

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Thursday, March 25, 2010
CSAC Conference Center, Sacramento

M I N U T E S

Presiding: Tony Oliveira, President

1. ROLL CALL

Alameda	Keith Carson	Sacramento	Roger Dickinson
Alpine	Terry Woodrow	San Benito	Reb Monaco
Amador	Louis Boitano	San Bernardino	absent
Butte	Bill Connelly	San Diego	Greg Cox
Calaveras	Merita Callaway	San Francisco	Eric Mar (audio)
Colusa	Mark Marshall	San Joaquin	absent
Contra Costa	Federal Glover (audio)	San Luis Obispo	Bruce Gibson (audio)
Del Norte	David Finigan	San Mateo	Richard Gordon
El Dorado	absent	Santa Barbara	Joni Gray
Fresno	Henry Perea (audio)	Santa Clara	Liz Kniss
Glenn	John Viegas (audio)	Santa Cruz	Tony Campos (audio)
Humboldt	Mark Lovelace	Shasta	Glenn Hawes
Imperial	Gary Wyatt	Sierra	Lee Adams
Inyo	Susan Cash	Siskiyou	Jim Cook
Kern	absent	Solano	Mike Reagan
Kings	Tony Oliveira	Sonoma	Shirlee Zane
Lake	absent	Stanislaus	Vito Chiesa
Lassen	absent	Sutter	Larry Munger
Los Angeles	absent	Tehama	Robert Williams
Madera	Ronn Dominici (audio)	Trinity	Judy Pflueger
Marin	Susan Adams	Tulare	Steve Worthley
Mariposa	Lyle Turpin	Tuolumne	Richard Pland (audio)
Mendocino	Carre Brown (audio)	Ventura	Kathy Long (audio)
Merced	absent	Yolo	Matt Rexroad
Modoc	Jeff Bullock	Yuba	Roger Abe
Mono	Duane "Hap" Hazard	Advisors:	S. Muranishi/S. Woodside
Monterey	Fernando Armenta		
Napa	Brad Wagenknecht		
Nevada	Ted Owens		
Orange	John Moorlach		
Placer	absent		
Plumas	Sherrie Thrall		
Riverside	absent		

The presence of a quorum was noted.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of November 19, 2009 were approved as previously mailed.

3. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2010

Staff outlined the proposed Federal Legislative Priorities for 2010 as contained in the briefing materials. In consultation with CSAC's federal advocacy firm, Waterman & Associates, the following eight issues were identified for immediate advocacy:

- New Authorization of the Nation's Surface Transportation Law (SAFETEA-LU)
- Health Care Reform
- State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP)
- Climate Change – renewable energy
- Native American Affairs
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Reauthorization
- Clean Water Act
- Extension of ARRA/Support for Federal Jobs Package

It was noted that white papers have been developed on each of the above issues. They are currently available on the CSAC web site.

In addition, CSAC staff will provide internal monitoring of other key federal issues of interest to California counties. For 2010, the proposed topics are:

- Fuels Management
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- Telecommunications Reform
- Foster Care Reform
- Homeland Security
- Byrne Grant Funding
- Immigration Reform
- Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund
- County Payments/Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Program
- 2-1-1 Statewide

Staff was directed to add the issue of water to the internal monitoring list. Specifically, staff will monitor federal water legislation to ensure it is consistent with CSAC water policy.

In regards to the Fuels Management issue, staff was directed to put pressure on the federal government to clear their own land and not just focus on clearing private land near homes. Further, staff was directed to expand the scope of the Native American Affairs section to include other facilities besides casinos such as gas stations and landfills.

Supervisor Cox provided a status report on the current federal 2-1-1 Statewide legislation (HR 211) and urged CSAC Board members to contact the California Congressional delegation in support of the bill.

Staff reviewed the proposed State Legislative Priorities for 2010 as contained in the briefing materials. They are as follows:

- Protect the Health and Safety of all Californians
- Seek Budget Solutions that Address the Structural Deficit
- Promote Programs and Services that Stimulate the Economy and Protect Jobs
- Engage in Long-Term Reform Conversations

Staff reported that CSAC co-hosted a Williamson Act Summit in Fresno yesterday that focused on

county concerns about the permanent loss of the program and its potential negative impact on the state's economy. CSAC will move forward in partnership with the various stakeholders in a strong advocacy campaign on this issue.

Motion and second to adopt CSAC State and Federal priorities for 2010 as amended to include internal monitoring of federal water legislation. Motion carried unanimously.

4. JUNE 2010 BALLOT INITIATIVE: PROPOSITION 16

Proposition 16 would enact a constitutional amendment requiring a two-thirds voter approval by any community prior to spending or borrowing money to set up, implement or expand local energy programs, or to create a Community Choice Aggregation program.

Brian Jensen of Pacific Gas & Electric Company spoke in favor of the initiative. Paul Fenn of Local Power Inc. spoke against it. Both the CSAC Agriculture & Natural Resources policy committee and the Executive Committee recommended an "oppose" position on this measure, primarily because it would seek to limit local government's ability to expand local energy programs.

Motion and second to Oppose Proposition 16. Motion carried.

Note: The motion was passed on a voice vote with approximately 40 in favor and 6 opposed.

5. CSAC ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

The CSAC Administration of Justice policy committee met on March 17 to discuss several issues. One item was brought forward to the Board of Directors for consideration. The policy committee is recommending that CSAC approve the pursuit of a joint legislative effort with the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to enhance efforts to collect court-ordered debt. Improving the collection of court-ordered debt has been a shared commitment of the courts and counties. Counties share the position that an appropriately aggressive and successful collection effort yields important proceeds for both courts and counties. There is currently substantial interest in court-ordered debt programs on the part of the Administration and Legislature.

Drawing from ideas and input of court and county collections professionals, the AOC and CSAC have identified the following five key elements for a potential legislative proposal in 2010:

- Strengthen existing authority and responsibility for a comprehensive collection program of delinquent court-ordered debt.
- Develop and implement an amnesty program.
- Clarify authority related to discharge of accountability.
- Pursue intercept proposal on unclaimed property in cooperation with State Controller's office.
- Clarify authority for enforcing court-ordered debt beyond the 10-year period applicable to civil judgments.

These elements will seek to accomplish the following: improved collections and enhanced revenue recovery; more accurate profile of collectible debt; expanded tools and strategies to maximize courts' and counties' enhanced collections programs; and greater compliance with court orders statewide.

Specifically, the policy committee recommendation is as follows: authorize staff to pursue a joint legislative package with the Judicial Council on strategies to improve the collection of court-ordered debt; solicit input from appropriate county stakeholders including, but not limited to, the auditor-controllers and the county revenue recovery offices; and provide an update on the progress of this

effort at the June policy committee meeting.

Motion and second to approve policy committee recommendation as outlined above. Motion carried unanimously.

6. STATE BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Following direction from the Board of Directors in November, staff has been working to develop specific responses to the 2010-11 state budget. These include:

- Avoid new mandates/repeal suspended mandates/suspend pipeline mandates.
- Consider options to mitigate corrections cost shifts.
- Eliminate program growth and funding restoration.
- Maximize federal funds.
- Improve the state-county partnership.
- Preserve programs that prevent costs in the other systems.
- Consider new revenues and modernize the state's tax structure.
- Seek broad government reforms.
- Support county efforts to reduce and contain pension costs.

Details on these items were included in the briefing materials, as well as a chart outlining county impacts of the Governor's proposed budget.

Staff reviewed the current CSAC Pension Reform Guiding Principles and indicated that they will be brought back to the Government Finance & Operations policy committee in June for review and possible amendments in light of the Governor's proposal on pension reform as well as ballot initiatives currently in circulation.

Staff provided a report on California's Section 1115 Medicaid Waiver which will expire on August 31. This federal legislation provides the Secretary of Health and Human Services broad authority to authorize experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects likely to assist in promoting the objectives of the Medicaid statute. Stakeholder groups have been working to develop proposals for California's next waiver.

7. CALIFORNIA COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE: UPDATE ON 2010 CENSUS

Staff reported that the California Complete County Committee, appointed by the Governor and including Paul McIntosh, announced the availability of \$1 million to fund County Complete Count Committees in the 13 counties with the highest percentages of the hard to count population. The counties identified are: Los Angeles, San Diego, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Alameda, Santa Clara, Sacramento, Fresno, San Francisco, Kern, Contra Costa and San Joaquin. Those funds were allocated in early 2010. Beginning March 15, census forms will be mailed to all Californians. A statewide event is planned for March 20 and most of the hard to count counties will hold local events in conjunction with the statewide event.

8. CSAC REFORM TASK FORCE REPORT

The CSAC Reform Task Force, chaired by Supervisor Kathy Long, held its first meeting on February 17. The primary purpose of the committee was to discuss reform proposals sponsored by *California Forward*, Repair California (Bay Area Council), and the League of California Cities, and look at the county impacts of each of the proposals.

The task force is recommending that CSAC oppose the League of Cities' initiative. CSAC policy committees will consider the measure prior to the June Board meeting and the full Board of Directors will adopt a formal position on June 3.

Staff announced that both California Forward and Repair California dropped their efforts to qualify

measures for the November ballot due to lack of funding. However, many of the California Forward proposals are now contained in two legislative measures – SCA 19 and ACA 4. Staff distributed a summary of these measures.

9. MEDICAL MARIJUANA WORKING GROUP UPDATE

The CSAC Medical Marijuana Working Group, appointed by President Oliveira and co-chaired by Supervisors Mark Lovelace and Susan Adams, held its first meeting on February 24. The scope of the working group is to look at legal, social, public safety, public health, and environmental impacts of the medical marijuana issue. The goal is to provide information about county responsibilities in the regulation of medical marijuana and the location of medical marijuana dispensaries. CSAC will not be developing policy in this area. The counties of Marin, Humboldt, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Sacramento, Tehama, Trinity, Mendocino, Sierra and Calaveras participated in the first meeting. The working group will be developing a series of white papers addressing a variety of issues that counties are faced with when attempting to regulate medical marijuana. The group will also assist in developing model ordinances that can be used locally.

10. CSAC COMMUNICATIONS PLAN UPDATE

CSAC recently developed some new communication tools in the ongoing effort to enhance communications with members, the media, the Legislature and the public. The CSAC Blog “The County Voice” is available via the CSAC web site. McIntosh demonstrated how to access the blog and outlined what is currently posted. CSAC has also begun providing audio summaries of key budget issues. Those summaries are available on the web site. Key messages are also being communicated through Facebook and Twitter. A new electronic publication will be available this spring that incorporates information currently contained in various e-publications such as the Legislative Bulletin and Around Our Counties, into one document. This new publication will be distributed on a weekly basis throughout the year. Links to all of these new tools can be found on the CSAC’s web site’s home page at www.csac.counties.org.

Staff announced that National County Government week is April 19 – 23. The California State Assembly will be presenting CSAC with a resolution in recognition of County Government week on April 22.

11. OTHER ITEMS

Reports on the CSAC Institute for Excellence in County Government, Institute for Local Government, CSAC Finance Corporation, Corporate Associates, and Litigation Coordination program were contained in the briefing materials for information only.

Meeting adjourned.