

## **UCC Board of Directors' Meeting Summary September 20, 2023**

Alameda:	Amy Shrago (Alternate), Laura Lloyd, Monica Miller, Devon Anderson, Yarelle Magallon
Contra Costa:	Lara DeLaney, Geoff Neill
Fresno:	Supervisor Buddy Mendes, Samantha Buck
Los Angeles:	Natalie Vartanian (Alternate), Amanda Meere
Orange:	Supervisor Doug Chaffee, Al Jabbar, Peter DeMarco
Riverside:	Supervisor Manuel Perez, Carolina Herrera
Sacramento:	Supervisor Rich Desmond
San Bernardino:	Bradley Jensen, Megan Kidwell
San Diego:	Supervisor Nora Vargas, Mabi Castro, Caroline Smith, Sarah Dawe, Denise Delgado, Stephen Fallica, Geoff Neill
San Francisco:	
San Joaquin:	
San Mateo:	Connie Juarez-Diroll (Alternate), Kevin Hefner, Devon Anderson
Santa Clara:	Supervisor Susan Ellenberg
Ventura:	Supervisor Kelly Long, Michele Guzman
UCC Staff/Advocates:	Elizabeth Espinosa, Jean Hurst, Kelly Brooks-Lindsey, Josh Gauger, Chris Lee, Grace Ferguson

### **I. Call to Order**

UCC Vice-Chair Supervisor Nora Vargas convened the meeting and called the members to order.

### **II. Roll Call of Counties**

There were seven supervisors, three alternates, and 12 counties represented at this meeting.

### **III. Approval of July 12 and September 11, 2023, Meeting Minutes – ACTION ITEM – APPROVED**

A motion was made to approve the July 12 and September 11, 2023, minutes. Below is the vote count:

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



Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa			X	
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Barger (Alternate)	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>9</b>		<b>5</b>	

#### IV. UCC Association Matters

There were no association matters that required the Board’s attention.

#### IV-A: Options for UCC Advocacy Contract – ACTION ITEM -- APPROVED

Caroline Smith of San Diego County presented on the efforts of the working group of governmental affairs directors responsible for researching and analyzing options regarding the UCC advocacy contract. Caroline reported that the working group met multiple times between April and September 2023. Activities included undertaking (1) a review and analysis of previous Board actions regarding the current advocacy contracts, (2) a review and analysis of the previous UCC RFP process and documents, (3) a review and comparison of the respective county processes related to advocacy contracting, and (4) a review of the services and outcomes currently performed by the advocacy firms. Through these findings, they presented the board with three options:

**Option 1:** Enter into negotiations for a new contract with Hurst Brooks Espinosa for a term of three years with 2, 1-year options years. An option is provided in the contract to sub-contract with additional firm(s) should they choose. If this option is selected, the Chair and Vice Chair or their designees will enter into negotiation.

**Option 2:** Direct the working group to issue a Request for Interest and report back to the Board at the next UCC meeting with options for competitive solicitation of the UCC advocacy contract, including timeline options to execute the new contract prior to the termination of the existing contract on 12/31/23.

**Option 3:** Execute a one-year extension with current contractors from January 1, 2024- December 31, 2024, and conduct a thorough RFI process in mid-2024.

The Board engaged in a detailed discussion of the three options the working group presented.

A motion was made to select Option 2 as detailed above; below is the vote count:

Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Carson, Chair (Alternate)	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Vargas, Vice-Chair	San Diego	X			
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa			X	
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno				X
Supervisor Barger (Alternate)	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>7</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>

**V: UCC Advocacy**

**V-A: Behavioral Health Reforms and Associated Infrastructure Bond: Policy Update and Discussion of Potential Further Engagement – ACTION ITEM – APPROVED**

The UCC Advocacy Team provided background information on the Administration’s two-bill package that has been the subject of considerable deliberation with the Administration and Legislature. The UCC Board has had several discussions on the measures since their introduction in June. Portions of each of the two legislative measures will be presented to the voters as Proposition 1 in March 2024.

The UCC Advocacy Team presented the board with two draft advocacy letters on SB 326 (Eggman) and AB 531 (Irwin), respectively. Staff walked the Board through policy considerations and potential benefits of weighing in on each of the measures currently before the Governor. The Board discussed both letters, noting their individual importance. One letter was focused on reiterating UCC’s commitment to work with the state on implementation of SB 326, which contains reforms to the Mental Health Services Act; the second draft letter was a request for signature letter on AB 531, which authorizes bond capacity for investment in behavioral health infrastructure, including acute psychiatric beds. Separate actions were taken with respect to providing the Advocacy Team with guidance on weighing in with the Governor on each measure.

A motion was made to transmit a letter to the Governor affirming UCC’s commitment to work cooperatively with the state in implementing the range of behavioral health system reforms contained in SB 326. Below is the vote count:

Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Carson, Chair (Alternate)	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Vargas, Vice-Chair	San Diego	X			
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa			X	
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Barger (Alternate)	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>9</b>		<b>5</b>	

A motion was made to send a support letter to the Governor on AB 531 (Irwin), and below is the vote count:

Member	County	Yes	No	Absent	Not Voting
Supervisor Carson, Chair (Alternate)	Alameda	X			
Supervisor Vargas, Vice-Chair	San Diego	X			
Supervisor Glover	Contra Costa			X	
Supervisor Mendes	Fresno	X			
Supervisor Barger (Alternate)	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 (Alternate)	San Mateo	X			
Supervisor Ellenberg	Santa Clara	X			
Supervisor Long	Ventura	X			
<b>Vote Total</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>4</b>	

#### **V-B: End of Session Legislative Update**

Staff provided the Board with an update on UCC's engagement on priority measures in 2023, noting that the Legislature adjourned last week. Presently, the Governor has approximately 900 bills to consider prior to the October 14 signing and veto deadline.

Staff also that the Legislature moved several constitutional amendments approved during the 2023 legislative year to the November 2024 ballot, including:

- ACA 1 (Aguiar-Curry): This constitutional amendment, subject to voter approval, allows a city, county, or special district, with 55% voter approval, to incur bonded indebtedness or impose specified special taxes to fund projects for affordable housing, permanent supportive housing, or public infrastructure.
- ACA 13 (Ward): Requires an initiative constitutional amendment to comply with any increased voter approval threshold that it seeks to impose on future ballot measures.
- SCA 2 (Allen): Repeals Article 34 of the California Constitution, which requires development, construction, or acquisition of publicly funded low-rent housing projects to be approved by a majority of voters in a city or county.

## **VI. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

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

- Review of Draft 2024 UCC Legislative Priorities
- Call for 2024 Vice-Chair Nominations
- Adoption of 2024 Conflict of Interest Policy
- CalAIM Update
- Report on final 2023 legislative actions

## **VIII. Supervisor Round Table**

**San Diego County**, one of early implementer counties in Cohort 1, has been working diligently on the implementation of the CARE Act. The County also is proud to have received a \$300,000 grant to address climate issues.

**Santa Clara County's** Homelessness Prevention Program has been recognized by the University of Notre Dame for its impact and effectiveness. The county also is proud to have announced \$15 million in grants for childcare facilities.

## **IX. Adjournment**

The next UCC Board of Directors' meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.** This in-person meeting will be held in conjunction with the CSAC Annual Meeting in Alameda County.