

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
January 17, 2019
Capitol Event Center | Sacramento
Conference line: (800) 867-2581 | Code: 7500508#

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

OFFICERS

Virginia Bass – *President*
Lisa Bartlett – *1st Vice President*
James Gore – *2nd Vice President (remote)*
Leticia Perez – *Immediate Past President*

CSAC STAFF

Graham Knaus – *Executive Director*
Manuel Rivas, Jr. – *Deputy Executive Director,
Operations & Member Services*
Darby Kernan – *Deputy Executive Director, Legislative
Services*

SUPERVISORS

Luis Alejo – *Monterey County*
Keith Carson – *Alameda County*
Kelly Long – *Ventura County*
Leonard Moty – *Shasta County*
Mark Ridley-Thomas – *Los Angeles County (remote)*
Ed Valenzuela – *Siskiyou County*
Chuck Washington – *Riverside County*
Terry Woodrow – *Alpine County*

The presence of a quorum was noted.

2. Approval of Minutes from December 19, 2018

A motion to approve the minutes from December 19 made by Supervisor Moty; second by Supervisor Mendes. Supervisors Elliott and Hannigan abstained; minutes were approved with a majority vote.

3. Report on Governor's 2019-20 January Proposed Budget

Keely Bosler, Director at the California Department of Finance and Diane Cummins, Special Advisor to the Governor presented the Governor's proposed budget for 2019-20. She noted that a significant amount of time was spent on ensuring that core programs were funded adequately. The budget contains mostly one-time resources, with a few ongoing funding for specific programs. \$13.6 billion was put into "budget resiliency", which includes paying out existing state budgetary debt, maintaining and building on the state reserves, and reducing the unfunded liabilities related to retirement. The ongoing funding was allocated to CalWorks, IHSS and firefighting capabilities. The Governor's office is focused on property tax backfills and debris removal for counties impacted by the wildfires.

Education funding is at the highest level this year at \$80.7 billion, along with other programs intended to benefit schools and public education. The Governor is focused on broad, early childhood 0-5 year programs, including universal preschool for all income-eligible 4 year olds which will be phased in over the next three years and paid family leave for up to 6 months combined for two caregivers/parents. The budget proposed a significant meaningful grant increases for CalWorks for up to 50% of the poverty level to help reduce the number of children living in poverty. The budget is

focused on breaking the cycle of poverty, linking higher education systems directly to the needs of the workforce and increasing overall affordability throughout the state.

The budget set aside \$1.25 billion for housing to assist local government to meet short and long-term housing goals. Counties will be incentivized for housing production, and those that don't meet housing goals will lose money from transportation funds. The Governor is focused on improving the housing situation in California and understands that it needs to be a collective effort. The budget also proposed the building of more shelters and navigation centers to address the homelessness crisis. \$25 million of the proposed budget would be allocated to ongoing SSI advocacy to obtain ongoing revenue sources that can get people off the street. The budget reflects the increase in IHSS funding and the Governor is sorting through the general funding. Overall, the budget and Governor's office is focused on housing, homelessness, IHSS and resiliency, all of which reflect CSAC priorities.

4. Discussion of Budget Impacts

Staff presented on CSAC's advocacy plans surrounding the budget. CSAC is working with the Administration on advocating for the emergency response package and getting Authority back for the Department of Finance, which allowed them to release funds in the case of an emergency. The authority expired in December. Staff has already started working on budget letters. CSAC is watching closely how the budget impacts legislators on the local level. The budget contains three of the key priorities that CSAC is advocating on. Overall, staff feels that the budget is extremely positive for counties.

In regards to IHSS, there is an increased state general fund commitment of \$1.6 billion over the next four years in the budget. Staff has been advocating for three key points with the realignment funding: significant growth in available revenues, impacts on health and mental health programs, and that additional funds that are needed are provided in a sustainable way. The proposal addresses all three points in a very positive way for counties, both in the increase of funding as well as reducing the rate of inflation from 7% - 4% and by stopping the redirection of health and mental health growth. CSAC will continue to partner with counties and is grateful for all of the input thus far.

Staff highlighted resiliency issues reflected in the budget relating to emergency preparedness and response. CSAC is working with counties to ensure there are accurate property tax backfill numbers by the May revise. Prior to the release of the budget, staff sent a request letter on an overall disaster response package which included direct fiscal assistance that was proposed, as well as support for the 911 proposal for increased funding for emergency managers and other resiliency issues that are reflected in the budget. The Wildfire Prevention Package that was passed in 2018 included \$1 billion over the next 5 years for fuel reduction, prescribed burns and forest management and resiliency activities. CalFire needs active participation from counties in directing those funds. Staff will work with Counties and RCRC to put together a package to suggest to CalFire and work with them on the resiliency Task Force. The Governor announced that there would be funding directly to local governments for emergency alert systems. The budget contained overall good news on the resiliency side of CSAC's priorities and advocacy.

As the partial government shutdown reached day 27, staff presented on the growing impacts the shutdown is having on California. USDA generally hires and trains staff in the winter, which isn't happening due the shutdown. This is a great cause for concern for the state due to the increased number of wildfires we have had. There is some available funding that California can apply for however the shutdown is making that difficult. CSAC remains in constant contact with the Federal Lobbying team, Paragon Government Relations, for consistent updates on what is happening on the hill.

5. Appointment of CSAC Treasurer, NACo Board, WIR Representatives & Working Groups

The Executive Committee received the proposed appointments for various positions as recommended by the officers.

A motion to approve the appointments made by Supervisor Moty; second by Supervisor Alejo. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Appointment of CSAC Policy Committee Chairs & Vice Chairs for 2019

The Executive Committee received the proposed appointments for Policy Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs. Supervisor Carole Groom replaced Supervisor Lee Adams in the Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources Policy Committee.

A motion to approve the appointments as modified made by Supervisor Long; second by Supervisor Alejo. The motion carried unanimously.

7. CSAC finance Corporation Report & Appointment of Board Members

Supervisor Moty presented that the Finance Corporation continues to do well and will meet in April for their Annual Meeting to discuss the budget and future programs. The Executive Committee reviewed the recommended candidates for the CSAC Finance Corporation Board for approval. The open seats included one county administrative officer position, one Supervisor and two public members.

A motion to appoint David Twa, Supervisor Richard Forster, Vernon Billy and Elba Gonzalez to the CSAC FC Board of Directors as the CAO, Supervisor and Public Members respectively made by Supervisor Moty; second by Supervisor Alejo. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Installation of CSAC 2019 Board of Directors

The CSAC Constitution indicates that each county board shall nominate one or more directors to serve on the CSAC Board of Directors to serve a one-year term, commencing with the Annual Conference. Staff presented a list of nominees received from counties for the representatives and alternates.

A motion to approve the nominated members to the CSAC Board of Directors made by Supervisor Moty; second by Supervisor Long. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Consideration of State & Federal Legislative Priorities for 2019

Staff presented the 2019 CSAC legislative priorities for Executive Committee approval before moving to the Board of Directors. CSAC is focused on advocating for Disaster Resiliency, Housing and Homelessness, In Home Supportive Services, Behavioral Health, the 2020 Census, Bail Reform, and Local Governance and Land Use Authority. The Executive Committee was provided detailed background information on each priority.

A motion to approve the CSAC 2019 State and Federal Legislative Priorities made by Supervisor Long; Second by Supervisor Alejo. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Membership Dues – Options for Consideration

Per staff and officer recommendation, this item will be moved to a later Executive Committee Meeting.

11. Communications Update: Supporting our 2019 Legislative Priorities

The Communications team is focused on supporting the legislative efforts of the CSAC advocacy team. Staff has seen an increase in media requests to use CSAC as a resource, due to the reliable and accurate sources of information the staff continues to provide. The team is working on long term issues and getting the message out about the 2020 Census and other priorities. The Power Minute videos have proven to be extremely beneficial to get traction and interest in major policy issues CSAC is working on. Communications will continue its efforts to inform the public on what counties and CSAC are all about.

12. California Counties Foundation Update

The Institute has launched an online registration system, which provides a streamlined interface, clear navigation and a responsive layout for participants registering for courses. This automation has proven beneficial to the overall operational capacity of the two-person Institute team. There will be a “Moving to the Executive Chair” seminar hosted by the Institute for new and aspiring county department heads on March 6 – 8 in Napa County. Staff has put out a call for potential coaches for this seminar. The Institute operates in five campuses throughout the state and today marks the first class in Santa Cruz County. It is currently in its final year in Shasta County and will end in Tulare County next fiscal year. The Institute remains committed to having campuses in Northern, Coastal and Central California counties. Staff will be meeting with CAOs to gauge interest in hosting campuses through 2022.

The meeting was adjourned in honor and memory of fallen police officer, Natalie Corona from Yolo County. Natalie was the daughter of Supervisor Merced Corona of Colusa County. The next Executive Committee Meeting will take place on April 4 in Sacramento, CA.