

# RCRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



*September 16, 2022*

## ACTION ITEM HIGHLIGHTS

- The RCRC Board of Directors approved the 2023 RCRC Meeting Schedule.
- The RCRC Board of Directors approved the report of findings from the Wildfire and Forest Stewardship Ad Hoc Committee.



2022 Photo Contest Winner  
Jay Coberly  
Inyo County

## MESSAGE BOARD

The 2022 Travel Expense Claim can be accessed [here](#). Please complete and submit your claim to [Maggie Chui](mailto:Maggie Chui) at [mchui@rcrcnet.org](mailto:mchui@rcrcnet.org).

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, September 16<sup>th</sup>. The RCRC Board of Directors reviewed many issues, and the following are highlights:

### **RCRC Chair's Report**

Chair, Supervisor Dan Miller, Nevada County, thanked everyone for attending the 2022 Annual Meeting. The 2022 Annual Meeting County Basket Auction & Drawing raised approximately \$67,000 for the charities Supervisor Miller selected, which include the Nevada County Law Enforcement and Fire Prevention Council, the Kare Crisis Nursery, the Nevada County Senior Center (dba, Gold Country Senior Services), and the Bright Futures for Youth (dba, The Friendship Club).

### **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. Mr. Blacklock also highlighted recent successes by the Governmental Affairs Department. The presentation can be accessed [here](#).

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **Adoption of the 2023 RCRC Meeting Schedule - APPROVED**

The RCRC Executive Committee, at their July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, approved the alignment of RCRC, GSFA, and GSCA meetings to take place on the same day beginning in 2023. Subsequently, the RCRC Board of Directors approved the 2023 RCRC Meeting Schedule as proposed. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The meeting schedule can be accessed [here](#).

## **GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

The Governmental Affairs Department's presentation can be accessed [here](#).

### **Wildfire and Forest Stewardship Ad Hoc Committee Report - APPROVED**

Supervisor Doug Teeter, Butte County, Wildfire and Forest Stewardship Ad Hoc Committee (Committee) Chair, and Staci Heaton, Senior Policy Advocate, provided the Committee's report of findings. The Committee met six times before composing its final report. The RCRC Board of Directors adopted a comprehensive set of amendments to the RCRC Forest and Public Lands Stewardship Policy Principles at the June RCRC Board of Directors meeting. Recently, the Committee reviewed the Senate Bill 190 model defensible space program at the request of the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The memo/report can be accessed [here](#).

### **Forest Management and Wildfire Update**

Staci Heaton, Senior Policy Advocate, provided an update on efforts in the Legislature and various state and federal agencies, including the state wildfire and forest resilience State Budget, forest/wildfire-related bills, and the California State Board of Forestry's "Zone Zero" regulations. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

### **California Public Utilities Commission Update**

John Kennedy, Policy Advocate, provided an update on RCRC's involvement at the California Public Utilities Commission. Mr. Kennedy focused on the Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings and the undergrounding proceedings. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The list of RCRC open proceedings list can be accessed [here](#).

### **Water Issues Update**

Sidd Nag, Policy Advocate, provided an update on current issues involving California water policy, including water policy priorities and appropriations in the State Budget, and water-related bills. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

### **State and Federal Legislative Update**

Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Senior Vice President Governmental Affairs, and American Continental Group's (ACG) Senior Partner Sheryl Cohen, provided an update on issues being addressed at the state and federal level. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

On the state level, Governor Newsom has until September 30<sup>th</sup> to sign or veto measures from the 2022 Legislative Session. The State Legislature will convene on January 3, 2023. Ms. Warmerdam called attention to RCRC's summary of the final 2022-23 Budget Package, which can be accessed [here](#). A listing of [all bills tracked](#) can be accessed [here](#).

John Kennedy, Policy Advocate, provided a update on the status of bills relating to the solar panel exemption for wildfire rebuilds, utility vegetation management, and utility undergrounding. Sarah Dukett, Policy Advocate, provided an update on the status of bills relating to the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Court Program (CARE Court), sheriff-coroner, cannabis, and the Brown Act.

On the federal level, Ms. Cohen focused on the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund, Farm Bill reauthorization, and the Wildfire Protection Act. The presentation from ACG can be accessed [here](#).

### **Closed Session**

The RCRC Board of Directors discussed Item 8. Closed Session: Existing Litigation. The name of the case is Rural County Representatives of California v. California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, et al., Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 22CECG00123.

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





# GSFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**September 16, 2022**

The Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) Board of Directors meeting took place on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. The GSFA Board of Directors reviewed a number of issues, and the following are highlights:

- Kevin Cann, Vice President, Golden State Natural Resources (GSNR), provided an update on the project status. Of note, GSNR and GSFA will be hosting a special meeting taking place on October 19-20, 2022 to allow for a comprehensive review of the project. The memo can be accessed [here](#).
- Craig Ferguson, Deputy Director, provided a business development and program update, including GSFA's down payment assistance programs. The presentation can be accessed [here](#).
- Robert Burris, RCRC Deputy Chief Economic Development Officer, provided an update on recent Economic Development activities. Of note, Mr. Burris discussed the Zero Emission Vehicle infrastructure development and the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) grant. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The presentation can be accessed [here](#).

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



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### QUALITY INTERNET FOR RURAL CALIFORNIA

The Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA) Board of Directors meeting took place on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. The GSCA Board of Directors reviewed a number of issues, and the following are highlights:

- The GSCA Board of Directors approved the amended 2022 GSCA Meeting Schedule. The 2022 GSCA Meeting Schedule can be accessed [here](#).
- Barbara Hayes, RCRC Chief Economic Development Officer, provided an update on the broadband strategic planning and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) grant, the Local Agency Technical Assistance (LATA) Program application status, and the GSCA open-access municipal broadband network. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The presentation can be accessed [here](#).

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

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