



RCRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

June 5, 2026

ACTION ITEM HIGHLIGHTS

The RCRC Board of Directors:

- Approved the 2025 RCRC audited financial statements.
- Approved the annual compensation of the RCRC President and CEO.
- Authorized RCRC to participate in two cases related to rural county interests.

MESSAGE BOARD

The 2026 meeting schedule can be accessed [here](#).

The 2026 Travel Expense Claim can be accessed [here](#). Please complete and submit claims to mchui@rcrcnet.org.

The RCRC 2025-26 Policy Principles can be accessed [here](#).

For the latest news and updates, please subscribe to the Barbed Wire [here](#).

The Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Board of Directors meeting took place on Friday, June 5th, in Mariposa County. The RCRC Board of Directors reviewed many issues, and the following are highlights:

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Audited Financial Statements – December 31, 2025 – APPROVED

The RCRC Board of Directors approved the 2025 RCRC audited financial statements. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The audited financial statements can be accessed [here](#).

Other key informational items of interest on the Consent Agenda:

California Public Utilities Commission Update ([memo](#)); and, Rural County Photo Contest ([memo](#)).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Patrick Blacklock, President and CEO, provided a report on recent activities the organization is engaged in that align with the RCRC Strategic Plan. The presentation can be accessed [here](#).

BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

President/CEO Annual Compensation - APPROVED

The RCRC Board of Directors approved the annual compensation of the President and CEO, as presented. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

RCRC Long-Term Office Space Needs Discussion

Patrick Blacklock, President & CEO, discussed RCRC's long-term office space needs, including options related to a potential lease extension and potential property acquisition opportunities. RCRC Board Members provided feedback regarding organizational

needs and considerations as staff continues to evaluate future office space options. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

Informational Presentation Regarding RCRC State Mandate Reimbursement Claims Program

RCRC staff provided an update on ongoing efforts to increase reimbursement for county costs associated with state-mandated programs. Findings presented to the Board showed that while rural counties comprise approximately 14.8 percent of California's population, they received approximately 9.9 percent of county mandate reimbursements issued in 2025. Staff also outlined next steps, including distribution of county-specific reimbursement reports and evaluation of a potential GSFA-led master contract to support participating counties with reimbursement claiming services. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

2026 Annual Meeting Overview

The RCRC 2026 Annual Meeting is scheduled to occur September 23-25, 2026, in Santa Barbara County at the Hilton Santa Barbara Beachfront Resort.

The processes for registration, the county basket drawing and auction, and sponsorship opportunities, was provided. The memo and details can be accessed [here](#).

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

State and Federal Legislative Update

The Governmental Affairs staff provided an update on state and federal issues affecting rural counties. At the state level, discussion included ongoing budget negotiations, including trailer bill activity, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund investments, impact mitigation fee proposals, and the continued advancement of RCRC-sponsored legislation.

Staff also reviewed measures related to wildfire liability, beverage container recycling, battery recycling and safety, household hazardous waste, vaping products, CEQA implementation, tribal consultation, artificial intelligence, autonomous systems, labor policy, and tort reform.

Additional discussions included county priorities related to H.R. 1, the Distressed Hospital Loan Program, behavioral health funding proposals, and Proposition 36 implementation.

The presentation can be accessed [here](#). The memo can be accessed [here](#).

CLOSED SESSION

Initiation of Litigation – Conference with Legal Counsel pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9 subdivision (d)(4). Two cases.

Following Closed Session, the RCRC Board of Directors authorized initiation of litigation in one case related to rural county interests, and initiation of a second case upon certain conditions. The authorization was approved by a vote of 28 to 3, with 9 RCRC Board Members absent.

Please refer to the RCRC Board Packet for further details related to the items above, as well as other items covered during the meeting. The RCRC Board Packet can be accessed [here](#).