

**UCC Board of Directors' Meeting  
Summary  
November 15, 2023**

Alameda:	Supervisor Keith Carson, Susan Muranishi, Amy Shrago, Laura Lloyd
Contra Costa	Supervisor John Gioia (Alternate), Geoff Neill, Michelle Rubalcava
Fresno:	Supervisor Buddy Mendes
Los Angeles:	Samara Ashley, John Skoglund
Orange:	Supervisor Doug Chaffee, Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento, Al Jabbar, Peter DeMarco, Yasie Goebel, Brandy Miller, Nicole Wordelman
Riverside:	Supervisor Manuel Perez, Supervisor Chuck Washington, Carolina Herrera
Sacramento:	Supervisor Rich Desmond
San Bernardino:	Supervisor Jesse Armendarez, Leia Fletes, Nicole Wordelman
San Diego:	Supervisor Nora Vargas, Caroline Smith, Matthew Parr, Jonathan Clay, Geoff Neill, Michelle Rubalcava
San Francisco:	
San Joaquin:	Supervisor Tom Patti
San Mateo:	Supervisor David Canepa, Connie Juarez-Diroll, Kevin Hefner
Santa Clara:	Supervisor Susan Ellenberg, Mayra Flores, David Campos, Elaine Trinh, Melissa Lovato, Josh Tosney
Ventura:	Supervisor Kelly Long, Supervisor Vianey Lopez, Dr. Sevet Johnson, Michele Guzman
UCC Staff/Advocates:	Elizabeth Espinosa, Jean Hurst, Kelly Brooks-Lindsey, Josh Gauger, Chris Lee, Grace Ferguson
Guests:	Diane Cummins, Karen Pank, Steve Szalay
UCC Sponsors:	<b>Citi:</b> Chris Mukai, Eric Rodriguez, Victor Andrade, Debra Saunders   <b>Falcon:</b> Ben Rice   <b>Indivior:</b> Dani Campbell   <b>Kaiser:</b> Rose Works, Marty Ardron, Jennifer Scanlon, Jim O' Gara   <b>PARS:</b> Ryan Nicasio   <b>Raymond James:</b> Guy Logan, Emily Giles

**I. Call to Order**

UCC Chair Supervisor Keith Carson convened the meeting and called the members to order.

**II. Roll Call of Counties**

There were 11 supervisors, 1 alternate and 13 counties represented at this meeting.



**III: Approval of September 20, 2023, Meeting Minutes – ACTION ITEM – APPROVED**

A motion was made to approve the September 20, 2023, minutes. Below is the vote count:

Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Carson, Chair	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Vargas, Vice-Chair	San Diego	X			
Supervisor Glover (Alternate)	Contra Costa	X			
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Barger	Los Angeles			X	
Supervisor Chaffee	Orange	X			
Supervisor Perez	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Desmond	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Armendarez	San Bernardino	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Patti	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Canepa	San Mateo	X			
Supervisor Ellenberg	Santa Clara	X			
Supervisor Long	Ventura	X			
<b>Vote Total</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>2</b>	

**IV: Association Matters**

**IV-A: RFI Response for UCC Association Management and State Advocacy Services; recommendations for next steps – ACTION ITEM – APPROVED**

The UCC Working Group of Governmental Affairs that managed the advocacy and association management Request for Interest (RFI) process as directed by the Board of Directors at its September 20 meeting provided an update. The RFI was released on September 25; responses were due back to working group representatives by October 20. Only one firm – Hurst Brooks Espinosa, LLC – responded; the HBE response met or exceeded the requirements of the RFI.

Accordingly, the working group staff recommended that the Chair and Vice Chair enter into negotiations to award a contract to Hurst Brooks Espinosa for a term of three years with two one-year options. An option can be provided in the contract to sub-contract with additional firm(s) should they choose.

A motion was made to approve the working group staff recommendation regarding next steps to execute an extension to the advocacy and association management contract. Below is the vote count:

Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Carson, Chair	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Vargas, Vice-Chair	San Diego	X			

Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Glover (Alternate)	Contra Costa	X			
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Barger	Los Angeles			X	
Supervisor Chaffee	Orange	X			
Supervisor Perez	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Desmond	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Armendarez	San Bernardino	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Patti	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Canepa	San Mateo	X			
Supervisor Ellenberg	Santa Clara	X			
Supervisor Long	Ventura	X			
<b>Vote Total</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>2</b>	

**IV-B: Report on UCC’s Year-to-Date Budget**

Staff provided the Board with a handout detailing the budget-to-actual update on the association’s budget for the first quarter of 2023-24. The budget remains status quo.

**IV-C: Call for 2024 Vice-Chair Nominations**

Staff provided an overview of the process for UCC Vice-Chair nominations, as detailed in the association by-laws, noting these key points:

- The chair and vice-chair serve one-year terms.
- Each year during the in-person Board of Directors’ meeting held in conjunction with the CSAC Annual Meeting, the Chair announces the call for nominations for the upcoming year’s vice-chair. The current year vice-chair is presumed to be elevated to the chair position, as affirmed by the vote of the Board.
- Nominations can be self-made or offered by another board member.
- The Board will consider and vote on the chair and vice-chair appointments at the first meeting in 2024.

The Board opened the floor for discussion and nominations. Supervisor Susan Ellenberg from Santa Clara County nominated Supervisor Rich Desmond from Sacramento County. No other nominations were made at that time. However, nominations remain open and may be submitted to the UCC Association Administrator by email on or before January 12, 2024. Staff will present all nominations received to the Board for action during the January 2024 meeting.

**IV-D: 2024 UCC Conflict of Interest Policy – ACTION ITEM – APPROVED**

As required in the by-laws, the UCC Board of Directors reviewed the 2024 Conflict of Interest Policy.

A motion was made to adopt the 2024 UCC Conflict of Interest Policy and approved. Below is the vote count:

Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Carson, Chair	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Vargas, Vice-Chair	San Diego	X			
Supervisor Glover (Alternate)	Contra Costa	X			
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Barger	Los Angeles			X	
Supervisor Chaffee	Orange	X			
Supervisor Perez	Riverside	X			
Supervisor Desmond	Sacramento	X			
Supervisor Armendarez	San Bernardino	X			
Vacant	San Francisco			X	
Supervisor Patti	San Joaquin	X			
Supervisor Canepa	San Mateo	X			
Supervisor Ellenberg	Santa Clara	X			
Supervisor Long	Ventura	X			
<b>Vote Total</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>2</b>	

## V. UCC Advocacy

### V-A: CalAIM Update

Staff provided a memo providing updates on CalAIM milestones that occurred in 2023 and previewed the initiatives that will go live in 2024 as well as other Medi-Cal initiatives that will occur in the coming year. Below are some key points on the topics covered in the memo:

- A small percentage of Medi-Cal recipients are receiving Enhanced Care Management (ECM) – 109,000 out of approximately 14 million enrollees. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is working with health plans on referral patterns to improve uptake and access to Community Supports.
- DHCS moved the go-live date for the justice-involved initiative from April 2024 to October 2024.
- Behavioral Health Payment Reform occurred in July 2023. Many counties and providers have reported that the transition from cost-based services to fee-for-service is not going smoothly.
- On October 20, 2023, DHCS submitted its application for a new Medicaid Section 1115 Demonstration (BH-CONNECT Waiver) to increase access to and improve mental health services for Medi-Cal members statewide. CMS has not approved the waiver.
- Medi-Cal initiatives occurring in 2024 outside of CalAIM, include:
  - the Continuous Coverage Unwinding, which is the process of redetermining Medi-Cal eligibility for approximately 1 million beneficiaries per month;
  - Managed Care Transition of approximately 1.2 million Medi-Cal members to a new managed care plan on January 1, 2024. Another approximately 900,000 beneficiaries will transition to Kaiser (from a Medi-Cal managed care plan that subcontracts with Kaiser currently); and

- Medi-Cal Asset Test Elimination; and 4) the Medi-Cal Undocumented Adult Expansion Ages 26-49.

### **V-B: Preliminary 2024 Advocacy Priorities**

Following a review of the processed use to develop ideas for the association's advocacy priorities, the UCC Advocacy Team presented five proposed priority advocacy planks for 2024. More detailed language outlining specific action items under each plank will be presented to the Board at its January 2024 board meeting. The recommend policy priorities will focus on:

1. Urban counties' continued implementation of key investments and statewide initiatives;
2. Building the state's critical workforce;
3. Investing in the next generation;
4. Sustaining critical local services in face of economic uncertainty; and
5. Securing California's future through infrastructure investments.

### **V-C: UCC 2023 Legislative Year Wrap-Up**

Staff presented a final report on legislation on which UCC engaged during 2023, including notable signing and veto decisions by Governor Newsom. Staff also noted that due to leadership transitions – effectuated in the Assembly and planned for 2024 in the Senate – changes to committee chairs and membership should also be expected for the second year of the 2023-24 session.

### **VI. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

### **VII. Topics for Next Meeting**

- Election of 2024 UCC Chair and Vice-Chair
- 2024 Meeting Dates
- Adoption of Final 2024 UCC Advocacy Priorities
- Review of Governor's 2024-25 Proposed State Budget

### **VIII. Adjournment**

The next UCC Board of Directors' meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.** via Zoom.