

MINUTES
NOVEMBER 5, 2009
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MAYORS' CONFERENCE
Soda Center, St. Mary's College
1928 St. Mary's Road, Moraga

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in Moraga, California, by Conference Chair Robert Taylor who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF CITY DELEGATES:

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

1. **Presentation: The Honorable Joan Buchanan**, Assemblymember, 15th District

Assemblymember Joan Buchanan addressed the Conference on two major topics: recently adopted water legislation and state finances. She provided an interesting summary of her opposition to all bills in the water legislative package largely because none provided adequate protection for the sensitive environment of the Delta. She characterized the legislation as bipartisan but written by largely Southern California interests. She noted serious deficiencies in the legislation. For example, conservation measures require homeowners to reduce consumption by 20% and business by 10% while agriculture, which consumes 80% of all water, has no mandate for reduction.

Assemblymember Buchanan observed that no Delta legislator was involved in crafting the package of bills. Key to implementation is an \$11 billion bond package that will have to be

approved by the voters at a time when the state cannot balance its budget. The fight against this legislation will be centered in defeating the bond measure slated for the ballot in 2010.

Assemblymember Buchanan also noted that the budget problems continue with no bright prospects for the future. The budget is now projected, less than mid-way through the year, to be \$7 billion short with an expectation that the budget gap by next year will be \$20 billion. Performance based budgeting is sorely needed but not supported in the legislature. The budget problem is adversely impacting much of California's progress. Noted was the fact that 13% fewer students are enrolled in California colleges while reports indicate 20% more students per year are needed to support a dynamic and innovative economic culture for the state.

2. Approval of Minutes of October 1, 2009, meeting held in Oakley

MOTION was made, seconded and carried to approve the Conference minutes of the October 1, 2009, meeting held in Oakley.

3. **APPOINTMENT: Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board of Directors:**

The recent death of Danville Town Council Member Mike Shimansky created a vacancy on this Board. This Mayors' Conference appointment is a two-year term with the current term ending on June 15, 2010. Nominations are now being accepted for this vacancy and must be presented by e-mail to the Conference Executive Director no later than 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 18th. The Conference will act on those nominations and appoint a new member at its December 3rd meeting.

Chair Taylor announced that nominations were being accepted for the current vacancy on the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board as detailed above.

4. **Conference Annual Budget:** The Executive Committee recommends adoption of the 2010 Mayors' Conference Budget.

Executive Director Blubaugh introduced the agenda item.

MOTION was made, seconded and carried to approve the 2010 Mayors' Conference Budget as presented.

5. **2010 Census—Complete Count:**

Kristine Solseng of the County 2010 Census Campaign made a brief presentation to the Conference on the importance to cities and the County that an accurate census count be conducted for the upcoming 2010 census.

6. League of California Cities Update: Eric Figueroa, Regional Representative

Eric Figueroa updated the Conference about the League's recent filing of two initiatives geared to insuring that local revenues stay local.

7. Chair's Time

Chair Taylor announced that spouses were invited to the December Conference meeting to be held in Lafayette.

8. Mayors' Time

Danville Mayor Arnerich introduced recently appointed Danville Councilmember Robert Storer.

Lafayette Mayor Tatzin invited the Conference to the new Lafayette Library and Learning Center for the December meeting. Due to limited space, he encouraged early sign ups.

San Ramon Mayor Wilson announced the recent re-election of San Ramon Councilmembers David Hudson and Jim Livingstone and that he was also re-elected on an unopposed ballot.

9. County Supervisor's Time

Supervisor Uilkema welcomed the Conference to Supervisorial District 2. She expressed her support for area State legislators who supported the Delta water issues and she reported on her experiences at a recent State-wide conference about the hostile attitudes toward Northern California and Delta water issues which were expressed by individuals from other areas of the State. Supervisor Uilkema also reported that the Board of Supervisors would be holding forums regarding casinos and about the governance structure for the East County Fire Board.

10. Public Communications

Lynda Deschambault addressed the Conference regarding Contra Costa energy efficiency and sustainability programs and urged participation in the Contra Costa County Climate Leaders network and the quarterly workshops provided by the group.

11. Welcome to Moraga by Mayor David Trotter

Moraga Mayor David Trotter welcomed the Conference to Moraga and he introduced current and former Moraga Councilmembers and Mayors and Town staff.

12. Adjourn to December 3 meeting in Lafayette

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. to the next Conference meeting to be held in Lafayette on December 3, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Blubaugh
Executive Director