

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

August 7, 2008
CSAC Conference Center, Sacramento, CA

MINUTES

Presiding: Richard Gordon, President

1. ROLL CALL

Richard Gordon, President	Mike Nelson, Merced
Gary Wyatt, 1 st Vice President	Jeff Morris, Trinity (via audio)
Frank Bigelow, Immed. Past President	Valerie Brown, Sonoma
John Tavaglione, Riverside	Dee Tatum, CEO advisor
Roger Dickinson, Sacramento	Robert Ryan, Co. Counsel advisor
Kathy Long, Ventura	
Susan Adams, Marin	

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of April 10 and May 15, 2008 were approved as previously mailed.

3. AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

Supervisor Mike Nelson, Chair of the CSAC Agriculture and Natural Resources policy committee, presented the committee's report which included three items for Executive Committee action.

The first item was a draft Policy Statement on State Water Proposals which 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.

Motion and second to approve Policy Statement on State Water Proposals and forward to CSAC Board of Directors for consideration.
Motion carried unanimously.

The second item was a recommendation to Oppose *Proposition 7: The Solar and Clean Energy Act of 2008*. The reason for the recommendation to Oppose was due to concerns raised that the measure would hurt efforts to expand transmission by creating an overlapping jurisdictional regime with two state agencies, the Public Utilities Commission and the Energy Commission. Concerns were also raised regarding pre-emption of local land use authority.

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

The final action item was a recommendation to Support *Proposition 10: The 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.

Motion and second to Support Proposition 10. Motion carried. (8 in favor/1 opposed/1 abstained).

4. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AND HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

Staff reported on actions taken by the CSAC Administration of Justice and Health & Human Services policy committee during the joint meeting held on July 31. The policy committees requested Executive Committee consideration of three ballot initiatives.

Proposition 5: The Nonviolent Offender Rehabilitation Act of 2008. 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 policy committee recommended a Neutral position on this initiative.

Concerns were raised regarding support of initiatives that lock in state general funds and further restrict the Legislature's ability to craft a state budget at a time when chronic budget deficits threaten state support for a number of county programs and services.

Motion and second to take a Neutral position on Proposition 5.

Substitute Motion and second to Oppose Proposition 5. Motion carried. (8 in favor/2 opposed).

Proposition 6: The 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 policy committee recommended a Neutral position on this initiative.

Motion and second to take a Neutral position on Proposition 6.

Substitute Motion and second to Oppose Proposition 6. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposition 9: The 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 policy committee recommended a Neutral position on this initiative.

Motion and second to take a Neutral position on Proposition 9. Motion carried unanimously.

5. CSAC REGULATORY PROPOSALS

As previously directed by the Board of Directors, staff convened meetings of all CSAC policy committees to discuss the approach to advocacy efforts during state budget negotiations and to identify regulations that could be suspended. The Board also directed staff to report back to the Executive Committee.

Staff reported that the policy committees met and reviewed items related to efficiencies and statutory changes that would create more local flexibility and potential cost savings. The list of proposals was contained in the briefing materials. No action was required by the Executive Committee. Ongoing work is currently being done by staff in the program areas.

6. CSAC PAC TASK FORCE REPORT

Supervisor Wyatt, Chair of the CSAC PAC Task Force, reported on the meeting held July 28. He noted that staff is in the process of drafting an amendment to the CSAC Policy Manual regarding the formation of a PAC that will be brought to the Executive Committee in October.

The Task Force requested direction from the Executive Committee on how to proceed. The consensus of Executive Committee members was to move in the direction of an "issue-specific" PAC as opposed to an ongoing PAC. Further, staff was directed to ensure that public and private funds are clearly defined.

7. STATE BUDGET/LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Staff reported that state budget negotiations are continuing and there is pressure between the Governor and Legislature. The Governor announced yesterday that he will not sign any bills until the Budget is adopted and will veto all bills that come to his desk. CSAC continues to express the position that borrowing from local government is not the solution, especially Proposition 1A and 42 funds. CSAC leadership recently met with Legislative leadership to discuss CSAC's position. Executive Committee members were urged to contact their legislators to reiterate CSAC's position on the state budget.

Staff also reported on developments regarding SB 375 (Steinberg), a comprehensive bill which would set forth a process for local and regional government, and stakeholder input into the California Air Resources Board (CARB) development of regional greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions targets for the transportation sector. CSAC's original position on the bill was "Support if Amended" as directed by the Board of Directors in March. CSAC has now successfully negotiated with the author on all of the proposed amendments. Thus, the CSAC officers agreed that the original Board direction had been achieved and CSAC should move to a support position.

8. CSAC FINANCE CORPORATION UPDATE

Supervisor Joni Gray was recently appointed to serve as the CSAC Executive Committee representative on the Finance Corporation Board of Directors. A new program manager was hired on June 2. Her name is Laura Labanieh. CalTRUST has 60 active participants and current assets exceed \$648 million. A new comprehensive marketing strategy for all Finance Corporation programs is in the process of being created. The next CSAC Finance Corporation Board of Directors meeting will be held on September 18 & 19 in San Diego County.

9. CSAC CORPORATE ASSOCIATES UPDATE

There are currently 82 CSAC corporate members. Lindsay Hall was promoted to Corporate Relations Manager in late March, so the program now has a full-time dedicated staff person. This year's CSAC annual meeting will feature a presentation on energy issues by three key corporate members. The 6th annual Corporate Associates Bocce Ball tournament will be held on September 10 in Sacramento, and the CSAC Annual Meeting golf tournament will be on December 4 in San Diego.

10. COMPENSATION ANALYSIS UPDATE

Paul McIntosh reported that CSAC is currently undertaking a compensation analysis for CSAC staff to ensure that CSAC remains competitive and is able to attract and retain highly qualified and skilled employees. The firm of Fox Lawson was retained to conduct the survey and is expected to complete a

preliminary report by the middle of August. Final recommendations will be brought to the Executive Committee at the October retreat.

11. OTHER ITEMS

Supervisor Valerie Brown, NACo President-Elect, reported that Judge Glen Whitley from Tarrant County, Texas was elected NACo 2nd Vice President during the NACo annual conference held in Kansas City, Missouri last month. Supervisor Don Stapley from Maricopa County, Arizona became President of NACo and has identified “health systems reform” as his presidential initiative. NACo will be surveying counties regarding many aspects of health care such as jail system health care, managed care, and electronic medical records. In addition, hearings will be held throughout the country. The NACo officers are planning a trip to learn more about Canada’s Universal Health Care system.

Supervisor Roger Dickinson, chair of the NACo Task Force on Kids Aging Out of Foster Care, reported that the task force is currently compiling best practices from counties throughout the country for a report to be issued by NACo soon.

The CSAC Board of Directors will meet on September 11, in Sacramento and the next meeting of the CSAC Executive Committee is scheduled for October 8 – 10, in Half Moon Bay.

Meeting adjourned.