



Press Release

A publication of the Rural County Representatives of California

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 10, 2022

Contact: Carolyn Jhajj
Communications Director
916-447-4806
cjhajj@rcrcnet.org

RCRC Celebrates 2022 Officers and Recognizes Rural Leadership Award Recipients

SACRAMENTO, CA – On Wednesday the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) celebrated its 2022 Officers and presented its Rural Leadership Awards at their installation reception. The official Oath of Office for the 2022 RCRC Officers was administered by California State Senator Brian Dahle on January 12, 2022 through a virtual meeting of the RCRC Board of Directors. The reception celebrating the new officers was delayed until March 9th due the pandemic.

During the reception, Nevada County Supervisor Dan Miller was recognized as Chair with Butte County Supervisor Doug Teeter as First Vice Chair and Monterey County Supervisor Chris Lopez as Second Vice Chair. Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless remains an Officer as Immediate Past Chair. The 2022 installed Officers will lead the organization in championing policies on behalf of California's rural counties.

"I am honored to lead RCRC this year with the assistance of my colleagues from counties across the state. The work we do through RCRC is critical to advancing the interests of rural counties and promoting a greater understanding about the unique challenges our communities face," said Supervisor Miller."

In addition to the celebration of RCRC's 2022 Officers, Rural Leadership Awards were presented on behalf of two public officials who have demonstrated an understanding of, and distinctive leadership regarding, rural county issues.

Former California Public Utilities Commissioner (CPUC) Martha Guzman Aceves was recognized as the first recipient of the 2021 Rural Leadership Award. In her role Commissioner Guzman

Aceves worked on broadband and utility access and affordability programs for disadvantaged communities.

“It was my pleasure to recognize Martha Guzman Aceves as a recipient of our 2021 Rural Leadership Award,” said Supervisor Miller. “Her leadership on broadband access before the CPUC has made numerous infrastructure funding measures possible this year and significantly advanced efforts to reduce the digital divide in our rural communities.”

“The leadership by RCRC over the last three years in driving innovative and sustainable solutions is what yielded such massive reforms over the last two-years,” said Martha Guzman Aceves, “Getting to solutions that actually benefit people is what local government does best and I thank you all for your service.”

Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D-Winters) was announced as the second recipient of the 2021 Rural Leadership Award. The Assembly Member was recognized for her efforts to bring increased internet connectivity to her rural Assembly district and for championing Assembly Bill 14, helping to subsidize last mile infrastructure construction in unserved and underserved areas of the state.

“Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry has demonstrated significant leadership in the passage of Assembly Bill 14 and through her advocacy for broadband deployment,” said Supervisor Corless. “Her efforts to increase broadband access for all, including hard to reach communities, make her the embodiment of a rural leader.”

“It is an honor and pleasure to accept this recognition from RCRC,” said Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry. “Our rural communities suffer from a lack of access to health care, the economy, education and more. Broadband connectivity is key to fixing so many of those needs. My partner rural county supervisors and RCRC’s great staff were absolutely critical in winning the day and securing a generational investment of \$7.5 billion in providing Internet for all through my Assembly Bill 14, Senate Bill 4 (Senator Gonzalez), and Senate Bill 156.”

ABOUT RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES OF CALIFORNIA (RCRC)

The Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) is a thirty-nine member county strong service organization that champions policies on behalf of California’s rural counties. RCRC is dedicated to representing the collective unique interests of its membership, providing legislative and regulatory representation at the State and Federal levels, and providing responsible services for its members to enhance and protect the quality of life in rural California counties. To learn more about RCRC, visit rcrcnet.org and follow @RuralCounties on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

###



RCRC 's 2022 Board Officers: RCRC First Vice Chair Doug Teeter, Immediate Past President Stacy Corless, Board Chair Dan Miller, and Second Vice Chair Chris Lopez



RCRC 2021 Rural Leadership Award Recipient Martha Guzman Aceves with RCRC Board Chair and Nevada County Supervisor Dan Miller



RCRC 2021 Rural Leadership Award Recipient Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry with Immediate Past Chair and Mono County Supervisor Stacy Corless and RCRC President and CEO Patrick Blacklock