

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, May 21, 2026
12:45 pm – 4:00 pm

SAFE Credit Union Convention Center | Meeting Room 10/11 | 1401 K Street, Sacramento

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/97547461921?pwd=HhcFMEk7OQbqKUEFC3CP8bwa1zpFqC.1>

Conference Line: (669) 900-6833 Meeting ID: 975 4746 1921 Passcode: 654537

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
Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer
Kimberly Rodriguez | Chief Legislative Advocate

ADVISORS

Jennifer Mendoza Flores | Tulare County Counsel,
CCAC Past President (absent)
Scott De Moss | Glenn County CAO, CACE President

EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Belia Ramos | Treasurer, Napa County

Alameda	-	David Haubert	Orange	-	Doug Chaffee (<i>virtual</i>)
Alpine	-	Terry Woodrow	Placer	-	Bonnie Gore (<i>absent</i>)
Amador	-	Jeff Brown	Plumas	-	Mimi Hall
Butte	-	Tod Kimmelshue	Riverside	-	V. Manuel Perez (<i>virtual</i>)
Calaveras	-	Benjamin Stopper (<i>virtual</i>)	Sacramento	-	Rich Desmond
Colusa	-	Kent Boes	San Benito	-	Angela Curro
Contra Costa	-	John Gioia (<i>virtual</i>)	San Bernardino	-	Jesse Armendarez (<i>absent</i>)
Del Norte	-	Chris Howard	San Diego	-	Monica Montgomery Steppe (<i>absent</i>)
El Dorado	-	Brooke Laine (<i>alternate</i>)(<i>virtual</i>)	San Francisco	-	Rafael Mandelman (<i>absent</i>)
Fresno	-	Buddy Mendes	San Joaquin	-	Robert Rickman
Glenn	-	Grant Carmon	San Luis Obispo	-	Bruce Gibson
Humboldt	-	Natalie Arroyo	San Mateo	-	Lisa Gauthier
Imperial	-	Jesus Eduardo Escobar (<i>absent</i>)	Santa Barbara	-	Bob Nelson (<i>absent</i>)
Inyo	-	Trina Orrill	Santa Clara	-	Susan Ellenberg
Kern	-	Leticia Perez (<i>absent</i>)	Santa Cruz	-	Justin Cummings
Kings	-	Rusty Robinson	Shasta	-	Kevin Crye
Lake	-	Bruno Sabatier	Sierra	-	Lee Adams
Lassen	-	Gary Bridges	Siskiyou	-	Ed Valenzuela
Los Angeles	-	Kathryn Barger (<i>absent</i>)	Solano	-	Wanda Williams
Madera	-	Jordan Wamhoff	Sonoma	-	Rebecca Hermosillo
Marin	-	Mary Sackett	Stanislaus	-	Mani Grewal
Mariposa	-	Rosemarie Smallcombe	Sutter	-	Mike Ziegenmeyer (<i>absent</i>)
Mendocino	-	Madeline Cline	Tehama	-	Tom Walker (<i>absent</i>)
Merced	-	Scott Silveira	Trinity	-	Ric Leutwyler
Modoc	-	Ned Coe	Tulare	-	Amy Shuklian
Mono	-	John Peters	Tuolumne	-	Ryan Campbell
Monterey	-	Luis Alejo	Ventura	-	Kelly Long
Napa	-	Anne Cottrell	Yolo	-	Lucas Frerichs
Nevada	-	Hardy Bullock	Yuba	-	Renick House

2. CEO's Report

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

3. Approval of Minutes from February 12, 2026

A motion to approve the Minutes from February 12, 2026, was made by Supervisor Scott Silveria and seconded by Supervisor Ned Coe. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of IRS Form 990 – Tax Year 2024

Supervisor Belia Ramos, Treasurer, presented IRS Form 990 for tax year (FY 2024-25).

A motion to approve the IRS Form 990 – Tax Year 2024 was made by Supervisor Scott Silveria and seconded by Supervisor Ned Coe. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Consideration of the CSAC Proposed Budget & Salary Schedule for FY 2026-27

Supervisor Belia Ramos, Treasurer, and Chastity Benson, COO, presented the FY 2026-27 Proposed Budget and Salary Schedule, which reflects a balanced and fiscally prudent spending plan aligned with CSAC's mission and strategic priorities, including advocacy, public affairs, member engagement, leadership development, and support for the California Counties Foundation. Key budget assumptions include a 3% cost-of-doing-business dues adjustment, a \$5 million contribution from the Finance Corporation, funding for building renovation related interim housing costs, and a 1.6% contingency appropriation. Staff reported that projected operating and capital reserves remain above Board policy targets, supporting the Association's long-term fiscal stability.

A motion to approve the Proposed Budget and Salary Schedule for 2026-27 was made by Supervisor Scott Silveria and seconded by Supervisor Rich Desmond. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Authorization to Execute Quitclaim Deed for Transfer of Real Property Located at 1100 K Street, Sacramento, CA

Chastity Benson, COO, and Rob Pierce, FC CEO, presented the recommended authorization of the CSAC Chief Executive Officer and/or designee to execute a Quitclaim Deed and any ancillary documents necessary to transfer title of the property located at 1100 K Street, Sacramento, California 95814, from the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) to the California Counties Capital Building and Museum (CCCCBM).

A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Scott Silveria and seconded by Supervisor Ned Coe. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Adoption of Resolution NO. 02-2026 Approving the Issuance of Tax-Exempt Bonds and Associated Transaction Documents

Rob Pierce, FC CEO, presented the Resolution approving the issuance of tax-exempt bonds and associated transaction documents in order to use the bond proceeds to fund the CSAC headquarters building renovation project.

A motion was made by Supervisor Scott Silveria and seconded by Supervisor Rich Desmond. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Legislative Update & Policy Committee Reports

Kimberly Rodriguez, Chief Legislative Advocate, provided updates on key issues impacting counties, including legislative developments regarding H.R. 1 and the May Revision.

Each of CSAC's 5 Policy Committees convened as part of the Legislative Conference. The following chairs/vice chairs provided a report, which included an update on each committee's issue area topics:

- Administration of Justice: Chair Bruno Sabatier, Lake County
 - Juvenile Justice and Prop 36
- Agriculture, Environment, & Natural Resources: Chair Jessica Pyska, Lake County
 - Wildfires, Recreation Fuels Resilience and Public Utilities Commission
- Government Finance & Administration: Vice Chair Angela Curro, San Benito County
 - Artificial Intelligence and the May Revision
- Health & Human Services: Vice Chair Lynda Salcido, Mono County
 - CalAIM, H.R. 1 and BHSA Integrated Plans
- Housing, Land Use, & Transportation: Chair Gary Bradford, Yuba County
 - General Plans and Refineries

9. Public Affairs and Member Engagement Report

Chastity Benson, COO, provided an update on key Public Affairs and Member Engagement initiatives, including engagement with the Public Information Officer (PIO) network, publication of the *County Connections* member magazine, preparations for CSAC's Annual Meeting in San Diego County during the first week of December, and updates to the New Supervisors Institute curriculum. Registration for the Annual Meeting will open in the coming weeks. The New Supervisors Institute, which will be featured on the conference's opening day, is undergoing a curriculum update to better prepare newly elected county leaders.

10. CSAC Finance Corporation Report

Supervisor Oscar Villegas, FC President, and Rob Pierce, FC CEO, provided an update on recent FC activities, including the newly elected FC officers, partnership with Enterprise Mobility, the Public Promise Insurance Prescription Benefit Management Program, and Public Promise Procurement. Jim Manker, Director of Business Development, introduced Corporate Partner Danielle Surdin-Oleary of Prologis, who presented on the programs and services the company offers to local governments.

11. California Counties Foundation Report

Supervisor Luis Alejo, Foundation President, and Paul Danczyk, Foundation COO, provided an update on the continued growth of statewide education and training programs offered through the California Counties Foundation and CSAC Institute, including the successful launch of SB 827 ethics training, leadership development programs, graduation events, and the expansion of on-site campus programs in partnership with counties throughout the state. Appreciation was expressed to county leaders and staff who serve as faculty and subject-matter experts, helping to strengthen professional development opportunities for current and future county leaders.

12. California Association of County Executives (CACE) Report

Scott De Moss, CACE President and Glenn County CAO, provided an update on the ongoing activities of the County Administrative Officers/County Executives Association, which continues to meet bi-weekly to discuss issues impacting county government. The Association is also working to relaunch the County Budget Managers Group to support knowledge-sharing, mentorship, and professional development among county budget staff. An update was provided on planning for the Association's annual conference, which will be held in Riverside County and will feature the theme, *"Under the Desert Skies: Leadership, Learning, and Legacy."*

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

Jennifer Mendoza Flores, CCAC Past President and Tulare County Counsel, provided an update on the Litigation and Review Committee's recent activities, including requests for publication, as well as amicus briefs filed on behalf of the Association. It was mentioned that the committee has remained highly active. Members were also informed that the Association will host a County Counsel Boot Camp in Sacramento from July 24-25 for newly hired deputy county counsel attorneys and others new to public agency legal work. The training is designed to provide foundational knowledge and support for legal professionals entering county government practice.

14. Minute Mics: Board of Directors Roundtable

Board members shared brief, informal updates on current issues and developments in their counties, highlighting local challenges, notable initiatives, and emerging trends with potential statewide interest. The discussion was informational and intended to promote awareness and peer learning across counties.

The meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, September 17, 2026, in Sacramento County.