



Staff Report Item 19

TO: East Bay Community Energy Board of Directors
FROM: Deidre Sanders, Director of Government and Community Affairs
SUBJECT: CAC Appointment Recommendation (Action Item)
DATE: June 20, 2018

Recommendation

Appoint the following applicant to the Community Advisory Council:
A. Brinda Thomas, Fremont

Background and Discussion

On May 18, 2018, The East Bay Community Energy Board of Directors appointed three new members to the Community Advisory Committee from a pool of 17 applicants. On June X, 2018, Community Advisory Committee (CAC) member Nick Gigliotti resigned from his position on the CAC. To fill this new opening on the CAC, EBCE staff asked the ad hoc selection committee that recommended the first three CAC candidates whether they had a recommendation to fill this fourth opening based on their review of the 17 applications and their interviews with eight candidates.

The ad hoc committee unanimously recommended Brinda Thomas, of Fremont, to fill Nick Gigliotti's open CAC seat. As a new member of the CAC, Ms. Thomas would be appointed for a four-year term.

Fiscal Impact

No budget impacts beyond the board-approved stipend, approved at \$50/meeting for CAC members on Wednesday, 4/18/18.

Attachments

A. CAC Application of Brinda Thomas

**Application for East Bay Community Energy (EBCE)
Community Advisory Committee**

East Bay Community Energy (EBCE) is seeking applicants from Alameda County to fill vacancies on its Community Advisory Committee. The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) was formed in 2016 as part of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors' 2014 decision to explore formation of EBCE with the goal of creating competition for electricity services and to accelerate investments in clean energy resources and local energy projects. EBCE seeks to ensure a diversity of members and interests for the CAC as well as members who represent all areas of the County. The CAC's members are community stakeholders appointed by the EBCE Board of Directors to provide advice and recommendations to the EBCE Board and is not a decision-making entity.

Member Roles:

- 1) Advise the Board of Directors on all subjects related to the operation of the ECA Program as set forth in a work plan adopted by the Board from time to time, with the exception of personnel and litigation decisions.
- 2) Represent the views of their respective communities in their comments and recommendations;
- 3) Serve as an information channel back to their colleagues and communities; and
- 4) Help EBCE staff and Alameda County and city officials identify issues of concern and opportunities to educate about ECE in Alameda County

EBCE is now taking applications for membership on the CAC. The EBCE asks that anyone wishing to apply to complete this form and submit to DSanders@ebce.org no later than 5 pm on March 14, 2018.

NOTE: this application is a public document and will be available for review upon request. The EBCE may choose to interview final candidates.

APPLICANT CRITERIA:

1. Residents, business owners, employees or representatives of a community-based organization in the County of Alameda are eligible for membership¹.
2. Applicants should be committed to serving on the CAC and attending regular Board and planning meetings. Board meetings may take place twice monthly until the program is launched, and then may be no more frequent than once per month. Meetings will generally take place in the early evening hours. Planning meetings will be determined by the CAC. Members of the CAC will serve staggered four-year terms (the first term of three of the members shall be two years, and four years thereafter), which may be renewed.
3. Applicants with conflicts of interest that may hinder effective participation in the CAC are discouraged from applying. All applicants will be reviewed for conflicts of interest by EBCE legal counsel.

QUESTIONS: Please call or email Deidre Sanders at: 925.390.3942; sanders@ebce.org for more information.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name	Brenda Thomas
Address	Fremont

¹ Note: Applicants can only be considered if they are residents of an EBCE member jurisdiction, which currently includes the Cities of Pleasanton, Newark and Alameda.

**Application for East Bay Community Energy Authority (EBCEA)
Community Advisory Committee**

Organization represented and title (if applicable)	Whisker Labs, Senior Data Scientist Last representing company: N/A President
Phone/Email Address	
Are you a resident of Alameda County?	yes
How long have you lived in Alameda County?	5 years
Are you a business owner in Alameda County (firm name and location)?	no
Employment Information:	Whisker Labs, Senior Data Scientist
Your employer?	Whisker Labs
Job Title?	Senior Data Scientist
Spouse's employer?	N/A
Spouse's Job Title?	N/A

I am Applying Under the Following Stakeholder Category (please check top 2)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	Labor Union
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Energy Advocate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environmental Justice
<input type="checkbox"/>	Clean Energy Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regional/Large Energy User

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Owner/Association	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Organization
<input type="checkbox"/>	Education/Research Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low Income Advocate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Justice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ratepayer	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Please explain why you wish to be appointed to the East Bay Community Energy Authority Community Advisory Committee and briefly describe your qualifications including any applicable experience. Please include thoughts you have the purpose of the CAC and key goals for both the CAC and East Bay Community Energy. Please indicate if you are a representative of an organization with expertise in energy issues generally and/or Community Choice Energy specifically. Please attach a resume, letters of recommendation, or other relevant materials if you wish.

OVERSIGHT
COPY PROVIDED
TO THE BOARD

I have a Ph.D. in Engineering & Public Policy from Carnegie Mellon with a focus on the electricity industry. My career thus far has been with other stakeholders in the energy system - as a ^{U.S.} DOE contractor ^{around an Energy Bill} during 2005-2008, and as a data scientist at utility technology providers like GE (2003-2019), and Tesla Energy (2014-2017). I'd like to use my Energy systems & IT background to ensure that the EBCE has good IT systems and reporting to the community on its operations and progress toward renewable energy procurement. The CAC should be a diverse advisory board that ensures that a diverse set of stakeholder perspectives ~~and~~ are considered by EBCE management to better prepare it to serve community needs and CPUC regulatory processes.

**Application for East Bay Community Energy Authority (EBCEA)
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Please list three issues that you feel EBCE should address:

- Regular reporting to the community about ^{progress on} operational clean energy goals
- Efficient procurement processes for ~~the~~ energy resources
- Modern IT systems

Have you ever attended a meeting of the EBCE Community Advisory Committee?

No

Please describe your experience serving on a Commission or Board:

N/A

Considering your experience and activities in business, labor, professional, social or other organizations, indicate the experience, training, knowledge and skills that qualify you for appointment to the EBCE Community Advisory Committee:

**Application for East Bay Community Energy Authority (EBCEA)
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List any position or office held in any governmental agency, civic or charitable organization, including dates:

member - Citizens Climate Lobby June 2017 - present

social media manager - Engineers & Scientists Act Locally Sept 2017 - present

Please list any special awards or recognitions received:

Do you own Property in Alameda County? If yes, please list the address(es)

No

Do you rent property in Alameda County?

Yes

Application for East Bay Community Energy Authority (EBCEA)
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Conflicts of Interest

State and local law require that you abstain from participation in decisions that may affect your financial interests, including sources of income, interest in real property, personal finances or investments. In addition, if appointed, you may be required to submit a disclosure statement which identifies certain of your financial interest beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment. Based on your best judgment, does this Board or Commission make decisions that may affect sources of income, interests in real property, personal finances or investments of you or your spouse? Some examples of conflicts include a) being employed by a business or organization that has a financial interest in decisions that EBCE may make, b) being employed by a business or organization that directly advocates in front of the EBCE Board of Directors, c) having a financial interest in a project or property that might benefit from a decision made by EBCE.

Yes/No

If yes, please explain. Please identify any organizations, associations, corporations, or entities by which you are employed or associated that might be affected by decisions of this Board or Commission, and the positions you hold in these entities.

Please list at least two references:

(be sure to include lines for email address and phone numbers)

As a member of the EBCEA Community Advisory Committee, you are making a time commitment to actively participate in the planning and development of the East Bay Community Energy program. Meetings are generally held in the evening and given the small number of members on the EBCE Community Advisory Committee, having a quorum is essential to the ability of the Committee to conduct business. Please sign the statement below indicating you have the time to prepare for and attend meetings.

I have sufficient time to devote to this responsibility and will attend scheduled meetings if appointed. I am also aware that this application is a public document.

Signature *[Handwritten Signature]*

Date *3/14/2012*

Application for East Bay Community Energy Authority (EBCEA)
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Verification:

I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature *AT Thomas*

Print name *Brandon Thomas*

Date: *3/14/2018*

