

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
March 19, 2009  
CSAC Conference Center, Sacramento  
M I N U T E S

Presiding: Gary Wyatt, President

1. ROLL CALL

Alameda	Keith Carson	Plumas	Sherrie Thrall
Alpine	Terry Woodrow	Riverside	John Tavaglione
Amador	Louis Boitano	Sacramento	Roger Dickinson
Butte	Bill Connelly	San Benito	Margie Barrios
Calaveras	Merita Callaway	San Bernardino	Paul Biane
Colusa	Mark Marshall	San Diego	Greg Cox
Contra Costa	absent	San Francisco	absent
Del Norte	David Finigan	San Joaquin	absent
El Dorado	Ray Nutting	San Luis Obispo	Bruce Gibson
Fresno	Henry Perea	San Mateo	Rich Gordon
Glenn	John Viegas	Santa Barbara	Joni Gray
Humboldt	Mark Lovelace (via audio)	Santa Clara	Liz Kniss (via audio)
Imperial	Gary Wyatt	Santa Cruz	Tony Campos
Inyo	Susan Cash	Shasta	absent
Kern	absent	Sierra	Lee Adams
Kings	Tony Oliveira	Siskiyou	Michael Kobseff
Lake	Anthony Farrington	Solano	Mike Reagan
Lassen	absent	Sonoma	absent
Los Angeles	absent	Stanislaus	Vito Chiesa
Madera	Max Rodriguez (via audio)	Sutter	Larry Munger
Marin	Susan Adams (via audio)	Tehama	Robert Williams
Mariposa	absent	Trinity	Judy Pflueger
Mendocino	Carre Brown	Tulare	Phil Cox (via audio)
Merced	absent	Tuolumne	absent
Modoc	Jeff Bullock	Ventura	Kathy Long (via audio)
Mono	Duane "Hap" Hazard	Yolo	Mike McGowan
Monterey	Fernando Armenta	Yuba	Roger Abe
Napa	Brad Wagenknecht		
Nevada	absent		
Orange	absent		
Placer	absent		

Susan Muranishi, CAOAC President, and Steven Woodside, Sonoma County Counsel, were also in attendance. The presence of a quorum was noted.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 3, 2008 were approved as previously mailed.

3. CSAC LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2009

Staff outlined the draft State and Federal Legislative Priorities for 2009 as contained in the briefing materials. The CSAC Executive Committee previously considered and approved the draft priorities.

It was noted that two Federal "Internal Monitoring" issues will be removed from the list. They are Reauthorization of State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and Child Support Enforcement. Funding for both programs was restored earlier this year.

Motion and second to approve the CSAC State and Federal Legislative Priorities for 2009 as amended to remove SCHIP and Child Support Enforcement from Federal Priorities list. Motion carried unanimously.

4. AMENDMENTS TO CALIFORNIA COUNTY PLATFORM

The California County Platform is updated every two years to reflect changes to CSAC legislative policy.

***Administration of Justice.*** Staff outlined proposed revisions to Chapter Two of the Platform, as recommended by the CSAC Administration of Justice Policy Committee and contained in the briefing materials. In addition, staff noted that the Corrections Reform Policy and the Sex Offender Policy, previously adopted by the Board of Directors, will be added as an appendix to the Administration of Justice section of the Platform.

Motion and second to adopt revisions to Chapter Two of the Platform as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

***Agriculture & Natural Resources.*** Staff outlined proposed changes to Chapters Three and Four of the Platform, as recommended by the CSAC Agriculture & Natural Resources policy committee and contained in the briefing materials. Staff noted that the CSAC Climate Change Policy, adopted by the Board of Directors last year, will be added as an appendix to the Agriculture & Natural Resources section of the Platform.

Concerns were expressed regarding Chapter Three, Section 6: Water Resource Management. Section 6 was referred back to policy committee for further discussion.

The Board of Directors amended Chapter Four, Section 2: Generation. The word "adequate" was replaced with "abundant" in reference to California's water supply.

Motion and second to adopt revisions to Chapters Three and Four of the Platform as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

***Government Finance & Operations.*** Staff outlined proposed changes to Chapters One, Five, Eight, Ten, and Thirteen of the Platform, as recommended by the CSAC Government Finance &

Operations policy committee and contained in the briefing materials. Substantive changes were proposed in the following areas: Proposition 1A (2004), Workers' Compensation, Public Retirement, Equal Employment Opportunity, State Mandate Legislation, and Elections.

A spelling error was identified and will be corrected prior to final printing of the Platform.

Concerns were expressed regarding Chapter Eight, Section 5: Equal Employment Opportunity. Specifically, it was suggested that the language be strengthened by replacing the word "recognize" with "endorse". President Wyatt indicated that the suggestion would be referred back to policy committee for consideration.

Motion and second to approve the Government Finance & Operations proposed Platform revisions as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Health & Human Services.** Staff outlined proposed changes to Chapters Six and Twelve of the Platform as contained in the briefing materials. Notable policy changes include: support for preventative health efforts and healthy communities; language about the state's chronic underfunding of health and mental health programs; language regarding sustainable funding for responding to biomedical or terror attacks; addition of a new Children's health section; addition of a new Medicaid and Aging Issues section; language regarding efforts to support emancipated foster youth; and addition of a new Aging and Dependent Adults section.

Motion and second to adopt revisions to Chapters Six and Twelve of the Platform as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Housing, Land Use & Transportation.** Supervisor Mike McGowan, Chair of the CSAC Housing, Land Use & Transportation policy committee noted that two new chapters were created on Native American Issues and Climate Change which are based entirely on existing CSAC policy. Staff outlined the proposed changes to Chapters Seven and Eleven as contained in the briefing materials.

It was requested that a discussion on adding a healthy communities element to the Platform be included in the agenda for the May policy committee meeting. In addition, further discussion was requested regarding coordination with the American Public Transit Authority.

Concerns were raised regarding Chapter Eleven, Section 2, B. Financing Policy and Revenue Principles. Specifically, it was suggested that the following language be deleted from the chapter: *(i.e. a reduction of the voting threshold to impose a local sales tax, fee and tax authority, etc.).*

Motion and second to delete the above language. Motion carried (21 – 19).

Motion and second to approve revisions to Chapters Seven and Eleven of the Platform as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

5. MAY 19 SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT INITIATIVES

The 17-month budget agreement that the Governor recently signed into law includes a special election on May 19, 2009. The statewide ballot will include six measures that the Legislature passed as part of the negotiated budget agreement. They are as follows:

**Proposition 1A** – creates a new, larger rainy day fund and puts new limits on state spending

growth.

**Proposition 1B** – alters repayment schedule for Proposition 98 funds arguably owed by the state to K-14 districts, totaling \$9.3 billion.

**Proposition 1C** – allows state to borrow money from the General Fund, securitized by future revenue from the California Lottery.

**Proposition 1D** – shifts between half and two-thirds of cigarette taxes away from the First 5 Program and into the General Fund for a five year period.

**Proposition 1E** – amends the Mental Health Services Act (Proposition 63) to shift revenue funds from local programs to the benefit of the state General Fund.

**Proposition 1F** – forbids the California Citizens Compensation Commission from raising legislators' and state officers' salaries when the state is running a deficit.

The measures were previously considered by the CSAC Government Finance & Operations policy committee, the Health & Human Services policy committee, and the CSAC Executive Committee. All three bodies recommended that CSAC take a ***Neutral*** position on the six ballot measures.

A representative from the State Department of Finance outlined provisions of Proposition 1A. CSAC staff outlined provisions of Propositions 1B – 1F. Staff also distributed Field Poll results regarding the measures as requested by the Executive Committee

President Wyatt reported that the CSAC Officers met with Governor Schwarzenegger yesterday to discuss the measures. The Governor urged CSAC to support Proposition 1A.

Motion and second to Support Proposition 1A and take a Neutral position on Propositions 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E and 1F. Motion failed (25 – 10).

Motion and second to Support all six measures. Motion failed.

Motion and second to take a Neutral position on all six measures.

Substitute Motion and second to Support 1A and 1F and take a Neutral position on 1B, 1C, 1D and 1E. Motion failed.

Motion and second to take a Neutral position on all six measures. Motion carried (32 – 3).

Staff was directed to send a letter to the Governor indicating CSAC's positions on the ballot measures.

6. UPDATE ON FISCAL REFORM EFFORTS

Staff reported that the CSAC Fiscal Reform Task Force has not yet held a meeting. However, some members of the task force have been participating in the Cities, Counties, Schools (CCS) Partnership Fiscal Reform Task Force. That task force is in the process of developing principles. Their next meeting will be held on April 1 in Sacramento.

7. INSTITUTE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORT  
Institute for Local Government (ILG) staff member Yvonne Hunter presented an update on ILG activities. Two new publications were recently released. They are *Alternative Dispute Resolution: Navigating Special Legal Issues in Public Agency Disputes* and *Understanding the Basics of Local Agency Decision-Making*. Copies of both publications were made available to Board members at the meeting.
8. CSAC FINANCE CORPORATION REPORT  
Supervisor Joni Gray, CSAC Finance Corporation Board member, announced that Finance Corporation staff has been and will continue to contact each county regarding the various programs offered. A memo containing highlights of these programs was included in the briefing materials.
9. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE  
Staff reported that 3000 bills have been introduced this legislative session. The current state budget deficit is estimated to already be \$8 billion.
10. CSAC/CWDA REPORT ON HUMAN SERVICES INVESTMENTS  
CSAC and the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) will be issuing a joint report in early April focusing on the current state of human services programs. The report will include an economic impact analysis on the economic multiplier of spending in human services – jobs created by dollars from food stamps, CalWORKS, etc. CSAC and CWDA will be using that data to illustrate what is currently going on in human services programs, including unprecedented demand for services, and to make a case for further state investment. A preview of the report was contained in the briefing materials.  
  
Board members were urged to make time during their individual boards of supervisors meetings for a presentation of the report by each county's welfare director.
11. CSAC CORPORATE ASSOCIATES REPORT  
Staff announced two upcoming Corporate Associates events. The first is a business meeting on May 27, being held in conjunction with the CSAC Legislative Conference in Sacramento. The second is a golf tournament to be held on May 29, following the conclusion of the CSAC conference. A memo outlining program activities was contained in the briefing materials.
12. LITIGATION COORDINATION PROGRAM UPDATE  
Jennifer Henning, Executive Director of the County Counsel's Association, presented an update on Amicus case activity since October 2008. Details of those cases were included in the briefing materials. Ms. Henning also announced that the lawsuit brought against the State Controller because he withheld payments owed to counties was declared moot since counties have begun receiving their payments from the Controller's office.
13. OTHER ITEMS  
Staff announced that the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) is launching an important study of county finances. CSAC is a partner in this effort. The study will provide information to

Californians about the fiscal constraints faced by their local governments. PPIC intends to develop a sustained, long-term look at local government finance, and having a good response from counties is critical. Board members were urged to encourage their individual CAOs to participate in the survey.

Meeting adjourned.