

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

February 13, 2025 | 10:00am – 1:30pm

Sacramento Masonic Temple | 1123 J Street, Sacramento

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84631350888?pwd=aO2yEueFSvN3rMRpVqahcrMnSaQABe.1>

Conference Line: (669) 900-6833 | Meeting ID: 846 3135 0888 | Password: 252570

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
Jason Britt | Tulare County CAO, CACE President

CSAC STAFF

Graham Knaus | Chief Executive Officer
Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez | Chief Policy Officer
Chastity Benson | Chief Operating Officer

EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Belia Ramos | Treasurer, Napa County (*Absent*)

Alameda	–	David Haubert	Orange	–	Doug Chaffee
Alpine	–	Terry Woodrow	Placer	–	Bonnie Gore
Amador	–	Jeff Brown	Plumas	–	<i>Absent</i>
Butte	–	<i>Absent</i>	Riverside	–	V. Manuel Perez
Calaveras	–	<i>Absent</i>	Sacramento	–	Rich Desmond
Colusa	–	Kent Boes	San Benito	–	Angela Curro
Contra Costa	–	John Gioia	San Bernardino	–	Jesse Armendarez
Del Norte	–	Chris Howard	San Diego	–	<i>Absent</i>
El Dorado	–	Greg Ferrero	San Francisco	–	Rafael Mandelman
Fresno	–	Buddy Mendes	San Joaquin	–	Robert Rickman
Glenn	–	Grant Carmon	San Luis Obispo	–	Bruce Gibson
Humboldt	–	Michelle Bushnell	San Mateo	–	Noelia Corzo
Imperial	–	Jesus Eduardo Escobar	Santa Barbara	–	<i>Absent</i>
Inyo	–	Trina Orrill	Santa Clara	–	Susan Ellenberg
Kern	–	<i>Absent</i>	Santa Cruz	–	Manu Koenig
Kings	–	<i>Absent</i>	Shasta	–	Kevin Crye
Lake	–	Bruno Sabatier	Sierra	–	Lee Adams
Lassen	–	Gary Bridges	Siskiyou	–	Ed Valenzuela
Los Angeles	–	<i>Absent</i>	Solano	–	Wanda Williams
Madera	–	Leticia Gonzalez	Sonoma	–	James Gore
Marin	–	Mary Sackett	Stanislaus	–	Mani Grewal
Mariposa	–	Rosemarie Smallcombe	Sutter	–	Dan Flores
Mendocino	–	Bernie Norvell (alternate)	Tehama	–	<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	–	Heidi Hall	Yuba	–	John Messick

2. CEO's Report

Graham Knaus, CEO, provided an update on the Association, referencing several new staff members and promotions, the 2025 CSAC Regional Meetings, the upcoming NACo Legislative Conference and CSAC's federal advocacy surrounding the recent executive orders.

3. Presentation from California Health and Human Services

Kim Johnson, California Health and Human Services Secretary, presented on several priority items including Proposition 1, the Master Plan for Aging, CARE Court and the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH). Secretary Johnson reported that the California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) will be split into two agencies, one of which will focus solely on housing.

4. Working Groups Update

The following CSAC working group chairs provided updates from their recent meetings:

- Insurance Working Group: Supervisor Heidi Hall, Chair, Nevada County
- Childcare Working Group: Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair, Riverside County
- Tribal Working Group: Supervisor Bonnie Gore, Chair, Placer County

5. Approval of Minutes from November 21, 2024

The meeting minutes from November 21, 2024, were approved by unanimous consent.

6. Legislative Update

Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez, CPO, provided a legislative update and highlighted CSAC's upcoming immigration webinar series. CSAC's 2025-26 Budget Proposal and County Partnership Letter to the Governor's Office was distributed to the Board.

The following Legislative Advocates provided updates on critical issues within their policy areas:

- Administration of Justice (AOJ): Ryan Morimune, Senior Legislative Advocate
- Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources (AENR): Catherine Freeman, Senior Legislative Advocate
- Government Finance & Administration (GFA): Eric Lawyer, Legislative Advocate, and Emma Jungwirth, Senior Legislative Advocate
- Health and Human Services (HHS): Justin Garrett, Senior Legislative Advocate, and Jolie Onodera, Senior Legislative Advocate
- Housing, Land Use & Transportation (HLT): Mark Neuburger, Legislative Advocate

7. Operations & Member Services Report

Chastity Benson, COO, provided an update on CSAC's new website, the upcoming building renovation and CSAC's Speakers Bureau.

8. CSAC Finance Corporation Report

Alan Fernandes, CSAC Finance Corporation CEO, provided an update on the Finance Corporation's new board members and the Smart Easy Pay program. Rob Pierce, CSAC Finance Corporation COO, highlighted the work of several partners and referenced their partnership with NACo on pharmacy benefits. Jim Manker, Director of Business Development, introduced corporate partner, Doug Bond from Amity.

9. California Counties Foundation Report

Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, California Counties Foundation President, provided an update on the Foundation, referencing the launch of the New Supervisors Institute and the new campuses in Humboldt and Fresno counties. Paul Danczyk, California Counties Foundation COO, provided an update on the CSAC Grants Initiative (CGI).

10. California Association of County Executives (CACE) Report

Jason Britt, CACE President and Tulare County CEO, highlighted the numerous priorities that county executives will be focusing on in 2025.

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

Brian Washington, CoCo Past President and Marin County Counsel, reported on new case activity for the Litigation Coordination Program.

12. Minute Mics: Board of Directors Roundtable

Each member of the Board of Directors spent one minute discussing pressing issues in their county.

The meeting was adjourned. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on April 25, 2025, in Sacramento County.