

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
March 15, 2007
CSAC Conference Center, Sacramento

M I N U T E S

Presiding: Frank Bigelow, President

1. ROLL CALL

Frank Bigelow, President
Richard Gordon, 1st Vice President
Gary Wyatt, 2nd Vice President
Connie Conway, Immed. Past President – *via audio*
John Tavaglione, Riverside
Roger Dickinson, Sacramento
Liz Kniss, Santa Clara
Kathy Long, Ventura – *via audio*
Greg Cox, San Diego (alternate) – *via audio*
Joni Gray, Santa Barbara
Valerie Brown, Sonoma (alternate)
Terry Woodrow, Alpine
Jeff Morris, Trinity
Tony Oliveira, Kings (alternate)
Larry Combs, CAO advisor
Kathleen Bales-Lange, County Counsel advisor – *via audio*

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 8, 2007 were approved as previously mailed.

3. PROPOSED CSAC BUDGET FOR 2008

Steve Keil presented the proposed CSAC Budget for FY 2008 as contained in the briefing materials. Some highlights/issues include:

- salaries are below budget due to some unfilled staff positions;
- revenues from Finance Corporation are at an all-time high (\$2.285 million);
- Corporate Associates revenues are down, but aggressive efforts are planned to elevate membership and sponsorships;
- meetings and magazine budgets took a loss, but magazine is slated for redesign and upgrades;
- \$50,000 for Legislative Counsel pilot project;
- Ransohoff building loan pay down of \$500,000.

A correction to the historical FY 2006 corporate sponsorships revenues and expenditures items was presented to the Executive Committee. Staff was directed to examine the corrections with the CSAC Treasurer, develop a written explanation and report back to the Executive Committee.

Motion and second to approve the proposed CSAC Budget for FY 2008 and direct staff to report back regarding the corrections for FY 2006.
Motion carried unanimously.

4. PROPOSED LITIGATION COORDINATION PROGRAM BUDGET FOR FY 2007-08

Kathleen Bales-Lange, Past President of the County Counsels' Association, presented the proposed Litigation Coordination Program budget for FY 2007-08 as contained in the briefing materials. The budget includes a reduction in certain office-related expenses such as communications and publications, and an increase in retirement, employee group insurance and salaries to better reflect the actual costs of the program.

Motion and second to approve Litigation Coordination program budget for FY 2007-08. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff was directed to add prior year budget figures for comparison purposes prior to consideration by the Board of Directors.

5. EMINENT DOMAIN REFORM PROPOSAL

CSAC staff has been participating in discussions with a broad range of stakeholders to develop an eminent domain reform measure to present to voters in 2008. The concept being developed by the coalition includes constitutional restrictions that prohibit owner-occupied residences from being taken by eminent domain for transfer to a private entity. The coalition has filed a ballot initiative with the Attorney General's office as an "insurance policy", offering a meaningful alternative to other measures that have already been filed or could be filed with the Attorney General. The coalition is working with Senate and Assembly leadership to secure an author and begin the legislative process.

Staff distributed a draft fact sheet and initiative language. No action was requested. This item will be brought to the Government Finance and Operations policy committee for a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

6. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET UPDATE

Frank Mecca, Executive Director of the California Welfare Directors Association (CWDA), presented information regarding county human service program funding. CSAC, the Urban Counties Caucus and CWDA developed a fact sheet outlining the impacts from lack of program funding as well as a matrix which describes each program, monthly caseloads, and funding levels. Both documents were contained in the briefing materials.

7. NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACo) REPORT

Supervisor Valerie Brown, NACo 2nd Vice President, reported that NACo now has 2240 member counties, due in part to Supervisor Connie Conway's leadership as Chair of the NACo Membership Committee. CSAC's current representatives on the NACo Board of Directors are Supervisors Greg Cox, Keith Carson and Connie Conway. Supervisor Brown also discussed the need for a NACo subcommittee on Indian Gaming and has been working with NACo leadership to create that committee. It was suggested that corporate sponsors be contacted to host California hospitality suites during upcoming NACo conferences in order to allow for greater networking opportunities for CSAC members.

During NACo's Legislative Conference in Washington, DC, CSAC hosted a Congressional breakfast which was attended by Senator Barbara Boxer and Representatives Zoe Lofgren, George Radanovich, Gary Miller, Barbara Lee, Hilda Solis and Mike Honda. It was suggested that the Congressional breakfast be moved to Tuesday morning next year to allow for greater supervisor participation.

8. CSAC FINANCE CORPORATION UPDATE

The U.S. Communities pooled purchasing program continues to grow and sales in California grew 27.5% in 2006. This year, the Finance Corporation will be conducting four regional seminars on the purchasing program as well as the other finance and investment programs offered under the umbrella of the Finance Corporation. Seminar details will be provided at a later date.

9. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Staff reported that the State Department of Finance is continuing to convey to legislators that county revenues are growing rapidly due to Proposition 1A. CSAC developed a chart that reflects the actual growth in county general-purpose revenues in order to show that is not the case and will be utilizing this information in meetings with legislators and their staff.

Following up on a previous report regarding AB 397, legislation that would prohibit local agency organizations from funding campaigns, staff met with the author of the bill and he has agreed to withdraw the legislation.

Assemblymember Adams had been under the mistaken impression that CSAC and the League of Cities were using public funds for initiative campaigns.

The Governor's Office recently announced that they are reformulating their Corrections Reform package. Details are not yet available, but staff will be bringing this item before the CSAC Administration of Justice policy committee and then to the full Board of Directors for action.

CSAC's Health Care Reform Task Force met earlier this week and is developing a document that will be considered by the Health and Human Services policy committee and then brought to the Board of Directors during the CSAC Legislative Conference.

10. OTHER ITEMS

Supervisor Connie Conway has been appointed to the Governor's Commission on Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEBs).

Three new staff members were introduced: Kelli Osborne, accounting specialist; Cara Martinson, Agriculture & Natural Resources analyst; and Rose Lamb, Administration of Justice analyst.

Meeting adjourned.