

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
January 26, 2023
Capitol Event Center | 1020 11th St Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95814

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

OFFICERS

Chuck Washington | *President*
Bruce Gibson | *1st Vice President*
Jeff Griffiths | *2nd Vice President*
Ed Valenzuela | *Immediate Past President*

CSAC STAFF

Graham Knaus | *CEO*
Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez | *Chief Policy Officer*

ADVISORS

Rubin Cruse | *County Counsels' Association, Shasta County (absent)*
Wendy Tyler | *Colusa County, California Association of County Executives, President*

SUPERVISORS

Keith Carson | *Alameda County*
Susan Ellenberg | *Santa Clara County*
John Gioia | *Contra Costa County*
Kelly Long | *Ventura County*
Kathryn Barger | *Los Angeles County*
Nora Vargas | *San Diego County*
Buddy Mendes | *Fresno County (absent)*
Luis Alejo | *Monterey County*
Bonnie Gore | *Placer County*
Erin Hannigan | *Solano County*
Scott Silveira | *Merced County*
Kent Boes | *Colusa County*
Ned Coe | *Modoc County*
Heidi Hall | *Nevada County*

EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Ed Scofield | *Treasurer, Nevada County (absent)*

2. CEO's Report

Graham Knaus, CEO, discussed the core roles & responsibilities of the Executive Committee, highlighted CSAC's 2023 Priorities and introduced new CSAC staff.

3. 2023 Budget Update

Joe Stephenshaw, Director of the California Department of Finance, presented on the Governor's 2023-24 Budget.

4. Discussion of Governor's January Budget Impact

Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez, Chief Policy Officer, led a discussion about the major investment areas included in the Governor's 2023-24 budget proposal.

5. NACo/WIR PILT

Supervisor John Peters and Graham Knaus gave a presentation on NACo and WIR's recently established National Center for Public Lands Counties and its efforts to give public lands counties an enhanced opportunity to demonstrate how public lands counties create a prosperous America.

6. Approval of Minutes from October 12-14, November 10, and November 16

A motion to approve the meeting minutes from October 12-14, November 10, November 16, 2022 was made by Supervisor Ellenberg, second by Supervisor Gibson. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Approval of Updated 2022-2023 Board of Directors Nominations

A motion to approve the updated 2022-2023 Board of Directors nominations was made by Supervisor Hannigan, second by Supervisor Vargas. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Appointment of CSAC Treasurer, NACo Board, WIR Representatives, California Counties Foundation Board, ILG Board and Policy Committee Chairs/Vice Chairs

The CSAC Officers presented their 2023 appointment recommendations to the Executive Committee for consideration. In addition to the recommendations included with the briefing materials, Supervisor Gibson noted that Supervisor Jeff Griffiths should be added to the California Counties Foundation Board, as the Foundation recently changed its bylaws to include the CSAC 2nd Vice President as a Board member.

A motion to approve the Appointment of CSAC Treasurer, NACo Board, WIR Representatives, California Counties Foundation Board, ILG Board and Policy Committee Chairs/Vice Chairs, as amended, was made by Supervisor Valenzuela, second by Supervisor Coe. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Consideration of 2026 Annual Meeting Site Selection

CSAC Staff recommended hosting the 2026 CSAC Annual Meeting in San Diego County at the Gaylord Pacific Resort and Convention Center, which will open in 2025.

A motion to approve the 2026 CSAC Annual Meeting Site was made by Supervisor Vargas, second by Supervisor Ellenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

10. CSAC Finance Corporation Report & Appointment of Board Members

A motion to approve the appointment of Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Ryan Alsop, and Billy Rutland to the Finance Corporation Board was made by Supervisor Carson, second by Supervisor Gibson. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Minute Mics

Supervisor Vargas from San Diego County shared that her priorities for the year are to close the health equity gap for women, seniors, and children, in addition to homelessness, housing, and investing in community infrastructure. A big part of the infrastructure change was giving all children under 18 free public transportation and the county is currently working to make it free for people 24 years old and under. She is striving to create economic prosperity around childcare and small businesses.

Supervisor Silveira from Merced County shared that flooding has been a large issue for his county, but they are quickly recovering with the help of Cal Fire. Supervisor Silveira was also sworn in as Chair of the Merced County Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Ned Coe from Modoc County shared his frustration about Cal Fire's lack of transparency with the fire hazard severity map. He is worried that the map does not reflect updates of California's new landscape.

Supervisor Bonnie Gore from Placer County shared that the county was recently involved in a lawsuit regarding a homeless encampment. As a result of the lawsuit, the county agreed to establish a mobile temporary shelter for about 50 people.

Supervisor Kent Boes from Colusa County shared that they have two emergency declarations: one for flood and one for drought. The Supervisor was sworn in as Board Chair this month. He also shared that the county is working on a number of projects including breaking ground on a West County Campus and expanding the services they provide to the other side of the county. Colusa County is also working on a jail project.

Supervisor Keith Carson from Alameda County shared that the county is working on workforce retention, attraction, and training to provide services to the homelessness population. They are coordinating a group to evaluate life coming out of the pandemic and putting this information towards their 2026 visioning plan.

Supervisor Susan Ellenberg from Santa Clara County is Chair of her Board for 2023. She shared that the board's priorities are expanding mental health care, focusing on workforce and homelessness and childcare. The Santa Clara County board is wondering what other counties are doing to address the new expansions of the Levine Act.

Supervisor Erin Hannigan from Solano County shared that their newly elected Supervisor, Wanda Williams, is the alternate for Solano County. The county completed labor negotiations towards the end of 2022 and received money for their First 5 Center, at-risk juveniles, senior support, and their mobile food pharmacy. They are in limbo with the Kaiser carve out for mental health patients as they will not be able to receive the funding they expected to from the State. The county is still pursuing the early learning center conversion and increasing their childcare slots.

Supervisor Kelly Long from Ventura County shared that they are having an emergency declaration with the storms. The county is partnering with the cities to hire a consultant and see what programs work for the homeless in the area.

Supervisor Gioia from Contra Costa County shared that the county is creating the Office of Racial Justice and Social Equity. The county is also working on mental health crisis response, re-opening fire stations, and establishing a housing trust fund for previously unhoused individuals.

Supervisor Luis Alejo from Monterey County shared that he was invited to Santa Cruz County to attend the visit of President Biden. He also shared that he attended his first meeting as the local government representative for the California Broadband Middle Mile Advisory Committee.

Supervisor Jeff Griffiths from Inyo County shared that the county had avalanches that have caused major damage. The county has created the position of Wildfire Coordinator to help manage the efforts around wildfires as well as partnering with the tribes in the area. The county has proactively purchased parcels and rezoned them in order to address the rising housing crisis.

Supervisor John Peters from Mono County shared that they have hired a wildfire coordinator as well as created the office of emergency management. He also is one of the first to organize a winter recreation opportunity due to the inclement weather.

Supervisor Ed Valenzuela from Siskiyou County shared that housing is the biggest issue his county is currently facing.

Supervisor Bruce Gibson from San Luis Obispo shared that the county is currently focusing on storm recovery. Another big issue the county is focusing on is homelessness. The board is working on partnering with the cities to create programs that support housing and behavioral health.

Supervisor Chuck Washington from Riverside County shared that he is pushing forward the homelessness issue in his county in conjunction with CSAC. He also shared his sorrow over the recent loss of two sheriff's deputies. Riverside County just approved the allocation of \$8 million dollars in ARPA funding for early childcare and education.

12. Operations & Member Services Report

Farrah McDaid Ting reported that CSAC continues to redesign the website, implement small capital improvements, and upgrade CSAC's technology infrastructure. She reported that CSAC is in the process of hiring a Management Analyst and has hired a Grants Program Director.

13. California Counties Foundation Report

Chastity Benson, Chief Operating Officer of the California Counties Foundation, gave a brief report on the Foundation and the Institute. She introduced Brian Rutledge, the new Grants Program Director. Brian provided an overview of the Grants Program and what services it currently offers.

14. Homelessness Strategy Session

Graham Knaus, CEO, Justin Garrett, Senior Legislative Advocate, and Keely Bosler, Political and Policy Consultant, presented on the work of the Homelessness Action Team and the Homelessness Policy Solutions Group, and engaged with the Executive Committee about next steps.

Meeting was adjourned. The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on March 23, 2023.