

Bohn Sworn in as Vice Chairman of Rural County Coalition

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Will Houston
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In a first for Humboldt County, one of its supervisors has been sworn in as a top official for a rural county coalition that represents policy interests across 35 California counties.

Standing alongside other rural county colleagues Wednesday evening, 1st District Supervisor Rex Bohn was sworn in as second vice chairman of Rural County Representatives of California, marking the first time a Humboldt County representative has held such a position in the organization since its 1972 founding.

RCRC elections are held every year, but only the second vice chair position is up for grabs. Each subsequent year the seats cycle, meaning Bohn could eventually serve as chairman of RCRC after two years as second vice chairman and vice chairman.

Bohn said he is humbled to have been elected by his colleagues.

“It’s great to represent Humboldt on the statewide stage as well as 34 other rural counties,” Bohn said. “A lot of the Humboldt County’s issues are the same issues other rural counties have. It’s amazing how much we have in common even though our geographies are so diverse.”

On Thursday morning, Bohn presented North Coast state Sen. Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg) with the RCRC’s 2015 Patti Mattingly Award for McGuire’s work on wildfire recovery efforts after the deadly Valley Fire in Lake County this past summer, medical marijuana legislation, and other issues.

The award is presented annually to a policy worker who has “demonstrated leadership on rural issues, and exhibited an understanding of the unique challenges that rural communities face,” according to an RCRC news release.

“It’s an incredible privilege to work on behalf of the rural counties and small communities that make Northern California the best place to live in America,” McGuire said in a statement. “Together, we’re going to continue to fight to ensure the hard working residents of rural California have the resources they need to thrive into the future.”

Will Houston can be reached at 707-441-0504.

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