

RCRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

January 13, 2021

RCRC Governmental Affairs Department Staff

ACTION ITEM HIGHLIGHTS

- The RCRC Board of Directors approved the 2021 RCRC Board Travel Policy.
- The RCRC Board of Directors approved the 2021 RCRC Investment Policy Renewal.
- The RCRC Board of Directors approved the 2021 RCRC Board of Directors Code of Conduct.
- The RCRC Board of Directors approved the appointment of Supervisor Michael Kelley (Imperial) to serve on the 2021 RCRC Executive Committee.
- The RCRC Board of Directors approved RCRC's 2021 Policy Principles.



Jason Brand
Mack Lake, Inyo County

MESSAGE BOARD

Please complete the RCRC Delegate Information form, [here](#).

The RCRC Board of Directors meeting took place via Zoom on Wednesday, January 13th. The RCRC Board of Directors reviewed many issues, and the following are highlights:

2021 Officers Swearing-In

Congressman John Garamendi (D-Yolo) administered the official Oath of Office. Supervisor Stacy Corless (Mono) was installed as Chair. Supervisor Dan Miller (Nevada) was installed as 1st Vice Chair. Supervisor Doug Teeter (Butte) was installed as 2nd Vice Chair. Supervisor Daron McDaniel (Merced) remains an Officer as Immediate Past Chair.

President's Report

Greg Norton, President and CEO, announced that RCRC staff Tracy Rhine has been promoted to Senior Legislative Advocate. Mr. Norton introduced Sarah Dukett, Legislative Advocate, and Sidd Nag, Legislative Advocate, to the RCRC Board of Directors. Ms. Dukett will concentrate on cannabis, transportation, health and human services, economic development, and other issues. Ms. Dukett will also assume communications functions during the early part of 2021. Mr. Nag will concentrate on water policy and other natural resources issues. Mr. Norton noted that senior RCRC staff will be holding an RCRC orientation with new members of the RCRC Board of Directors.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

RCRC Resolution 21-01: RCRC Board Travel Policy - APPROVED

The RCRC Board of Directors approved the proposed RCRC Board Travel Expense Policy, 21-01. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The Resolution can be accessed [here](#). RCRC's 2021 Expense Reimbursement Form can be accessed [here](#).

RCRC 2021 Investment Policy Renewal - APPROVED

The RCRC Board of Directors approved the RCRC 2019 Investment Policy. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The policy can be accessed [here](#).

RCRC Charity Contribution to Merced County in Lieu of Annual Auction Proceeds

Greg Norton, President and CEO, announced that due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, RCRC will be providing \$50,000 to Merced County charities to be allocated among several separate charities per Supervisor Daron McDaniel (Merced). The memo can be accessed [here](#).

RCRC Resolution 21-02: Board of Directors Code of Conduct - APPROVED

The RCRC Board of Directors approved the proposed Board of Directors Code of Conduct, 21-02. The memo can be accessed [here](#). The Resolution can be accessed [here](#).

Appointment to Fill Executive Committee Region 5 Vacancy – SELECTED

The RCRC Board of Directors from Region 5 caucused, and the RCRC Board of Directors subsequently approved the appointment of Supervisor Michael Kelley (Imperial) to participate on the 2021 RCRC Executive Committee. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Adoption of RCRC's 2021 Policy Principles - APPROVED

The RCRC Board of Directors adopted RCRC's 2021 Policy Principles. The 2021 Policy Principles can be accessed [here](#).

Overview of the State Budget

RCRC staff provided an overview of the Governor's 2021-22 proposed Budget and its implications for California's rural counties. *The Rural Rundown*, RCRC's in-depth look at the proposal, details of RCRC's advocacy efforts on specific issue items, and an insider perspective into the reasoning and rationale behind specific elements of the proposal, can be accessed [here](#).

Forest Management and Wildfire Update

Staci Heaton, Senior Regulatory Affairs Advocate, discussed the recently-released Forest Management Task Force Action Plan and the status of the RCRC Wildfire Prevention and Response Package. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

State & Federal Legislative Update

RCRC staff provided a state and federal legislative update to the RCRC Board of Directors. On the federal level, Paul A. Smith, Senior Vice President Governmental Affairs, focused the discussion on RCRC's priority to enact another federal COVID-19 relief package that includes direct funding to low-population counties once the Biden Administration is inaugurated. Tracy Rhine, Senior Legislative Advocate, discussed broadband and California Advanced Services Fund-related bills. John Kennedy, Legislative Advocate, discussed Public Safety Power Shutoff, treated wood waste, and solid waste and recycling-related bills. The memo can be accessed [here](#). Other highlighted bills can be accessed [here](#).

California Public Utilities Commission Update

John Kennedy, Legislative Advocate, and Leigh Kammerich, Regulatory Affairs Specialist, provided an update on RCRC's involvement at the California Public Utilities Commission, including on the Wildfire Mitigation Plans proceeding, the De-Energization proceeding, the Self-Generation Incentive Program proceeding, the Microgrids and Resiliency proceeding, the Emergency Disaster Relief Program proceeding, the California Advanced Service Fund proceeding, the Broadband Deployment proceeding, and the Frontier Bankruptcy proceeding. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

Water Issues Update

Sidd Nag, Legislative Advocate, provided an update on current issues involving California water policy. The focus of the discussion was the introduction of a resources bond proposal by the State Legislature. The memo can be accessed [here](#).

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

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

– Martin Luther King, Jr.