

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Robert M. Weygandt, Supervisor District 2
Mike Boyle, Assistant County Executive Officer

DATE: January 12, 2010

SUBJECT: COMMENDATION – Present a Commendation to honor Rich Gresham for 33 years of service with the Placer County Resource Conservation District.

ACTION REQUESTED

Present a Commendation to honor Rich Gresham for 33 years of service with the Placer County Resource Conservation District.

BACKGROUND

The Placer County Resource Conservation District (RCD) is an independent self governing body dedicated to identifying natural resource management and conservation issues and providing education and technical assistance or direction to private landowners, operators and local entities.

The purpose of the RCD is to independently and in collaboration with other local, state and federal agencies, implement programs and plans to conserve and enhance the natural resources of the district while inspiring and mobilizing public conservation awareness and involvement.

Rich Gresham has served as Manager of the Placer County Resource Conservation District since 1976. His accomplishments are many during his tenure. On December 15, 2009, he retired after 33 years of service.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

**In the matter of a Commendation honoring
Rich Gresham for 33 years of service with the
Placer County Resource Conservation District.**

Whereas, the Placer County Resource Conservation District (RCD) is an independent self governing body dedicated to identifying natural resource management and conservation issues and providing education and technical assistance or direction to private landowners, operators and local entities; and

Whereas, the purpose of the RCD is to independently and in collaboration with other local, state and federal agencies, implement programs and plans to conserve and enhance the natural resources of the district while inspiring and mobilizing public conservation awareness and involvement; and

Whereas, Rich Gresham started his work with the Placer County Resource Conservation District in 1976 as a Manager and has been instrumental in the development of the positive collaborative relationship developed over the years between Placer County and the RCD; an achievement he is most proud of and the one he considers his greatest accomplishment; and

Whereas, from 2006 to 2008 under Rich's leadership, the Placer County RCD administered an annual budget of approximately \$1.5M and collaborated with five federal agencies, seven state agencies, five regional organizations, eight local jurisdictions, several non-profits, and many private individuals to successfully accomplish their goals as reflected in their "Annual Plan of Work" and the "Strategic/Long Range Plan" adopted by the RCD Board; and

Whereas, since their development, Rich supported and promoted the formation of local fire safe councils in Placer County and has participated in the Placer County Fire Safe Alliance since its inception; and

Whereas, the Placer County RCD fiscally manages the Placer County, "Chipper Program" that has assisted 23,874 residents by chipping 46,681 tons of fuels over the past five years at no cost to those residents. Partners in this effort are the US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Forestry (Cal Fire), County of Placer, local fire departments, and local fire safe councils. Rich lead the efforts to initiate this program in Placer County; and

Whereas, Rich helped to organize collaborative watershed-based efforts on behalf of Placer County. The stakeholder based effort included federal and state agencies, counties, municipalities, local agencies, non-profits, and citizens in a watershed-based effort to address resource issues. Seven watershed councils are now active and have sustained their efforts over the last ten years and gained funding for watershed coordinators to coordinate the pursuit of funding to implement projects identified in watershed management plans each council collaboratively developed. Tens of Thousands of dollars have flowed into Placer County as a result of these individual watershed planning efforts; and

Whereas, the accomplishments and involvement of Rich during his tenure with the Placer County Resource Conservation District are too numerous and significant to list individually but it is safe to say that Rich has had a hand in all significant conservation efforts developed and sustained over the past 33 years in Placer County; and

Whereas, now with retirement at hand, Rich will get to fully enjoy time with his wife of 44 years, Kathe, their daughter Erikka and his grandson Bryce while enjoying the outdoors, fishing, travel and puttering around his five acres.

Now, Therefore, Let It Be Known That on this 12th day of January, 2010 the Placer County Board of Supervisors takes great pleasure in thanking Rich for his partnership in conservation over the past 33 years and commends Rich Gresham for his many achievements as Manager of the Placer County Resource Conservation District with wishes for many years of enjoyment in retirement.

Kirk Uhler Supervisor, District 4
Chairman 2010

F. C. "Rocky" Rockholm
Supervisor, District 1

Jim Holmes
Supervisor, District 3

Robert M. Weygandt
Supervisor, District 2

Jennifer Montgomery
Supervisor, District 5