

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, September 11, 2025
10:00am – 2:30pm

[Tsakopoulos Library Galleria](#) | 828 I Street, Sacramento

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/96532300219?pwd=gcnaxb2MZRLNDIaweQXS5WHyXZs2Ml.1>

Conference Line: (669) 900-6833 | Meeting ID: 965 3230 0219 | Passcode: 648451

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

OFFICERS

Jeff Griffiths | President
Susan Ellenberg | 1st Vice President
Luis Alejo | 2nd Vice President
Bruce Gibson | Immediate Past President

ADVISORS

Brian E. Washington | Marin County Counsel, CoCo
Past President (*absent*)
Jason Britt | Tulare County CAO, CACE President

CSAC STAFF

Graham Knaus | Chief Executive Officer
Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer
Justin Garrett | Interim Chief Policy Officer &
Senior Legislative Advocate

EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Belia Ramos | Treasurer, Napa County

Alameda	–	David Haubert
Alpine	–	Terry Woodrow
Amador	–	Jeff Brown
Butte	–	Tod Kimmelshue
Calaveras	–	Benjamin Stopper (<i>absent</i>)
Colusa	–	Kent Boes
Contra Costa	–	John Gioia
Del Norte	–	Chris Howard (<i>absent</i>)
El Dorado	–	Greg Ferrero
Fresno	–	Buddy Mendes (<i>absent</i>)
Glenn	–	Grant Carmon
Humboldt	–	Michelle Bushnell
Imperial	–	Jesus Eduardo Escobar (<i>absent</i>)
Inyo	–	Trina Orrill
Kern	–	Leticia Perez (<i>absent</i>)
Kings	–	Rusty Robinson
Lake	–	Bruno Sabatier
Lassen	–	Gary Bridges (<i>absent</i>)
Los Angeles	–	Kathryn Barger (<i>absent</i>)
Madera	–	Jordan Wamhoff
Marin	–	Mary Sackett
Mariposa	–	Rosemarie Smallcombe
Mendocino	–	John Haschack
Merced	–	Scott Silveira
Modoc	–	Ned Coe
Mono	–	Jennifer Kreitz (<i>alternate</i>)
Monterey	–	Luis Alejo
Napa	–	Anne Cottrell
Nevada	–	Heidi Hall

Orange	–	Doug Chaffee
Placer	–	Bonnie Gore
Plumas	–	Tom McGowan (<i>absent</i>)
Riverside	–	V. Manuel Perez
Sacramento	–	Rich Desmond
San Benito	–	Angela Curro
San Bernardino	–	Jesse Armendarez
San Diego	–	Monica Montgomery Steppe
San Francisco	–	Rafael Mandelman
San Joaquin	–	Robert Rickman (<i>absent</i>)
San Luis Obispo	–	Bruce Gibson
San Mateo	–	Noelia Corzo
Santa Barbara	–	Bob Nelson (<i>absent</i>)
Santa Clara	–	Susan Ellenberg
Santa Cruz	–	Manu Koenig
Shasta	–	Kevin Crye
Sierra	–	Lee Adams
Siskiyou	–	Ed Valenzuela
Solano	–	Cassandra James (<i>alternate</i>)
Sonoma	–	Rebecca Hermosillo (<i>alternate</i>)
Stanislaus	–	Mani Grewal (<i>absent</i>)
Sutter	–	Mike Ziegelmeyer (<i>alternate</i>)
Tehama	–	Pati Nolen (<i>absent</i>)
Trinity	–	Ric Leutwyler
Tulare	–	Amy Shuklian
Tuolumne	–	Ryan Campbell
Ventura	–	Kelly Long (<i>absent</i>)
Yolo	–	Lucas Frerichs
Yuba	–	John Messick

2. Approval of Minutes from April 25, 2025

A motion to approve the Minutes from April 25, 2025, was made by Supervisor Scott Silveira and seconded by Supervisor Trina Orrill. The motion carried unanimously.

3. CEO's Report

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

4. Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC)

Tani Cantil-Sakauye, President and Chief Executive Officer of PPIC, provided a report on the Institute's work, and highlighted key policy areas of study, including renewable energy, water, higher education, and aging.

5. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

George "Mac" McCarthy, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, provided an update on the work of the Institute, focusing on corporate property ownership in California and across the United States, its effects on communities, and the policy and regulatory responses states have adopted in response.

6. CSAC Building Renovation Project

Chastity Benson, Chief Operating Officer, provided an update on the CSAC Building Renovation Project which included a timeline of the project history, the creation of the CSAC Building Advisory Council and the establishment of the California Counties Capitol Building and Museum 501(c)(3).

Jessica Paredes, Interior Designer with HGA, presented the building floor plans and renderings.

Mike Mallory, Principle at coAct 24, discussed the upcoming phases of the project, demolition and construction, and presented a breakdown of the project budget.

Rob Pierce, CSAC Finance Corporation Chief Operating Officer, presented financing options and next steps.

7. Authorize CSAC Executive Committee to review and approve Contractor Agreement and Long Lead Item Purchases

A motion to Authorize the CSAC Executive Committee to review and approve the Contractor Agreement and Long Lead Item Purchases, was made by Supervisor Rich Desmond and seconded by Supervisor Scott Silveira. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Working Group Updates

Child Care Working Group

Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, Child Care Working Group Co-Vice Chair, provided a report on the group's efforts to develop a clear understanding of California's child care system, examining how unmet needs impact counties, both directly and indirectly, with the ultimate goal of identifying where counties might play a role in addressing these challenges.

Supervisor Kent Boes, Child Care Working Group Co-Vice Chair, provided an update on the many speakers that have presented to the working group and referenced several upcoming meetings.

Tribal Platform Working Group

Supervisor Bonnie Gore, Chair of the Tribal Platform Working Group, presented a report on the group's efforts to assess how and whether tribal issues should be incorporated into the CSAC Platform.

9. Legislative Update

The following Legislative Advocates and/or Analysts provided updates on key issues within their respective policy areas:

Administration of Justice

- *Ryan Morimune | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Michaela Stone | Legislative Analyst*

Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources

- *Jordan Wells | Legislative Advocate*
- *Caitlin Loventhal | Legislative Analyst*

Government Finance and Administration

- *Emma Jungwirth | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Eric Lawyer | Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Julissa Ceja Cardenas | Legislative Analyst*

Health and Human Services

- *Justin Garrett | Interim Chief Policy Officer and Senior Legislative Advocate*
- *Danielle Bradley | Legislative Analyst*

Housing, Land Use and Transportation

- *Mark Neuburger | Legislative Advocate*

10. California Association of County Executives (CACE) Report

Jason Britt, CACE President and Tulare County CEO, provided an update on several issues including how counties are managing HR-1, rising liability insurance costs, and the high turnover of county executives.

11. Minute Mics: Board of Directors Roundtable

This item was removed from the agenda at the direction of President Jeff Griffiths.

The meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, December 4, in Santa Clara County.