

# RCRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



*March 9, 2022*

## ACTION ITEM HIGHLIGHTS

- The RCRC Board of Directors approved a resolution honoring the accomplishments and the memory of Linda Arcularius.
- The RCRC Board of Directors voted to accept Solano County as a member of RCRC.

The RCRC Board of Directors meeting took place on Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. The RCRC Board of Directors reviewed many issues, and the following are highlights:

### **RCRC Chair's Report**

Chair, Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, reported on the RCRC Officers' recent trip to Washington, D.C. for the National Association of Counties' 2022 Legislative Conference. The RCRC Officers also met with representatives from the Administration and members of the California Congressional Delegation. Key talking points include the Bipartisan Infrastructure Act distribution of funds for various programs, Farm Bill Reauthorization, and cannabis legislation.

### **President's Report**

Patrick Blacklock, President and CEO, provided a report on recent activities the organization is engaged on that align with the RCRC Strategic Plan. The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed [here](#).

## MESSAGE BOARD

The RCRC Membership Handbook can be [here](#). To receive a hard copy, please contact Maggie Chui at [mchui@rcrcnet.org](mailto:mchui@rcrcnet.org).

The 2022 Travel Expense Claim can be accessed [here](#). Please complete and submit your claim to Milena De Melo at [mdemelo@rcrcnet.org](mailto:mdemelo@rcrcnet.org).

For the latest news and updates, please subscribe to the Barbed Wire [here](#).

## GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Governmental Affairs Department's PowerPoint presentation can be accessed [here](#).

### **State Legislative Update**

The Governmental Affairs Department provided an update on issues being addressed at the state level, including status of key legislation, and an update on the State Budget. RCRC Board Members were encouraged to participate on the next "legislative call-in," which is scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup>. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

## **Federal Legislative Update**

Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Senior Vice President Governmental Affairs, and American Continental Group's (ACG) Senior Partner Sheryl Cohen, provided an update on issues being addressed at the federal level. An update on the FY 2023 appropriations, Bipartisan Infrastructure Act implementation, 2023 Farm Bill reauthorization strategic plan, and the Secure Rural Schools Act were presented. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The PowerPoint presentation from ACG can be accessed [here](#).

### **Guest Speakers – California State Association of Counties**

Graham Knaus, Executive Director, California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and Supervisor Ed Valenzuela (Siskiyou County), CSAC President, addressed the RCRC Board of Directors on CSAC's advocacy priorities, partnerships, and programs. Based on interest by several RCRC Board Members, counties who are interested in more information on CSAC's property tax payment system, Easy Smart Pay, may contact Alan Fernandez at [alan@csacfc.org](mailto:alan@csacfc.org) or (916) 955-1791.

## **Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority Update**

Staci Heaton, Senior Policy Advocate and ESJPA Deputy Executive Director, provided an update of the Rural Counties' Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority's (ESJPA). At their March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, the ESJPA Board of Directors will consider San Luis Obispo County's application to join as well as discuss the ESJPA Business Plan. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

## **Board of Forestry State Fire Safe Regulations Update**

Tracy Rhine, Senior Policy Advocate, provided an update on the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection's (BOF) Fire Safe Regulations (Regulations). On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, the BOF released another revised draft. On January 19<sup>th</sup>, RCRC, along with a local government working group, submitted comments urging BOF to reconsider its approach of the rulemaking process. At their March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the BOF tabled further discussion. RCRC staff will continue to monitor and engage with BOF on the Regulations. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

## **California Public Utilities Commission Update**

John Kennedy, Policy Advocate, Tracy Rhine, Senior Policy Advocate, and Leigh Kammerich, Policy Advocate, provided an update on RCRC's involvement at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). They focused on the affordability proceeding, the biomethane proceeding, the California Advance Services Funding proceeding, the broadband deployment proceeding, and large Investor-Owned Utilities' 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan updates. Ms. Rhine called attention to the proposed decision regarding broadband infrastructure deployment and the proposed allocation to counties, which can be accessed [here](#). The memo can be accessed [here](#).

## **Water Issues Update**

Sidd Nag, Policy Advocate, provided an update on current issues involving California water policy, including drought response, key water-related legislation, and the Governor's proposed funding for water and resources. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

## **Forest Management and Wildfire Update**

Staci Heaton, Senior Policy Advocate, provided an update on efforts in the Legislature and various state and federal agencies, including the United States Forest Service's 10-year strategy and key forest management and wildfire-related legislation. Ms. Heaton discussed Assembly Bill 1717 (Aguiar-Curry), which would expand the definition of "public works" to include fuels reduction work paid for by public funds and require prevailing wage. RCRC's opposition letter on AB 1717 can be accessed [here](#). The memo can be accessed [here](#).

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

### **RCRC Resolution 22-03: Honoring the Accomplishments and the Memory of Linda Arcularius - APPROVED**

The RCRC Board of Directors approved the RCRC Resolution 22-03: Honoring the Accomplishments and the Memory of Linda Arcularius. The Resolution can be accessed [here](#).

### **Approval and Acceptance of Solano County Membership and Revision of RCRC Bylaws to Assign Solano County to Region 3 - APPROVED**

Patrick Blacklock, President and CEO, presented Solano County's application to join RCRC to the RCRC Board of Directors, including revising the RCRC Bylaws to assign Solano County to Region 3. The RCRC Board of Directors discussed the dynamics upon the organization, and voted to accept Solano County as a member. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed [here](#).

## **Fiscal Update**

Lisa McCargar, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Operating Officer, provided a report on RCRC's financial standing as of December 31, 2021. The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed [here](#).

Please refer to the RCRC Board Packet and Supplemental Packet for further details related to the items above, as well as other items covered during the meeting. The RCRC Board Packet and Supplemental Packet can be accessed [here](#).

***Whatever you choose to do, leave tracks. That means don't do it just for yourself. You will want to leave the world a little better for your having lived.***

– Ruth Bader Ginsburg



## GSFA BOD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The GSFA Board of Directors meeting took place on Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Here are some of the highlights:

- The GSFA Board of Directors approved the reauthorization of the GSFA Financing Action Team, including GSFA Resolution 22-02: Authorizing the GSFA Financing Action Team to Review and Approve Financing and Related Actions for Multi-Family, Public Infrastructure, and Real Property Improvement or Rehabilitation Projects, and Issuance of Mortgage Revenue Bonds and Property Assessed Clean Energy Bonds. As recommended by the GSFA Chair, the reappointed members are Supervisors Bob Williams (Tehama County), Daron McDaniel (Merced County), Rex Bohn (Humboldt County), Les Baugh (Shasta County), and Jack Garamendi (Calaveras County). The memo can be accessed [here](#). The Resolution can be accessed [here](#).
- The GSFA Board of Directors approved GSFA Resolution 22-03: Acceptance of GSFA Associate Members. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The Resolution can be accessed [here](#).
- Greg Norton, GSNR President, provided an update on the latest GSNR activities, including site and port selection, feedstock acquisition strategy for the Lassen and Tuolumne County sites, offtake opportunities, finance and funding, and a communication plan. The memo can be accessed [here](#).
- Barbara Hayes, RCRC Chief Economic Development Officer, provided an update on the broadband strategic planning and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies grant. A determination on the GSFA grant application is pending. The memo can be accessed [here](#).
- Barbara Hayes, RCRC Chief Economic Development Officer, provided an update on the Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF). RCRC will continue to be engaged on CERF planning and implementation. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed [here](#).
- Robert Burris, RCRC Deputy Chief Economic Development Officer, reported on the development of the Zero Emission Vehicle infrastructure program. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed [here](#).
- Milena De Melo, RCRC Controller, provided a GSFA fiscal update as of December 31, 2021. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed [here](#).
- The GSFA Board of Directors approved Santa Barbara County's membership into GSFA. The memo can be accessed [here](#).
- The GSFA Board of Directors approved GSFA Resolution 22-04: Revising and Restating the Revolving Loan Fund Program Rules for Public Projects in Member Counties. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The Resolution can be accessed [here](#).
- The GSFA Board of Directors approved GSFA Resolution 22-05: Declaring GSFA's Intention to Amend its Voluntary Contractual Assessment Program to Revise the Proposed Financing Arrangements, Authorize Financing of Wildfire Safety Improvements, and Make Various Administrative Changes, and Setting a Public Hearing Thereon. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The Resolution can be accessed [here](#).
- The GSFA Board of Directors approved implementation of a GSFA member county down payment assistance (DPA) program using GSFA's existing resources, and authorize the Executive Director to establish terms and conditions for the DPA program. The memo can be accessed [here](#).
- Craig Ferguson, Deputy Director, provided a brief program update of the GSFA down payment assistance programs. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The PowerPoint presentation can be accessed [here](#).

Please refer to the GSFA Board Packet for further details related to the items above, as well as other items covered during the meeting. The GSFA Board Packet can be accessed [here](#).