

CEAC Board of Directors **MEETING MINUTES**

March 21, 2025|10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



MEETING MINUTES

CEAC Board of Directors

CEAC Spring Conference

Sheraton Universal Hotel

333 Universal Hollywood Drive, Universal City, CA 91608

Studio I

March 21, 2025|10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Leamon called the meeting to order at 10:26 AM.

1. Approval of Minutes The previous meeting minutes were unanimously approved (Motion by Bronkall, 2nd by DeChelis)

2. Correspondence (Leamon) – None.

3. CLODS Report (Sadjadi): Dave Gravenkamp had back surgery and should recover in the coming weeks. Mehdi will schedule the CLODS meeting to align with the Sacramento meeting. CLODS expects to hear from Dave Leamon about the proposed nominees for Secretary. Pat DeChelis suggests the president's message focuses on where we are and what we are doing.

4. NACE Report (Dashiell): Seeing Noel Castillo (San Bernardino) involved in CEAC and NACE is good.

5. CSAC Report (Gerrity)

- Jordan Wells is a new CSAC Legislative Advocate. She is only three weeks in but doing excellent. She comes from a similar field, which has allowed her to jump right in.
- Catherine Freeman is still part of Flood but may be reassigned.
- The CSAC building in Sacramento is being significantly renovated. The additions will add a conference room and renovate the building. Staff expect to move out in October. We are unsure where the temporary location will be.
- Legislative conference in August. Positive response to evening entertainment, especially the cornhole tournament. CSAC Finance Corporation to come in and discuss their role during lunch.
- Counties are encouraged to bring their staff to the August conference.

6. Regional Directors Reports

- **Bay Area** (none) – Hovertsz volunteered to serve as Regional Director if needed.
- **Central Cost** (Rubalcava) – This is his last meeting as Regional Director. Discussed the formation of a coalition to lobby and advocate state and federal agencies regarding flood infrastructure maintenance and operations. Discussions on Freeway Maintenance Agreement challenges with Caltrans. Efforts headed up by Chris Sneddon.
- **Northern California** (Bronkall)—Contract with bedroll conference. Jim Simon unexpectedly resigned from his position at Tehama, which created difficulties. Discussions on the need to draft a document highlighting bedroll efforts to make future conference preparation easier.

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- **Sacramento Mother Lode** (Randall)—There will be an Online meeting in February. Josh Pack (Butte) will discuss insurance challenges. There will also be a discussion of a regional pavement meeting with CCPIC.
- **San Joaquin Valley** (Chrun)—Learning roles and responsibilities. Six of the nine counties have committed to next month's meeting. Good information was shared during these meetings, and golf was involved. I promise to plug the CEAC forum at future meetings.
- **Southern California** (Koutroulis)—There have been several changes with Public Works Directors in his region. We are coordinating a meeting for next month. Leamon would like to attend this meeting.

7. Treasurer's Report (Johnson)- discussed final budget. Analysis suggests a 10% shortfall. Recommended a 10% increase for 2025 and 15% in 2026, followed by a 5% increase based on CSAC dues increases. Sadjadi asked about the conference making money. The League of California Cities runs the spring conference, where we make a little money. League sends the itemized list of expenses. Johnson discussed his approach to budgeting conservatively. CSAC controls budgeting during the fall conference. Treasurer's Report and 2025 Final Budget approved unanimously (Motion by Pack, 2nd by DeChelis). The table in the bylaws needs to be amended to reflect 2026 information. This doesn't need to be ratified by the Board – it can be done automatically.

8. Committee Reports

- **Administrative** (Chrun) – no report.
- **Flood Control and Water Resources** (Rubalcava): Uhley (Riverside) took over as committee chair. There are new additions to the committee.
- **Infrastructure and Development** (Randall): The room switch caused some initial confusion, but overall attendance was good. There was a lot of interest in the discussion of alternative project delivery.
- **Resource Recovery and Waste Management** (Koutroulis): Good discussions on SB1383 and a rep from CalRecycle. Update on USEPA on emissions. Therapy discussion and future discussions on PFAS, recycling, and SB1383 enforcement.
- **Surveyor** (Hennessee) - Good turnout – roughly 20 people attended. Update on LA fires. Surveyors reviewing monuments and preservation. In Altadena, monuments seemed largely intact. No ROS or corner records yet – going to take time. Discussions regarding the challenges of waiving fees. Discussion on updating ROS and Corner Record guide. It was last updated in 2020 and is usually updated every 5 years. Discussion on GPS usage. Will review the draft in August before ratification. Discussion on monument preservation toolkit. Additional action in August. Presentation on AI. Some software on AI for building plan reviews. Allowed remote attendance during meetings and had 25 additional attendees. Hybrid availability is critical to expand participation in Surveyor meetings.
- **Transportation** (Zarif) - New vice-chair. Several state agency representatives were signed up but canceled at the last minute. Discussion on legislation. Discussions about the use of big data to assist. Look to go to the forum to explore new topics. Dee Lam from Caltrans did not attend again. Leamon requests that Caltrans send local District DLAE if Lam cannot participate. Caltrans needs to attend and hear from the counties. Leamon will reach out to Lam to express concerns. Randall offered Caltrans to attend his Regional Meeting but with no success.
- **Fellowship** (DeLeon) - Good attendance at the suite. The opening evening ran a bit late but improved as the week went on. Thanks to members of the fellowship for their participation. Raised \$728 for the scholarship fund.
- **Oversight** (Leamon) - No report.
- **Scholarship** (Winokur)—Scholarship applications are out and available. This is a reminder for engineer and surveyor of the year. A surveyor received a thank-you letter for their scholarship.

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9. Unfinished Business (Leamon) – Bronkall discussed the CEAC forum. Thirteen counties contracting out county surveyors. Should they have access to the forum? DeChelis asked how it would be managed. Pack mentioned that supervisors or directors can provide documentation approving the use of the forum. This approach was unanimously approved (Motion by DeChelis, 2nd by Johnson)

10. New Business (Leamon) - Engineering of the year discussion with NACE. If uninformed in NACE, there is no chance for the California nominee to win engineer of the year based on NACE scoring. Phil Demery was the last nominee from California to win. Machado is ineligible due to being an officer. The manual states engineers and surveyors of the year should be nominated for NACE. Nominations for urban and rural. Other categories are also available for nomination. The motion was made to allow the flexibility of the president to begin the application and discontinue efforts if it is evident that the nominee would not qualify for consideration (Motion by Pack, 2nd by Hoevertsz)—additional discussion on changing the official address to CSAC from the Treasurer’s Office. No motion was made. A motion was unanimously approved to allow the Executive Director (Gerety) to make deposits on behalf of CEAC (Motion by Hoevertsz, 2nd by Dashiell)—a recommendation to bring official address discussion back up under unfinished business at the August Policy Conference.

11. Life Membership (Leamon) - No life memberships were discussed.

12. Announcements (Leamon)

- 2025 NACE Annual Conference: April 15-17, 2025, Schaumburg, Illinois
- Northern California Bedroll Conference, Camp Tehama, Tehama County, June 25-27, 2025
- 20th CEAC Policy Conference: August 21-22, 2025, Sacramento
- CSAC Annual Meeting/Fall Conference: December 1-5, 2025, San Jose
- 2026 SEAC Spring Conference: February 25-27, 2026, Monterey

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 11:32 AM.

Dutifully submitted – Joshua Pack (3/22/2025)

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Meeting Roster **Voting Board Members: Officers & Regional Directors** **(NP – Not Present)**

| Officer | Office | County/Organization |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| David Leamon | President | Stanislaus |
| Johannes Hoevertsz | Vice President | Sonoma |
| Joshua Pack | Secretary | Butte |
| Panos Kokkas | Immediate Past President | Trinity |
| George Johnson | Treasurer | Riverside (Retired), |
| Mehdi Sadjadi | Treasurer-Emeritus | Marin (Retired) |
| Mike Penrose | Parliamentarian | Sacramento (Retired) |
| Patrick DeChellis | Newsletter Editor | Los Angeles (Retired) |
| Howard Dashiell | NACE Representative | Mendocino |
| Dave Gravenkamp(NP) | Historian | Siskiyou (Retired) |

| Regional-Directors | Region | County |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Vacant | Bay Area | |
| Walter Rubalcava | Central Coast | Santa Barbara |
| Bob Bronkall | Northern California | Humboldt |
| Matt Randall | Sacramento Mother Lode | Placer |
| Sam Chrun | San Joaquin Valley | Stanislaus |
| Tom Koutroulis | Southern California | Orange |

Non-Voting Members: Committee Chairs and CSAC Staff

| Committee Chairs | Committee | County |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Joan Araujo (NP) | Administrative | Butte |
| Scott DeLeon | Fellowship | Lake (Retired) |
| Jason Uhley (NP) | Flood Control/Water Resources | Riverside |
| Matt Randall | Infrastructure and Development | Placer |
| David Leamon | Oversight | Stanislaus |
| Tom Koutroulis | Resource Recovery & Waste Mgmt. | Orange |
| Alicia Winokur | Scholarship | Mendocino |
| Steve Hennessee | Surveyor | Los Angeles |
| Najee Zarif | Transportation | San Joaquin |

| CSAC/CEAC Staff | Title | Agency/County |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Catherine Freeman (NP) | Senior Legislative Advocate | CSAC |
| Mark Neuburger (NP) | Legislative Advocate | CSAC |
| Jordan Wells (NP) | Legislative Advocate | CSAC |
| Amber Garcia Rossow (NP) | Legislative Analyst | CSAC |
| Merrin Gerety | CEAC Executive Director | CSAC/CEAC |

Non-Voting Members: Other Attendees

Michael Leacox – NCE

Scott DeLeon – Lake County (Retired) / NCE

Steve Lederer (Napa County)

Brad Allender (Consort)

Rylie Bellinger (NCE)

Blossom Scott-Heim – Tuolumne County

Denise Zitnik – Tuolumne County

Jason Jurrens – Consort