

**OFFICERS 2008-2010**

REBECCA MARTINEZ  
PRESIDENT  
Madera County

GAIL PELLERIN  
VICE PRESIDENT  
Santa Cruz County

CATHY DARLING  
TREASURER  
Shasta County

NEAL KELLEY  
SECRETARY  
Orange County



**CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF  
CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS**

Rebecca Martinez, President  
Madera County Clerk-Recorder  
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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**APPOINTED:**  
GINA ALCOMENDRAS  
Santa Clara County  
JANICE ATKINSON  
Sonoma County  
DARLENE BLOOM  
Orange County  
FREDERICK GARCIA  
Sacramento County  
JOSEPH HOLLAND  
Santa Barbara County  
DEAN LOGAN  
Los Angeles County  
KATHIE MORAN  
Colusa County  
DOLORES PROVENCIO  
Imperial County  
SUSAN M. RANOCHAK  
Mendocino County  
JULIE RODEWALD  
San Luis Obispo County  
KAY VINSON\*  
City Clerk, Murietta  
\* non-voting member

**ELECTED:**  
JULIE BUSTAMANTE  
Northern Area  
Lassen County  
BARBARA DUNMORE  
Southern Area  
Riverside County  
LINDSEY MCWILLIAMS  
Bay Area  
Solano County  
LEE LUNDRIGAN  
Central Area  
Stanislaus County  
JILL LaVINE  
Mother Lode Area  
Sacramento County

**ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
STEVE WEIR  
Contra Costa County

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES**

**CLERK OF THE BOARD:**

SACHI A. HAMAI  
Los Angeles County  
JOHN MCKIBBEN  
Los Angeles County

**COUNTY CLERK:**  
KATHIE MORAN  
Colusa County  
VICKI PETERSEN  
Sonoma County

**ELECTIONS:**  
JILL LaVINE  
Sacramento County  
DEBORAH SEILER  
San Diego County

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
BRAINSTORMING SESSION  
AUGUST 6, 2008  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA**

President Rebecca Martinez called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

**Present:** Rebecca Martinez, Madera County  
Gail Pellerin, Santa Cruz County  
Cathy Darling, Shasta County  
Neal Kelley, Orange County  
Darlene Bloom, Orange County  
Steven Weir, Contra Costa County  
Lee Lundrigan, Stanislaus County  
Barbara Dunmore, Riverside County  
Kathie Moran, Colusa County  
Joe Holland, Santa Barbara County  
Gina Alcomedndras, Santa Clara County  
Frederick Garcia, Sacramento County  
Jill LaVine, Sacramento County  
Janice Atkinson, Sonoma County  
Julie Bustamante, Lassen County  
Sue Ranochak, Mendocino County  
Lindsey McWilliams, Solano County  
Julie Rodewald, San Luis Obispo

**INTRODUCTIONS / PURPOSE OF MEETING**

President Becky Martinez opened the meeting and stated her desire to increase communication in the organization. Information was provided on what would be posted to the CACEO website (such as conference call notes with the Secretary of State).

Vice President Gail Pellerin noted that she is working to collect information to post to the website (such as items produced by the counties). President Martinez added that she would not be making statements to the press without first consulting with the officers of CACEO - statements made would be through the collective discussion of officers and others who may provide input.

## **DISCUSSION OF PERPETUAL PLAQUE FOR PAST PRESIDENTS**

Several suggestions were floated regarding providing recognition for past members and past Presidents. Many options were explored including plaques; donations; and recognition on the CACEO website.

It was proposed that contributions would be made for principals in the amount of \$250 if they are retired; \$150 for associates and deputies – recognizing their outstanding contributions; for deceased members (principals) the association would send a \$100 contribution to a specified charity.

Gail Pellerin made the MOTION to follow the guidelines as outlined, which was seconded by Janice Atkinson. Further discussion included the establishment of a scholarship, which was deferred so that Treasurer Cathy Darling could explore the accounting aspects and to report at New Law meeting. The motion was then APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Gail Pellerin raised the issue of an external audit when changeover takes place of Treasurers/Officers of the Association. While it was noted that the Association operates with the utmost transparency it was also pointed out that an independent audit provides additional credibility to the financial statements produced.

It was suggested that 3 Board members conduct the audit and that an audit committee be established consisting of Julie Rodewald, San Luis Obispo and Sue Ranochak of Mendocino County. They would work to identify a third member of the committee. The Board discussed and proposed that the audit would be complete by the New Law meeting in December of 2008 and subsequent audits would take place every 2 years by the New Law meeting.

Gail Pellerin made the MOTION to approve, which was seconded by Julie Bustamante and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE PLANNING AND COORDINATION**

President Martinez noted that Los Angeles County had concerns about the 2008 Annual Conference coordination. The current contract with the conference coordinator (Sandy Reedy) expires in 2010. Concerns were raised about the level of service provided. Further discussion pointed out that while the level of service has been positive in many areas a reiteration of goals between both parties should be revisited.

President Martinez summarized the discussion by suggesting that she and some of the officers would talk with the conference coordinator at the New Law meeting to discuss mutual goals and expectations of service levels.

## **CONSIDERATION OF MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE**

President Martinez pointed out that the Association's lobbying contracts (\$90,000 per year) is not covered by the current membership dues (\$60,000 per year). Several options were explored and it was noted that the highest costs are associated with elections and yet many members do not conduct elections. Secretary Neal Kelley also pointed out that many people attend the Legislative Committee meetings but do not pay.

Jill Lavine said that the lobbyist contract was set to expire at year's end and will be re-negotiated. President Martinez suggested that the discussion should be tabled until the 2008 New Law meeting. In addition Neal Kelley will work with Cathy Darling to tighten controls on the fees paid for the Legislative meetings.

## **BROCHURES FOR THE ASSOCIATION**

President Martinez felt that the idea of marketing brochures should be looked at again in an effort to showcase the benefits of being a member of the Association. In addition they could be used to increase membership. The discussion was tabled until the 2008 New Law meeting.

## **EXPANDED RESPONSIBILITY FOR AREA CHAIRS**

President Martinez felt that the responsibilities for Area Chairs could be expanded to include at least one area meeting during the year. Area Chairs should also have discussion with the various disciplines to vet any concerns and to improve communication. Area Chairs will also be present during any meetings with the Secretary of State. In addition President Martinez asked if the Clerks were being served and Fred Garcia and Gina Alcomendras noted that they were (on behalf of the Clerks).

## **TAKING EMERGENCY ACTION**

The discussion (which began at Board of Directors meeting on July 11, 2008) continued as the Board of Directors examined how the President and Association should handle emergency actions.

Steve Weir pointed out that the Legislative Chairs can take positions and that items appear without warning and need to be addressed. Further discussion included that it is not always ideal to vet out every issue that come up during the Legislative cycle. Others felt that in certain circumstances the President should act on her own but if she discusses items with only the officers then there is no point in having a Board of Directors. Various opinions were raised and it was concluded that it was not clear in the bylaws of the Association if the officers can in fact take a position without the input of the Board of Directors.

President Martinez noted that the Bylaws Committee was meeting to discuss the issue and would (if deemed appropriate) bring a proposal for a change to the bylaws at the 2008 New Law meeting.

## **APPOINTMENT OF EDITOR**

A discussion took place on whether an Editor of the Association (to edit newsletters; documents) should be appointed if they were not a member of the Board of Directors. A discussion took place as to the interpretation of the bylaws and if such an appointment would be allowed. It was decided that the President could make the appointment and that Section 2-5 would be in effect, thus allowing the President to appoint an individual who was not a member of the Board of Directors.

Darlene Bloom made the MOTION, which was seconded by Steve Weir and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **DISCUSSION OF CURRENT LOBBYIST CONTRACT**

President Martinez discussed that the current election lobbyist contract was set to expire at the end of the year. She asked for a brainstorming session with the current Legislative directors on September 4, 2008 while in Los Angeles at the Legislative committee meeting.

## **APPROVAL OF TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR**

President Martinez appointed Roberta Kanelos of Sacramento County as the Co-Chair of the Technology Committee.

Lee Lundrigan made the MOTION, which was seconded by Gail Pellerin and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **DEFINING COMMITTEES OF THE ASSOCIATION VERSUS SUBCOMMITTEES**

Janice Atkinson started the discussion by pointing out it is confusing as to which committees are actual committees under the authority of the Association. In addition it was felt that the manner in which committees are formed and/or appointed by the President was confusing. Several options were explored to help define the committees and subcommittees and it was ultimately decided that the Bylaws Committee should look at the issue and report back at the 2008 New Law meeting.

## **REPORT ON PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE PROGRESS**

Lindsey McWilliams originally felt that the Provisional Committee would be wrapped up by the 2008 New Law meeting but now that probably won't occur. The Committee worked long and diligently to define what a provisional ballot is and how they are cast. The Secretary of State has been providing assistance given the addition of a former Deputy Attorney General to the office. Lindsey needs to continue discussions with Evan Goldberg of the Secretary of State's office to find out how a legal opinion can be issued. Lindsey was optimistic that basic guidelines will be forthcoming to the extent counties want to use them but does not feel uniform practices will be developed across the state.

## **HOLDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS BY TELEPHONE**

President Martinez opened the discussion of holding committee meetings via teleconference. Several opinions were shared with some siding on the convenience of meetings via phone and others pointing out that face-to-face discussions work best.

President Martinez concluded that the consensus of the Board of Directors was to leave the meetings as is (in person) and would deal with it on a case-by-case basis.

## **RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

President Martinez pointed out that the relationship with the Secretary of State continues to evolve and is looking forward to continued improvement. President Martinez also was pleased that the Secretary of State's office initiated the conference calls again. Several comments were made regarding moving forward cautiously while working with the Secretary of State.

## **STATUS OF RELATIONSHIP WITH CLERK OF THE BOARD ASSOCIATION**

Steve Weir stated that there were two distinct issues and those included financial involvement and participation. Steve spoke to representatives of the Clerk of the Board Association regarding the issues and was informed that Los Angeles County would make up any financial shortfall should one exist. They have also agreed that the Clerk of the Board members will not have separate workshops at the Association's annual meeting.

It was agreed that dialogue would continue and that there was no need for an on-going liaison as a result.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE TO EXPLORE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CACEO AND CRAC**

President Martinez announced the appointment of a President's Committee to explore the relationship between the Association and the County Recorders Association. President Martinez appointed Janice Atkinson, Gina Alcomendras, Julie Rodewald and Joe Holland.

Janice Atkinson noted that the Recorders should become a discipline of CACEO pointing out that there are more Clerk Recorders than any other combination in the state. The committee will report back at the 2008 New Law meeting.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Steve Weir's report on foreclosures and their effect on voter registrations was tabled to a future meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION TO ADJOURN was made by Sue Ranochak, which was seconded by Joe Holland and APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Neal Kelley, Secretary