



**California Association of School Transportation Officials  
State Board Meeting**

**MINUTES  
Saturday January 28, 2023  
10:00am-1:00pm  
Delta by Marriott, Garden Grove**

**I. OPENING – President Matthew Thomas, 10:01am**

**A. Pledge of Allegiance – Jana Graham**

**B. Attendance**

1. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20

*President, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President,  
Professional Associate Rep., Contractor Rep., ~~Sustaining Member Rep.,  
CASBO Rep., CDE Rep., Legislative Rep.~~*

2. *Verification of Eligibility – Mike Sawyer*

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20

**C. Introductions and Welcome – Executive Board, State Board, Special Reps**

**D. Minutes of Prior Meetings – November 19, 2022 (M) Sam Anderson (S) Gingi Borg (C)**

**E. Correspondence – Jana Graham- None to report**

**F. Additions / Changes to the Agenda – Matt Thomas- adding #4 to old business-Rodeo, add #2 under new business-Officers workshop (M) Tony Peregrina (S) Sam Anderson (C)**

**II. Reports**

**A. Treasurer – Matthew Thomas- Checking \$308,049.74, Savings \$30,795.96 total \$338,845.70. Shared the current budget vs. actuals for the current fiscal year. Dano Rybar shared what that the Bingo account has paid a total of \$15,968.88 for the CASTO Annual Conference. This includes P/C name badges, bowling tournament, giveaways/gifts, and the president ring/pin. (M) Sam Anderson (S) Tony Peregrina (C)**

**B. Membership – Mike Sawyer- Mike shared that we have 2,955 members. We are always growing. Chrissie Stevenson has been doing a great job helping with getting agencies registered. Mike also reviewed how to register online.**

**C. State Officers – Executive Board.**

**D. Special Representatives –**

1. *California Department of Education – Anna Borges-Not in attendance-No Report.*

2. *Sustaining Member Representative- Peter Tuckerman- Not in attendance-No Report.*

3. *Contractors Representative – Michael Sloan- Still learning the role of Contractors Rep, but looking forward to it. Did touch on how everyone in the industry is dealing with driver shortages. Talked about increasing wages.*

4. *CASBO Representative*- Carlos Chicas-Not in attendance-No report

### **III. Standing Committee Report**

1. *Legislation* – David Neben- Matt Thomas read the update David had sent in which stated. Budget Update: The Governor has published his 2023 Budget proposal. As of this quarters' meeting of the State Board of Directors, we are still awaiting the publication of the trailer bill language details to accompany the fiscal appropriation details. Overall State of the Economy: The Governors' Budget assumes the state is facing a significant decline in revenue growth over the couple of fiscal years, beginning with the current year 2022-23. While this is not necessarily a recession, it means that some financial commitments from prior years will have to be either reduced or delayed in order to continue funding statutory ongoing programs like the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). Electric School Bus Replacement: In discussions with senior staff from the Department of Finance, it was determined that the program to provide \$1.5 billion for electric school bus replacement would remain uncut. Approximately \$300 million in grant funding will still be available each year during the five-year allocation period. Home-To-School Transportation: The 2022 Budget Act approved an increase in HTST funding up to 60% of a local educational agency's costs of providing HTST services, according to SACS code function 3600. This equates to more that \$600 million in additional ongoing funding for school transportation, and a total of \$1.1 billion overall. The Department of Finance staff has indicated that this program will also remain untouched in determining where to find financial relief for the state budget. Legislation: The Legislature convened the 2023-24 legislative session on January 4, 2023, introducing a total of 40 new elected officials to the Assembly and Senate. The deadline for all legislators to introduce legislation for the first year of the session is February 17,2023. SB 88 (Skinner)- Pupil Transportation: School Pupil Activity Bus: Drivers-Senator Nancy Skinner has introduced SB 88. While the bill is still in the "spot-bill" form and only contains legislative intent language, the general idea of the bill presents potential issues for school bus drivers and alleviating the current staffing crisis. Action: We recommend CASTO maintain a neutral position on this bill until additional amendments have been published.
2. *Roadeo Report* – Doug Smith- Spoke to all comity members, they are ready to go. Still have 2 open positions to fill, and will post on the website.
3. *Access & Mobility* – Tony Peregrina-Shared we sold 65 books to date. It is a great resource for anything special needs related.
4. *Fundraiser / BINGO* – Dano Rybar – Shared Bingo started in 2011, with 2 sessions a week. Bingo is held every Wednesday and Sunday. Bingo has been able to help out not only the Chapters, but the savings account as well. CASTO Bingo voted as Best Session. Parent volunteers still helping every session. We need 11 volunteers per session. \$13,000 is donated to schools a month, it doesn't go to the parent, it actually goes to schools. Bingo players will ask questions each session regarding what the money is donated to. The community players really support CASTO Bingo and the cause. There is \$40,000 in the operating account to keep things going. We have different types of people who come in to play, different personalities, a good different variety, it's a lot of fun. We do have several security guards to keep everyone safe.
5. *CASTOways.org* – Mike Sawyer- Reviewed the web page. Shared only 2 Chapters (7 & 2) currently post on the site. Send in any information you would like us to post, events, numbers, anything we can post, we need content, we are member driven and hear for

the drivers. Any events on the webpage that are coming up, those not registered will receive weekly updates.

#### **IV. Business and Issues**

##### **A. Old Business**

1. *Poster Contest "Safely Rolling to my destination"*- Jana Graham- We are in the process of notifying the family for Jaiden Sandoval, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Special needs student from Bryant Elementary in Stanton. Poster us framed and ready for Conference.
2. *2022-2023 Closing on Nominations*- Tony Peregrina- Tony asked if there were any nominations from the floor (3 times) for the following, Professional Associate Rep (Karen Knight), State Treasurer (Christina Celeste-Russo), State Secretary (Jana Graham), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Cindy Casarez), 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (Chrissie Stevenson), State President (Mike Sawyer). There were no nominations from the floor, and no one opposed. Tony made a motion to close nominations for the 2023-24 Executive Board by Acclamation. (M) Chad Barksdale (S) Gingi Borg (C).
3. *2023 State Conference*- Matt Thomas- Currently have 340 Registered, 103 Saturday only, bus drivers, 15 conference staff and life members, 12 speakers. 210 full conference. All Chapter Presidents must attend Sunday, if not you need to send someone in your place. Sunday also wear your Sunday best dress attire. Everyone is bowling, we leave at 10am sharp for bowling. Bowling is 11am-2pm. Bowling is \$40.00, so you can contact Christina if you want to register for bowling as we have room for 80 bowlers.
4. *Roadeo Report*- Doug Smith/Antonio Perez-Motion to open discussion on Roadeo. Removing the one and done State Roadeo for 2023, and getting approval for funding the Roadeo Chair and co-chair committee to travel to help local chapters with Roadeos. (M) Gingi Borg (S) Tony Peregrina (C). Doug stated that with Roadeo declining and not all chapters being able to travel this year, we are hoping to promote more local Roadeos. The National Roadeo has been canceled this year. Antonio and I really want to get out there and promote Roadeo, and get it back to where it was. We will help with workshops, or local Chapter Roadeos. Everyone at the meeting had a lot of great input regarding how to move forward and bring Roadeo back, ultimately after lengthy conversations, we opened it up to make a new motion regarding Roadeo and funding. Sam Anderson made a new motion: For the 22-23 Roadeo year, State Roadeo will be canceled, but the Roadeo committee will be there to support local chapters, not to exceed \$3,000. This motion "died" as there was 1 chapter in favor, and others apposed. A new motion was made by Chad Barksdale. Motion: Cancel the 22-23 State Roadeo, reinstate the 23-24 State Roadeo, approve travel and assistance from the Roadeo committee team to assist local chapters in their Roadeos and or workshops, allowing \$2,000 per chapter. (M) Chad Barksdale (S) Cindy Casarez (C).

##### **B. New Business**

1. *Mechanic and Supervisor Workshop/ California Best Tech & Inspector competition*- Matt Thomas- We are looking for a California Best Tech Inspector and may have a lead. We will report more on this at a later date.
2. *Officers Workshop*- Mike Sawyer- We will be having one this year on August 5<sup>th</sup>, we are still working on the details, but plan on having one, so we will confirm dates at a later time.

#### **V. INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

**A. Chapter News** – Chapter Presidents  
1,2,3,4,6,7,10,13,15,19, 20

**VI. ADJOURNMENT** 1:45pm (M) Tony Peregrina (S) Sam Anderson (C)