

**Rural County Representatives of California
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, December 7, 2022 – 8:00 a.m.
1215 K Street, Suite 1650
Sacramento, CA 95814**

MINUTES

Call to Order, Determination of Quorum and Self Introductions

Chair, Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, presided. Present were President and CEO Patrick Blacklock, General Counsel Arthur J. Wylene, and Director of Board Operations, Maggie Chui, clerk. Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. A quorum was determined at that time. Those members present:

Supervisor

David Griffith
Brian Oneto
Doug Teeter
Jack Garamendi
Denise Carter
Gerry Hemmingsen
Lori Parlin
Rex Bohn
Michael Kelley
Matt Kingsley
EJ Crandell
Aaron Albaugh
Robert Poythress
Miles Menetrey
Glenn McGourty*
Daron McDaniel
Geri Byrne
Stacy Corless
Chris Lopez
Diane Dillon
Dan Miller
Jim Holmes
Kevin Goss*
Bob Tiffany
John Peschong
Bob Nelson
Tim Garman*
Lee Adams
Michael Kobseff
Mitch Mashburn*
James Gore*

County

Alpine
Amador
Butte
Calaveras
Colusa
Del Norte
El Dorado
Humboldt
Imperial
Inyo
Lake
Lassen
Madera
Mariposa
Mendocino
Merced
Modoc
Mono
Monterey
Napa
Nevada
Placer
Plumas
San Benito
San Luis Obispo
Santa Barbara
Shasta
Sierra
Siskiyou
Solano
Sonoma

Mat Conant	Sutter
Bob Williams	Tehama
Jeremy Brown	Trinity
Dennis Townsend	Tulare
Kathleen Haff	Tuolumne
Randy Fletcher	Yuba

Absent

Paul Barr	Glenn
Angel Barajas	Yolo

*Attendance via Zoom

Public Comments

Supervisor Bob Williams, Tehama County, introduced Supervisor Bill Moule, Tehama County, who will replace him as the RCRC Delegate in 2023.

Consent Agenda

- a. **September 16, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**
- b. **RCRC Resolution TC011-22: Authorizing Remote and Hybrid Teleconference Meetings of the RCRC Board of Directors Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361**
- c. **RCRC Governance Policies Update**
 - i. **RCRC 2022 Omnibus Bylaws Amendments (Positions and Endorsements, and Payment Signature Authority)**
 - ii. **Ad Hoc Committees, Statewide Ballot Propositions, and Reserve Policies**
- d. **Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority Update**

Chair, Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, called for approval of the above-listed consent agenda items.

Supervisor Jim Holmes, Placer County, motioned to approve the consent agenda items. Supervisor Rex Bohn, Humboldt County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting “Aye,” except:

Not Voting: Mendocino County; Monterey County; San Luis Obispo County

RCRC Chair’s Report

Chair, Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, welcomed supervisors to the December RCRC Board of Directors meeting, and applauded all the outgoing Supervisors. Supervisor Miller provided a summary of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company’s (PG&E) discussion with supervisors and county staff on their vegetation management and felled wood program on December 2, 2022.

Supervisor Miller asked for a moment of silence in honor of the National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

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 goals, encompassing Equitable Access, Impactful Advocacy, Healthy Communities, and Operational Excellence.

Guest Speaker – California Department of Food and Agriculture

Karen Ross, Secretary, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), addressed the RCRC Board of Directors on CDFA's ongoing efforts as well as her thoughts on the State's agricultural economy. The RCRC Board of Directors engaged in discussion with Secretary Ross.

Member County Concerns and Issues

Chair, Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, provided an opportunity for the RCRC Board of Directors to discuss their individual member county concerns and issues. RCRC staff will review the concerns and issues raised by RCRC Board Members and assess each item for possible plans of action.

The RCRC Board of Directors heard from the following supervisors: Supervisor David Griffith, Alpine County, regarding passage of a local ballot measure that bans biomass facilities by Alpine County voters; Supervisor Denise Carter, Colusa County, regarding the release of Colusa County's drought documentary; Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County, regarding delayed state payments and bridge loans; Supervisor Randy Fletcher, Yuba County, introduced Yuba County Supervisor Gary Bradford who will replace him as the RCRC Delegate in 2023; Supervisor Mat Conant, Sutter County, regarding Sutter County's decline in revenue streams; and, Supervisor Lori Parlin, El Dorado County, regarding the State's demands in order for counties to receive funding to address homelessness.

Consider the Ascension of the Current First Vice Chair to Chair, and the Second Vice Chair to First Vice Chair

Patrick Blacklock, President and CEO, explained the recommendation for the ascension of the Current First Vice Chair to Chair, and the Second Vice Chair to First Vice Chair, as follows:

2023 Chair	Supervisor Doug Teeter, Butte County
2023 First Vice Chair	Supervisor Chris Lopez, Monterey County

Staff Recommendation

It was recommended the RCRC Board of Directors take action to affirm the ascension of the Current First Vice Chair to Chair, and the Second Vice Chair to First Vice Chair as provided in Section 6.6 of the RCRC Bylaws, subject to consideration of additional nominations from the floor, if any.

Supervisor Daron McDaniel, Merced County, motioned to approve ascension of Supervisor Teeter to 2023 Chair, and Supervisor Lopez to 2023 First Vice

Chair. Supervisor Rex Bohn, Humboldt County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting “Aye,” except:

Not Voting: Monterey County; San Luis Obispo County; Solano County; Trinity County

Election of the Second Vice Chair

Patrick Blacklock explained the election process for the Second Vice Chair position, and shared that Supervisor EJ Crandell from Lake County, Supervisor Miles Menetrey from Mariposa County, and Supervisor Geri Byrne from Modoc County, have stated their interest in the Second Vice Chair Officer position.

Supervisor Diane Dillon, Napa County, nominated Supervisor EJ Crandell, Lake County, to Second Vice Chair. Supervisor Jack Garamendi, Calaveras County, seconded the nomination.

Supervisor Aaron Albaugh, Lassen County, nominated Supervisor Geri Byrne, Modoc County, to Second Vice Chair. Supervisor Doug Teeter, Butte County, seconded the nomination.

Supervisor Daron McDaniel, Merced County, nominated Supervisor Miles Menetrey, Mariposa County, to Second Vice Chair. Supervisor Randy Fletcher, Yuba County, seconded the nomination.

Each of the nominated Supervisors briefly addressed the Board.

Staff Recommendation

It was recommended the RCRC Board of Directors take action to elect the 2023 RCRC Second Vice Chair.

The vote was conducted by secret ballot in accordance with Section 6.11.1.2 of the RCRC Bylaws. Patrick Blacklock and Arthur J. Wylene, General Counsel, distributed one officer ballot for each member county joining in-person, and Maggie Chui, Director of Board Operations, distributed one electronic officer ballot for each member county joining virtually.

Mr. Blacklock, Ms. Chui, and Mr. Wylene tabulated the votes for the Second Vice Chair position. After the first round of voting, Mr. Blacklock announced that no candidate received a majority vote. To inform the second round of voting, Ms. Chui announced the following: Supervisor Crandell received 9 affirmative votes; Supervisor Menetrey received 13 affirmative votes; and, Supervisor Byrne received 13 affirmative votes.

A second round of voting was conducted. Mr. Blacklock, Ms. Chui, and Mr. Wylene, distributed a new officer ballot to each member. Mr. Blacklock, Ms. Chui, and Mr. Wylene tabulated the votes for the Second Vice Chair position. After the second round of voting, Chair, Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, explained that no candidate obtained a

majority vote. To inform the third round of voting, Ms. Chui announced the following: Supervisor Crandell received 8 affirmative votes; Supervisor Menetrey received 13 affirmative votes; and, Supervisor Byrne received 14 affirmative votes. At that time, Supervisor Crandell withdrew his interest in the Second Vice Chair position.

A third round of voting was conducted. Mr. Blacklock, Ms. Chui, and Mr. Wylene, distributed a new officer ballot to each member. Mr. Blacklock, Ms. Chui, and Mr. Wylene tabulated the votes for the Second Vice Chair position. After the third round of voting, Mr. Blacklock announced that by a single vote, Supervisor Byrne had received a majority and was elected.

- 2023 Second Vice Chair, Supervisor Geri Byrne, Modoc County

RCRC's 2023 Officer slate becomes effective January 1, 2023. The Officers will be sworn-in at the 2023 Installation of Officers and Rural Leadership Awards Reception on January 18, 2023.

Election of the RCRC Executive Committee Member At-Large

Patrick Blacklock explained the election process for the RCRC Executive Committee Member At-Large position, and shared that Supervisor Rex Bohn from Humboldt County has stated his interest in the RCRC Executive Committee Member At-Large position.

Supervisor Daron McDaniel, Merced County, nominated Rex Bohn, Humboldt County, to the RCRC Executive Committee Member At-Large position. Supervisor Miles Menetrey, Mariposa County, seconded the nomination.

Supervisor Aaron Albaugh, Lassen County, nominated Supervisor Matt Kingsley, Inyo County, to the RCRC Executive Committee Member At-Large position. Supervisor Doug Teeter, Butte County, seconded the nomination.

Supervisor Randy Fletcher, Yuba County, nominated Supervisor Miles Menetrey, Mariposa County, to the RCRC Executive Committee Member At-Large position. Supervisor Jim Holmes, Placer County, seconded the nomination. At that time, Supervisor Rex Bohn, Humboldt County, withdrew his interest in the RCRC Executive Committee Member At-Large position, explaining he already serves on the 2023 RCRC Executive Committee as a region representative. Subsequently, Supervisor Miles Menetrey, Mariposa County, withdrew his interest in the RCRC Executive Committee Member At-Large position, explaining he already serves on the 2023 RCRC Executive Committee as a region representative.

Staff Recommendation

RCRC staff recommends the RCRC Board of Directors take action to elect the 2023 RCRC Executive Committee Member At-Large.

The vote was conducted by secret ballot in accordance with Section 6.11.1.2 of the RCRC Bylaws. Patrick Blacklock and Arthur J. Wylene distributed one officer ballot to each member county joining in-person, and Maggie Chui distributed one electronic officer ballot to each member county joining virtually. Mr. Blacklock, Ms. Chui, and Mr. Wylene tabulated the votes for the RCRC Executive Committee Member At-Large position. Mr. Blacklock announced that Supervisor Kingsley was elected.

- 2023 Executive Committee Member At-Large, Supervisor Matt Kingsley, Inyo County

The Executive Committee Member At-Large will succeed to their position effective January 1, 2023. The Officers will be sworn-in at the 2023 Installation of Officers and Rural Leadership Awards Reception on January 18, 2023.

Guest Speakers – Imperial County: Creating a Renewable Future

Supervisor Michael Kelley, Imperial County, commenced the presentation for Supervisor Jesus Eduardo Escobar, Imperial County, and Miguel Figueroa, County Executive Officer. Supervisor Escobar and Mr. Figueroa addressed the RCRC Board of Directors on Imperial County's efforts in renewable energy lithium extraction. The RCRC Board of Directors engaged in discussion with Supervisor Escobar and Mr. Figueroa.

RCRC 2023 Proposed Budget

Milena De Melo, Finance Director, reviewed the 2023 proposed budget for RCRC with the RCRC Board of Directors. Ms. De Melo noted that the RCRC Executive Committee reviewed and approved this item at their November meeting.

Staff Recommendations

Staff recommended that the RCRC Board of Directors approve the following staff recommendations.

1. Approve the proposed 2023 RCRC Operating Budget.
2. Approve the RCRC contract service fees at the following amounts:
 - GSFA - \$4,956,100
 - NHF - \$2,549,600
 - ESJPA - \$415,600
 - GSNR - \$568,200
 - RAI – \$116,700
 - GSCA - \$1,287,100
3. Approve the RCRC Contract Performance Fee from GSFA based on projected GSFA housing and energy program net revenues generated in 2023 in the amount of \$1,062,960.
4. Approve receipt of excess revenues transferred from NHF, per the NHF Bylaws, in the amount of \$750,000, to be transferred in equal quarterly amounts of \$187,500 during 2023.

5. Approve the contributions to affiliated entities ESJPA and GSCA in the amounts of \$200,000 and \$945,900, respectively. These amounts must also be approved by the respective boards.
6. Approve the in-kind revenue of \$568,200 and in-kind expense of \$718,200, which must also be approved by the GSNR board.
7. Approve the in-kind revenue of \$116,700 and in-kind expenses of \$100,000, which must also be approved by the RAI board.
8. Approve the 2023 member county dues calculation at the levels approved by the Board on June 13, 2012.
9. Approve the proposed 2023 pay rate schedule.

Supervisor Bob Williams, Tehama County, motioned to approve the RCRC 2023 Proposed Budget actions as recommended. Supervisor Michael Kobseff, Siskiyou County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting “Aye,” except:

Not Voting: Monterey County

Approval and Acceptance of Kings County Membership and Revision of RCRC Bylaws to Assign Kings County to Region 5

Patrick Blacklock presented Kings County’s application to join RCRC, including revising the RCRC Bylaws to assign Kings County to Region 5. If approved by the RCRC Board of Directors, Kings County would place RCRC’s membership at forty (40) of the fifty-eight (58) California counties, and membership would become effective January 1, 2023.

Kings County Supervisors Craig Pedersen and Doug Verboon were given an opportunity to address the RCRC Board of Directors.

Recommendations

The RCRC Executive Committee considered and unanimously approved forwarding this request to the RCRC Board of Directors at its November 9th meeting on a 9-0 vote, and recommended that the RCRC Board of Directors approve the following:

1. Accept Kings County as an RCRC member county;
2. Set Kings County’s annual membership dues at \$6,000 for 2022-2023 fiscal year; and,
3. Approve a proposed revision to the RCRC Bylaws to assign Kings County to Region 5.

Supervisor Daron McDaniel, Merced County, motioned to approve the recommended actions. Supervisor Bob Williams, Tehama County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting “Aye,” except:

Not Voting: Monterey County; Sierra County

In-Person and Remote Meeting Participation Policy for RCRC and Affiliated Entities

Arthur J. Wylene provided an overview of changes occurring after February 28, 2023 for in-person and remote meeting participation for RCRC and affiliated entities.

Recommendation

It was recommended that Board of Directors approve the policies set forth in the staff memo for all Brown Act meetings of RCRC and affiliates occurring after February 28, 2023.

Supervisor Jim Holmes, Placer County, motioned to approve the In-Person and Remote Meeting Participation Policy for RCRC and Affiliated Entities. Supervisor David Griffith, Alpine County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting “Aye,” except:

Not Voting: Imperial County; Monterey County

2023 Installation of Officers and Rural Leadership Awards Reception

Dorothy Poole, Government Affairs Operations Manager, provided a brief overview of the plans for the 2023 Installation of Officers and Rural Leadership Awards Reception, which will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel in Sacramento.

Water Issues Update

Sidd Nag, Policy Advocate, provided an update on current issues involving California water policy, including the Department of Interior seeking to reduce usage in the Colorado River, Klamath Project removal, and water and drought investments as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Act.

Drought and Water Resiliency Ad Hoc Committee

Supervisor Randy Fletcher, Yuba County, and the Drought and Water Resiliency Ad Hoc Committee Vice Chair, and Sidd Nag provided a brief update on the work of the Committee.

California Public Utilities Commission Update

Tracy Rhine, Senior Policy Advocate, and John Kennedy, Policy Advocate, provided an update on RCRC's involvement at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Topics covered include the Federal Communications Commission's National Broadband Map, the California Advanced Services Fund, funding distribution, felled wood removal, utility underground projects, fast trip power outages, and the Self-Generation Incentive Program.

California Air Resources Board Advanced Clean Fleets Regulations

Staci Heaton, Senior Policy Advocate, provided an update on the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) development of purchase requirements for public and commercial fleet operators. The final draft regulations were set for adoption in October; however, CARB

staff withdrew the draft and will release an updated version later this winter with expected adoption in Spring 2023.

Forest Management and Wildfire Update

Staci Heaton provided an update on efforts in the Legislature and various state and federal agencies to address California's persistent and catastrophic wildfire events, including the outcomes of key forest/wildfire-related bills, the California Department of Insurance's wildfire mitigation regulations, as well as upcoming meetings of the Tree Mortality Working Group and the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force.

State and Federal Legislative Update

Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Senior Vice President Governmental Affairs, provided an update on issues being addressed at the state level. Ms. Warmerdam discussed the commencement of the 2023-24 Legislative Session, Assembly Speaker changes, State Budget expectations, and the release of RCRC's 2021-2022 Legislative Digest.

Proposed 2023-24 Policy Principles

Mary-Ann Warmerdam presented on the 2023-24 proposed Policy Principles to the RCRC Board of Directors for review. Edits, amendments, and comments are to be submitted no later than December 29, 2022 so they can be included in the Board Packet and considered at the January 2023 RCRC Board of Directors meeting.

RCRC Rural Leadership Awards

Mary-Ann Warmerdam informed the RCRC Board of Directors that RCRC has selected Assembly Member Jim Patterson (R-Fresno) and Sierra Nevada Conservancy Executive Officer Angela Avery as the two recipients of the 2022 RCRC Rural Leadership Award.

Cannabis Ad Hoc Committee

Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County, and the Cannabis Ad Hoc Committee Chair, and Sarah Dukett, Policy Advocate, provided a report of findings from the work of the Committee, which included comprehensive updates to the RCRC Cannabis Policy Principles, State Budget proposal, and legislative proposals.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommended accepting the proposed changes to the cannabis section of the Policy Principles, and approve the budget request framework and legislative proposals for potential RCRC sponsorship in the 2023-2024 Legislative Session. The Committee recommended that the RCRC Board of Directors accept the final report with recommendations as the conclusion of the Committee's work.

Supervisor Jeremey Brown, Trinity County, motioned to approve the above-listed recommendations. Supervisor Rex Bohn, Humboldt County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting "Aye," except:

Not Voting: Imperial County; Monterey County; Plumas County; Solano County; Yuba County

Recognition of Outgoing Supervisors

The following Supervisors were recognized with a token of appreciation for their service to RCRC and its affiliated entities throughout the years: Supervisor Dan Miller (Nevada County); Denise Carter (Colusa County); Gerry Hemmingsen (Del Norte County); Paul Barr (Glenn County); Stacy Corless (Mono County); Diane Dillon (Napa County); Bob Tiffany (San Benito County); Bob Williams (Tehama County); Jeremy Brown (Trinity County); and, Randy Fletcher (Yuba County).

Adjournment

Chair, Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, adjourned the RCRC Board of Directors Meeting at 1:46 p.m.