

**Rural County Representatives of California  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Friday, September 30, 2016 – 8:30 a.m.  
The Resort at Squaw Creek  
400 Squaw Creek Road, Olympic Valley, CA**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order, Determination of Quorum and Self Introductions**

Chair, Supervisor John Viegas, Glenn County, called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

A quorum was determined at that time. Those present:

<b><u>Supervisor</u></b>	<b><u>County</u></b>
Mary Rawson	Alpine
Brian Oneto	Amador
Doug Teeter	Butte
Dave Finigan	Del Norte
Michael Ranalli	El Dorado
John Viegas	Glenn
Rex Bohn	Humboldt
Matt Kingsley	Inyo
Aaron Albaugh	Lassen
David Rogers	Madera
Kevin Cann	Mariposa
Carre Brown	Mendocino
John Pedrozo	Merced
Geri Byrne	Modoc
Tim Alpers	Mono
Diane Dillon	Napa
Nate Beason	Nevada
Jim Holmes	Placer
Kevin Goss	Plumas
Anthony Botelho	San Benito
Lynn Compton	San Luis Obispo
Les Baugh	Shasta
Lee Adams	Sierra
Michael Kobseff	Siskiyou
Dan Flores	Sutter
Bob Williams	Tehama
John Fenley	Trinity
Allen Ishida	Tulare
Randy Hanvelt	Tuolumne
Don Saylor	Yolo
Roger Abe	Yuba

**Absent**

Cliff Edson	Calaveras
Kim Dolbow Vann	Colusa
Michael Kelley	Imperial
Anthony Farrington	Lake

**Others in Attendance**

Supervisor Richard Forster, Amador County  
Supervisor Ed Valenzuela, Siskiyou County  
Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County  
Supervisor Dennis Garton, Tehama County  
Supervisor Terry Woodrow, Alpine County  
Arthur Wylene, Tehama County  
Ray Espinosa, San Benito County  
Ed Horton, Placer County Water Agency  
Max Perkins, Van Scoyoc Associates  
Steve Palmer, Van Scoyoc Associates  
Magnus Lofstrom, Public Policy Institute of California  
John Kingsbury, Mountain Counties Water Resource Association  
Ginny Borkowski, Mountain Counties Water Resource Association  
Connie Stewart, California Center for Rural Policy, CSU Humboldt  
Robert Bendorf, Renovate America

**Staff in Attendance**

Greg Norton, President & CEO  
Patricia Megason, Executive Vice President  
Craig Ferguson, Vice President  
Lisa McCargar, Chief Financial Officer  
Paul A. Smith, Senior Legislative Advocate  
Tracy Rhine, Legislative Advocate  
Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Legislative Advocate  
Mary Pitto, Regulatory Affairs Advocate  
Staci Heaton, Regulatory Affairs Advocate  
Justin Caporusso, Director of Public Affairs  
Sarah Bolnik, Office Manager  
Terrance Rodgers, Economic Development Officer  
Santinia Pasquini, Legislative Analyst

**Pledge of Allegiance**

## **Approval of Minutes – August 17, 2016**

Chair, John Viegas, Glenn County, called for approval of the minutes from the August 17, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting.

**Supervisor Michael Kobseff, Siskiyou County, motioned to approve the minutes from the August 17, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting. Supervisor David Rodgers, Madera County, seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.**

### ***Abstaining:***

***Supervisor Rex Bohn, Humboldt County; Supervisor Aaron Albaugh, Lassen County; Supervisor Kevin Goss, Plumas County; Supervisor Lynn Compton, San Luis Obispo County; Supervisor Dan Flores, Sutter County; Supervisor Don Saylor, Yolo County; Supervisor Roger Abe, Yuba County***

## **RCRC Chair's Comments**

Chair, Supervisor John Viegas, Glenn County, thanked everyone for attending the 2016 RCRC Annual Meeting, and for making this year's conference one of the best attended events to date. Supervisor Viegas was humbled by the generosity shown during the basket raffle and auction.

## **Member County Concerns and Issues**

Supervisor Bob Williams, Tehama County, thanked the RCRC staff for a job well done and for their hard work during the entire Annual Meeting.

Supervisor Mary Rawson, Alpine County, discussed Senate Bill 1122 (Chapter 612, Statutes of 2012) dealing with bioenergy and the issue that some utilities serving small rural communities were not included. Supervisor Rawson let the RCRC Board of Directors know that California Natural Resources Agency Secretary John Laird has asked that counties send letters seeking changes to the bill so that Secretary Laird can address the issue with the Administration.

Supervisor Les Baugh, Shasta County, congratulated Supervisor Doug Teeter and Butte County for adopting a policy platform regarding "honey oil" production – a dangerous production process which utilizes large quantities of butane inter-mixed with marijuana plants.

Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County, informed the RCRC Board of Directors that Sierra County recently discovered a 30,000 acre illegal marijuana grow on U.S. Forest Service land, which resulted in four non-U.S. citizens being prosecuted in Sierra County courts. Sierra County is now responsible for \$50,000 in associated costs. The county is seeking compensation from the Forest Service.

Supervisor Doug Teeter, Butte County, informed the RCRC Board of Directors that Butte County recently wrote a letter seeking a declaration involving tree mortality. Supervisor Teeter stated that the Butte County letter is requesting funding that is more

pro-active as well as the removal of the 25 percent match requirement for California Disaster Assistance Act funds.

Supervisor Nate Beason, Nevada County, stated that Nevada County declared a State of Emergency for tree mortality, and would like to utilize proceeds from State Responsibility Area fees as part of the matching funds for the California Disaster Assistance Act.

Supervisor John Viegas, Glenn County, informed the RCRC Board of Directors that comments on the Water Storage Investment Program are due by Monday, October 3, 2016 to the California Water Commission.

### **Public Comments**

Supervisor Richard Forster, Amador County, on behalf of CSAC, congratulated Patricia Megason on her announcement of retirement. Supervisor Forster also noted that he hopes that the future relationship between RCRC and CSAC can remain positive and that the organizations continue to work well with each other.

Supervisor Randy Hanvelt, Tuolumne County, introduced Mr. John Kingsbury from the Mountain Counties Water Resource Association. Mr. Kingsbury stated that the 2016 Annual Meeting was a wonderful event and he looks forward to returning in the years to come.

### **President's Report**

Greg Norton, President & CEO, reported that the 2016 RCRC Annual Meeting was supported by 27 different companies netting more than \$85,000 in sponsorship funding. Additionally, the 2016 Annual Meeting Basket Raffle and Auction raised \$41,517 for the charities in Glenn County selected by Supervisor John Viegas.

Mr. Norton relayed the news of the passing of former RCRC employee John B. Hoffmann. Mr. Hoffmann passed away on September 20, 2016. Supervisor Richard Forster (Amador) encouraged RCRC Board Members to visit the Daneri Mortuary website for more information, and to leave a note for Mr. Hoffman's family.

### **Adoption of the 2017 RCRC Meeting Schedule**

Patricia Megason, Executive Vice President, presented the RCRC Board of Directors with the 2017 Board Meeting schedule.

### **Staff Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that the Board approve the 2017 RCRC Meeting schedule as proposed.

**Supervisor Michael Kobseff, Siskiyou County, motioned to approve the 2017 RCRC Meeting Schedule. Supervisor Michael Ranalli, El Dorado County, seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.**

### **California Tree Mortality Task Force**

Staci Heaton, Regulatory Affairs Advocate, provided an update on the activities of the California Tree Mortality Task Force (Task Force), of which RCRC is a member. Ms. Heaton added that the Task Force did not meet in September, and the next meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2016. Recently Ms. Heaton attended a Tree Mortality Roundtable in Lake Tahoe led by John Laird, Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency. Ms. Heaton also reported that Assembly Member Dahle was successful in including language in Senate Bill 859 that will attempt to keep biomass facilities open and operating by requiring the utilities to procure 125 megawatts of biomass-derived power from areas impacted by tree mortality.

Justin Caporusso, Director of Public Affairs, presented the first cut of the recently produced CAFWA video on forest watershed health to the RCRC Board of Directors. Mr. Caporusso thanked Supervisor Kevin Cann, Mariposa County, for his role in the video. The video will be distributed to the counties in the final version in the coming months, and used in CAFWA related advocacy and communication efforts.

### **Proposed CalEnviroScreen 3.0**

Mary Pitto, Regulatory Affairs Advocate, reported that a new version of the CalEnviroScreen tool has been released for public comment, with comments due October 21, 2016. Ms. Pitto reminded the RCRC Board of Directors that the intent of the tool is to provide state and local decision makers with information that will enable them to focus their time, resources, and programs on those portions of the state or jurisdiction that are most in need of assistance. Ms. Pitto noted that the way the tool is currently being used to allocate Cap-and-Trade funds is negatively impacting rural communities and rural local governments. Currently 30 (27 are RCRC member counties) California counties are eliminated from the definition of “disadvantaged communities” using the tool. Ms. Pitto informed the Board of Directors that RCRC will be submitting written comments, and Ms. Pitto urged RCRC member counties to review the proposed tool, and submit their own written comments to CalEPA/OEHHA, with a copy to RCRC.

### **Proposition 57 – “Governor’s Criminal Justice Initiative”**

Paul A. Smith, Senior Legislative Advocate, provided an overview of Proposition 57. Mr. Smith explained that Proposition 57, known as the “Governor’s Criminal Justice Initiative,” would allow certain nonviolent felons to seek early parole and provide judges an increased role in determining whether juveniles can face trial in adult courts. Mr. Smith explained the pros and cons of Proposition 57. The Board of Directors discussed at length the internal conflict within the county criminal justice system – most district attorneys are in opposition while most chief probation officers are in support.

RCRC staff recommended the Board of Directors adopt a position of “No Position” for Proposition 57.

Supervisor David Finigan, Del Norte County, motioned to adopt a position of “No Position” on Proposition 57. Supervisor Mary Rawson, Alpine County, seconded the motion. Motion passes with a roll call vote 26 – 5.

**Aye:** *Alpine, Amador, Butte, Del Norte, El Dorado, Glenn, Humboldt, Inyo, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, San Benito, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo*

**Nay:** *San Luis Obispo, Shasta, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yuba*

**Absent:** *Calaveras, Colusa, Imperial, Lake*

### **Proposition 64 – “Adult-use Marijuana Initiative”**

Paul A. Smith provided an overview of Proposition 64. Proposition 64, known as the “Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act,” would legalize adult marijuana use (beyond medicinal activities) in California. Mr. Smith discussed with the RCRC Board of Directors the pros and cons of Proposition 64.

### **Staff Recommendation**

RCRC staff recommended the RCRC Board of Directors adopt a position of “No Position” on Proposition 64.

Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County, motioned to adopt a position of “No Position” on Proposition 64. Supervisor John Pedrozo, Merced County, seconded the motion. Motion passes with a roll call vote 18 - 13.

**Aye:** *Amador, Butte, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Inyo, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Napa, Placer, Plumas, San Luis Obispo, Sierra, Tehama, Trinity, Yolo*

**Nay:** *Alpine, El Dorado, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Nevada, San Benito, Shasta, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yuba*

**Absent:** *Calaveras, Colusa, Imperial, Lake*

### **Federal Affairs Update**

RCRC federal lobbyists, Steve Palmer and Max Perkins from Van Scoyoc Associates provided a report on current federal legislation, and discussed several issues of concern including Federal Payment In-Lieu of Taxes funding, Fee-to-Trust reform (S.1879), H.R. 167, and the state of the Clean Water Projects.

## **State Legislation**

Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Legislative Advocate, provided an overview/update on the following topics:

- Senate Bill 552 (Wolk), which would assist failing public water systems in disadvantaged communities throughout California;
- Senate Bill 1188 (McGuire), which would return the “may” to “shall” regarding the PILT program awaits action by the Governor; and
- The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, which has a number of deadlines coming up within the next few months including the establishment of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. Ms. Warmerdam explained that for those areas not meeting this deadline, the SWRCB recently released a proposed fee structure to fund its obligation to step in and manage those basins. A public meeting to receive comments is scheduled for October 7, 2016 in Sacramento.

Tracy Rhine, Legislative Advocate, provided an overview/update on the following bills:

- Assembly Bill 2024 (Wood), which will allow federally-certified access hospitals to directly employ medical professionals; and,
- Senate Bill 1069 (Wieckowski), which will prohibit a local agency from requiring a utility connection fee for accessory dwellings that are built within an existing structure.

Mr. Smith provided an overview/update on the following bills:

- Assembly Bill 1661 (McCarty) relating to mandatory sexual harassment training for locally-elected officials;
- Senate Bill 450 (Allen) regarding the ability of counties to conduct elections via all-mail balloting; and
- Assembly Bill 779 (Garcia) relating to the public posting of elected officials' annual compensation on the home page of the county website.

Ms. Heaton provided an overview on the final Cap-and-Trade expenditure plan, which was proposed and approved by the Legislature on the final day of the Legislative Session.

## **Adjournment**

Chair, Supervisor John Viegas, Glenn County, adjourned the RCRC Board of Directors Meeting at 11:27 a.m.