

**UCC Board of Director's Meeting  
Summary  
February 25, 2019**

Alameda: Amy Costa (Alternate), Monica Miller  
 Contra Costa:  
 Fresno: Supervisor Buddy Mendes, Jeannie Figueroa  
 Los Angeles:  
 Orange: Supervisor Bartlett, Peter DeMarco, Nicole Wordelman  
 Riverside: Michelle DeArmond (Alternate)  
 Sacramento: Supervisor Susan Peters, Audrey Ratajczak  
 San Bernardino: Josh Candelaria (Alternate), Nicole Wordelman  
 San Diego: Geoff Patnoe (Alternate)  
 San Francisco:  
 San Joaquin: Supervisor Bob Elliott  
 San Mateo: Supervisor Carole Groom, Connie Juarez-Diroll, Audrey Ratajczak, Devon Anderson  
 Santa Clara: Derrick Seaver (Alternate), Michael Rattigan, Danielle Christian  
 Ventura: Supervisor Kelly Long, Sue Hughes  
 UCC: Elizabeth Espinosa, Jean Hurst, Kelly Brooks, Grace Ferguson

**I. Call to Order**

UCC Chair Supervisor Carole Groom convened the meeting and called the members to order.

**II. Roll Call of Counties**

There were six supervisors and five alternates who participated in the meeting, with 11 counties represented at this meeting.

**III. Approval of Minutes from the January 28, 2019 UCC Board Meeting – APPROVED**

The January 28<sup>th</sup> 2019 minutes were approved and below is the vote count:

Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Groom, Chair	San Mateo	X			
Supervisor Kelly Long, Vice-Chair	Ventura	X			
Supervisor Carson (Alternate)	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa			X	
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Ridley- Thomas	Los Angeles			X	
Supervisor Bartlett	Orange	X			

Supervisor Washington (Alternate)	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Peters	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Fletcher (Alternate)	San Diego	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Elliott	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Ellenberg (Alternate)	Santa Clara	X			
Supervisor Long	Ventura	X			
<b>Vote Total</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>3</b>	

#### **IV. Update on UCC / Transition Period**

##### **IV-A – Introduction of Hurst Brooks and Espinosa (HBE)**

UCC Vice-Chair Supervisor Kelly Long from Ventura County introduced Hurst Brooks Espinosa (HBE) as the legislative advocacy firm selected to provide advocacy services and to assist UCC during the period of transition.

Supervisor Long reviewed the information previously sent to UCC Board Members by Supervisor Groom, which provided background on HBE and the firm’s experience. HBE’s principals have nearly 60 years of collective experience in county advocacy and association management and are well-positioned to maintain a strong voice for UCC in the Capitol as well as to support to the Board during the recruitment period.

HBE introduced themselves and gave a brief overview of their background and the specific areas of expertise they have. HBE also identified what they will be focusing on during the transition period:

- HBE will be the voice of UCC and will collaborate with urban counties and other county associations to provide advocacy on UCC’s legislative and budget priorities.
- HBE will also provide support to the association, including staffing UCC Board of Directors’ meetings as well as weekly meetings of urban county advocates.
- Finally, HBE – through direct, individual conversations with members of the UCC Board of Directors, key county staff, and other stakeholders – will develop and present recommendations regarding next steps for the association to be considered by the Board at its April in-person meeting.

##### **IV-B – Discussion on Next Steps**

As previously stated, HBE has begun to schedule individual meetings with the UCC Board of Director’s to discuss and gather information on recommendations for the association’s next steps. An update on these conversations will be provided at the next board meeting.

#### **V. Update on Newsom Administration**

##### **V-A Organization of New Administration and Key Appointments**

The Newsom Administration continues to evolve as the legislative session gets under way. Governor Newsom is reportedly expanding the size of his staff as compared to the previous Administration, and the mechanism for decision-making within any given policy area remains unclear.

Further Governor Newsom has indicated that health care will be a significant priority in his Administration, but at the time of the February Board meeting an HHS Agency Secretary had not been appointed.

**V-B Approval on Letter to Seek Urban County Representation on Statewide Commission on Homelessness and Supportive Housing – Action Item -- APPROVED**

HBE sought direction and approval from the Board to draft a letter to the Governor requesting urban county representation on the Statewide Commission on Homelessness and Supportive Housing. The Board approved the action unanimously and below is the vote count:

<b>Member</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Not Voting</b>
Supervisor Groom, Chair	San Mateo	X			
Supervisor Kelly Long, Vice-Chair	Ventura	X			
Supervisor Carson (Alternate)	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa			X	
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Ridley- Thomas	Los Angeles			X	
Supervisor Bartlett	Orange	X			
Supervisor Washington (Alternate)	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Peters	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Fletcher (Alternate)	San Diego	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Elliott	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Ellenberg (Alternate)	Santa Clara	X			
Supervisor Long	Ventura	X			
<b>Vote Total</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>3</b>	

**VI. State Budget Update**

**VI-A IHSS**

HBE reported there have been a lot of informational and overview hearings thus far on the state budget. The January budget provides a substantial investment in IHSS, including \$1.5 billion General Fund through the revised IHSS MOE. HBE noted it is important that individual counties make an effort to show up to hearings and express appreciation to the Newsom Administration for the significant investment in the revised IHSS MOE.

The Governor's proposal includes a change to the state/county sharing in the IHSS wage structure once state minimum wage reaches \$15/hour. HBE suggested counties look closely at the proposed wage structure, as this proposal would make counties responsible for 65% of the wages and benefits negotiated above a \$15 minimum wage (currently counties are responsible for 35% of wages and benefits negotiated). This issue is scheduled to be heard in mid to late March, and HBE will be testifying on behalf of UCC. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

### **VI-B Housing**

HBE reported that, while there are a number of housing bills, the Administration has yet to release draft trailer bill language to implement the Governor's budget proposals. The LAO has prepared a number of reports responding to the Governor's budget proposals. The Senate budget subcommittee is scheduled to hear housing and homelessness soon, and it is anticipated to be a robust discussion. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

### **VI-C Child Support**

HBE reported that a push was made last year with regards to Child Support Allocations base funding, with the goal of bringing the counties with the lowest allocations up to the median county allocation. The Child Support Directors Association worked with the Brown Administration over the summer and fall, and the Governor's 2019-20 proposed budget includes funding to do just that (i.e., bring the lowest funded counties up to the median funding level per county). The Governor's budget frames the investment in child support funding as part of his Administration's efforts to address childhood poverty. This issue is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly in April and in the Senate in late March. Counties are encouraged to write letters on this issue.

### **VI-D Property Tax Backfill**

HBE reported that AB 72 and 73 have been enacted; these bills include some property tax backfill for wildfire-affected counties. HBE will be working with the Department of Finance on this issue to ensure all counties' property tax backfill needs are addressed in the 2019-20 budget. This issue is scheduled to be heard sometime between late March and late April.

Other budget issues:

The Board expressed their concerns about the legality and constitutional issues with redirecting transportation dollars from local governments that don't meet housing production goals. HBE noted that there has been a loud outcry on this issue from local governments, and there is likely to be push back from some legislators. HBE also noted that the Governor is very serious about encouraging – with both carrots and sticks -- local governments to take action on housing issues. There is also an active coalition to push back on efforts to tie SB 1 funding to housing-related objectives.

## **VII. Legislative Update**

HBE reported there were 2,576 bills introduced as of this writing. They are reviewing introduced legislation and taking positions consistent with the Board's identified policies and priorities. Below are some highlighted bills of interest:

**SB 5 (Beall) Redevelopment** – This bill is widely viewed as a replacement mechanism for redevelopment, including funding for affordable housing projects. There are some technical concerns that HBE is working through with staff and the League of California Cities.

**SB 144 (Mitchell) Fines and Fees Authority** – This bill, as introduced, expresses legislative intent to eliminate (1) court and county authority to impose a range of administrative fees that fund elements of the criminal justice system and (2) all outstanding debt incurred as a result of the imposition of these fees. While there is a clear need to consider holistically the implications of the often significant financial burden that results from imposition of fines and fees, the policy conversation must also consider the resulting financial impact on agencies that receive associated funding. This measure is one of many legislative proposals this year that address in some fashion court- and county-imposed fines and fees; many of these bills could have significant fiscal implications for counties.

**AB 4 (Arambula) and SB 29 (Durazo) Medi-Cal Expansion** – In addition to the two bills which would expand Medi-Cal to all adults, the Newsom Administration proposed in the budget to expand Medi-Cal to undocumented young adults ages 19 through 25. During the budget overview hearings, members of the Legislature pushed back on the Newsom Administration for not expanding Medi-Cal to all adults. There is also a lot of legislative and stakeholder interest in providing Medi-Cal to seniors, as they would benefit more by having health insurance. This issue will most likely be resolved through the state budget process.

**AB 43 (Gloria) MHSA** – Legislative interest in the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) remains high. Assembly Member Gloria had a bill last year that would have redirected unspent county MHSA funds to cities and special districts. AB 43 remains a spot bill with placeholder language only. However, at the first Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1 hearing held in late February, there was a lot of discussion on mental health issues and an interest in focusing the MHSA funding to be more on prevention than services. There are several upcoming budget and informational hearing pertaining to mental health issues. HBE will keep UCC apprised of developments in this area.

## **VIII. Proposals for Next Month's Meeting Agenda**

### **IX. Public Comment**

There were no public comments made.

### **X. Adjournment**

Our next meeting will be held via conference call on March 25, 2019 at 4:00pm.