



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *October 27, 2020*

DATE: October 5, 2020
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Jamie Rodriguez, Government Affairs; JARodriguez@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Eric Brown, County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation for the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners to nominate Jason Geddes to the Board of Directors of the Nevada Clean Energy as the Washoe County nominee to submit to the Governor to fill a term of 3 years from the appointment. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

The 79th Nevada Legislature passed Senate Bill 407 (SB 407) which establishes the Nevada Clean Energy Fund and provides for the composition of the Board of Directors. Section 14 (H) of the legislation names the nine (9) members with one member appointed by the Governor from among a list of nominees submitted by the board of county commissioners of the county in this State with the second largest population (Washoe County). Staff is recommending Jason Geddes be submitted as nominee to the Governor for appointment to the Board of Directors of the Nevada Clean Energy Fund.

Department Strategic Objective supported by this item: Regional Leadership Effectiveness

BACKGROUND

The 79th Nevada Legislature passed Senate Bill 407 (SB 407) which establishes the Nevada Clean Energy Fund and provides for the composition of the Board of Directors. The Nevada Clean Energy Fund will be an independent corporation for public benefit for the purposes of:

1. Promoting investments in qualified clean energy projects;
2. Increasing significantly the pace and amount of investments in qualified clean energy projects at the state and local levels;

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3. Improving the standard of living of the residents of this State by promoting the more efficient and lower cost development of qualified clean energy projects and providing financing for qualified clean energy projects that will create high-paying, long-term jobs;
4. Fostering the development and consistent application of transparent underwriting standards, standard contractual terms, and measurement and verification protocols for qualified clean energy projects;
5. Promoting the creation of performance data that enables effective underwriting, risk management and pro forma modeling of financial performance of qualified clean energy projects to support primary financing markets and to stimulate the development of secondary investment markets for qualified clean energy projects; and
6. Achieving a level of financing support for qualified clean energy projects necessary to help abate climate change by increasing zero- or low-carbon electricity generation and transportation capabilities, realize energy efficiency potential in existing infrastructure, ease the economic effects of transitioning from a carbon-based economy to a clean-energy economy, achieve job creation through the construction and operation of qualified clean energy projects and complement and supplement other clean energy and energy efficiency programs and initiatives in this State.

It is recommended that nomination(s) to the Board of Directors of the Nevada Clean Energy Fund by the Commission have expertise in matters relating to renewable energy, economic development, banking, law, finance or other matters relevant to the work of the Board. Additionally, consideration must be given to whether the members appointed to the Board reflect the ethnic and geographical diversity of Nevada.

Per the legislation, the Governor shall appoint the members of the Board of Directors of the Nevada Clean Energy Fund to initial terms of three (3) years “as soon as practicable on or after July 1, 2017”.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On September 26, 2017 the board recommended Jason Geddes to the Governor to represent Washoe County on the Clean Energy Fund.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with Washoe County’s making nomination to The Board of Directors of the Nevada Clean Energy Fund.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners nominate Jason Geddes to the Board of Directors of the Nevada Clean Energy as the Washoe County nominee to submit to the Governor.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board of County Commissioners agree to the recommendation, a possible motion would be: “Move to nominate Jason Geddes as the Washoe County Commission’s nominee to the Governor for appointment to the Board of Directors of the Nevada Clean Energy Fund.”