

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
March 12, 2026 | 9:00am – 12:30pm

[DoubleTree By Hilton San Bernardino](#) | 285 East Hospitality Lane, San Bernardino
Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/93860654926?pwd=O60Z2W34aLLibkQayXJHB2Fm2fv6XT.1>
Conference Line: (669) 900-6833 | Meeting ID: 938 6065 4926 | Password: 367113

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

OFFICERS

Susan Ellenberg | *President*
Luis Alejo | *1st Vice President*
Kent Boes | *2nd Vice President*
Jeff Griffiths | *Immediate Past President*

CSAC STAFF

Graham Knaus | *Chief Executive Officer*
Kimberly Rodriguez | *Chief Legislative Advocate*
Chastity Benson | *Chief Operating Officer*

ADVISORS

Scott DeMoss | *Glenn County CAO, California Association of County Executives (CACE) President*
Jennifer Mendoza Flores | *Tulare County Counsel, County Counsels' Association of California (CCAC) Past President*

SUPERVISORS

Kathryn Barger | *Los Angeles County (absent)*
Rich Desmond | *Sacramento County*
David Haubert | *Alameda County*
Kelly Long | *Ventura County*
Buddy Mendes | *Fresno County*
V. Manuel Perez | *Riverside County*
John Gioia (alternate) | *Contra Costa County*
Bonnie Gore | *Placer County (absent)*
Mary Sackett | *Marin County*
Scott Silveira | *Merced County*
Lucas Frerichs (alternate) | *Yolo County*
Ryan Campbell | *Tuolumne County (absent)*
Grant Carmon | *Glenn County*
John Peters (alternate) | *Mono County*

Treasurer

Belia Ramos, *Napa County*

2. CEO's Report

Graham Knaus, CEO, provided an update on the Association.

3. HR 1 Update and Next Steps

Kimberly Rodriguez, Chief Legislative Advocate, provided an update on CSAC's HR 1 advocacy efforts, including a recap of CSAC's recent H.R. 1 Education Day. On March 4, CSAC partnered with county affiliates to conduct legislative and administration education visits regarding the impacts of H.R. 1, building on the County H.R. 1 Impacts document released in February. Led by CSAC President Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, and Health and Human Services Policy Committee Chair Supervisor Holly Mitchell, two county delegations met with seventeen key legislators and administration officials to discuss the potential effects of H.R. 1 on county health and human services programs and advocate for county priorities. Ms. Rodriguez also reported that the CSAC Legislative Group is collaborating with county affiliates to create a comprehensive, multi-year budget request, which will be completed within the next few weeks.

4. Approval of Minutes from January 22, 2026

A motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 22, 2026, was made by Supervisor Desmond and seconded by Supervisor Silveira. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approval of Updated 2025 – 2026 Board of Directors Nominations

The CSAC Constitution indicates that each county board shall nominate one or more directors to serve on the CSAC Board of Directors for a one-year term commencing with the Annual Meeting. The CSAC Executive Committee appoints one director for each member county from the nominations received and was presented with the additional 2025-2026 Board of Directors nominations received to date.

A motion to approve the updated 2025-2026 Board of Directors Nominations was made by Supervisor Desmond and seconded by Supervisor Haubert. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Approval of Reimbursement Resolution to Recover Construction Expenditures

Chastity Benson, COO, presented a resolution related to CSAC's building renovation project. The resolution authorizes reimbursement not to exceed \$40 million in eligible project costs from future tax-exempt bond proceeds, allowing CSAC to recover qualifying pre-financed construction and acquisition expenses and replenish funds available for ongoing operations.

A motion to approve the Reimbursement Resolution to Recover Construction Expenditures was made by Supervisor Silveira and seconded by Supervisor Carmon. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Public Affairs and Member Engagement Report

Chastity Benson, COO, and Michelle Sherwood Baker, Director of Member Engagement, provided updates on CSAC's public affairs and member engagement efforts. Their updates included CSAC's expanded outreach to county Public Information Officers through new communications tools, plans to modernize CSAC communications through a revised newsletter strategy, preparations for the upcoming Legislative Conference, and a recap of the successful Challenge Awards Dinner.

8. CSAC Finance Corporation Report

The Executive Committee received this report as informational only. Verbal presentation were waived by the President.

9. California Counties Foundation Report

The Executive Committee received this report as informational only. Verbal presentations were waived by the President.

10. California Association of County Executives (CACE) Report

Scott DeMoss, CACE President and Glenn County CAO, reported that County CAOs/CEOs are very interested in follow up conversations related to H.R. 1 and referenced the CACE report in the packet.

11. County Counsels' Association of California (CCAC) Report

Jennifer Mendoza Flores, CCAC Past President and Tulare County Counsel, referenced CCAC activities, including ongoing discussions regarding CARE Court implementation, coordination efforts to assist counties in addressing election related concerns, and preparations for CCAC's upcoming Spring Conference.

12. Minute Mics: Executive Committee Roundtable

Minute Mics were removed from the agenda at the direction of the President.

The meeting was adjourned. The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on August 20, 2026, in Sacramento County.