

**Rural County Representatives of California
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, April 26, 2018 – 9:00 a.m.
Ferndale City Hall
834 Main Street
Ferndale, CA 95536**

MINUTES

Call to Order, Determination of Quorum and Self Introductions

Chair, Supervisor Rex Bohn, Humboldt County, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. a.m. A quorum was determined at that time. Those present:

<u>Supervisor</u>	<u>County</u>
David Griffith	Alpine
Doug Teeter	Butte
Jack Garamendi	Calaveras
Denise Carter	Colusa
Gerry Hemmingsen	Del Norte
John Viegas	Glenn
Rex Bohn	Humboldt
Matt Kingsley	Inyo
Jim Steele	Lake
Aaron Albaugh	Lassen
Kevin Cann	Mariposa
Carre Brown	Mendocino
Daron McDaniel	Merced
Geri Byrne	Modoc
Stacy Corless	Mono
Kevin Goss	Plumas
Anthony Botelho	San Benito
John Peschong	San Luis Obispo
Les Baugh	Shasta
Lee Adams	Sierra
Larry Munger	Sutter
Bob Williams	Tehama
Kuyler Crocker	Tulare
Randy Hanvelt	Tuolumne
Randy Fletcher	Yuba

Absent

Brian Oneto	Amador
Michael Ranalli	El Dorado
Michael Kelley	Imperial
David Rogers	Madera
Diane Dillon	Napa

Dan Miller	Nevada
Jim Holmes	Placer
Michael Kobseff	Siskiyou
John Fenley	Trinity
Matt Rexroad	Yolo

Others in Attendance

Moira Kenney, First 5 Association of California
Miles Menetrey, Supervisor, Mariposa County
David Teeter, Supervisor, Lassen County
Chris Howard, Supervisor, Del Norte County
Lloyd Pareira, Supervisor, Merced County
Richard Kuhns, CAO, Trinity County
Connie Stuart, Executive Director, California Center for Rural Policy
Mary-Ann Hansen, First 5 Association of California
George Apostolopoulos, Ygrene Energy Fund
Robert Bendorf IV, Ygrene Energy Fund
Dr. Mohammad Qureshi, Public Works Director, Glenn County

Staff in Attendance

Greg Norton, President & CEO
Lisa McCargar, Chief Financial Officer
Paul A. Smith, Vice President Governmental Affairs
Justin Caporusso, Vice President External Affairs
Terrance Rodgers, Economic Development Officer
Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Senior Legislative Advocate
Mary Pitto, Regulatory Affairs Advocate
Arthur Wylene, Governmental Affairs Counsel
Staci Heaton, Regulatory Affairs Advocate
Santinia Pasquini, External Affairs Coordinator
Sarah Bolnik, Board Relations & Business Development
Craig Ferguson, Vice President

Pledge of Allegiance

Review and Approval of March 14, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Chair, Rex Bohn, Humboldt County, called for approval of the minutes from the March 14, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting.

Supervisor Kevin Goss, Plumas County, motioned to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting. Supervisor David Griffith, Alpine County, seconded the motion. Motion passes.

Abstaining:

Supervisor Daron McDaniel, Merced County; Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County; and Supervisor Les Baugh, Shasta County

RCRC Chair's Report

Supervisor Rex Bohn, Humboldt County, welcomed all of the Supervisors to the meeting.

Member County Concerns and Issues

Supervisor Gerry Hemmingsen, Del Norte County, shared his concern regarding Del Norte County's costs associated with the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS). Supervisor Hemmingsen also shared his concern regarding the In-Home Support Services MOE that was enacted last year. Supervisor Hemmingsen noted that these issues are two of the biggest facing rural counties right now.

Supervisor Randy Hanvelt, Tuolumne County, echoed Supervisor Hemmingsen's concern regarding ever-increasing costs associated with CalPERS membership.

Supervisor Kevin Cann, Mariposa County, reaffirmed Supervisor Hemmingsen's and Hanvelt's concerns regarding CalPERS. Supervisor Cann requested that RCRC form an action team to address CalPERS-related issues.

Supervisor Randy Fletcher, Yuba County, concurred with Supervisor Cann's recommendation to form an action team.

Supervisor David Griffith, Alpine County, shared his concern regarding CalPERS. Additionally, Supervisor Griffith shared his recent experiences with the U.S. Forest Service Region 4 regarding Good Neighbor Authority Agreements

Supervisor Geri Byrne, Modoc County, expressed her concern regarding Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Title II and Title III splits, noting that SRS Resource Advisory Committees (RACs) need to be reappointed.

Supervisor Kuyler Crocker, Tulare County, shared that Tulare County has looked at conducting a jail assessment study with KPMG.

Supervisor Bob Williams, Tehama County, shared that Tehama County received \$20 million from the State of California for jail expansion efforts; however it will cost the county an estimated \$2.7 annually to operate the facility. He noted that Child Support Services funding in 14 counties is significantly low.

In response the concerns shared regarding CalPERS, Greg Norton, RCRC's President and CEO, stated that RCRC staff will meet later this week to discuss and formulate a plan. Supervisors interested in participating in those efforts were asked to email Lisa McCargar, RCRC's Chief Financial Officer.

Public Comment

Connie Stewart, Executive Director, California Center for Rural Policy (CCRP), shared that the CCRP will be launching a new website with county specific data and demographics.

President's Report

Greg Norton, President & CEO, thanked RCRC Chair, Supervisor Rex Bohn, Humboldt County, and staff for their work in hosting the April Board of Directors Meeting in Humboldt County.

Mr. Norton reported on recent meetings and events attended by RCRC staff, including the National Association of Counties (NACo) Farm Bill Summit and a meeting with Senator Feinstein's staff in Glenn County. Additionally, Mr. Norton provided an update on RCRC's economic development activities and projects, including a tour of the Humboldt County Fairgrounds Business Incubator Program.

Mr. Norton shared that the Infrastructure Survey was circulated last month, and over 100 projects have been received thus far. Mr. Norton encouraged RCRC Board Members to continue to have County Staff utilize the survey. Mr. Norton announced that the Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) will host a housing summit in Tuolumne County on April 30th.

Capitol Morning Report: Free Lunch Trivia Contest

Justin Caporusso, RCRC Vice President External Affairs, outlined RCRC's sponsorship of the Capitol Morning Report's (CMR) "Free Lunch Trivia Contest," a weekly, interactive raffle where CMR subscribers are provided the opportunity to win a \$50 gift card to a Sacramento restaurant after correctly answering a specific trivia question related to California. Mr. Caporusso invited RCRC Board Members to submit questions/answers for consideration to Santinia Pasquini, RCRC External Affairs Coordinator.

Guest Speaker

Moira Kenney, Executive Director of First 5 Association of California, provided a presentation titled "First 5: Building a Network Strategy for Early Childhood Systems" which included facts and figures about the First 5 program.

Repeal of Senate Bill 1 (Beall) Initiative – ACTION

Paul A. Smith, RCRC Vice President Governmental Affairs, provided an analysis of the "Voter Approval for Increases in Gas and Car Tax" Initiative – which would repeal the recently-enacted Senate Bill 1 (Beall). SB 1 increased taxes and fees on motorists and dedicates those monies for road repair and transportation funding purposes.

Staff Recommendation

RCRC staff is recommending that the RCRC Board of Directors adopt an "Oppose" position on the "Voter Approval for Increases in Gas and Car Tax" Initiative.

Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County, motioned to oppose the initiative effort to repeal Senate Bill 1 (Beall). Supervisor John Viegas, Glenn County, seconded the motion. Motion passes by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Supervisor David Griffith, Alpine County; Supervisor Jack Garamendi, Calaveras County; Supervisor Denise Carter, Colusa County; Supervisor John

Viegas, Glenn County; Supervisor Rex Bohn, Humboldt County; Supervisor Matt Kingsley, Inyo County; Supervisor Jim Steele, Lake County; Supervisor Aaron Albaugh, Lassen County; Supervisor Kevin Cann, Mariposa County; Supervisor Carre Brown, Mendocino County; Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County; Supervisor Kevin Goss, Plumas County; Supervisor Anthony Botelho, San Benito County; Supervisor Les Baugh, Shasta County, Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County; Supervisor Larry Munger, Sutter County; Supervisor Kuyler Crocker, Tulare County; Supervisor Randy Hanvelt, Tuolumne County; Supervisor Randy Fletcher, Yuba County.

No: Supervisor Doug Teeter, Butte County; Supervisor Daron McDaniel, Merced County; Supervisor John Peschong, San Luis Obispo County; Supervisor Bob Williams, Tehama County.

Abstain: Supervisor Gerry Hemmingsen, Del Norte County; Supervisor Geri Byrne, Modoc County

Proposition 69 – Motor Vehicle Fees and Taxes – ACTION

Paul A. Smith provided an overview of Proposition 69 (also known as Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5), which would prohibit the Legislature from borrowing or using revenues which are derived from increases in motor fuel taxes and vehicle fees, other than for transportation purposes.

Staff Recommendation

RCRC staff is recommending that the RCRC Board of Directors adopt a “Support” position on Proposition 69.

Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County, motioned to “support” Proposition 69. Supervisor Carre Brown, Mendocino County, seconded the motion. Motion passes by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Supervisor David Griffith, Alpine County; Supervisor Doug Teeter, Butte County; Supervisor Jack Garamendi, Calaveras County; Supervisor Denise Carter, Colusa County; Supervisor Gerry Hemmingsen, Del Norte County; Supervisor John Viegas, Glenn County; Supervisor Rex Bohn, Humboldt County; Supervisor Matt Kingsley, Inyo County; Supervisor Jim Steele, Lake County; Supervisor Aaron Albaugh, Lassen County; Supervisor Kevin Cann, Mariposa County; Supervisor Carre Brown, Mendocino County; Supervisor Daron McDaniel, Merced County; Supervisor Geri Byrne, Modoc County; Supervisor Stacy Corless, Mono County; Supervisor Kevin Goss, Plumas County; Supervisor Anthony Botelho, San Benito County; Supervisor John Peschong, San Luis Obispo County; Supervisor Les Baugh, Shasta County, Supervisor Lee Adams, Sierra County; Supervisor Larry Munger, Sutter County; Supervisor Kuyler Crocker, Tulare County; Supervisor Randy Hanvelt, Tuolumne County; Supervisor Randy Fletcher, Yuba County.

No: Supervisor Bob Williams, Tehama County.

California Forest Watershed Alliance (CAFWA) Update

Justin Caporusso and Staci Heaton, RCRC Regulatory Affairs Advocate, provided an update on the activities of the California Forest Watershed Alliance (CAFWA), of which RCRC is a founding member. Mr. Caporusso explained that CAFWA is in the process of finalizing a set of California-specific policy items related to forest health, and is scheduling meetings with various agencies and the Administration to begin conversations to move these items forward. Staff will continue to update the RCRC Board of Directors on CAFWA's advocacy efforts.

Disaster Readiness for Safer Communities (D-RiSC): Coalition Support

Justin Caporusso and Staci Heaton introduced the Disaster Readiness for Safer Communities (D-RiSC) coalition, of which RCRC became an official member earlier this month. D-RiSC was formed by organizations representing California's fire chiefs, firefighters, and local governments, and seeks to modernize California's Mutual-Aid system and advocate for improving disaster response capability. Mr. Caporusso and Ms. Heaton encouraged Board Members to discuss the coalition's efforts with their individual counties, and support the efforts by advocating at the local level. Staff will continue to keep the RCRC Board of Directors apprised on the activities of D-RiSC and future advocacy efforts.

California Tree Mortality Task Force Update

Staci Heaton provided an update on the California Tree Mortality Task Force (Task Force). Ms. Heaton reported that Governor Brown, in his January State of the State Address, announced the formation of a forest health working group that would be tasked to address the overarching need for better management of California's forests and forested watersheds. Ms. Heaton shared that at the April 2018 Task Force Meeting, Co-Chairs California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Chief Ken Pimlott and the Governor's Deputy Cabinet Secretary Saul Gomez, indicated that the formation of the new working group was imminent, with the Administration still trying to construct the final details of the group's structure. RCRC will continue to update the RCRC Board of Directors on the progress of the new forest health working group.

State Legislation

Paul A. Smith reported on the following legislation:

- Assembly Bill 2069 (Bonta), which would generally prohibit employers from terminating or refusing to hire medicinal cannabis users, even if they fail a drug test. RCRC has significant issues with this bill and encourages counties to oppose.
- Assembly Bill 924 (Bonta), which would authorize the Governor to enter into agreements concerning cannabis activities on lands of federally-recognized sovereign Indian tribes.

Mary Pitto, RCRC Regulatory Affairs Advocate, reported on the following legislation:

- Assembly Bill 2727 (Flora), which is RCRC-sponsored legislation that would provide a tax credit to volunteer firefighters for 80 percent of qualified expenses

incurred during the taxable year, up to \$1,500. Ms. Pitto encouraged individual member counties to support AB 2727.

- Senate Bill 1222 (Stone), which would provide that suction dredging equipment means the use of any equipment that removes minerals and water in conjunction to process and recover minerals. In addition, this bill would provide that existing prohibitions and requirements do not apply to, prohibit, or otherwise restrict any equipment that does not transport mineral-bearing material through a suction or nozzle.

Staci Heaton reported on the following legislation:

- Senate Bill 1079 (Monning), which would allow for an advance payment of up to 25 percent of local assistance grants from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to specific entities for fire prevention activities.
- Senate Bill 1260 (Jackson), which would promote the use of prescribed burns for fuels treatment and wildfire prevention statewide.
- Senate Bill 824 (Lara), which would place specific limitations on homeowners' insurance cancelations and nonrenewals, as well as provide for mitigation discounts for homeowners living in high wildfire risk areas.

Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Senior Legislative Advocate, reported on the following legislation:

- Assembly Bill 2447 (Reyes), which would require additional California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) notices, meetings, and special findings when state and local agencies consider projects involving "subject land uses" in "disadvantaged communities."

Update on Senate Bill 623 (Monning)/ Water Quality Proposed Budget Trailer Bill

Mary-Ann Warmerdam provided an update on Senate Bill 623 (Monning), which would establish a fund, administered by the State Water Resources Control Board, to assist those who do not have access to safe drinking water, particularly rural areas and those suffering from nitrate contamination of the groundwater. Ms. Warmerdam shared that funding would be provided by a fee on water connections and fertilizer, plus an assessment against confined animal facilities. Ms. Warmerdam thanked Supervisor Kuyler Crocker for his efforts on this issue.

Federal Issues Update

Paul A. Smith and Mary-Ann Warmerdam provided an update on various federal issues of importance to RCRC member counties, including the Federal Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program, the Secure Rural Schools program, wildfire disaster funding, the 2018 Farm Bill, and the Administration's proposed infrastructure package.

Adjournment

Chair, Supervisor Rex Bohn, adjourned the RCRC Board of Directors Meeting at 12:04 p.m.