



RCRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

August 17, 2022

ACTION ITEM HIGHLIGHTS

- The RCRC Board of Directors approved the proposed RCRC Bylaws amendments relating to committees and Deputy Chair appointments.
- The RCRC Board of Directors approved the revised pay rate schedule.



2022 Photo Contest Winner
Jay Coberly
Inyo County

MESSAGE BOARD

The 2022 Travel Expense Claim can be accessed [here](#). Please complete and submit your claim to Maggie Chui at mchui@rcrcnet.org.

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

The Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Board of Directors meeting took place on Wednesday, August 17th. The RCRC Board of Directors reviewed many issues, and the following are highlights:

President's Report

Patrick Blacklock, President and CEO, provided a report on recent activities the organization is engaged in that align with the RCRC Strategic Plan. Mr. Blacklock also highlighted recent successes by the Governmental Affairs Department. The presentation can be accessed [here](#).

GUEST SPEAKER

California State Treasurer

California State Treasurer Fiona Ma made a surprise visit to talk with the RCRC Board of Directors, and highlighted various programs that are currently offered by the Treasurer's Office to local governments and its constituents.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company

The RCRC Board of Directors and Patricia Poppe, Chief Executive Officers, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), engaged in a productive discussion regarding PG&E's ongoing efforts and ways to strengthen communication with local governments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Key items of interest on the Consent Agenda: RCRC Bylaws Amendment Regarding Committee and Deputy Chair Appointments ([memo](#)); and, RCRC Revised Pay Rate Schedule ([memo](#); and, [pay schedule](#)).

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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

State and 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 state and federal level. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The presentation from ACG can be accessed [here](#). A listing of all bills tracked can be accessed [here](#).

Sarah Dukett, Policy Advocate, provided a brief update on the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Court Program (CARE Court). Ms. Dukett encouraged RCRC Board Members to reach out to their respective legislators to share their concerns on Senate Bill 1338 (Umberg & Eggman). A recent letter 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 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's community wildfire defense grants, state wildfire and forest resilience State Budget, and forest/wildfire-related bills. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

Of note, the California Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force will be conducting a Sierra Nevada Regional Meeting in Grass Valley on September 27-28, 2022.

Water Issues Update

Sidd Nag, Policy Advocate, provided an update on current issues involving California water policy. Mr. Nag discussed the new water conservation strategy, water-related bills and State Budget proposals, and a recent ruling on the dispute between the Federal Emergency Regulatory Commission and the State Water Resources Control Board. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

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). Ms. Heaton discussed the Little Hoover Commission's upcoming efforts on forest resilience and wildfire mitigation, local assistance for Senate Bill 1383 implementation in the State Budget, and upcoming grant events in ESJPA Member Counties. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

California Public Utilities Commission Update

Leigh Kammerich, Policy Advocate, and John Kennedy, Policy Advocate, provided an update on RCRC's involvement at the California Public Utilities Commission. They focused on fast trip outages, microgrids, PG&E's remote grids, affordability proceedings, the Rule20 program, and the public water system acquisitions proceedings. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

Other Regulatory Committee Issues

Tracy Rhine, Senior Policy Advocate, provided an update on the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection's (BOF) Fire Safe Regulations (Regulations). The BOF has issued a final "Statement of Reasons" that cause serious concern. RCRC staff will continue to monitor and engage with BOF on the regulations, and expect a closed session discussion at the September Board of Directors meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee Updates

- **Wildfire and Forest Stewardship Ad Hoc Committee:** Supervisor Doug Teeter (Butte County) and Committee Chair, and Senior Policy Advocate Staci Heaton, provided an update on the work of the Committee. The Committee will issue a final report and recommendation at the September RCRC Board of Directors meeting. The memo can be accessed [here](#).
- **Drought and Water Resiliency Ad Hoc Committee:** Supervisor Chris Lopez (Monterey County) and Committee Chair, and Policy Advocate Sidd Nag, provided an update on the work of the Committee and its meeting on August 4th. The memo can be accessed [here](#).
- **Cannabis Ad Hoc Committee:** Supervisor Stacy Corless (Mono County) and Committee Chair, and Policy Advocate Sarah Dukett, provided an update on the work of the Committee. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Strategic Plan Mid-Year Update

Carolyn Jhajj, Communications Director, provided a mid-year update on implementation of the 2022-2025 RCRC Strategic Plan as of June 30, 2022. RCRC staff will engage with the RCRC Executive Committee and the RCRC Board of Directors in early 2023 on possible adjustments and recommendations. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The status update grid can be accessed [here](#). The presentation can be accessed [here](#). A copy of the 2022-2025 RCRC Strategic Plan can be accessed [here](#).

RCRC County Photo Contest

The RCRC Board of Directors voted on the three finalist photos, and a winner of RCRC's 6th Annual Rural County Photo Contest was chosen. The winning photo was submitted by Jay Coberly, a photo taken in Inyo County of the Inyo National Forest. The top 3 photos can be viewed [here](#).



Annual Meeting Update

Dorothy Poole, Governmental Affairs Operations Manager, provided an update on RCRC's 2022 Annual Meeting that will take place September 14 – 16, 2022 in Napa County. Thus far, 67 sponsors have committed to supporting the event. For the most up-to-date information, please visit the event website, [here](#).

Annual Meeting – County Basket Auction & Drawing

Following Thursday night's dinner at RCRC's 2022 Annual Meeting, individual county baskets will be auctioned off during the county basket auction and drawing. Chair, Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, has selected the following charities to benefit from the proceeds: Nevada County Law Enforcement and Fire Prevention Council; Kare Crisis Nursery; Nevada County Senior Center (dba, Gold Country Senior Services); and, Bright Futures for Youth (dba, The Friendship Club). The county basket auction letter to RCRC member counties can be accessed [here](#). The presentation can be accessed [here](#). Please contact Barbara Hayes at bhayes@rcrcnet.org with any questions or need additional information.

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](#).