



CEAC Bay Area Regional Meeting
May 20, 2019
Meeting Notes (all underlined)

Contra Costa County Public Works
255 Glacier Way, Martinez, CA 94553
Conference Room A
11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Agenda

1. Introductions (5 minutes)
 - a. Notes from January 28, 2019 meeting: <https://www.ceaccounties.org/meetings-and-events/conferences/ceac-regional-meetings-and-conferences/>
 - b. Update of email listing
2. CEAC business: **Craig reported that CEAC Board approved Mike Carlson, retired Contra Costa as life member, and that CEAC is forming an Ad Hoc Administration Committee for items not covered by other CEAC committees. Jeff Pratt to serve as Chair.**
 - a. Craig needs photos and stories for newsletter by June 1
 - b. Civil Engineering and Surveying scholarship applications due June 28
3. Impacts of PG&E Bankruptcy on agencies (10 minutes) **20 Counties have hired an attorney to focus on unitary taxes, franchise fees, and 20A funds. Marin reported some challenges with timely trench restorations but appears to be improving. Contra Costa reported challenges with new service requests.**
4. Land Surveyor shortage discussion with League of California Surveying Organizations (LCSO) - attachment (30 minutes) **San Mateo, Solano, and Alameda reported recent challenges in having a qualified candidate pool for selection in recruitments for County Surveyor. There is a barrier with the low exam pass rate, and low numbers of persons pursuing licensure. There is a concern that the exam establishes minimum competency, and there is a need for continuing education and training. The California post-secondary education system is not providing enough educated students to meet employment demands. It was reported Evergreen Community College has cancelled surveying classes because of inadequate enrollment. There was discussion of the rapidly changing technology in the measurement (field) side of surveying, and the need for legal expertise in the evidence interpretation and procedural (office) side of surveying, and that perhaps these two areas should be looked at differently. It was reported that most Civil Engineering BS curriculums have reduced their emphasis on surveying over the past decades. There was discussion of encouraging more Civil PEs to take the LS exam by reducing the additional experience needed from two years. Concerns were the need for office experience in surveying, the need for required references to have some knowledge of their office survey work, and the need for continuing education for licensed surveyors. One idea is for the state to look at Great Basin College in Nevada, which has an online program. Next steps: Jim Porter will refer this item to the Ad Hoc Administration committee for consideration of legislative changes. At the regional level, Counties will consider looking at internships; Contra Costa has a training portal for career paths they will bolster. Tracy Park reported that LCSO will have further discussions on this issue at a future meeting. Alameda County suggested that changing CA licensing law to allow registered Civil Engineers to taking the LS test would help increase the supply of licensed Land Surveyors. Discussion also included suggestion to reach out to other related associations such as CLSA, ACEC, APWA CA Chapter, ASCE CA Region.**

Vince suggested that Ray Mathe, San Diego County Surveyor might be a resource since he previously worked for the CA Licensing Board and is active in CLSA.

5. Lunch (20 minutes)
6. Legislative issues: (10 minutes)
 - a. Proposals to link gas tax to housing
 - i. <http://www.counties.org/csac-bulletin-article/bill-amended-remove-sb-1-funding-link-housing-development>
 - ii. From CSAC 2019-20 Governor's May Revision, dated May 9, 2019: "The May Revision continues to focus on linking housing and transportation and provides that SB 1 local formula funding will be withheld from jurisdictions that are not in compliance with housing element law and have not zoned or entitled for their annual housing goals."
7. Pre-apprentice programs – any efforts underway linking programs to public works staffing? (10 minutes) **Marin is looking at developing a trainee class spec as a bridge between pre-apprentice programs and entry level road or maintenance workers. Contra Costa recently developed a Facility Maintenance Worker class spec but hasn't filled it yet.**
8. Roundtable on issues affecting County Public Works (30 minutes)
 - a. **Vince Gin provided an update on litigation between the Santa Clara Valley Water District and the Regional Water Quality Control Board over permit requirements on the Berryessa project. The Water Board prevailed at the lower court and the District has appealed. A published appellant decision would be precedent setting.**
 - b. **A member reported on AB 626 (Quirk-Silva) regarding consultant conflicts of interest, and that the bill relates to the issue of engineering design firms' ability to work on subsequent phases of a project. ACEC is soliciting letters of support.**
9. Future topics? (5 minutes) **Berryessa Project litigation, CCPIC update**

Next Meeting Dates:

Conference call: July 22

Meeting: October 28

Upcoming CEAC conferences:

Public Works Secretarial Seminar, Sonoma County: May 8-10, 2019

Northern California Bedroll Conference, Plumas County: July 31-August 1, 2019

CEAC Policy Conference, Sacramento: August 28–29, 2019

CSAC 125th Annual Meeting, San Francisco: December 3-6, 2019

Public Works Officers Institute, Monterey: March 18-20, 2020