

RCRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



January 17, 2024

ACTION ITEM HIGHLIGHTS

The RCRC Board of Directors:

- Approved the RCRC Board Travel Policy.
- Approved the 2024 Code of Conduct.
- Approved the 2024 Investment Policy.
- Approved various 2024 appointments.
- Approved, as amended, the establishment of the Roadway Infrastructure Ad Hoc Committee. Supervisor Gary Bradford (Yuba) was added as a member.
- Approved the establishment of the Williamson Act Ad Hoc Committee.
- Moved to take no action on Proposition 1 - The Governor's Behavioral Health Modernization Proposal.

MESSAGE BOARD

The 2024 Meeting Schedule can be accessed [here](#).

The Travel Expense Claim can be accessed [here](#). Please complete and submit your claim to 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, January 17th in Sacramento. The RCRC Board of Directors reviewed many issues, and the following are highlights:

2024 Officers Swearing-In

Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz) conducted the swearing-in of the 2024 Officers:

- Chair - Supervisor Chris Lopez, Monterey County
- First Vice Chair - Supervisor Geri Byrne, Modoc County
- Second Vice Chair - Supervisor Miles Menetrey, Mariposa County
- Immediate Past Chair - Supervisor Doug Teeter, Butte County



(Left to Right: Senator John Laird; Supervisor Chris Lopez; Supervisor Geri Byrne; Supervisor Miles Menetrey; and Supervisor Doug Teeter)



(Left to Right: Supervisor Chris Lopez; Supervisor Geri Byrne; Senator John Laird; Supervisor Miles Menetrey; and Supervisor Doug Teeter)

CONSENT AGENDA

Key items of interest on the Consent Agenda: RCRC Resolution 24-01: RCRC Board Travel Policy ([memo](#); [resolution](#)); RCRC Resolution 24-02: RCRC Board Travel Policy ([resolution](#)); RCRC 2024 Investment Policy Renewal ([policy](#)); Establishment of the Roadway Infrastructure Ad Hoc Committee, as amended ([Charter](#)); Establishment of the Williamson Act Ad Hoc Committee ([Charter](#)); informational update on the California Public Utilities Commission proceedings ([memo](#)) and, various 2024 appointments:

The RCRC Board of Directors approved the designation of Supervisor Geri Byrne, Modoc County, to serve on the Golden State Natural Resources Board of Directors for a two-year term.

The RCRC Board of Directors approved the designations of the following supervisors to serve as the First Deputy Chairs and Second Deputy Chairs:

- Water and Natural Resources Matters
 - First Deputy Chair Dennis Townsend, Tulare County
 - Second Deputy Chair Glenn McGourty, Mendocino County
- Regulatory Matters
 - First Deputy Chair EJ Crandell, Lake County
 - Second Deputy Chair Kathleen Haff, Tuolumne County
- Legislative Matters
 - First Deputy Chair John Peschong, San Luis Obispo County
 - Second Deputy Chair Lee Adams, Sierra County

Supervisor Matt Kingsley, Inyo County, is the rural counties' nominee to serve on the National Association of Counties' Western Interstate Region Board.

Supervisor Aaron Albaugh, Lassen County, and Supervisor Miles Menetrey, Mariposa County, were appointed to the Rural Alliance, Inc. Board of Directors.

RCRC Member Handbook

The 2024 RCRC Membership Handbook is available [here](#). For a printed hard copy, please submit a request to mchui@rcrcnet.org.

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. The presentation can be accessed [here](#).

Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Senior Vice President Government Affairs, introduced members that make up the governmental affairs team.

GUEST SPEAKER



California Natural Resources Agency

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA), addressed the RCRC Board of Directors on the 2024-25 State Budget outlook and potential impacts on key CNRA programs, the 2024 water outlook, an update on the 2024 forest resilience plan, and efforts by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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

Water Issues Update

An update was provided on current issues involving California water policy, including recent actions on the Delta Project, impending actions on the Water Quality Plan, and the state's water conservation targets. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

State and Federal Legislative Update

Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Senior Vice President Government Affairs, and American Continental Group's (ACG) Senior Partner Sheryl Cohen, provided an update on issues being addressed at the state and federal level.

Sarah Dukett, Policy Advocate, provided an update on RCRC's sponsored bills related to the Brown Act and code enforcement. Ms. Dukett also discussed two additional bills: AB 797 (Weber), focused on police review boards, and AB 702 (Jackson), addressing juvenile justice financing.

The memo can be accessed [here](#). The presentation from ACG can be accessed [here](#).

Overview of State Budget

Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Senior Vice President Government Affairs, and the Governmental Affairs staff, provided an overview of the Governor's 2024-25 proposed Budget and its implications for California's rural counties. *The Rural Rundown*, RCRC's overview on specific issue items of the proposal, can be accessed [here](#).

Proposition 1 – The Governor's Behavioral Health Modernization Proposal – NO ACTION

Sarah Dukett, Policy Advocate, provided an overview on Proposition 1, Governor Newsom's Behavioral Health Modernization Proposal on the March 5, 2024, ballot. After consultation with the RCRC Officers, RCRC staff recommended the RCRC Board of Directors adopt a "No Position." Following a comprehensive discussion, the RCRC Board of Directors moved to take no action with respect to Proposition 1. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

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