



Chair
Supervisor Kelly Long

Vice Chair
Supervisor Susan Ellenberg

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UCC Board of Directors’ Meeting Summary April 22, 2020

Alameda:	Supervisor Keith Carson, Amy Shrago, Devon Anderson, Monica Miller
Contra Costa:	Supervisor Federal Glover
Fresno:	Supervisor Buddy Mendes, Jeannie Figueroa
Los Angeles:	Martha Guerrero
Orange:	Peter DeMarco (Alternate), Nicole Wordelman, Steve Wallauch
Riverside:	Supervisor Chuck Washington
Sacramento:	Supervisor Susan Peters, Monica Miller, Steve Cruz, Audrey Ratajczak
San Bernardino:	Nicole Wordelman, Steve Wallauch
San Diego:	Supervisor Greg Cox, Michelle Rubalcava
San Francisco:	
San Joaquin:	Supervisor Tom Patti, Jolena Voorhis
San Mateo:	Connie Juarez-Diroll, Steve Cruz, Audrey Ratajczak
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, one alternate and 13 counties represented at this meeting.

III. Approval of January 22 and March 25 Meeting Minutes – Action Item – APPROVED

A motion was made to approve the January 22nd and March 25th 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	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa	X			
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas	Los Angeles			X	
Supervisor Bartlett (Alternate)	Orange	X			
Supervisor Washington	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Peters	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Hagman	San Bernardino			X	
Supervisor Cox	San Diego	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Patti	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Groom	San Mateo			X	
Vote Total		10		4	

IV. UCC Association Matters

IV-A: UCC 2019-20 Budget (budget-to-actual)

Staff provided for the Board’s information UCC 2019-20 budget-to-actual report, noting that staff will bring a proposed 2020-21 budget for review and discussion at the next Board of Directors’ meeting.

IV-B: Updated UCC Board of Directors’ 2020 Meeting Schedule

Given the cancellation of the CSAC Legislative Conference in Sacramento scheduled for the end of May, and the addition of a UCC Board meeting via conference call in April, an updated 2020 UCC Board of Directors’ meeting schedule was presented. Upon confirmation of the timing of the CSAC Board meeting in May, staff will reach out to the Board to confirm a date and time for our next meeting.

Update: After polling the Board members, the date for the next UCC Board of Directors’ meeting was confirmed for May 27th at 4:00 p.m.

IV-C: Conflict of Interest Policy 2020 – Action Item – APPROVED

According to the UCC By-Laws, the Board of Directors is required to adopt an annual Conflict of Interest Policy. Staff noted that the policy outlined in the agenda packet has been unchanged from the policy adopted in previous years. The recommended action was for the Board to approve the UCC Conflict of Interest Policy for 2020.

A motion was made to approve the UCC Conflict of Interest Policy for 2020 and approved. 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	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa	X			
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Ridley-Thomas	Los Angeles			X	
Supervisor Bartlett (Alternate)	Orange	X			
Supervisor Washington	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Peters	Sacramento	X			

Supervisor Hagman	San Bernardino			X	
Supervisor Cox	San Diego	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Patti	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Groom	San Mateo			X	
Vote Total		10		4	

V. UCC Advocacy – Action Items – APPROVED

The UCC advocacy team has been providing nearly daily updates to the UCC Board and staff and hosting regular communications with the urban county lobbyists since the shelter-in-place orders. The advocacy team has been in daily contact with one another to discuss the needs and concerns of counties and are collaborating closely with CSAC and other partners on a number of advocacy efforts, including maintaining the property tax deadline. They have been in numerous conversations with administrative officials, state departments, and legislative and budget staff about the urban economic shutdown and local needs. The team anticipates that these activities will not let up anytime soon and that the Legislature will be focusing on the COVID-19 response and the economic impact along with the challenges associated with this pandemic.

Bob Giroux and HBE had a briefing with Chris Woods, budget director for the Senate President Pro Tem, as well as Senate and Assembly Budget chairs. All parties recognized the seriousness of economic slowdown and the associated impact on counties and the safety net services we provide. There has also been some tension between local governments, because when there is a fiscal downturn, concerns are raised about what will be left. Bob is meeting with the State Treasurer to get her take on where things are.

Jean Hurst noted that the UCC advocacy team has been engaged with the Newsom Administration, legislative leaders, and budget committees primarily regarding urban county fiscal needs and concerns. She provided the Board with a draft letter on urban county needs in context with COVID-19 which she explained is a thoughtful, straightforward directive to both committee chairs and the Governor. At Supervisor Long’s suggestion, Board members will be asked to sign on to the letter to elevate the issue and ask the state to treat urban counties as partners. It is important that the Legislature and Administration acknowledge the critical work that we do at the local level and the need for counties to maintain resources in all areas such as public safety and health.

While working closely with the Newsom Administration, Bob noted the need to approach the Legislature in a meaningful way, as its critical to help move the needle on the issues that counties care about. He noted that the Assembly is due to come back on May 4th and will be having policy hearings. Given the economic picture, most bills that cost money will most likely be held in Appropriations. At the time of this meeting, the Senate had not set a return date but was expected to return in mid-May.

Jean discussed the timeline memo provided in the packet outlining key dates and milestones that the UCC Advocacy team is using to guide strategic outreach and advocacy. Since mid-March, they have converted what was weekly in-person update meetings with the urban county lobbyists to conference calls and, in more recent weeks, have moved to a three-times a week meeting schedule to ensure they are sharing information in real time to inform their ongoing strategy. She also noted they anticipate an on-time May Revision, but the Assembly has indicated that there could also be an

August Revision that would reflect delayed receipt of taxes in July. UCC, HBE, and LHOM are working collaboratively with state and national associations and believe it is important to engage with the federal government for additional relief, given the magnitude of the economic downturn.

Supervisor Long circled back to the UCC Advocacy letter on COVID-19 emphasizing that including the Board members signatures would elevate the letter to a higher level and demonstrate that counties are working together because we are the safety net for our communities. A motion was made to approve the UCC advocacy letter on COVID-19 and approved. 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	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa	X			
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Ridley-Thomas	Los Angeles			X	
Supervisor Bartlett (Alternate)	Orange	X			
Supervisor Washington	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Peters	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Hagman	San Bernardino			X	
Supervisor Cox	San Diego	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Patti	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Groom	San Mateo			X	
Vote Total		10		4	

V-B: Revised 2020 Advocacy Priorities – Action Item - APPROVED

Given the current COVID-19 pandemic and UCC’s focus on issues associated with the pandemic, a recommendation to update the 2020 advocacy priorities was made. A handout was provided with the recommended revisions and staff gave a brief overview of each one (see below).

1. Elevate new COVID-19 advocacy policy focusing on budgetary stability and safety net services that counties provide.
2. Modify the existing CalAIM priority given that the Newsom Administration said they are putting it on the back burner due to current circumstances. However, Kelly Brooks with the advocacy team will continue to work on CalAIM and answer any questions that may arise.
3. Keeping intact the priorities of homelessness, mental health services and children’s issues, and continue to promote, engage and lobby on these issues, but likely through the COVID-19 lens.

The Priorities are updated on an annual basis and will be looked at again next year.

Staff from Orange County raised the question of where efforts to secure a realignment backfill stood, and if there was some sort of signal of revenues to come so counties can begin to do their budgeting now. Liz Espinosa of HBE noted that the issue of revenue is addressed in the UCC Priorities and UCC advocacy team is already engaged on these issues. They will be working with the State to help keep the safety net intact. At this time, she doesn’t believe the Legislature or Administration are in a

position to commit to a specific approach or amount because they don't know what their financial situation will be until mid-August.

A motion was made to adopt the Revised 2020 UCC Priorities and approved. 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	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa	X			
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Ridley-Thomas	Los Angeles			X	
Supervisor Bartlett (Alternate)	Orange	X			
Supervisor Washington	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Peters	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Hagman	San Bernardino			X	
Supervisor Cox	San Diego	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Patti	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Groom	San Mateo			X	
Vote Total		10		4	

V-C: Emergency Federal Waiver for Board and Care Facilities

A coalition is being led by CBHDA and the Steinberg Institute requesting the Newsom Administration submit an emergency 1115(a) Waiver, specifically on COVID-19 on the topic of board and care. This waiver is to provide additional federal revenue to increase wages; protect equipment, food, and the ability to maintain isolation and quarantine; and provide for additional supervision and staff training. CBHDA reached out to request UCCs' support, and CSAC has signed on as a supporter. A motion was made to support the 1115(a) Waiver and approved. 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	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa	X			
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Ridley-Thomas	Los Angeles			X	
Supervisor Bartlett (Alternate)	Orange	X			
Supervisor Washington	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Peters	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Hagman	San Bernardino			X	
Supervisor Cox	San Diego	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Patti	San Joaquin	X			

Supervisor Groom	San Mateo			X	
Vote Total		10		4	

VI. Public Comment

No public comments were made. However, discussions among Board members continued following the public comment section. (Staff will add a Board member roundtable for future meetings.)

Staff from Orange County gave an update on Project Roomkey, which is an initiative to provide safe isolated shelter for the homeless. The county was trying to get cities to cooperate, but one city filed a temporary restraining order to block the county from entering into a lease agreement with a local motel, stating it was a public and private nuisance. However, the judge rejected both claims and the county is now able to provide locations for at-risk homeless in all parts of Orange County.

Supervisor Patti from San Joaquin County gave an update on how some counties are maintaining the golf ban. He noted that there are five golf courses in his district and 10 in the county, and he is looking to open them within a week, which will bring back hundreds of jobs. He is surprised that counties have restrictions in place and is working on provisions and encouraged the board to get behind this industry to help keep jobs.

Jean Hurst with UCC's advocacy team noted that there have been conversations taking place regarding workers' compensation for essential workers in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Administration is working on a draft executive order. There have been a number of responses and input provided by local agencies as well as risk management on provisions that could reduce the financial impact. The Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau put out a report that the financial impact could cost billions of dollars. Jean noted they will continue to work with partners to make this as palatable as possible. She also noted that AB 664 was recently amended; that bill would provide a workers' compensation presumption for COVID-19. UCC's advocacy team will be working on this over the coming months until they get a final resolution on the matter.

Supervisor Long noted that Ventura County is making sure that hospitals are coming up with a plan and that more swabs for testing are needed. She also noted that the county has opened up their golf courses and some other outdoor activities. She provided a county website that includes information to assist small businesses, citing its essential business list: www.vcemergency.com

Kelly Brooks with UCC's advocacy team noted that the California Restaurant Association is looking to have certain fees and permits waived including health permits. She noted that environmental health will have a different role to play once restaurants begin to re-open, including possible new requirements involving restaurant checks, ensuring appropriate table separations, and things of that nature. Quite possibly something will have to be done on a statewide basis.

Riverside County has developed reopening plans, but Supervisor Washington noted they don't really know how they can best adhere to the guidance given, so they are asking the business community on

what they should do if they were to reopen and adhere to those guidelines. They have received some videos and input on the matter. Supervisor Washington asked the board to share any information or data they come across, as it would be good to know how to apply this to businesses.

Supervisor Ellenberg from Santa Clara County noted that most counties do not have expertise on the re-opening topic. They are trying to launch a taskforce for this exact purpose and have reached out to educational institutions to provide feedback. Thus far they have not received feedback and she asked if other counties have put into place an informal structure. Supervisor Washington replied that his county has made the decision to not task public health folks with this, instead they set up a “red team” who have a better understanding that includes the Director of Economic Development and includes about five staff who get input from the public health department. He noted there is a draft document out and he will send it to Supervisor Ellenberg. Supervisor Patti noted that he also proposed feedback on re-opening of guidelines and he has contacted the members of the Chamber of Commerce and will be meeting with them to gather information. Supervisor Long noted that Ventura has a business task force and have opened up a 0-10 employee ordinance and are working with other businesses to get them back up and running. She noted it will be a different way of doing business.

VII. Topics for Next Meeting

- COVID-19 updates
- UCC Proposed Budget 2020-21
- May Revise

VIII. Adjournment

The next Board meeting will be held via conference call on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.