

MINUTES
AUGUST 6, 2009
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MAYORS' CONFERENCE
Concord Senior Center
2727 Parkside Drive, Concord

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. in Concord, California, by Chair Robert Taylor who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF CITY DELEGATES:

Mayor Davis, Antioch
Mayor Taylor, Brentwood
Mayor Pierce, Clayton
Mayor Hoffmeister, Concord
Mayor Arnerich, Danville
Mayor Potter, El Cerrito
Mayor McDonald, Hercules
Mayor Tatzin, Lafayette
Councilmember Ross, Martinez
Absent, Moraga
Mayor Rios, Oakley
Mayor Severson, Orinda
Vice Mayor Long, Pinole
Mayor Parent, Pittsburg
Mayor Harris, Pleasant Hill
Vice Mayor Lopez, Richmond
Mayor McNeil, San Pablo
Mayor Wilson, San Ramon
Mayor Skrel, Walnut Creek

**2. Reforming California Summit --- a Report from Dwight Stenbakken,
Assistant Executive Director, League of California Cities**

League of California Cities Assistant Executive Director Dwight Stenbakken presented an update to the Conference on the significant impacts to cities with the recent quarterly adoption of the annual State budget. He reviewed the areas where cities were financially exposed including taking of redevelopment agency funds, first-time attempts to take highway user (gas) tax moneys, and the borrowing of property tax moneys under Proposition 1A. He advised, because additional revenue shortfalls are anticipated, budget issues will again be back on the table.

Mr. Stenbakken reported that the recent Reforming California Summit of cities, counties and school districts demonstrated the need for local government to have dedicated revenue. The

group will monitor all state reform efforts and support that which brings about more security in local funding. He also noted that local elected officials are trusted much more by the electorate than state officials.

3. Presentation: Gus Kramer, Contra Costa County Assessor

County Assessor Gus Kramer addressed the Conference discussing the recent downward trends in the real estate market and the impacts on assessed valuations throughout the County. He cautioned that, as the real estate market rebounds, changes in assessed valuations will take a few years to recover.

4. Approval of Minutes of July 2, 2009, meeting held in Brentwood

Motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2009, Conference meeting held in Brentwood.

5. Chair's Time: No Report

6. League of California Cities Update: Eric Figueroa, Regional Representative: No Report

7. Mayors' Time

Lafayette Mayor Tatzin reported that Lafayette has invited their Assembly and Senate representatives (Assemblywoman Skinner and Senator DeSaulnier) to attend their upcoming Council meeting to explain their votes on the State budget. He also noted that an op-ed piece written by himself and Lafayette City Manager Falk on State budget issues will be published in Contra Costa Times.

Pittsburg Mayor Parent reported regarding the upcoming Pittsburg Seafood Festival.

8. County Supervisor's Time including an update (if any) on discussions with the District Attorney relative to matters which will/will not be subject to prosecution.

On behalf of Supervisor Bonilla, Supervisor Uilkema welcomed the Conference to District 4. She advised that the Board will be receiving a budget briefing during their August 11th Board meeting and she reported that LAFCO is in the process of reviewing a municipal services review on fire districts.

9. Public Communications

Cindy Gershon reported and congratulated Concord Mayor Hoffmeister on taking first place in the recent Mayors Healthy Cook Off event.

Ron Brown, representing Save Mt. Diablo, reported on the drastic reductions in funding for State parks as a result of the adopted State budget.

10. Welcome to Concord by Mayor Laura Hoffmeister

Concord Mayor Hoffmeister thanked all mayors who participated in the recent Mayors Healthy Meal Cook-Off and stated they were looking at holding next year's event in Martinez. Mayor Hoffmeister then welcomed the Conference to Concord and introduced current and former Concord mayors and council members and City staff.

11. Adjourn to September 3 meeting in San Ramon

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. to the next Conference meeting to be held in San Ramon on September 3, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Blubaugh
Executive Director