July 3, 2018 Regular Meeting Item # 5h

CAO

Amended Letter



Vacant ~District One Fred Stump~ District Two Bob Gardner ~ District Three John Peters ~ District Four Stacy Corless ~ District Five

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF MONO

P.O. BOX 715, BRIDGEPORT, CALIFORNIA 93517 (760) 932-5530 • FAX (760) 932-5531 Shannon Kendall, Clerk of the Board

July 3, 2018

The Honorable Rob Bonta Member, California State Assembly State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0018

Dear Assembly Member Bonta,

The Mono County Board of Supervisors would like to offer its support for your Assembly Bill 924 ("AB 924"), the Cannabis Regulatory Enforcement Act for Tribal Entities (CREATE), based on the compromise approach toward local government involvement developed by the Rural Counties Representatives of California (RCRC, of which Mono County is a member) and California Native America Cannabis Association (CNACA, the bill sponsor). As a county that strives to be a good community partner to neighboring Indian tribes, we appreciate your willingness to reach a compromise between local government and tribes that protects the interests of both entities while providing tribes a way to enter California's cannabis market.

Mono County understands that, under current law, the State and local governments have limited ability to regulate cannabis activities undertaken by Indian tribes on tribal land - as long as those activities stay on tribal land. Tribal cannabis operators may only sell cannabis to (or purchase cannabis from) California regulated cannabis businesses if they obtain a state license - which requires a broad waiver of tribal sovereign immunity.

AB 924 is intended to establish an alternative framework for allowing cannabis operators on tribal land to interact with California's regulated cannabis market. The bill contemplates that tribal governments would establish a tribal cannabis regulatory commission responsible for cannabis licensing and regulation on tribal land, and would enter into an agreement with the Governor allowing their tribal licensees to access the California market.

As originally proposed, AB 924 provided <u>no</u> local government involvement in the agreement process. RCRC and CNACA have agreed to language for the bill that would provide a mandatory role and mitigations for local governments affected by tribal cannabis activities.

The compromise would establish a local Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) requirement similar to the current tribal gaming compacts and would also establish a notice process ensuring additional local government input at critical junctures. This MOU process would serve to mitigate any impacts of cannabis activities outside tribal land, reimburse the local government for any resulting costs and address public safety and other issues arising from these activities while recognizing tribal rights and sovereignty.

We understand that further stakeholder discussions regarding the bill will take place over the Legislature's summer recess. We believe that the above provisions are a critical component that should be included in the final bill, and with those provisions in place, Mono County is happy to support AB 924.

Sincerely,

Bob Gardner, Chair

CC: Paul Smith, RCRC

July 3, 2018 Regular Meeting Item # 7a

Sierra / Inyo National Forests

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Lions Fire CA-SNF-000493 3,850 acres **Operations Map** July 03, 2018 ohu-20 Created: 7/2/2018 By: ARogers Uncontrolled Fire -Edge Completed Line . \bigcirc Camp RAWS: INF04 ŵХ Dip Site + \otimes Fire Origin Helispot 0 **Division Break** 八 Planning Box Trails Closed Trails -Forest Boundary Fire History National Park Service Wilderness Boundary -Wild & Scenic River 0.5 ⊐Miles Scale = 1:40,000

July 3, 2018 Regular Meeting Item # 10

Board Reports

Sup. Corless: RCRC Board Meeting Highlights



То:	RCRC Board of Directors
From:	Greg Norton President and CEO
Date:	June 25, 2018
Re:	RCRC Board Meeting Highlights (June 20, 2018)

President's Report

RCRC President and CEO Greg Norton introduced Barbara Hayes, RCRC Chief Economic Development Officer, to the RCRC Board of Directors. With nearly 30 years of economic development experience at both the state and regional level, Ms. Hayes will lead the organization's economic development efforts, with a specific focus on developing programs that drive economic opportunity to RCRC's 35 member counties. The press release announcing Ms. Hayes' hiring can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Mr. Norton provided a global update on the state and federal legislative and regulatory efforts of the RCRC Governmental Affairs team, including the 2018 Farm Bill, federal wildfire funding, and the state's transition to the Forest Health Working Group, and discussed the current status of the myriad economic development projects.

Mr. Norton also encouraged the RCRC Board of Directors to forward information on various unfunded, but planned, infrastructure projects in each of their counties. Surveys to collect the necessary information can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Lastly, Mr. Norton invited the RCRC Board of Directors to register for RCRC's 2018 Annual Meeting, set to be held September 19-21 in Napa County. Registration and lodging can be secured <u>here</u>.

Administrative Matters

RCRC 2017 Audited Financial Statements – ACTION

RCRC Chief Financial Officer Lisa McCargar provided a brief overview of RCRC's 2017 audited financial statements. The RCRC Board of Directors approved the 2017 audited financial statements and communication letter. The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Rural County Photo Contest

RCRC External Affairs Coordinator Santinia Pasquini outlined the guidelines and submission requirements for RCRC's 2nd Annual Rural County Photo Contest. The Rural County Photo Contest was created to promote tourism and local economic development through showcasing the beautiful landscape, scenery, activities, history,

and charm of RCRC's member counties. The winning image will be displayed at RCRC's Annual Meeting in September, and may be used in various marketing materials and work product throughout 2019. The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>.

1 Laptop Program Distribution Update

RCRC Vice President of External Affairs Justin Caporusso provided an update on the distribution plans of the nearly 1,200 laptops for rural county foster youth through the 1 Laptop Program. Mr. Caporusso explained that roll-out events have begun, and will continue to take place through October 2018. Contact <u>Mr. Caporusso</u> with specific questions related to the roll-out in your county.

Governmental Affairs

CalPERS Hardship Policy

Ms. McCargar and RCRC Vice President Governmental Affairs Paul A. Smith provided information on recent developments regarding the California Public Employees' Retirement System's (CalPERS) Hardship Policy. RCRC staff has been involved in discussions regarding the Hardship Policy, and has submitted a letter to CalPERS outlining the organization's thoughts on thresholds and other criteria that could be adopted by CalPERS to determine if a member agency needs contribution relief. The memo can be accessed here, and the letter to CalPERS can be accessed here.

Upcoming November 2018 Ballot Measures

Mr. Smith provided a brief background on a number of statewide measures expected for the November ballot and the timeline for which the RCRC Board of Directors will consider positions on most of these items. The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Senate Bill 3 (Beall) – Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018 – ACTION

RCRC Legislative Advocate Tracy Rhine introduced the Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018, also known as Senate Bill 3 (Beall). This measure authorizes the issuance of \$4 billion in General Obligation bonds for affordable housing. The RCRC Board of Directors adopted a position of "No Position" on this measure. The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Tax Fairness, Transparency and Accountability Act of 2018 – ACTION

Mr. Smith introduced the Tax Fairness, Transparency and Accountability Act of 2018, which seeks to restrict the ability of state and local governments to generate new revenues through taxes and fees. The RCRC Board of Directors adopted an "Oppose" position on this measure. The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>.

People's Initiative to Protect Proposition 13 Savings Act – ACTION

Mr. Smith introduced the People's Initiative to Protect Proposition 13 Savings Act, which revises the ability to transfer a residential property tax base. The measure would eliminate a board of supervisors' ability to accept base year transfers from another county and would result in significant losses of property tax revenue. The RCRC Board of Directors adopted an "Oppose" position on this measure. The memo can be accessed here.

California Tree Mortality Task Force

RCRC Regulatory Affairs Advocate Staci Heaton provided an update on the status of the California Tree Mortality Task Force, originally formed to tackle the issue of tree dieoff due to invasive pests in California. Ms. Heaton explained that the formation of a new working group to address the overarching need for better management of California's forests and forested watersheds had officially been launched, and the June California Tree Mortality Task Force meeting served as the kickoff for what will be known as the California Forest Management Task Force (FMTF). RCRC has been asked to represent rural county government on the FMTF, which will be forming working groups to address in detail forest management issues such as wood products utilization, regulatory barriers, education and outreach to landowners, forest restoration and prescribed fire, and tree mortality. The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Wildfire Liability: Investor Owned Utilities

Ms. Heaton discussed the current efforts underway to effect legislative and regulatory changes to the liability for investor-owned utilities (IOUs) that are deemed negligent and in violation of state law in causing a high severity wildfire event. Ms. Heaton provided an update on RCRC's advocacy efforts aimed at ensuring counties and residents retain legal recourse in the wake of wildfires legally found to be caused by IOUs. The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>.

2018-19 State Budget Update

Mr. Smith and the RCRC Governmental Affairs team provided an update on the 2018-19 State Budget Package. RCRC's analysis of the 2018-19 State Budget Package, *The Rural Rundown*, can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Legislative Committee

Update on Farm Bill

RCRC Senior Legislative Advocate Mary-Ann Warmerdam provided an update on the status of the 2018 Farm Bill, and RCRC's priorities in reauthorization efforts, which primarily lie in the Rural Development title. The Rural Development title generally provides assistance for rural business creation, including funds for innovative and alternative business development. In addition to these programs, the Rural Development title includes other provisions to reauthorize and/or amend a wide variety of loan and grant programs that provide assistance in four key areas: broadband and telecommunications; rural water and wastewater infrastructure; business and community development; and regional development. The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Regulatory Committee

Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority Update

RCRC Regulatory Affairs Advocate Mary Pitto provided an update on the recent activities of the Rural Counties' Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority (ESJPA). Ms. Pitto's presentation included updates on various waste related topics, including proposed organics regulation, proposed disposal reporting requirements, bottle bill, implementation of mandatory commercial organics diversion, and local jurisdiction Assembly Bill 939 review. The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>.

Water and Natural Resources Committee

Water Issues Update

Ms. Warmerdam provided a global overview of several issues involving California water policy at the state and federal levels. Some of these issues include the two bonds with monies identified for water infrastructure, and updates on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, California WaterFix, California Water Commission – Proposition 1 Funds, Water Efficiency Legislation, and Water Board Conservation Regulations. The memo can be accessed <u>here</u>.

<u>Please Note:</u> The next Sustainable Groundwater Management Act public meeting is on Monday, June 25, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. at the Resources Building Auditorium, 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Meetings will also be held on the 26th and 28th in Healdsburg and Ventura, respectively. The memo incorrectly states that the next public meeting is to be held on June 28, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in Sacramento.

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 2018 RCRC Board of Directors meeting. The June 2018 Board Packet can be accessed <u>here</u>.