

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

January 27, 2022

Sutter Health Park Legacy Club | 400 Ballpark Dr., West Sacramento, CA 95691

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89724378672?pwd=SE1vdUhPeHJldXFvRVgxekdKTGhwQT09>

Conference Line: (669) 900-6833 | Meeting ID: 897 2437 8672 | Password: 735789

---

MINUTES

---

**1. Roll Call**

OFFICERS

Ed Valenzuela | *President*  
Chuck Washington | *1<sup>st</sup> Vice President*  
Bruce Gibson | *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President*  
James Gore | *Immediate Past President*

CSAC STAFF

Graham Knaus | *Executive Director*  
Manuel Rivas, Jr. | *Deputy Executive Director, Operations & Member Services*  
Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez | *Deputy Executive Director, Legislative Affairs*

ADVISORS

Rita Neal | *County Counsels' Association, San Luis Obispo County*  
Minh Tran | *Napa County CEO, California Association of County Executives, President*

SUPERVISORS

Kathryn Barger | *Los Angeles County (absent)*  
Lisa Bartlett | *Orange County*  
Keith Carson | *Alameda County*  
Susan Ellenberg | *Santa Clara County*  
John Gioia | *Contra Costa County*  
Buddy Mendes | *Fresno County*  
Kelly Long | *Ventura County*  
Luis Alejo | *Monterey County*  
Diane Dillon | *Napa County*  
Erin Hannigan | *Solano County (absent)*  
Scott Silveira | *Merced County*  
Jeff Griffiths | *Inyo County*  
Sue Novasel | *El Dorado County*  
Bob Williams | *Tehama County*

EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Leonard Moty | *Treasurer, Shasta County*

**2. 2022 Budget Update**

Keely Bosler, Director of the California Department of Finance, presented on the Governor's 2022-23 Budget.

**3. 2022 Initiatives Update**

Brandon Castillo of Bicker, Castillo & Fairbanks presented on the 2022 Ballot Landscape.

**4. Executive Director's Report**

Graham Knaus, Executive Director, discussed the core roles & responsibilities of the Executive Committee and highlighted CSAC's 2022 Priorities.

**5. Discussion of Governor's January Budget Impact**

Jacqueline Wong-Hernandez, Deputy Executive Director of Legislative Affairs, led a discussion about the major investment areas included in the Governor's 2022-23 budget proposal.

**6. Approval of Minutes from October 14 and November 30, 2021**

A motion to approve the meeting minutes from October 14 and November 30, 2021, was made by Supervisor Long; second by Supervisor Gioia. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. Approval of Updated 2021-22 Board of Directors Nominations**

A motion to approve Updated 2021-22 Board of Directors Nominations was made by Supervisor Gibson; second by Supervisor Ellenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

**8. Appointment of CSAC Treasurer, NACo Board, WIR Representatives, California Counties Foundation Board, ILG Board and Policy Committee Chairs/Vice Chairs**

A motion to approve the Appointment of CSAC Treasurer, NACo Board, WIR Representatives, California Counties Foundation Board, ILG Board and Policy Committee Chairs/Vice Chairs, was made by Supervisor Alejo; second by Supervisor Bartlett. Motion carried unanimously.

**9. CSAC Finance Corporation Report and Appointment of Board Members**

Supervisor Leonard Moty, Finance Corporation President, and Alan Fernandes, Finance Corporation CEO, presented that they have added two new platinum partners this year and highlighted the Smart Easy Pay program. Additionally, the Finance Corporation recommended the appointment of five individuals to their Board of Directors. Three of these recommendations were re-appointments and included Supervisor Richard Forster for the rural county seat, and Vernon Billy and Elba Gonzales-Mares, for the public seats.

A motion to approve the re-appointment of Supervisor Richard Forster, Vernon Billy and Elba Gonzales-Mares was made by Supervisor Valenzuela; second by Supervisor Bartlett. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Moty also presented that the Finance Corporation is recommending two new appointments, Matt Jennings and Mary Zeeb, for the county agency or department head seats.

A motion to approve the appointment of Matt Jennings and Mary Zeeb was made by Supervisor Alejo; second by Supervisor Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

**10. The Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act**

Supervisor Bruce Gibson and Legislative Representative Geoff Neill presented on this potential 2022 ballot initiative. The Government, Finance and Administration (GF&A) Policy Committee met on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and took an oppose position on this measure. Supervisor Gibson recommended that the Executive Committee forward an oppose position to the Board of Directors next month.

A motion to recommend an oppose position to the Board of Directors on the Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act was made by Supervisor Gibson; second by Supervisor Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

### **11. Operations and Member Services Report**

Manuel Rivas, Jr., reported that CSAC communications continues to focus on elevating member services, telling the county story, and advancing advocacy efforts by complimenting the legislative team.

Jenny Tan, Senior Manager of Public Affairs and Member Services, presented that in addition to supporting advocacy, CSAC's communications continues to focus on earned media, social media, advocacy campaigns, and spotlighting members. They are also working on scheduling challenge awards presentations. Ms. Tan reported that CSAC recently hired a new communications manager, Kanisha Golden.

### **12. California Counties Foundation Report**

Manuel Rivas, Jr., reported that all institute classes are still being held in a virtual format through the end of March, but they are planning to do a hybrid schedule afterwards. Participation has increased across the board, with an average of about 55 participants per class. The Institute is currently in Alameda, Lake, Mendocino and Solano counties, and is about to start in Fresno.

Chastity Benson, Director of Operations and Member Services, reported that the institute is working to grow their instructor capacity. The Institute is also rolling out the "So You Want to be a CAO" program, with the first scheduled session on May 11-13, 2022.

Ryan Souza, Program Director for the Criminal Justice Support HUB, presented that their main focus continues to be providing technical assistance to county criminal justice programming through grants from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trust and Blue Shield of CA.

### **13. Minute Mics: Executive Committee Roundtable – *What's going on in your county?***

**Sue Novasel / El Dorado County** – El Dorado County is working on homes for homeless and on affordable workforce housing, which have been made more difficult by the recent Caldor Fire.

**Diane Dillon / Napa County** – Napa County is trying to figure out what to do with the Broadband money coming into their county.

**Jeff Griffiths / Inyo County** – Inyo County just had their first commercial flight from their airport. The County recently lost a lawsuit with the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to get control of their landfills. On the housing front, they are struggling because they don't even have capacity to apply for grants.

**John Gioia / Contra Costa County** – Contra Costa County recently passed a ½ cent sales tax that brings in \$104 million per year for county services. Supervisor Gioia wanted to flag the issue of how major online retailers allocate sales tax. The county is pushing for better access to at-home COVID tests.

**Scott Silveira / Merced County** – Supervisor Silveira reported that 1383 is very challenging for small rural counties due to the infrastructure it requires. He also reported that there was money in last year’s budget for the library, but the CA Public Policy Institute came up with a study that changed the dynamic in which they measure poverty. The study shows that the most impoverished library in CA is the one that sits at San Jose State University and doesn’t reference valley county libraries until the end of the report. This system is deeply flawed.

**Buddy Mendes / Fresno County** – Supervisor Mendes reported that with regards to COVID, the valley is always several weeks behind the Bay Area and Southern California, so they expect to be struggling for a few weeks longer.

**Bob Williams / Tehama County** – Supervisor Williams reported that their county received a little over \$12 million in ARPA funds but had \$30 million in requests. In Tehama County, there are over 600 jobs available, and they can’t find the people to fill them.

**Susan Ellenberg / Santa Clara County** – Supervisor Ellenberg reported that Santa Clara County has declared mental illness and substance use disorders as twin public health crises which will help extend the continuum of care. They are also struggling to fill open county positions.

**Kelly Long / Ventura County** – Ventura County has successfully been working on union contracts to get more health care workers. They are also planning for a new regional hospital with a senior care component. The county has funding for a project manager position which would work with the city and county to help clear homeless encampments.

**Lisa Bartlett / Orange County** – Orange County put some of their ARPA dollars into a program at their libraries where seniors can check out and get training on iPads. They are still struggling to get enough permanent supportive housing online. The county has partnered with United Way and put them in touch with apartment owners, which allowed them to house 600 homeless individuals. They have also put in a request for more grant funding for motel conversions.

**Leonard Moty / Shasta County** – Supervisor Moty thanked the Executive Committee and CSAC family for all their support. He believes that his recall election will drastically change things for all counties. Donors spent over 1 million dollars on his recall election when his last election only cost him \$29,000. Supervisor Moty acknowledged that many other counties are facing recalls.

**Luis Alejo / Monterey County** – Supervisor Alejo reported than many counties received a waiver last year on their homeless point and time count and encouraged counties to do a good job this year because a lot of federal and state money depends on the formula. Monterey County is in the process of creating a position for a Director of Homelessness Strategies and Solutions to elevate their work in this area.

**Bruce Gibson / San Luis Obispo County** – San Luis Obispo County recently allocated \$3 million of ARPA funds to childcare. The County was sued over the drawing of the supervisorial district maps.

**Chuck Washington / Riverside County** – Supervisor Washington has been reporting CSAC updates to their local council of government agency, Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG). He believes the updates have been appreciated and have been an educational opportunity for their city partners.

**Ed Valenzuela / Siskiyou County** – Like other counties, Siskiyou County is struggling to find workers. Supervisor Valenzuela is very concerned with drought and water issues which will continue to plague his county.

**Meeting was adjourned. The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on March 23, 2022, in Los Angeles County.**