present - Others

- Eric Votaw* (Ducor)
- William Charley (Cooper White Cooper)
- Patrick Rosvall (Cooper White Cooper)
- Matt Kingsley* (Rural County Representatives of California)
- Sindy Yun (CPUC, Legal)
- Felix Robles (CPUC, Communications Division)
- Hannah Steiner (CPUC, Communications Division)
- Dorris Chow* (CPUC, Communications Division)
- Nancy Lee (CPUC, Communications Division)
- Lalaine Semana* (CPUC, Fiscal)

*Participant attended the meeting via teleconference

Minutes:

1. Introductions – Stephen Kalish, Chairperson

Attendees introduced themselves. A quorum was present, and the meeting commenced shortly after 1:30.

2. Announcements

Stephen Kalish announced that he received an invitation to visit Sierra Telephone

3. Public Comments

There was no public comment.

4. Review and Approval of the November 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes.
Stephen Kalish and Patrick Hoglund agreed that no changes to the draft minutes were needed. Hoglund motioned to approve the minutes and Kalish seconded. The committee voted unanimously to approve the November 21, 2019 minutes.
5. Liaison Staff Reports:
 - a. Fiscal Report – Lalaine Semana
Lalaine Semana presented the fiscal report. Stephen requested that the report return to the format that was used in the past. Lalaine agreed to use the prior format if possible, CD staff will send her a copy of a past report.
 - b. Legal Report – Sindy Yun
Sindy had nothing to report.
 - c. Communications Division – Felix Robles
Felix reminded the committee that reply comments on the 5th scoping memo are due on March 16, 2020. CD staff discussed the availability of and deadlines for the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) funding. Patrick Rosvall said that the Small LECs are aware of RDF and are currently considering if they will apply.
6. Review and Approval of the 2018/19 Annual Report
Patrick Hoglund recommended that the second paragraph be removed or an additional sentence be added to clarify because the Administrative Committee (AC) did not file comments. Patrick Rosvall stated that the second paragraph was misleading because the AC did not file comments, he agreed with Patrick Hoglund’s suggestion to modify and additionally suggested adding the word “draft” in front of “comments”. Stephen agreed to make the changes suggested and sign the revised Annual Report. Patrick Hoglund motioned to approve the 2018/19 Annual Report as revised and Stephen Kalish seconded. The committee voted unanimously to approve the 2018/19 Annual Report with the agreed upon revisions.
7. Form 700 Filing
Sindy reminded the committee that all primary and secondary members are required to submit a Form 700 by April 1, 2020. Hannah Steiner will send a copy of the form and instructions as well as the email address to which the completed forms should be submitted. Patrick Hoglund asked if the electronic Form 700 that he files as CPUC staff is sufficient and Sindy Yun confirmed that it is.
8. CHCF-A (R.11-11-007) Rulemaking Issues – Questions, Comments
Felix said that three tribal consultations had occurred. Patrick Rosvall said that the consultation in Blue Lake was particularly productive. In response to a question from Patrick Hoglund, CD staff stated that the notes from the three tribal consultations are going to be published in the proceeding and that as soon as that occurs, Hannah will share them with the AC.

The AC meeting participants discussed the rules about the deadlines to conclude proceedings. Patrick Rosvall said that if a decision is approved in late summer, then the carriers will likely ask for an adjustment to the General Rate Case (GRC) schedule. He said that a decision is needed by the beginning of July at the latest in order for the carriers to file on time, and that they may still need an extension. Patrick Rosvall noted that the data requests start in August and it might be beneficial to keep the December 1 deadline for Group A GRC applications. He said that carriers usually need about 3 months to prepare and he has never seen it done in less than two months. Patrick Hoglund noted that the time needed would depend on what changes the decision makes; if the decision adds

additional requirements or data then the carriers may need additional time. Patrick Rosvall said that the companies generally are amenable to delaying the GRCs by up to one year if the waterfall remains at 100%. Sindy confirmed that the assigned commissioner and ALJs are aware of the GRC deadlines and are taking them into consideration.

9. Request from the Rural County Representatives of California for Inyo County Supervisor Matt Kingsley to join the CHF-A Administrative Committee. Matt Kingsley said that the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) had been asked if they were interested in joining the CHCF-A AC. Patrick Rosvall confirmed that he has had conversations with RCRC about joining the CHCF-A AC. Stephen questioned if RCRC is a Community-Based Organization (CBO) or consumer organization and Sindy stated that her preliminary determination is that RCRC would qualify. Sindy informed Matt Kingsley that CD will move forward with his nomination by submitting it to the CPUC's Executive Director, who will make the decision (not staff).

The AC also discussed Eric Votaw's previous request to join the AC as an alternate for the Small LECs. Hannah explained that staff had received the nomination letter last year and will move forward with the process now. Eric Votaw confirmed that he still wants to join the AC as an alternate.

10. Disaster Response

The Small LECs shared their experience during the PSPS events that occurred last fall. Patrick Rosvall noted that the Small LECs performed better during the PSPS than the larger carriers, but there was a significant financial cost. Eric Votaw shared that the power was out for 6 days in the Rancho Tehama exchange and that it was difficult to get accurate information about the outages from PG&E. They were able to continue providing service through battery backup and remote locations that were re-charged by generators. Patrick Rosvall said that he will keep the AC updated in the fall regarding the Small LECs response to wildfires and PSPS events. Stephen Kalish shared that he has seen many trucks in his county (Mono) for tree-trimming.

11. New agenda items for next meeting.

- Budget - CD will confirm if the AC has any responsibility to provide anything
- Proceeding R. 11-11-007 update
- Update on AC membership – Patrick Hoglund said that Public Advocates will soon propose a new alternate AC member because the prior alternate left the CPUC.

12. Date and time for next meeting:

The Committee discussed potential dates for the next meeting decided that it will be May 19th, 2020 at 1:30 pm pending room availability. Stephen Kalish said that he will participate in the May 19th meeting via phone.

13. Adjournment

Patrick Hoglund made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Stephen Kalish seconded. All Committee members voted in favor and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40pm.