

**July 11, 2017**  
**Regular Meeting**

**Item #4**

**Board Reports**

**Rural Counties Reps.**  
**Of CA Board Mtg**  
**Highlights from**  
**Supervisor Corless**



**To:** RCRC Board of Directors  
**From:** Greg Norton  
President and CEO  
**Date:** June 23, 2017  
**Re:** RCRC Board Meeting Highlights (June 21, 2017)

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### **President's Report**

RCRC President and CEO Greg Norton announced the opening of registration and sponsorship opportunities for the [2017 Annual Meeting](#). Scheduled for September 27-29 in El Dorado County, the two-day conference is capped by the RCRC Basket Raffle Dinner on Thursday evening. Following the Annual Meeting, the RCRC Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Friday morning. Mr. Norton encouraged RCRC Members to register, and begin assembling their county baskets.

Mr. Norton referenced the upcoming National Association of Counties [Annual Conference](#) taking place July 21-24 in Franklin County, Ohio, and provided an update on the [Counties Cannabis Summit](#) scheduled for July 19, 2017 in Sacramento. Hosted by RCRC, CSAC, and UCC, the Counties Cannabis Summit is currently at capacity; however, interested attendees are encouraged to join the wait list.

Mr. Norton provided an update on the reach of RCRC's External Affairs efforts and social media metrics, and highlighted a number of Governmental Affairs "wins" related to the State Budget and current legislation.

On the economic development front, Mr. Norton discussed the recent Regional Trade Services Workshop held in Tuolumne County, and the Select USA Foreign Investment Development Conference, of which RCRC attended as part of a larger California delegation. Lastly, Mr. Norton encourages Member counties to review the [Water Infrastructure Survey](#) to help identify potential projects in the state.

### **Administrative Matters**

#### **RCRC 2016 Audited Financial Statements – ACTION**

The RCRC Board of Directors approved the 2016 audited financial statements. The RCRC Board memo can be accessed [here](#).

#### **RCRC Revised Pay Rate Schedule – ACTION**

The RCRC Board of Directors approved the revised pay rate schedule. The Board approved pay rate schedule can be accessed [here](#).

### **RCRC 2017 Local Area Investment Fund (LAIF) Authorization – ACTION**

The RCRC Board of Directors approved proposed revisions to the individuals authorized to deposit or withdraw funds from LAIF. The RCRC Board memo can be accessed [here](#).

### **2017 RCRC Bylaw Revision – ACTION**

The RCRC Bylaws were last revised in June 2012. As such, RCRC Executive Management reviewed the bylaws, and proposed revisions for purposes of clarification, administration, and simplification of operations. The RCRC Board of Directors reviewed and approved the proposed bylaw revisions, which can be accessed [here](#).

### **Water and Natural Resources Committee**

**Speaker: Jeffrey Kightlinger, General Manager, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**

Mr. Kightlinger's presentation materials can be accessed [here](#), and contact information can be accessed [here](#).

### **Governmental Affairs**

#### **2017-18 State Budget Update**

RCRC Vice President of Governmental Affairs Paul A. Smith and Governmental Affairs Staff provided an update on the Governor's 2017-18 State Budget Package, specifically highlighting Certified Unified Program Agencies funding, cannabis regulatory structure, In-Home Support Services, legacy drought response, and tree mortality. Cap-and-Trade and allocations from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund are not addressed in the 2017-18 State Budget Package. *The Rural Rundown*, RCRC's summary of the 2017-18 State Budget Package can be accessed [here](#).

#### **California Tree Mortality Task Force**

RCRC Regulatory Affairs Advocate Staci Heaton provided an update on the workings of the California Tree Mortality Task Force (Task Force), which continues to meet monthly. While tree mortality is not expected to slow down, the Task Force is currently conducting a pulse check with its subgroups to ensure that progress continues, and that messaging transitions away from the drought discussion. The RCRC Board memo can be accessed [here](#).

### **State Legislative Update**

#### **Assembly Bill 668 (Gonzalez) – Voting Modernization Bond Act – ACTION**

The RCRC Board of Directors adopted a "Support" position on Assembly Bill 668 (Gonzalez), the Voting Modernization Bond Act, which would authorize the issuance of a state general obligation bond to assist counties in the purchase/lease of voting equipment. The RCRC Board memo can be accessed [here](#).

#### **Senate Bill 649 (Hueso) – "Small Cell" Wireless Infrastructure Permitting**

RCRC Legislative Advocate Tracy Rhine presented on Senate Bill 649 (Hueso), which would require counties to lease public property for placement of wireless "small cell" structures for a fee set by the Legislature. Ms. Rhine encouraged Member counties to contact their appropriate legislators, and submit a letter of opposition to the Assembly Committee on Local Government. A hearing on SB 649 is scheduled for June 28, 2017. The RCRC Board memo can be accessed [here](#). A previously distributed template opposition letter can be downloaded [here](#).

## **Federal Legislative Update**

### **H.R. 975 (Rohrabacher) – “Respect State Marijuana Laws Act of 2017” – ACTION**

The RCRC Board of Directors adopted a “Support” position on H.R. 975 (Rohrabacher), the Respect State Marijuana Laws Act of 2017, which would provide for a new rule regarding the application of the federal Controlled Substances Act in states that have legalized cannabis. The RCRC Board memo can be accessed [here](#).

### **H.R. 2215 (Perlmutter) – “Secure and Fair Enforcement Banking Act of 2017” – ACTION**

The RCRC Board of Directors adopted a “Support” position on H.R. 2215, the Secure and Fair Enforcement Banking Act of 2017, which would create protections for depository institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related businesses operating under state-constructed regulatory schemes. The RCRC Board memo can be accessed [here](#).

## **Regulatory Committee**

### **Clean Water Act Definition of Waters of the United States**

Ms. Heaton provided an update on the status of the Administration’s official review of the 2015 rule altering the definition of what constitutes a “water of the United States” (WOTUS). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers accepted comments from local governments on how to best define WOTUS in the redrafted rule through June 19, 2017, and will continue the consultation process throughout development of the redrafted rule. RCRC’s comment letter can be accessed [here](#).

*Please refer to the Board Packet and Supplemental Packet for further details related to the items above, as well as all items covered during the June 2017 RCRC Board of Directors meeting. The June 2017 Board Packet can be accessed [here](#).*