The Legislative & Regulatory Committee conducted this meeting in accordance with California Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-29-20 and COVID-19 pandemic protocols.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL
Committee Chair Lindsey Horvath called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and Clerk of the Board, Raynette Tom, conducted roll call.

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<th>Roll Call</th>
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<td>Agoura Hills</td>
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<td>Carson</td>
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<td>Redondo Beach</td>
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<td>West Hollywood</td>
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All votes are unanimous unless otherwise stated.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT
There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA
1. Approve Minutes from July 28, 2021 Legislative & Regulatory Committee Meeting
   
   Motion: Committee Member Lopez, Agoura Hills
   Second: Chair Horvath, West Hollywood
   Vote: Item 1 was approved by a roll call vote with abstention by Committee Member Hicks.

REGULAR AGENDA
2. Review and Recommend Approval of the Proposed 2022 Legislative and Regulatory Policy Platform to the Board of Directors

Gina Goodhill, Policy Director, provided an update on the proposed changes to the legislative and regulatory platform. Ms. Goodhill noted that next year, staff might recommend to make the platform more prescriptive with the goal of relying on the platform as a stronger guiding document, to be able to respond nimbly to legislative needs. Ms. Goodhill noted a few highlights of positions that CPA was able to move quickly on as a result of the substantial changes made to the policy platform last
year, most notably on vehicle electrification, resiliency, and reliability; securing funding in these key areas of importance to CPA.

Ms. Goodhill reviewed in detail the two proposed changes for this year. The first change involves a more consistent mention of federal engagement. There are increased opportunities in the federal arena, including President Biden’s proposed infrastructure plan and a large focus on climate and energy. CPA wants to take advantage of these opportunities; without a federal lobbyist, CPA will be strategic about how it engages federally and likely continue to rely on trade associations, CalCCA, and directly reach out to elected officials who represent CPA federally. The second proposed change is to switch to using the term “environmental and social justice communities” in place of other terms currently used in the platform, such as ‘disadvantaged communities,’ ‘low-income communities,’ and ‘communities of color.’ The change was prompted by an effort at the CPUC and CEC to create one consistent term that is more all-encompassing to prevent communities from being left out because they don’t meet the specific definition attached to ‘disadvantaged communities’. The goal of the new term is to integrate equity and access more consistently across CPA’s legislative and regulatory goals. CPA may consider using the new term in other documents as well.

Chair Horvath asked how staff proposed to keep the Committee and the Board apprised of the positions and actions taken by staff. Ms. Goodwill stated that staff has yet to determine the best method by which it will inform the Board of bill positions, but noted that one possible method could be to report bill positions on a monthly basis to the Board of Directors, much like other CCA’s do. Chair Horvath also suggested regular communication via email would be effective, given the swift activity in the state legislature. Committee Members made further suggestions regarding options for maintaining the Committee and Board informed of bill positions, including having at least one member of the Committee, perhaps the Chair, review bill positions with staff or to have the entire Committee or the Executive Committee, provide an approval on positions taken when needed and then providing prompt updates to the rest of the Board.

Committee Member Lopez suggested that certain member agencies may lobby at the federal level and can be an asset when CPA needs to engage at the federal legislature to advocate on behalf of CPA. In response to Committee Member Hicks’ question regarding CPA’s lobbyists and legislative action to make billing and communication clearer to customers, Ms. Goodhill explained that CPA has two contract state lobbyists only, since most of its issues come up at the state level, and no firms offer both state and federal lobbying services. Additionally, Ms. Goodhill stated that it may be difficult to address billing and communication at the legislature but noted that staff would examine the issue. Executive Director Ted Bardacke added that CPA will assess its role in maintaining SCE costs down.

Committee Member Horvath commented that information toolkits would be helpful to member agencies to distribute to residents to help them identify what portions of their bill are CPA and SCE; and, suggested further definition of the term ‘environmental and social justice communities’, to ensure a clear understanding of the term.

Motion: Committee Member Horvath, Redondo Beach
Second: Committee Member Hicks, Carson
Vote: Item 1 was approved by a roll call vote, with direction to further define the term ‘environmental and social justice communities.’

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS
Committee Member Horvath announced that he will likely leave the committee after taking a new job; the Committee congratulated him.

ADJOURN
Chair Horvath adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.