

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 11, 2008
CSAC Conference Center, Sacramento

M I N U T E S

Presiding: Richard Gordon, President

1. ROLL CALL

Alameda	Keith Carson	Orange	absent
Alpine	Terry Woodrow	Placer	Jim Holmes
Amador	Louis Boitano	Plumas	William Powers
Butte	Bill Connelly	Riverside	John Tavaglione
Calaveras	Merita Callaway	Sacramento	Susan Peters
Colusa	Mark Marshall	San Benito	Reb Monaco
Contra Costa	absent	San Bernardino	absent
Del Norte	David Finigan	San Diego	Greg Cox
El Dorado	James Sweeney	San Francisco	absent
Fresno	absent	San Joaquin	absent
Glenn	Tom McGowan	San Luis Obispo	Harry Ovitt
Humboldt	Johanna Rodoni	San Mateo	Gordon/Jacobs Gibson (audio)
Imperial	Gary Wyatt	Santa Barbara	Joni Gray
Inyo	Susan Cash	Santa Clara	Liz Kniss (audio)
Kern	Jon McQuiston	Santa Cruz	absent
Kings	absent	Shasta	absent
Lake	absent	Sierra	absent
Lassen	absent	Siskiyou	absent
Los Angeles	absent	Solano	Mike Reagan
Madera	Bigelow/Dominici	Sonoma	Valerie Brown
Marin	Susan Adams	Stanislaus	Dick Monteith
Mariposa	Dianne Fritz	Sutter	Larry Munger
Mendocino	Michael Delbar	Tehama	Bob Williams
Merced	Mike Nelson	Trinity	absent
Modoc	Mike Dunn	Tulare	absent
Mono	absent	Tuolumne	absent
Monterey	Fernando Armenta	Ventura	Kathy Long (audio)
Napa	absent	Yolo	Mike McGowan
Nevada	absent	Yuba	absent

The presence of a quorum was noted.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of May 22, 2008 were approved as previously mailed.

3. CONSIDERATION OF NOVEMBER 2008 BALLOT INITIATIVES

Proposition 5: Nonviolent Offender Rehabilitation Act. This measure would recast and expand provisions of the Substance Abuse Crime Prevention Act, approved by voters as Proposition 36 in November 2000. It would expand and largely replace the existing Penal Code Section 1000, Proposition 36, and drug court programs with a new three-track drug treatment diversion program primarily for nonviolent drug possession offenders. The CSAC Executive committee recommended an 'Oppose' position on this initiative.

Alexis Wilson from the Drug Policy Alliance Network spoke in favor of the measure and Jan Scully, Sacramento County District Attorney, spoke against the measure.

Motion and second to OPPOSE Proposition 5. Motion carried (1 'no' vote).

Proposition 6: Safe Neighborhoods Act. This measure would increase state funding to support a variety of public safety efforts, revise criminal penalties targeting certain offenders, and provide for enhanced services and support to victims of crime. Although dedication of resources to a range of public safety programs will translate to local benefits and eliminate uncertainty in funding of core justice services, there are concerns that the spending formulas could have potentially harmful effects in other county service areas. The CSAC Executive Committee recommended an 'Oppose' position on this initiative.

Sacramento County Sheriff John McGinness spoke in favor of the initiative and Glenn Backes, a consultant for the "No on 6" campaign, spoke against it.

Motion and second to OPPOSE Proposition 6. Motion carried (26/7).

Proposition 7: Solar and Clean Energy Act of 2008. This measure would make a number of changes regarding the State's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) and to the permitting of electricity generating facilities and transmission lines. The Executive Committee recommended an 'Oppose' position primarily based on concerns that the initiative would pre-empt local land use authority by reassigning permitting authority from local governments to the Energy Commission for approval of solar and clean energy plants and related facilities within their jurisdictions.

Jim Gonzalez and John Thiella of Californians for Solar and Clean Energy spoke in favor of the initiative and Brandon Castillo of Bicker, Castillo & Fairbanks spoke against the initiative.

Motion and second to OPPOSE Proposition 7. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposition 9: Victims' Rights Act of 2008. This measure contains three main components: 1) Ensures victim notification and restitution; 2) Restricts early release of inmates; and 3) Modifies existing parole practices. The provision with the most significant impact for counties is the potential limitation on counties' ability to address jail overcrowding by releasing inmates early who pose little risk to public safety. The CSAC Executive Committee recommended a 'Neutral' position on this measure.

Harriet and Nina Salarno of Crime Victims United spoke in favor of the initiative and Glenn Backes, Consultant for the No on 9 Campaign, spoke against it.

Motion and second to take a NEUTRAL position on Proposition 9. Motion carried (24/8).

Proposition 10: California Alternative Fuels Initiative. This measure would authorize the state to sell \$5 billion in general obligation bonds to fund projects, consumer incentives and education to increase the supply and use of renewable and clean energy. It would also provide funds to local governments to create renewable energy demonstration projects and educational projects in their communities.

Concerns were raised regarding the judiciousness of supporting another bond measure given the present state fiscal situation. The support position was based on CSAC's existing policy to support and encourage the development and use of alternative energy sources.

Amy Thoma of Wilson Miller Communications spoke in favor of the initiative and Lenny Goldberg of California Tax Reform Association spoke against it.

Motion and second to OPPOSE Proposition 10. Motion carried (29/1).

4. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT POLICY STATEMENT ON STATE WATER PROPOSALS

The Executive Committee approved the draft CSAC Policy Direction on State Water Proposals and recommended final adoption by the CSAC Board of Directors. The draft Policy was contained in the briefing materials. This document was created to assist staff in developing recommendations regarding the State Water Plan, the Delta Vision Task Force Strategic Plan and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. The proposed policies are consistent with existing CSAC policy direction concerning water, land use, agriculture, forestry, climate change and flood protection.

Motion and second to adopt the CSAC Policy Statement on State Water Proposals. Motion carried unanimously.

5. INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ILG) REPORT

JoAnne Speers, ILG Director, presented a report on recent activities. ILG is in the process of publishing a document titled *Basics of Local government Decision-Making*. They would like volunteers to review the draft and offer suggestions before final publication. Another publication in the draft stage is a manual on "intergovernmental conflict resolution." ILG is also participating on the advisory committee for CSAC's new Institute for Excellence in County Government. ILG will once again be offering ethics training during CSAC's annual meeting in December.

6. CSAC PAC TASK FORCE REPORT

The CSAC PAC Task Force held its first meeting on July 28 to discuss whether or not CSAC should remain financially involved in campaigns. A representative from Nielson, Merksamer, Parinello, Mueller and Naylor, LLP, spoke regarding the basics of setting up a PAC. The task force will be recommending the creation of an issue-specific PAC. Draft language for the CSAC Policies and Procedures Manual is being developed.

7. CSAC CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM REPORT

Bill Chiat, reported that the program has been renamed and is now called the CSAC Institute for Excellence in County Government. This program was created to offer continuing education

opportunities for supervisors, county administrators and department heads. The courses are scheduled to begin in early 2009. Mr. Chiat will have an exhibit booth at the CSAC conference in San Diego to discuss specifics of the program.

8. CSAC FINANCE CORPORATION REPORT

Santa Barbara County Supervisor Joni Gray and Kings County Administrative Officer Larry Spikes were recently appointed to the CSAC Finance Corporation Board to replace Yolo County Supervisor Helen Thomson and retiring Riverside County Executive Officer Larry Parrish.

The CalTrust program now has \$628 million in assets. The next issue of *California Counties* magazine will feature an article regarding the CalLease program. U.S. Communities 2nd quarter sales were up approximately 21% from last quarter. San Diego County recently awarded a contract to Nationwide Retirement Solutions (NRS) to handle the deferred compensation program.

Staff was directed to provide an update regarding county retiree health care/benefits at a future meeting.

9. CSAC CORPORATE ASSOCIATES UPDATE

There are currently 82 corporate members participating in the CSAC Corporate Associates program. The 6th annual Bocce Ball tournament was held on September 10. The winning team was Andy Morgan from Vanir Construction Management and CSAC staff member Jeff Williams.

10. STATE BUDGET/LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Staff reported that AB 3632, mental health services for special education students, did not pass through the Legislature prior to adjournment in August. CSAC is now attempting to secure inclusion of this legislation in the State Budget trailer legislation. An information sheet on the bill was distributed to the Board of directors.

Staff also reported that the Senate is expected to vote on the Governor's proposed State Budget tomorrow. Staff distributed a summary of each of the three State Budget proposals currently being debated in the Legislature which are the Governor's proposal, Republican proposal, and the Democrats proposal. The CSAC Officers met earlier today and agreed that CSAC should continue to support the Governor's proposal.

11. OTHER ITEMS

Brenda Quintana and Herb Schultz from the Governor's Office addressed the Board of Directors regarding the Governor's State Budget proposal. They thanked CSAC for its leadership in sending a strong message to the Legislature and Governor against borrowing Propositions 1A and 42 funds to balance the State Budget.

Meeting adjourned in memory of Ruth Kesler, former San Benito County Supervisor.

