



## Meeting Minutes - Final

### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Legislation Committee

Supervisor Ken Carlson, Chair  
Supervisor Diane Burgis, Vice Chair

<https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/87434558220>  
Call in: 1-888-278-0254 access code: 219464

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**Monday, September 11, 2023**

**1:00 PM 1025 Escobar Street, Conference Center Rm  
110, Martinez, CA | 3361 Walnut Boulevard,  
Suite 140, Brentwood, CA**

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#### Introductions

*Vice Chair Burgis convened the meeting at 1:04 p.m. from her office in Brentwood, noting that Chair Carlson would be joining the meeting shortly. Chair Carlson joined the meeting at 1:14 p.m. in Martinez. Also in attendance were:*

*Lara DeLaney, staff to Committee  
Luz Raygoza-G.  
Patricia Perez  
Paul Schlesinger  
Peter Myers  
Geoff Neill  
Ashleigh Goddard  
Call\_in\_user\_1  
Michelle Rubalcava  
Jennifer Quallick  
Brian Balbas  
Joseph Greaves  
Teresa Gerringer*

**Present:** District IV Supervisor Ken Carlson and District III Supervisor Diane Burgis

1. PUBLIC COMMENT: Persons who wish to address the Legislation Committee during public comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the Legislation Committee that are not on the agenda, may comment in person, via Zoom, or via call-in. All public comments will be limited to two minutes.

*Public comment was received by Call\_in\_user\_1 who requested that meetings not be held on September 11 to avoid conflicts with 9-11 ceremonies.*

2. RECEIVE and APPROVE the Record of Action for the June 12, 2023 meeting of the Legislation Committee, with any necessary corrections.

[23-378](#)

**Attachments:**                    [Draft Record of Action 06.12.23](#)

*The Record of Action was approved as presented.*

**Motion:**                    **Burgis**

**Second:**                   **Carlson**

**Aye:**                        **Chair Ken Carlson and Vice Chair Diane Burgis**

**Result:**                   **Passed**

3. RECEIVE a report on federal matters of interest to the County and [23-379](#)  
PROVIDE direction to staff and the County's federal lobbyist, as needed.

*The County's federal lobbyist, Paul Schlesinger, provided the Committee an oral update to the written report, noting that the congressional recess was nearing an end; the House was expected to be back to work on September 12 and the Senate was already back. Paul noted that the federal fiscal year was ending on September 30, so a Continuing Resolution would be needed to keep the federal government funded until the budget bills could be finalized. Paul discussed the status of negotiations, indicating that it was looking like a shut-down may be coming. He also noted that the County's earmark requests were tied to the budget bills.*

*Public comments were made by Call\_in\_user\_1 who disparaged the federal lobbyist. Chair Carlson responded that Paul does a wonderful job in D.C. representing the County. Vice Chair Burgis echoed the Chair's comments and indicated the substantial return on investment from the lobbying services.*

**This item was received.**

4. ACCEPT the report on the State bills of interest to Contra Costa County and [23-380](#)  
provide direction and/or input to staff and to the County's state lobbyists, as  
needed.

**Attachments:**                    [Advocacy Letters 2023](#)

*The County's state lobbyists, Michelle Rubalcava and Geoff Neill, provided an oral update to the written report. They focused their comments on Governor Newsom's and his administration's priorities on behavioral health reform, including SB 326 and AB 551. These reforms will go to the voters in March, and no further amendments to the bills were expected before the legislature's final actions though there were rumors about the size of the bond bill increasing and possibly acute psychiatric beds may be eligible for funding. The lobbyists also updated the Committee on the status of the County's sponsored bills, noting that SB 511 was unfortunately held in Appropriations due to CARB estimates on the cost of the bill. Conversations with CivicWell, the County's co-sponsor on the bill, were on-going though in an attempt to find another solution to the problem of preparing individual inventories. AB 592, however, had passed the Legislature and was expected to be signed by the Governor. The lobbyists also discussed SB 525, the minimum wage for health care workers, noting that it was progressing through the Legislature and discussions about tiers of implementation would put Contra Costa in the second tier.*

*Public comments from Call\_in\_user\_1 were disparaging of the level of detail discussed. Vice Chair Burgis responded that our lobbyists work in an industry requiring "thick skin."*

**The Committee accepted the report.**

The next meeting is currently scheduled for October 2, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. (Note date and time change)

**The Committee's scheduled October 2, 2023 meeting was subsequently cancelled.**

Adjourn

*The meeting was adjourned at 1:54 p.m.*