

Rural County Representatives of California Executive Committee Meeting

**1215 K Street, Suite 1650
Sacramento, CA 95814**

In accordance with Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, the February 10, 2021 RCRC Executive Committee meeting was held virtually.

February 10, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

Executive Committee Members:

Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County
Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County
Supervisor Doug Teeter, Butte County
Supervisor Daron McDaniel, Merced County
Supervisor Bob Williams, Tehama County (*Ex-Officio*)

Supervisor Gerry Hemmingsen, Del Norte County
Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County
Supervisor Denise Carter, Colusa County
Supervisor Jack Garamendi, Calaveras County
Supervisor Michael Kelley, Imperial County

Minutes

Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

RCRC Chair, Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County, called the RCRC Executive Committee to order at 10:03 a.m. A quorum was determined at that time. Those present were as follows:

<u>Supervisors in Attendance</u>	<u>County</u>
Stacy Corless	Mono
Dan Miller	Nevada
Doug Teeter	Butte
Daron McDaniel	Merced
Gerry Hemmingsen	Del Norte
Lee Adams	Sierra
Denise Carter	Colusa
Jack Garamendi	Calaveras
Michael Kelley	Imperial
Bob Williams	Tehama (Ex-Officio)

Absent Members

None

Staff in Attendance

Greg Norton, President and CEO
Lisa McCargar, Chief Operating Officer/Chief Financial Officer
Craig Ferguson, Senior Vice President
Paul A. Smith, Senior Vice President Governmental Affairs
Barbara Hayes, Chief Economic Development Officer
Arthur Wylene, General Counsel

Tracy Rhine, Senior Legislative Advocate
Staci Heaton, Senior Regulatory Affairs Advocate
Sarah Dukett, Legislative Advocate
Sidd Nag, Legislative Advocate
John Kennedy, Legislative Advocate
Maggie Chui, Senior Governmental Affairs Coordinator/Clerk of the Board
Leigh Kammerich, Regulatory Affairs Specialist
Dorothy Poole, External Affairs Coordinator
Layne Frederickson, IT Director
Milena De Melo, Controller
Elizabeth Jensen, Assistant Controller
Sanjay Lee, Financial Analyst
Sarah Bolnik, Economic Development Officer
Terrance Rodgers, Economic Development Officer
Anthony Rahill, Data and Program Development Manager

Others in Attendance

Jeffrey Thorsby, Nevada County
Justin Caporusso, Caporusso Communications
Carolyn Gallagher

Review and Approval of January 22, 2021 Special Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

(Board Members absent from the meeting will be recorded as abstained unless the Board Member indicates otherwise)

Supervisor Gerry Hemmingsen, Del Norte County, motioned to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2021 RCRC Special Executive Committee Meeting. Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting “Aye,” except as follows:

Abstaining: Imperial County

Not Voting: Butte County; Merced County

RCRC Chair’s Report

Chair, Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County, discussed a number of items with the RCRC Executive Committee and RCRC staff. Chair Corless discussed her desire to form a Past Chairs Circle, which would consist of RCRC Past Chairs that would reach out to new members of the RCRC Board of Directors. In addition, Chair Corless discussed her desire to create a supervisor’s handbook that would be distributed to members of the RCRC Board of Directors. Following a discussion with Supervisor Ed Valenzuela (Siskiyou County), who currently serves as the California State Association of Counties’ First Vice President, Chair Corless also discussed her desire to institute a local government organizations partnership of officers that would promote the organizations to

work collaboratively. Finally, Chair Corless discussed her desire to establish a priority setting/strategic planning process for RCRC.

Public Comment

None

RCRC Supporting the Confirmation of Chief Michael J. Richwine, State Fire Marshal of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Staci Heaton, Senior Regulatory Affairs Advocate, discussed RCRC supporting Chief Michael J. Richwine, the Governor's appointment to serve as the State Fire Marshal of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. If approved, RCRC would convey its support during the confirmation process in the State Senate.

Staff Recommendation

RCRC staff recommended the RCRC Executive Committee support the gubernatorial appointment of Chief Richwine during the confirmation process in the State Senate.

Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County, motioned to approve the gubernatorial appointment of Chief Michael J. Richwine to serve as the State Fire Marshal of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting "Aye."

RCRC Supporting the Confirmation of Marybel Batjer, President of the California Public Utilities Commission

John Kennedy, Legislative Advocate, discussed RCRC supporting Marybel Batjer, the Governor's reappointment to serve as the President of the California Public Utilities Commission. If approved, RCRC would convey its support during the confirmation process in the State Senate.

Staff Recommendation

RCRC staff recommended the RCRC Executive Committee support the gubernatorial appointment of Ms. Batjer during the confirmation process in the State Senate.

Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, motioned to approve the gubernatorial appointment of Ms. Marybel Batjer to serve as the President of the California Public Utilities Commission. Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting "Aye," except as follows:

Not Voting: Merced County

RCRC Supporting the Confirmation of Gideon Kracov, Member of the California Air Resources Board

John Kennedy discussed RCRC supporting Gideon Kracov, the Governor's appointment to serve as a Member of the California Air Resources Board. If approved, RCRC would convey its support during the confirmation process in the State Senate.

Staff Recommendation

RCRC staff recommended the RCRC Executive Committee support the gubernatorial appointment of Mr. Kracov during the confirmation process in the State Senate.

Supervisor Denise Carter, Colusa County, motioned to approve the gubernatorial appointment of Mr. Gideon Kracov to serve as a Member of the California Air Resources Board. Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting "Aye," except as follows:

Not Voting: Merced County

RCRC Supporting the Confirmation of Liane M. Randolph, Chair of the California Air Resources Board

Staci Heaton discussed RCRC supporting Liane M. Randolph, the Governor's appointment to serve as the Chair of the California Air Resources Board. If approved, RCRC would convey its support during the confirmation process in the State Senate.

Staff Recommendation

RCRC staff recommended the RCRC Executive Committee support the gubernatorial appointment of Ms. Randolph during the confirmation process in the State Senate.

Supervisor Gerry Hemmingsen, Del Norte County, motioned to approve the gubernatorial appointment of Ms. Liane M. Randolph to serve as the Chair of the California Air Resources Board. Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County, seconded the motion. Motion passed with all Supervisors present voting "Aye."

Other Governmental Affairs Update Matters

Paul A. Smith, Senior Vice President Governmental Affairs, discussed the House Oversight and Reform Committee's (Committee) segments of the \$1.9 trillion coronavirus (COVID-19) reconciliation package. The Committee's draft legislative text includes the methodology for allocating \$350.7 billion for assistance to states, localities, and tribes. Counties are expected to be allocated \$65.1 billion based on 2020 Census population data, which would be allocated directly to county treasuries. Cities above 50,000 in population would receive a direct allocation, and cities under 50,000 in population would have funding allocated through the state. It is expected that counties will likely have to wait until mid-March for Congress and the President to approve and funding distribution hopefully to occur no later than mid-May. RCRC has long advocated for direct funding to counties as well as providing counties discretion of funding usage.

Mr. Smith spoke briefly about concerns raised by a number of RCRC member counties regarding the state's COVID-19 vaccine distribution with a third-party administrator, and noted that RCRC and a coalition of stakeholders are working to address vaccination roll-out concerns.

Based on the RCRC Executive Committee's interest, Staci Heaton provided an update on recent wildfire-related efforts. Ms. Heaton shared that Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittees are slated to discuss the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Expenditure Plan. Ms. Heaton thanked RCRC member counties that have submitted their letters of support, and encouraged more RCRC member counties to follow suit. Additionally, Ms. Heaton provided an update on RCRC's 2021 Wildfire Legislative Package, and shared an itemized matrix with the RCRC Executive Committee.

RCRC Condensed Balance Sheet (December 31, 2020)

Lisa McCargar, Chief Operating Officer/Chief Financial Officer, and Milena De Melo, Controller, presented the RCRC Condensed Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2020, compared to the Condensed Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2019 and 2018.

RCRC Quarterly Investment Report (December 31, 2020)

Milena De Melo presented the RCRC Quarterly Investment Report which provided a summary of investment transactions from December 31, 2019 to December 31, 2020.

RCRC Annual Budget vs. Actual Report (December 31, 2020)

Milena De Melo presented the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for RCRC which provided a summary of budget to actual comparison for the nine months ended December 31, 2020.

Fiscal and Operational Matters

Greg Norton, President/CEO, and Lisa McCargar, Chief Operating Officer/Chief Financial Officer, discussed the Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA)/Golden State Natural Resources' (GSNR) contract service fees with RCRC. As outlined in the 2021 RCRC Operating Budget, contract services fees are to be collected from GSFA/GSNR for services provided by RCRC staff; however, RCRC will not be charging GSNR for services provided. Ms. McCargar noted that the 2021 RCRC Operating Budget will be revised to reflect the modification, which will be presented to the RCRC Board of Directors for consideration at the March RCRC Board of Directors meeting.

Mr. Norton discussed that he is in communication with Patrick S. Blacklock to ensure a smooth RCRC President/CEO transition. Mr. Norton's last day as RCRC's President/CEO will be March 26th, and Mr. Blacklock will commence his RCRC President/CEO position on April 5th. As outlined in RCRC's Bylaws, RCRC Chair Stacy Corless will serve as the RCRC President/CEO during the interim. The announcement of Mr. Blacklock's appointment will be announced in the coming days.

Adjournment

Chair, Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County, adjourned the meeting of the RCRC Special Executive Committee at 11:29 a.m.