



# County Supervisors

A S S O C I A T I O N  
o f a r i z o n a

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**MINUTES FOR THE  
COUNTY SUPERVISORS' ASSOCIATION  
ARIZONA COUNTIES RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
February 20, 2025  
County Supervisors Association  
Boardrooms A and B  
1905 W. Washington St.  
Phoenix, Arizona**

President Lynne Pancrazi called the County Supervisors Association Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. The following members were present:

**Members Present in Person:**

Alton Joe Shepherd, Apache County  
Joe Shirley, Jr., Apache County  
Nelson Davis, Apache County  
Jeronimo Vasquez, Coconino County  
Judy Begay, Coconino County  
Paul David, Graham County  
Clay Mack, Graham County  
John Howard, Graham County  
David Gomez, Greenlee County  
Mark Stewart, Maricopa County

Jason Whiting, Navajo County  
Fern Benally, Navajo County  
Daryl Seymore, Navajo County  
Steve Miller, Pinal County  
Luis Carlos Davis, Santa Cruz County  
Rudy Molera, Santa Cruz County  
John Fanning, Santa Cruz County  
Nikki Check, Yavapai County  
Lynne Pancrazi, Yuma County

**Members Present Telephonically:**

Patrice Horstman, Coconino County  
Tammy Ontiveros, Coconino County  
Lena Fowler, Coconino County  
Woody Cline, Gila County  
Duce Minor, La Paz County  
Sonny Borrelli, Mohave County

Don Martin, Mohave County  
Alberto Peshlakai, Navajo County  
Dawnafe Whitesinger, Navajo County  
Rex Scott, Pima County  
Jennifer Allen, Pima County

**Members Absent:**

Kathleen Gomez, Cochise County  
Tom Crosby, Cochise County  
Frank Antenori, Cochise County  
Steve Christensen, Gila County  
Tim Humphrey, Gila County  
William Wearne, Greenlee County  
Ron Campbell, Greenlee County  
Holly Irwin, La Paz County  
David Plunkett, La Paz County  
Steve Gallardo, Maricopa County  
Kate Brophy McGee, Maricopa County  
Debbie Lesko, Maricopa County  
Thomas Galvin, Maricopa County  
Rich Lettman, Mohave County  
Travis Lingenfelter, Mohave County  
Ron Gould, Mohave County

Steve Christy, Pima County  
Matt Heinz, Pima County  
Adelita Grijalva, Pima County  
Rich Vitiello, Pinal County  
Jeffrey McClure, Pinal County  
Jeffrey Serdy, Pinal County  
Mike Goodman, Pinal County  
Mary Mallory, Yavapai County  
Brooks Compton, Yavapai County  
Chris Kuknyo, Yavapai County  
James Gregory, Yavapai County  
Martin Porchas, Yuma County  
Jonathan Lines, Yuma County  
Marco A. (Tony) Reyes, Yuma County  
Darren R. Simmons, Yuma County

**Proxies:**

Tammy Ontiveros, Coconino County  
Tim Humphrey, Gila County  
Debbie Lesko, Maricopa County  
Dawnafe Whitesinger, Navajo County  
Adelita Grijalva, Pima County

Jeffrey McClure, Pinal County  
Jeff Serdy, Pinal County  
Mike Goodman, Pinal County  
Rich Vitiello, Pinal County

Others present in person and virtually: Bryan Layton, Alejandro Figueroa. Michael Racy, Rochelle Lacapa, Tami Ryall, Michelle Hindman, Danny De Hoog, Blake Tonn, David Higuera, Keith Brekhus, Cynthia Gentle, Wiame Nazih, Andy Tobin, Melissa Ware, Cindy Soqui, Katy Dunn, Hunter Moore, Mark Barnes, Craig Sullivan, Penny Adams, Jacob Emmett, Vanessa Fielder, Kaytlin King, Brandon Nee, Zoe Averill, Yvonne Ortega, Tracy Alt

## WELCOME

President Lynne Pancrazi welcomed everyone and welcomed Supervisor Mark Stewart to his first CSA board meeting. Supervisor Paul David led the invocation. Supervisor Nikkie Check led the pledge of allegiance. Penny Adams called roll and a quorum was present.

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Minutes of January 16, 2025. Supervisor Rudy Molera moved to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2025, CSA Board of Directors meeting. Supervisor John Fanning seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of February 14, 2025. Supervisor Daryl Seymore moved to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2025, CSA Legislative Policy Committee meeting. Supervisor Steve Miller seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## IMPACT OF SRS REAUTHORIZATION ON PILT FUNDING

Vanessa Fielder provided background information on Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and how they are funded, She also explained what the impact to counties would be should PILT be fully funded without SRS funded, if PILT were under funded, and if PILT were under funded and SRS was not funded. Vanessa presented a letter for consideration and approval to be sent to the Arizona Congressional Delegation for reauthorization of PILT and SRS. She noted that should the letter be approved, CSA would ask each county to sign on to the letter. Discussion occurred. After the next agenda item was presented, the board returned to this issue for a vote on the letter. Supervisor Fern Benally moved to approve the letter to be sent to the Arizona Congressional Delegation. Supervisor Alton Shepherd seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

## CSA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Craig Sullivan thanked those who have participated in Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) meetings. He stated this is the last week to hear bills in committee in the house of origin. He noted next week will be crossover week to vote bills out of the first chamber to be sent to the opposite chamber, which could result in a lot of floor action. Craig referred to CSA's budget priorities. On CSA's legislative priorities, he remarked that Senator Angius was a phenomenal supporter in committee this week on SB 1604. Craig reported that Senator Hoffman, chair of the Government committee, had requested CSA take a small change to SB 1217 to the Newspaper Association.

## CSA LEGISLATIVE REPORT

### Legislative Bills for Possible Action.

- a. **SB 1097**: elections; voting centers; polling places. Jacob Emmett presented on the three things SB 1097 does. Supervisor Rex Scott moved to oppose SB 1097. Supervisor Steve Miller seconded the motion. Discussion occurred. The motion to oppose SB 1097 passed with Supervisor Sonny Borrelli in opposition.
- b. **SB 1407**: property tax assessment; greenhouses. Kaytlin King referred to the significant impact to Graham County from SB 1407 and stated CSA had testified in committee in opposition alongside Supervisor Paul David. Discussion occurred. Supervisor John Howard moved to oppose SB 1407. Supervisor Clay Mack seconded the motion and the motion to oppose SB 1407 passed with Supervisor Sonny Borrelli in opposition.
- c. **SB 1455**: election officials; oversight; candidates. Jacob indicated SB 1455 presented a direct impact to county boards of supervisors and recorders. Discussion occurred. Supervisor Daryl Seymore moved to oppose SB 1455. Supervisor Rudy Molera seconded the motion and the motion to oppose SB 1455 passed unanimously.
- d. **HB 2105 S/E**: violation; open unlawful burning; enforcement. Kaytlin indicated the strike-everything to HB 2105 would extend the Waste Tire Fee Fund until FY 2028. Supervisor Jason Whiting moved to support HB 2105. Supervisor Steve Miller seconded the motion. Discussion occurred. The motion to support HB 2105 passed unanimously.
- e. **HB 2389**: business personal property; exemption. Vanessa Fielder stated this bill was being brought back for discussion since changes were made to the bill on the floor after it was discussed at an LPC meeting. She noted the bill sponsor had worked with CSA on a favorable amendment that was approved on the floor today to delay the effective date to 2032. She stated CSA will work with county assessors for more data on how the delayed effective date would affect counties. Discussion followed.
- f. **HB 2651**: voting equipment; requirements; origin. Jacob indicated HB 2651 does not include two key provisions. He noted the Arizona Association of Counties (AACo) is opposed. Discussion occurred. Supervisor Mark Stewart moved to table HB 2651. Supervisor Sonny Borrelli seconded the motion and the motion failed. Supervisor Daryl Seymore moved to oppose HB 2651 for further consideration. Supervisor Rudy Molera seconded the motion. Further discussion occurred. The motion to oppose HB 2651 passed with Supervisor Sonny Borrelli in opposition.
- g. **HB 2689 S/E**: cancer insurance; public safety; retirees. Brandon Nee indicated CSA has been involved in the stakeholder process on HB 2689, but doesn't expect to see any amendments adopted in committee today. He noted CSA has also been working with the League regarding the employer side of the bill and noted they will probably sign in neutral on the bill. Discussion occurred. Supervisor Jason Whiting moved to

oppose HB 2689 as written. Supervisor John Howard seconded the motion and the motion to oppose HB 2689 passed unanimously.

- h. **HB 2774 S/E**: small modular reactors; co-location. Jacob indicated CSA had testified in committee as neutral since CSA was not able to request county feedback before this strike everything occurred. He noted CSA is involved in the sponsor's stakeholder meetings. Supervisor Paul David moved to oppose HB 2774. Supervisor Rex Scott seconded the motion. Discussion occurred. Supervisor David moved to modify his motion to approve HB 2774, but add to the motion that counties should be included and not excluded. Supervisor Scott did not withdraw his second on the original motion due to genuine concerns with counties being carved out. Discussion occurred. Supervisor David withdrew his motion with an amendment and withdrew his original motion. Supervisor Alton Shepherd moved to oppose HB 2774 and to have CSA dialogue with the bill sponsor to possibly get an amendment in favor of local authority. Supervisor John Fanning seconded the motion. Discussion occurred. The motion to oppose HB 2774 passed unanimously.
- i. **SB 1148 S/E**: CORP; defined contribution; membership election. Craig Sullivan noted CSA's original position was to oppose SB 1148 and then a strike-everything occurred this week that would increase employer rates. Craig stated CSA testified in committee yesterday in opposition because the bill was inconsistent for counties. He noted CSA had met with the county sheriffs and with the county managers/administrators. He stated the bill passed the committee, but CSA will continue to oppose it. Discussion occurred.

Additional Updates on Legislative Bills. Not discussed due to time constraints.

### **FEDERAL UPDATE**

Zoe Averill provided a federal update, including notable Executive Orders issued by the President. She said the National Association of Counties (NACo) is requesting counties to communicate if they have not received federal funding. She then referred to the tariffs recently put in place, noting the tariffs on Mexico and Canada will be frozen until March 1, 2025. Within the budget reconciliation process, Zoe indicated both the House and Senate have signaled cuts to nondiscretionary programs, but it appears Medicaid and federal grant programs are still on the table. She noted NACo will be communicating what looks like cuts to federal programs that become costs to counties.

### **NACO REPORTS**

National Association of Counties (NACo). Supervisor Rudy Molera, CSA's NACo Board Representative, stated his next report would follow the NACo Legislative Conference. He encouraged people to reach out to Penny Adams if they would like to get involved in a NACo committee.

Western Interstate Region (WIR). Supervisor Woody Cline, one of CSA's representatives on WIR, reported his report would follow the NACo Legislative Conference that is scheduled for next week.

### **COUNTY MANAGERS ASSOCIATION REPORT**

Craig Sullivan provided a report of the County Managers Association meeting held last Friday on behalf of Dustin Welker, the vice chairman of the County Managers Association, who had chaired the meeting. He indicated the same topics as in today's meeting were discussed, along with an update on the Arizona Board of Regents' procurement study.

### **COUNTY CAUCUS REPORTS**

Supervisor John Nelson provided a report on the Small County Caucus meeting held last evening. He thanked President Pancrazi for attending. He noted it was a very well attended meeting, including Representative Peshlakai, and that discussion had followed similar topics as to today's meeting.

Supervisor Jeronimo Vasquez provided a Medium County Caucus report of this morning's meeting. He noted discussion focused on legislation, wildfire discussions with utilities, and that it is important for counties to keep local control.

The Large County Caucus did not meet.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

### **NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME**

The next CSA board meeting will be held on March 20.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, President Lynne Pancrazi adjourned the CSA board meeting at 11:58 a.m.