



Chair
Supervisor Kelly Long

Vice Chair
Supervisor Susan Ellenberg

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UCC Board of Directors' Meeting Summary May 27, 2020

Alameda:	Amy Shrago (Alternate), Monica Miller
Contra Costa:	Supervisor Federal Glover
Fresno:	Supervisor Buddy Mendes, Jeannie Figueroa
Los Angeles:	Donna Seitz
Orange:	Supervisor Lisa Bartlett, Peter DeMarco, Nicole Wordelman
Riverside:	Supervisor Chuck Washington
Sacramento:	Supervisor Susan Peters
San Bernardino:	Josh Candelaria (Alternate), Nicole Wordelman
San Diego:	Supervisor Greg Cox
San Francisco:	
San Joaquin:	Supervisor Tom Patti
San Mateo:	Connie Juarez-Diroll (Alternate)
Santa Clara:	Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, Michael Rattigan
Ventura:	Supervisor Kelly Long, Sue Hughes

I. Call to Order

UCC Chair Supervisor Kelly Long convened the meeting and called the members to order.

II. Roll Call of Counties

There were nine supervisors, three alternates and 13 counties represented at this meeting.

III. Approval of April 22nd Meeting Minutes – Action Item – APPROVED

A motion was made to approve the April 22nd minutes and below is the vote count:

Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Long, Chair	Ventura	X			
Supervisor Ellenberg, Vice-Chair	Santa Clara	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	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Peters	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Hagman (Alternate)	San Bernardino	X			
Supervisor Cox	San Diego	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Patti	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Groom (Alternate)	San Mateo	X			
Vote Total		12		2	

IV. UCC Association Matters

IV-A: Proposed UCC 2020-21 Budget – Action Item – APPROVED

Staff presented the UCC Proposed Budget for 2020-21 for the Board’s review and approval. The budget is balanced with revenues of \$539,000 and total expenditures of \$523,000. Staff noted that the organization historically has been conservative in its budgeting, with dues being held flat since 2007. For 2020-21, the largest increase in expenditures is the advocacy contract with Hurst Brooks Espinosa (HBE) and Lang, Hansen, O’Malley & Miller (LHOM), noting that the firms took over on a more permanent basis the association management and advocacy duties late last year. Provisions specific to LHOM’s contract authorize, if specified performance measures are met, an increase of \$2,500 per month in LHOM’s monthly retainer in the next two years. This potential impact was noted for the Board’s information during the association budget discussion, but is not assumed in the budget. Staff noted that, in keeping with the provisions in the advocacy contract, they will present for the Board’s consideration the option to increase the LHOM contract at the end of 2020. The UCC Trust Fund balance is well over \$900,000, even with, consistent with Board direction, expenditure of reserve funds for one-time purposes associated with branding and the new website design. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board had directed staff to evaluate the reserve and determine a policy for its use. Staff noted that they will bring the Board recommendations on options for reserve funds at a future meeting.

Supervisor Long noted that she hopes the Board has been receiving all of the email updates from HBE and LHOM on their advocacy efforts on UCC’s behalf. She appreciates the outline of the budget and asked if anyone had questions. There were no questions, and a motion was made to approve the UCC Proposed Budget for 2020-21. Below is the vote count:

Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Long, Chair	Ventura	X			
Supervisor Ellenberg, Vice-Chair	Santa Clara	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	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Peters	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Hagman (Alternate)	San Bernardino	X			
Supervisor Cox	San Diego	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Patti	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Groom (Alternate)	San Mateo	X			
Vote Total		12		2	

IV-B: UCC Staff Title Change – Informational item

Elizabeth Espinosa with HBE presented this informational update on a recent staff title change. She noted that HBE has spent a lot of time with Grace Ferguson, Executive Assistant, over the last year and a half ensuring the association is functioning and operating appropriately. She stated that Grace is a big support to HBE, the Board, sponsors, and broader association membership. HBE recognized that given changes to the organizational structure, Grace’s Executive Assistant title no longer fit her role. Prior to the pandemic, Grace tracked her time and activities over a period of two weeks to better assess her core job functions. That effort helped inform her new title of Association Administrator, which captures the diverse administrative duties Grace carries out on behalf of the association. Supervisor Long from Ventura County commented that the title change was appropriate for all the work that Grace has been doing and expressed her appreciation to Grace, especially given the organization’s transition over the last 18 months. Supervisor Long also appreciated reviewing Grace’s core activities so that the Board has a snapshot of her responsibilities and indicated that the new title is an appropriate reflection of Grace’s role in the context of the restructured organization.

V. UCC Advocacy

V-A: The Bob Report – Informational Item

Bob Giroux from LHOM presented an update to the Board focused on the latest in budget and policy deliberations. Given the uncertainty occasioned by the pandemic, he has been staying in close contact with budget, policy, and leadership staff on both the process and content of deliberations. Of particular note was that the Assembly met as a Committee of the Whole in late May. UCC was able to secure commitments from several members who spoke during the infrequently used Committee of the Whole process to highlight several UCC priorities, including preserving the safety net programs and stabilizing realignment funding.

Supervisor Long said she appreciates all the work that LHOM is doing, including coordinating closely with CSAC, HBE and other affiliates. The Chair asked about how the Legislature would be dealing with bills this year. Bob responded that some new legislative ideas would be put forward but others that are viewed as non-essential could be set aside. He also commented that the dynamic in 2020 is different in that we are seeing a Legislature vs. Governor battle across budget and policy issues.

V-B: May Revision and UCC Priority Advocacy Issues – Informational Item

- **1991 and 2011 Realignment Backfill**

Kelly Brooks with HBE reported that UCC is part of a coalition advocating for state funding to backfill the considerable drop in 1991 and 2011 Realignment revenue. Last week a joint letter from UCC, CSAC, RCRC, CWDA, CBHDA, CAPH, and CHEAC was shared with the Administration and Legislature emphasizing the importance of the backfill to counties. Because Realignment

revenues are not a proposed budget cut presented to the Legislature for discussion, it has been difficult getting the Legislature's attention on the realignment revenue decline. CSAC sent out an urgent alert requesting county supervisors contact members in the Senate and Assembly to advocate directly for a realignment revenue backfill given the vital safety net services that depend on this funding. Kelly recommended that the Board send another advocacy letter with supervisors' signatures spelling out the importance of the backfill priority. Additionally, supervisors making personal outreach to members of the Legislature who UCC Board members have relationships with would be very helpful at this time. Supervisor Long asked if the previous letter that UCC sent out with the supervisors' signatures regarding realignment was useful, and Kelly responded that they think it's helpful and powerful to show that urban counties are on the same page.

- **CARES Act**

Jean Hurst with HBE reported on budget advocacy letters that were incorporated in the agenda packet: one relating to the Administration's proposal to provide \$1.3 billion in State CARES Act funds to counties in recognition of costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds are subject to the same requirements that the initial allocations were, in that they only cover expenses from March 1st through December 30th of this year and are subject to guidelines from the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Funds are expected to be available by July 1st. Jean also noted that this appropriation is separate from the \$450 million that the Governor put in for cities.

- **Project Roomkey**

Jean provided an update on Project Roomkey. She noted that the Administration proposed CARES Act funding of \$600 million to essentially purchase hotels/motels via a lease-to-purchase option to house individuals at risk of COVID-19 or who have tested positive for COVID-19. A joint letter was sent out from UCC, CSAC and RCRC expressing support. The letter also noted that counties (1) would like to use these funds for other properties outside of Roomkey and (2) support a methodology to ensure that funds were equitably used throughout the state. Supervisor Long asked how funds would be distributed and Jean responded that those details have not been completely worked out. The Administration proposed that the Department of Housing and Community Development and the State Department of General Services help administer the program via an application-based process. A representative from Orange County noted that they understand that counties have to use the monies for purchasing per the CARES Act provisions, but asked if the property is purchased, can it be repurposed down the road for permanent supportive housing, or would it be for homeless housing only. Jean responded that they are interested in properties along the continuum of supportive housing.

- **DJJ Realignment**

Elizabeth Espinosa with HBE reported on the Governor's May Revision Proposal to close the state's Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and realign responsibility for all youth in the juvenile justice system to counties. Currently, following a previous shift of responsibility to counties in 2007, only those youth adjudicated for the most serious types of offenses are eligible for a DJJ commitment. The county position has historically called for the state to maintain responsibility on the juvenile justice continuum for the most complex cases when no viable local placement option exists. Staff also noted that in the last decade and a half the State has invested significantly in local juvenile detention facilities, but counties' halls are running at about 35% occupancy. This imbalance creates an opportunity for advocates to press for moving kids out of state facilities into treatment and housing closer to home. UCC joined the probation chiefs' association and CSAC in a letter opposing the realignment based on policy concerns as well as the very limited time available to develop a funding and operational

structure necessary to support this considerable and important policy change. Importantly, staff also noted that the Governor put the proposal on the table, both houses of the Legislature quickly signaled conceptual support, and the Legislative Analyst Office (LAO) also expressed its support. Therefore, given all indications that there is broad support for the responsibility transfer, counties have pivoted immediately to negotiating key decision points with the Department of Finance and the Governor's Office to press for a later implementation date, additional funding, and financing protections, among other items.

V-C: Hot Bills

- **SB 1431 (Glazer)** – This measure would require county assessors to more frequently reassess certain types of properties based on their ability to generate income from renters during the COVID-19 emergency. This measure was heard in committee last week and is strongly opposed by the county assessors' association. UCC sent a joint letter in opposition with CSAC, RCRC, California Special District Association, the League of California Cities and others to the Senate Governance and Finance Committee. That committee approved the bill on a 4-3 vote, with the promise of narrowing amendments that the author would take in a future committee to limit the bill to only apartment owners with \$5 billion in liability.
- **Housing Bills** – Kiana Valentine provided a brief overview of the Senate housing production package that was released last week. Nothing in the Senate release was surprising and nearly every provision included has existed in some recent form of legislation. Some implementation issues have been identified in a couple of the housing bills as outlined below.
 - **SB 1385 (Caballero)** – This bill attempts to provide for a streamlined approval process for siting housing projects on land zoned for commercial that meet certain requirements, which many counties already do. Staff are working on amendments to ensure the bill is implementable, provides needed guardrails around incompatible uses, and allows for counting the sites towards RHNA.
 - **SB 1120 (Atkins)** - This bill would encourage densification in existing neighborhoods by streamlining the process for a homeowner to create a duplex or subdivide an existing lot in all residential areas. Such applications would be required to meet a list of qualifications that ensure protection of local zoning and design standards. The provision that is most concerning is the ministerial Subdivision Map Act (SMA) process. Staff wants to ensure that counties can insert public health and safety infrastructure and service concerns into the SMA process before it is approved.

V-D: Update on State's Re-Opening Process

Staff reported that the Administration is putting out guidance regularly with regards to re-opening for various industries including retail, barbershops/hair salons, camps, daycare, and schools and the entertainment industry. More industry-specific re-opening updates will be coming out in the next few weeks. Bob Giroux with LHOM noted that the NFL and other teams will be opening up training camps gradually. Supervisor Long noted that faith-based communities will be gradually opening as well.

VI. Supervisor Roundtable and Other Issues

Staff has provided this agenda item for Supervisors to discuss current issues of impact and/or importance in their communities.

Fresno – Supervisor Mendes discussed challenges with managing new information and guidance on re-opening and expressed frustration with the lack of notice prior to major announcements.

Riverside – The county has started a county-wide Economic Recovery Taskforce, and on any given call there are 25-30 participants with city managers, mayors, chambers of commerce, business owners, medical staff, and others participating in the discussion. Supervisor Washington expressed that this is

a great forum to discuss important issues and a place where everyone is supportive of each other and trying to get the right things done.

San Bernardino – The county discussed anticipated increased costs associated with the all-mail ballot in November and other associated requirements.

San Diego – Supervisor Cox announced that Geoff Patnoe, Director of Strategy and Intergovernmental Affairs, left the County to take a new role as Assistant City Manager in Carlsbad. They now have a new Director of Strategy and Intergovernmental Affairs, Caroline Smith. Caroline was previously staff to Supervisor Bill Horn and worked in the County’s Intergovernmental Affairs office, among other positions within the county.

San Joaquin – The county has been having weekly meetings with the Chamber of Commerce. Supervisor Tom Patti expressed a desire to advocate for more local control in the context of re-opening. All his time and energy has been put toward helping small businesses get back on their feet, and for people to get their jobs back.

Ventura – Supervisor Long thanked HBE and LHOM for advocating for the needs of urban counties. She noted the economic benefits of getting our communities re-opened and reiterated the importance of working with the Governor and other state officials as we prepare for the next stages. Their county is also working with the First 5 with regards to childcare and providing needed support to allow employees to get back to work.

VII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VIII. Topics for Next Meeting

- 2020-21 State Budget – update on enacted budget

IX. Adjournment

Our next UCC Board of Directors’ meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. via conference call.