

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Thursday, February 23, 2006
CSAC Conference Center, Sacramento

M I N U T E S

Presiding: Connie Conway, President

1. ROLL CALL

Alameda	Keith Carson	Placer	absent
Alpine	Terry Woodrow	Plumas	Bill Powers
Amador	Richard Vinson	Riverside	John Tavaglione
Butte	absent	Sacramento	Roger Dickinson
Calaveras	Merita Callaway	San Benito	Don Marcus
Colusa	absent	San Bernardino	absent
Contra Costa	Federal Glover	San Diego	Cox/Horn
Del Norte	absent	San Francisco	absent
El Dorado	James Sweeney	San Joaquin	absent
Fresno	Judy Case	San Luis Obispo	Harry Ovitt
Glenn	Gary Freeman	San Mateo	Gordon/Hill
Humboldt	absent	Santa Barbara	Joni Gray
Imperial	absent	Santa Clara	absent
Inyo	Susan Cash	Santa Cruz	absent
Kern	Jon McQuiston	Shasta	absent
Kings	Tony Oliveira	Sierra	absent
Lake	absent	Siskiyou	absent
Lassen	absent	Solano	Barbara Kondylis
Los Angeles	Don Knabe (<i>audio</i>)	Sonoma	Valerie Brown
Madera	Bigelow/Moss	Stanislaus	absent
Marin	Susan Adams	Sutter	Larry Munger
Mariposa	Dianne Fritz (<i>audio</i>)	Tehama	absent
Mendocino	Michael Delbar	Trinity	absent
Merced	Mike Nelson	Tulare	Steven Worthley
Modoc	Daniel Macsay	Tuolumne	absent
Mono	absent	Ventura	Kathy Long (<i>audio</i>)
Monterey	Fernando Armenta	Yolo	Mike McGowan
Napa	absent	Yuba	
Nevada	absent	absent	
Orange	absent		

The presence of a quorum was noted.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 1, 2005 were corrected to reflect that Supervisor Gary Wyatt was in attendance.

Motion and second to approve the minutes of December 1, 2005 as corrected. Motion carried unanimously.

3. CSAC LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2006

Staff presented the draft CSAC State and Federal Legislative Priorities as contained in the briefing materials.

A request was made by Los Angeles County to add the issue of Telecommunications Reform to the list of Federal Advocacy issues, which would bring the total to six advocacy issues: Tribal Authority in Relation to Gaming; State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP); Medicaid; Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); Floor Control; and Telecommunications Reform. CSAC's current contract with Waterman & Associates allows for five advocacy issues. Each additional issue would increase the cost of the contract.

After much discussion, it was determined that all of the proposed Federal Advocacy issues were extremely important to counties.

Motion and second to add Telecommunications Reform to the list of Federal Advocacy Issues. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff was directed to negotiate a reduction in the Waterman & Associates contract increase.

Motion and second to adopt the CSAC State and Federal Legislative Priorities for 2006 as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

4. AMENDMENTS TO CALIFORNIA COUNTY PLATFORM

Administration of Justice. Staff presented proposed amendments to Chapter II, Administration of Justice, as outlined in the briefing materials.

Motion and second to approve the Administration of Justice section of the California County Platform. Motion carried unanimously.

Agriculture and Natural Resources. Staff presented proposed amendments to Chapter III, Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Chapter IV, Energy Policy Guidelines, as outlined in the briefing materials.

A request was made to further amend the language related to Endangered Species Act. Board of Directors members will submit suggested language for policy committee review prior to the CSAC Legislative Conference. Additional amendments will be considered by the Board of Directors at the March 30 meeting.

Economic Development. The CSAC Economic Development policy committee met on February 15 and made further revisions to Chapter XIV. An updated draft was distributed to the Board of Directors. Staff presented the updated draft.

It was suggested that the title of Section 4: Military Base Retention should instead read "Military

Base Retention *and Reuse*.” Also, additional language will be recommended dealing with military aircraft technology. Additional amendments will be brought to the CSAC Board of Directors at the March 30 meeting.

Government Finance and Operations. Staff presented proposed amendments to Chapter V, Government Operations and Chapter X, Financing County Services, as contained in the briefing materials.

Motion and second to approve amendments as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Health and Human Services. Staff presented proposed amendments to Chapter V, Health Services and Chapter XI, Human Services as contained the briefing materials. A request was made to add the following sentence to Section 7: Family Violence: *“The issue of family violence – and the effects it has on families, children and county services – is of significant importance to CSAC.”*

Motion and second to approve amendments to Health and Human Services sections of the Platform as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

5. CSAC GOVERNMENT FINANCE AND OPERATIONS POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT
Supervisor Kathy Long, Chair of the CSAC Government Finance and Operations policy committee, presented a report from the meeting held on February 16.

The policy committee recommended that the Board of Directors take a position of ‘Seek Amendments’ on ACA 23 (Richman). This bill would provide a defined benefit with an optional defined contribution retirement plan for new public employees.

Motion and second to approve policy committee recommendation to ‘seek amendments’ on ACA 23. Motion carried unanimously.

The policy committee recommended approval of a draft telecommunications reform policy as follows: *“Counties endorse promoting competition among telecommunications providers and treating like services alike. Any effort to reform the Telecommunications Reform Act of 1996 must maintain local franchising authority and management of the public rights-of-way, encourage funding for public education and governmental (PEG) channels and institutional networks (I-NET), and hold local governments fiscally harmless for any loss of fees or other revenue that result from franchise agreements.*

Motion and second to approve Telecommunications Reform Policy. Ventura County opposed. Motion carried.

The policy committee recommended adoption of Elections Principles related to mailed ballots as follows: *“Counties support legislative action to allow any county, in which the Board of Supervisors so authorizes, to conduct the June 6, 2006 primary election exclusively by mailed ballot.”*

Motion and second to approve Elections Principles related to mailed ballots as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The policy committee recommended adoption of the following policy related to “voting centers”: *“Counties support legislative action to allow cities and counties to create voting centers, in which*

large numbers of voters may submit or cast ballots.” It was suggested that the language be amended to include “in which the Board of Supervisors so authorizes” following cities and counties.

Motion and second to approve policy related to voting centers as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Staff was directed to further define the vote center concept and report back at a future meeting.

6. CSAC HOUSING, LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

Supervisor Valerie Brown, Chair of the CSAC Housing, Land Use and Transportation policy committee, presented a report from the meeting held on February 22.

The policy committee recommended Board of Directors approval of a draft CSAC Policy on Tribal Lands, as contained in the briefing materials. The policy is targeted at specific federal legislation that is pending before Congress.

Motion and second to approve CSAC Policy on Tribal Lands as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The policy committee recommended a support position for efforts at both the legislative and initiative levels for constitutional protection of Proposition 42 funds.

Motion and second to approve support for constitutional protection of Proposition 42 funds. Motion carried unanimously.

In the event an initiative qualifies for the statewide ballot, staff was directed to bring the issue back to the Board of Directors for consideration.

Staff distributed draft policies related to the Governor’s Strategic Growth Plan. The policies address issues in the areas of strategic growth, housing and transportation.

Staff also distributed a joint letter from CSAC and the Regional Council of Rural Counties regarding AB 1839 and SB 1166, which are two bills related to the Flood Protection and Clean, Safe, Reliable Water Supply Bond and Financing Acts of 2006 and 2010. The letter addresses county concerns regarding the proposed Flood Protection Program, Integrated Regional Water Management, Statewide Water Management and the California Water Resources Investment Program.

In addition, staff noted that proposals dealing with jail bonds and court facilities are also part of the Governor’s Strategic Growth Plan.

7. APPOINTMENTS TO CCS PARTNERSHIP CONDITIONS OF CHILDREN TASK FORCE

The purpose of the Conditions of Children Task Force is to bring together the thinking of locally elected officials on topics of importance to the conditions of children such as universal preschool and childhood obesity.

The CCS (Cities, Counties, Schools) Partnership requested that the Board of Directors appoint the following supervisors to serve on the Task Force:

Alene Taylor, Kings

Barbara Kondylis, Solano

Mark DeSaulnier, Contra Costa

Motion and second to appoint Supervisors Taylor, Kondylis, DeSaulnier and Thomson to the Conditions of Children Task Force. Motion carried unanimously.

Any Board of Directors members who are interested in serving on the Task Force are urged to contact President Conway.

8. CALIFORNIA INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION CAMPAIGN

CSAC is a member of the California Infrastructure Coalition (CIC). Other members include: the League of California Cities, California Special Districts Association, California School Boards Association, California Alliance for Jobs, California Building Industry Association, California Business Roundtable, various APWA chapters, numerous cities, engineering groups and the counties of Alameda, Los Angeles and Orange. The purpose of the coalition is to build support for dedicated and consistent sources of funding at levels to sustain California's infrastructure systems. With the current focus on infrastructure at the state level, the coalition has decided to embark on an education campaign to keep the importance of infrastructure investment and action before the public, Legislature and Governor.

Jim Keene recommended that the Board of Directors authorize up to \$10,000 as a CSAC contribution to the campaign. The funds would come from the amount budgeted for LOCAL coalition activities this year.

Motion and second to authorize up to \$10,000 for the California Infrastructure Coalition campaign. Motion carried unanimously.

9. CSAC FINANCE CORPORATION REPORT

Tom Ford, President of the CSAC Finance Corporation, reported that the Finance Corporation is having a record year in terms of revenues. A seminar on Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEBs) was held in January at the Sheraton in Sacramento. Over 140 people attended the seminar with 38 counties represented. The Finance Corporation also completed four regional seminars regarding the pooled Pension Obligation Bond (POB) program for counties, cities and special districts. At least one POB pool will move forward this summer.

10. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

Supervisor Jon McQuiston, Vice chair of the CSAC Economic Development policy committee, presented a report from the policy committee meeting held on February 15. The committee discussed the 2006 economic development platform and brainstormed ideas for the next meeting in March. They also identified issues the committee will be following this year, including the distribution of federal CDBG funding, streamlining the CDBG process in California and the future of military sustainability and base reuse.

11. STATE BUDGET UPDATE

Staff announced that tomorrow is the deadline for legislative bill introduction, so the process of moving bills through committees is just beginning. Staff reported that California now has a definition for certified expenditures related to the Medicaid Hospital Financing Waiver which allows for \$400 million in Safety Net Care Pool funds to now flow to public hospitals. An outline of the process for public hospitals to access the funds is contained in this weeks' CSAC Legislative Bulletin. A bill to reimburse counties for last fall's special election is expected to be introduced this session. CSAC is currently negotiating on a formula for distributing the reimbursement funds.

12. CSAC CORPORATE ASSOCIATES REPORT

Jim Keene announced that Director of Corporate Associates Mike Graves' employment agreement with CSAC expired on January 31. CSAC is in the process of initiating a recruitment for a Deputy Director of CSAC who would also be responsible for the Corporate Associates program. A chart outlining the revised membership structure was contained in the briefing materials. This was done at the request of the Corporate Associates steering committee in an effort to streamline the process for donating money for various CSAC events throughout the year. CSAC legislative staff will be convening a conference call with Corporate Associates members to discuss legislative issues.

13. PEACE OFFICERS RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA LETTER

Jim Keene recently met with representatives from the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC), regarding a letter they sent to CSAC expressing concern over the support position taken by the CSAC Board of Directors on Proposition 76. During his meeting with them, he explained the process used to reach that position and subsequent discussions with CSAC members that have taken place regarding the need to ensure a more representative group is making decisions on ballot propositions.

14. OTHER ITEMS

The NACo Legislative Conference is scheduled for March 4 – 8 in Washington, DC. All supervisors attending the conference are urged to assist in the effort to elect Valerie Brown for NACo 2nd Vice President in 2006.

Meeting adjourned.