

CEAC Board of Directors

August 23, 2024 | 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.



CEAC Board of Directors
19th CEAC Policy Conference
Capitol Event Center
1020 11th Street, 2nd Floor, Sacramento
Friday, August 23, 2024 | 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

12:30 p.m. Call to Order (Kokkas)

1. **Approval of Minutes, April 17, 2024** (DeChellis/Bronkall)
2. *** Correspondence** (Kokkas)
No correspondence.
3. *** CLODS Report** (CLODS)
Sadjadi thanked the Board for the invitation to the Policy Conference and the future Conference in Pasadena. The CLODS met and will be presenting a slate of officers for 2025 to the membership for voting and approval in Pasadena. CLODS are also planning the CLODS barbecue in Pasadena, as well as a program.
4. *** NACE Report** (Dashiell)
Dashiell shared that the upcoming NACE fall board of directors meeting will be extended over three days, focusing on a deep dive into NACE's mission and value statement. This will be shared in the next newsletter.

The meeting will include discussions about potentially restructuring or improving NACE. Matt Machado and the regional director from Colorado will attend, but the speaker and other state directors from the western region cannot attend. A report on the outcome of the meeting will be provided at a later time.

The Treasurer's Report will address a discussion about a possible dues increase.

A question arose regarding the expected funds from NACE for the recent conference. The check was expected by the end of August but has not yet been received. Howard anticipates receiving between \$10,000 and \$15,000, though prior experience with a NACE meeting in San Diego brought in \$25,000. The trade-off for this year's conference was not having to cover losses, but only receiving 10% of the profits. Howard is cautiously optimistic that CEAC could receive between \$10,000 and \$50,000, though others expect it to be higher.

Record attendance at the Palm Springs NACE Conference. NACE will be proposing dues increases, more information to come at the Fall Policy Conference.

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5. **CSAC Report** (CSAC Staff)

CSAC Legislative Advocacy Update:

- a) CSAC is supporting Proposition 4, a \$10 billion climate bond on the November ballot. The bond focuses on flood, water, and wildfire preparedness, with a significant portion directed toward local grants. The CSAC board will consider taking an official support position next week. A full list of the programs involved can be shared.

b) Housing, Land Use, and Transportation Updates:

Several new budget bills have been introduced, which will be reviewed by the CSAC team for relevance to public works.

There is ongoing work on permit reform, focusing on streamlining processes for various permits like streambed and bridge permits. A select committee on permit reform has been formed, aiming to produce a white paper rather than introduce new laws. County officials have been consulted in this effort.

All are invited to join the working group on fuels, focusing on adjusting to declining fuel use in the state and managing supply for remaining demand. A recent report suggests options, including state control of refineries, which is met with skepticism.

6. **Regional Directors Reports**

- a) Bay Area (Hoevertsz)
Working with Rosemary to provide photos for the newsletter.
- b) Central Coast (Not present)
No report
- c) Northern California (Bronkall)
Bob shared that the Bedroll Conference was a success, and it was attended by the newsletter editor, who will publish photos soon. The camp facilities are amazing, and it is expected to be hosted there again next year
- d) Sacramento Mother Lode (Randall)
The group met over the summer. A round table discussion took place, where counties reported similar issues, including struggles with funding and regulations. An in-person meeting is planned for October. Thanks were extended to Panos for attending and delivering presentations during the meeting.
- e) San Joaquin Valley (Bray)
The group tries to have a meeting every month in all the different counties. We've had, unfortunately, three of the counties canceled this year. Historically, they don't hold meetings in Mariposa and Kern, but they have had good turnout at the other ones. Next meeting, the fourth Friday in September, the meeting will be in Stockton for San Joaquin County. If there's anyone that wants to go golfing or wants to come down for the meeting, please reach out to Nathan to get on the mailing list.

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- f) Southern California (Khan)
The last meeting was held virtually in February, with discussions focused on increasing engagement in CEAC.
Efforts are ongoing to get more participation from members, especially those from Southern California.

It was emphasized that Southern California participation is needed, and while Riverside and Orange County were present, there's a desire to involve counties like San Bernardino and San Diego.

Two team members from Orange County, Jennifer, and Arianna, were brought to the meeting to increase participation.

7. **Treasurer's Report (Johnson) - Attachment Two - Action Item**

- a) CEAC member dues increase of 20% effective January 1, 2025

The Treasurer highlighted the current three-year phased approach of 10% annual dues increases, with the final increase expected next year. Most counties have paid their dues, with only two counties outstanding.

NACE Dues Increase:

NACE is facing financial challenges due to reduced revenue from conferences and sponsorships.

A 75% dues increase has been approved by NACE for 2025, translating to an additional \$39,000 for the group. Another 3% increase is planned for 2027.

There were concerns raised about how the costs are distributed among counties and whether the voting structure is proportionate to dues paid. The group discussed whether continuing as a 100% state (where all counties participate through one payment) is beneficial.

Representation at NACE:

There was a discussion about the need to ensure fair representation and voting power for California at NACE meetings. With the upcoming NACE meeting in Toronto, the group explored who could attend and represent California, potentially using a proxy system for voting.

Next Steps:

Regional directors were tasked with reaching out to counties to gather feedback on the NACE dues increase.

A motion was made to empower Johannes Hovertsz, or an alternate to represent California at the NACE meeting if necessary (Pat DeChellis-George Johnson).

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CSAC Contract Discussion:

A letter was received from the CSAC Executive Director outlining contract details.

The contract is under review, and the approach is to finalize the details in a small conference and present them for approval in November, with the support of CSAC.

Contract Negotiation:

George Johnson will negotiate the final numbers, while the contract's wording will remain the same.

The board needs to vote on the general direction of the contract and then finalize the numbers by November.

Motion to Approve the CSAC Contract in Concept:

A motion was made and approved to move forward with the CSAC contract concept, with final approval coming in the fall. (Nardy Kahn-Matt Randall)

Concerns about Itemized Costs:

Some members requested more transparency and a breakdown of costs in the CSAC contract. There were concerns about double payment for services through the CSAC contract and additional county contributions.

NACE Dues Increase and Bylaw Amendments:

A discussion followed regarding the NACE dues increase and whether changes to the bylaws should reflect a new approach to dues, particularly since NACE is planning a significant increase.

The group discussed a potential dues increase of 10–20% to cover additional costs from NACE and the possibility of reviewing the bylaws to manage future increases.

Next Steps for Bylaw Changes:

The board considered a bylaw change to reflect dues increases, including the CPI adjustments. It was agreed to have a vote in the fall for the bylaw amendments, with proper notice given to the membership.

Final Motions:

A motion was made to consider a change to the bylaws and to approve dues increase at the fall meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously (Bob Bronkall-Nathan Bray).

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8. **Committee Reports:**

- a) **Administrative (Josh Pack)**
Good meeting and well attended.
- b) **Flood Control and Water Resources (Nardy Kahn)**
The meeting covered regulatory issues related to endowments and conservation easements, with plans to continue the discussion in future meetings. There was an update from the Department of Water Resources, (DWR). Seven counties in Southern California are collaborating to seek federal assistance in facilitating 408 permissions.
- c) **Infrastructure and Development (Matt Randall)**
A Legislative Update was received. A presentation was given on rural induced demand focusing on VMTs. A survey about future topics was distributed, and the response has been positive.
- d) **Resource Recovery and Waste Management (Tom Koutroulis)**
The meeting followed its mission and was considered a good meeting, as well as a successful year overall. The Action Alliance for SB 54 was revisited, with discussions on a Zero Waste Plan and the waste and recycling industry. The focus was on sharing resources and information to access best practices and enhance education outreach related to SB 1383.
- e) **Surveyor (Bob Bronkall)**
The meeting was also conducted virtually, with 5–6 attendees joining online. Two important topics were covered:
 1. **Update to the Record of Survey and Corner Record Guide**, which is due for its fourth-year update.
 2. Development of a **Monument Preservation Toolkit** to help county and city engineers protect survey monuments during construction activities.A case was mentioned where a city engineer in Palos Verdes was investigated and fined \$10,000 by the licensing board for destroying survey monuments and failing to replace them during an overlay project.
- f) **Transportation (Najee Zarif)**
There are ongoing concerns about the state budget and the declining gas tax, which will continue to be topics of discussion.
Caltrans Update: A robust conversation took place regarding the shift in maintenance responsibilities from Caltrans to local agencies. Efforts are being made to engage Caltrans and push the issue with member agencies.

Committee Updates: Various representatives provided updates, and

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there are plans to focus on AI-related topics in the future.

- g) Fellowship (Pattie McNamee)
Wine tasting and cornhole events were highly successful, with attendees enjoying the informal gathering. The event was considered an excellent value, being cheaper to host on-site than going out. Many people returned for dinner, contributing to the success. \$117 was raised for scholarships.
- h) Oversight (Panos Kokkas)
The oversight committee meeting focused primarily on discussing the CSAC contract, which took most of the time.
- i) Scholarship (Alicia Winokur)
Engineering and Surveyor of the Year Nomination Forms: These are available online and due by October 1. There's a low number of submissions, so participants are encouraged to nominate candidates.

Scholarship Applications: Five applications were received this year, which is under review by the committee. Outreach to universities was attempted, but the number of applications remains low.

Scholarship Fund Considerations: Ideas were discussed to increase the appeal, such as restructuring the scholarships (e.g., offering one \$6,000 scholarship or two \$3,000 scholarships) instead of the current three \$2,000 scholarships.

Encouraging Applicants: Attendees were reminded to encourage interns at their agencies to apply for scholarships.

Funding: The scholarship fund currently allocates \$6,000 annually, and any funds collected at conferences are used to offset that amount.

9. **Unfinished Business**

- a) None

10. **New Business**

- a) None

11. **Life Membership**

- a) None

12. **Announcements Scheduled Conferences**

- a) CSAC Annual Meeting/Fall Conference, Pasadena, Los Angeles County, November 18-22, 2024 (CSAC 130th Annual Meeting)
- b) CSAC Annual Meeting/Fall Conference, San Jose Convention Center, Santa Clara County, December 1 - December 5, 2025

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CEAC Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

a) CSAC 130th Annual Meeting, Pasadena, November 22, 2024

2:00 p.m.

Adjourn (DeChellis/Madjd-Sadjadi)

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**Meeting Roster
Voting Board Members: Officers & Regional Directors**

Officer	Office	County/Organization
Panos Kokkas (P)	President	Trinity
David Leamon (P)	Vice President	Stanislaus
Johannes Hoevertsz (P)	Secretary	Sonoma
Brian Balbas (P)	Immediate Past President	Contra Costa (Retired)
George Johnson (P)	Treasurer	Riverside (Retired)
Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi (P)	Treasurer-Emeritus	Marin (Retired)
Mike Penrose	Parliamentarian	Sacramento (Retired)
Patrick DeChellis(P)	Newsletter Editor	Los Angeles (Retired)
Howard Dashiell(P)	NACE Representative	Mendocino
Dave Gravenkamp	Historian	Siskiyou (Retired)
Regional-Directors	Region	County
Rosemarie Gaglione	Bay Area Central	Marin
Walter Rubalcava(P)	Coast	Santa Barbara
Bob Bronkall(P)	Northern California	Humboldt
Matt Randall(P)	Sacramento Mother Lode	Placer
Nathan Bray (P)	San Joaquin Valley	Merced
Nardy Khan(P)	Southern California	Orange

Non-Voting Members: Committee Chairs and CSAC Staff

Committee Chairs	Committee	County
Josh Pack(P)	Administrative	Butte
Pattie McNamee(P)	Fellowship	Contra Costa (Retired)
Nardy Khan(P)	Flood Control/Water Resources	Orange
Matt Randall(P)	Infrastructure and Development	Placer
Panos Kokkas(P)	Oversight	Trinity
Tom Koutroulis (P)	Resource Recovery & Waste Mgmt.	Orange
Alicia Winokur(P)	Scholarship	Mendocino
Ian Wilson	Surveyor	Alameda
Najee Zarif(P)	Transportation	San Joaquin

CSAC/CEAC Staff	Title	Agency/County
Catherine Freeman (P)	Senior Legislative Advocate	CSAC
Mark Neuburger (P)	Legislative Advocate	CSAC
Ada Waelder (P)	Legislative Advocate	CSAC
Kristina Gallagher	Legislative Analyst	CSAC
Amber Garcia Rossow	Legislative Analyst	CSAC
Merrin Gerety (P)	CEAC Program Manager	CSAC/CEAC