

Resolution 2025- (6)

A Resolution for the Members of the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) to Establish New Election Procedures

WHEREAS, the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) is organized under the Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law of the State of California, as set forth in the California Corporations Code; and

WHEREAS, The CARCD Board is required to manage the affairs of the CARCD consistent with the powers and purposes of the CARCD, the provisions of the Bylaws, and policies established by resolution of the general membership; and

WHEREAS, the President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer and RCD Director positions for the CARCD Board are filled by elections among member RCDs; and

WHEREAS, the District Manager/Executive Director (DM) positions for the CARCD Board are filled by elections among the DMs for the member RCDs in three (3) regions; and

WHEREAS, the ex-officio member positions for the CARCD Board are filled by appointment by the CARCD Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and/or Treasurer positions for the CARCD Regions are filled by elections among member RCDs of those regions; and

WHEREAS, the CARCD Bylaws have inconsistent, incomplete, and/or missing elections procedures for these positions.

WHEREAS, the CARCD Bylaws call for elections for Board Officers to be conducted in person at the annual business meeting.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the CARCD Membership does hereby direct the CARCD Board of Directors to

- 1) Establish comprehensive election procedures for electing and/or appointing Board officers, Directors, District Managers, and ex officio members, including procedures for resolving tied elections;
- 2) Establish regional election procedures, as outlined in Attachment A, for electing officers of CARCD's regions, including procedures for resolving tied elections;
- 3) Provide a transparent and inclusive notice and nomination process for all elected and appointed positions on the Board, regional bodies, and committees;
- 4) Provide a method for candidates to submit written statements in support of their candidacy for all elections;
- 5) Allow for the online submittal of ballots using a secure online voting tool, such as "Simply Voting" used by the California Special Districts Association.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CARCD Policy Committee is charged with developing draft election procedures and submitting them to member districts for review, followed by a final recommendation to the CARCD Board of Directors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final election procedures shall be submitted to the membership for approval no later than June 30, 2026.

ATTACHMENT A
Proposed Regional Election Procedures

Unless otherwise noted, these procedures could be implemented now because they are interpreting discretion left under the Bylaws and do not directly conflict with express requirements of the Bylaws.

1. The election for Regional Chair and Vice Chair will be held during even numbered years, regardless of whether incumbent Regional Chair or Vice Chair have served a full two (2)- year term.
2. The election will not be administered by any person who is a candidate in the election or who is a director or employee of the same member-RCD as a candidate.
3. The region will select a member-RCD delegate from a different region to administer the election procedures.
 - a. At least *[twenty (20) days]* prior to the day of election, the Regional Chair will issue a ten (10)-day notice for a special meeting of the region. The purpose of the special meeting will be to select the election administrator and an alternate. *[Selection could be from pool previously established by the Board or from specific recommendations by SoCal member-RCDs]*. Once the selection is made, the Regional Chair will provide the election administrator and alternate with at least seven (7)-days' notice that they have been selected to serve. The alternate will serve if the primary election administrator is unable or unavailable to serve.
4. Once the governing board of a member-RCD has designated its delegate and alternate pursuant to Bylaws Article IV, Section 4, that delegate and alternate shall serve in *all* CARCD membership and regional votes, including elections, for a given year, unless sooner removed by the governing board of the member-RCD they represent.
5. Only duly appointed delegates from member-RCDs will be entitled to vote in an election.
6. In the event of a tie vote for any elected office, the meeting will be continued for a period not to exceed seven (7) days and then reconvened to resume voting for the tied position(s). If no candidate receives a majority vote in that reconvened meeting, then the meeting will be continued for a second period not to exceed seven (7) days. This cycle will be repeated until one of the candidates receives a majority of votes.
 - a. *[Subject to amendment of the Bylaws]* If the tie is not resolved following *[XX]* rounds of voting, then the election administrator (or the alternate in event the election administrator is not available) shall cast the tiebreaking vote before the meeting is adjourned.
7. If requested by a given region, the Board will appoint election inspector(s) to oversee that region's elections in the same manner described for CARCD officer elections under Bylaws Art. VII, Section 3, except that the election inspectors will not be an officer of the Board or a director or employee of a member-RCD within the region holding the election.