

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



MINUTES

Friday, January 8, 2021

11:00am – 2:00pm

Virtual Zoom Meeting – Live on YouTube

25 Matmor Road, Woodland, CA 95776

(818) 378-0848

I. OPENING – President Tony Peregrina 11:03am

A. Pledge of Allegiance – Jennifer Hanshew

B. Attendance

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

President, 1st VP, 2nd VP, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President, Professional Associate Rep., Contractor Rep., ~~Sustaining Member Rep., CASTOway's Editor, CASBO Rep., CDE Rep., DMV 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 -State Board, Executive Board, Audience

D. Minutes of Prior Meetings – (M) Jennifer Hanshew (S) Tony Peregrina (C)

E. Correspondence - None at this time.

F. Additions / Changes to the Agenda – No Changes. (M) Matt Thomas (S) Chad Barksdale (C)

II. Reports

A. Treasurer – Christina Celeste, checking \$145,683.94, savings \$5,792.26 total \$151,476.20. (M) Vicky Wingfield (S) Jennifer Hanshew (C) Christina reminded chapters that insurance payments are due, still have three chapters from last fiscal year and a few from this year. Also need to turn in reports as needed by the deadlines.

B. Membership – Mike Sawyer – 2041 Members, 36 Agency Members. If your agency becomes an agency member everybody in, your organization is available to become a member. If you need help you can contact him at michael.sawyer@smusd.org . Tony also shared that there is a group Instructors and Drivers in the Yuba City / Marysville area a group that was formed for Rodeo that has some money that they have been trying to give back to the school district and they don't want it so they want to donate a little over \$600.00 to CASTO. In the Executive board meeting it was decided is to use that money to help both Yuba City USD and Marysville USD become agency members. This will allow all their drivers and employees become members and also motivate them to continue next year with the agency memberships. We hope to keep them for a long time.

C. State Officers – Executive Board

D. Special Representatives –

1. *California Department of Education* – Anna Borges – Anna wanted to start with she had received a letter from the International Rodeo they wanted to take a brief survey, 1,

They wanted to know if we as an organization be hosting a Roadeo for 2021? 2. Then would we be sending them to Milwaukee? They are trying to figure out whether they should be preparing for an International Road. Maybe She, Doug and Tony should meet for further discussion. The governor is meeting today to go over his budget. He has set aside \$2,000,000.00 to support safety measures. He came out with his plan for children to return to school. You can go on the governor's website for details. Its quite a lengthy document explaining how and why we need to return to school, to resume some type of normalize. Its been tough times but we have tough leaders in our industry, that's all of you. It takes all of us to remain positive move forward and know that we can achieve getting our kids back to school on the safest mode of transportation, which is the school bus, with all of your direction, drivers, instructors, dispatcher, mechanics. Its been tough but we will overcome and continue to move forward. About the Office of School Transportation, we are cancelling the January and April classes. At this point we are still not able to congregate with that many people yet. They are receiving an email as we speak cancelling the class and moving them to the next available class, which is January will be moved to June, April will be moved to July. When we can resume, we will schedule classes back to back to assist the industry. The two classes we were just discussing are full and we have been receiving Delegate Behind the Wheel application, which is another question, we are not able to travel anywhere to conduct evaluation for Delegates Behind the Wheel as well. When the ban is lifted, we will take it head on get it done. As we discussed at the last Board meeting, we are working on doing some virtual training courses, we are finalizing that right now. We will be running an Administration program maybe mid-February, a Special Needs virtual training, which is a two-day program. We are also going to bring back on certain days a one-day virtual trainings, which will be for state certified Instructors. We have five different programs, Loading and Unloading, Dual Air Brake System, Documentation and a few other. Everybody is working remotely including the downtown office. The extension for Special Certificates is extended until 2/28/2021. Believe we will receive another extension at the end of February.

2. *Sustaining Member Representative* - ~~Jason Hohalek~~ – no report
3. *Contractors Representative* – Erin Borda – not much to report, just waiting for the green light to open, very worried about the small driver situation. A challenge to get drivers to work the longer this goes on our industry is facing a server driver shortage. If we don't reopen fully in LA County until August, the new school year, it will be a full 18 months that drivers have been not been working. The Contractors like the Districts we have been working to stay connected with the drivers keeping up their hours, doing renewals but its frankly I'm worried it's going to be messy if we don't open soon.
4. *CASBO Representative* – Matt Sanchez – not available today sent Tony an email. CASBO is looking to professionally record programs for Conference, so more details to come this month.

III. Standing Committee Report

1. *Legislation* – Nico Chavez – left message in the chat... Sorry to have to jump off early, the Governor just released his budget proposal I will begin to work on a budget memo, I will send out of distribution later today. Hope everyone had a great holiday, the best Nico.
2. *Roadeo Report* – Doug Smith / Tony Peregrina, as of yesterday, because of the COVID restriction, dream and goal would be to have a Roadeo. If we can't meet, maybe a virtual written test, maybe a Roadeo Workshop, maybe you compete at your own facility you video tape it, then they submit, maybe a virtual type Roadeo. Really need to bring something different??? That's the idea at this point, Tony, Doug and Antonio will meet

to see what we can do. Anna added the premises of the Roadeo is at the end of the day it is a better driver on Monday, more educated Driver.

3. *Fundraiser / BINGO* – Dano Rybar / Tony Peregrina – BINGO was closed for a couple of weeks due to Sacramento County being in the Purple Tier, he is opening today a drive though BINGO. Players will be in their cars. CASTO BINGO is successful because of his excitement and his new inventive ways. At this point in time BINGO is in the green but every week he is not open he still must pay rent over \$2000.00 a week for the session. He is excited to get back open with drive though BINGO. BINGO is open Friday evening and Sunday Matinee.
4. *CASTOways.org* – Mike Sawyer – we have been busy looking into which platforms to use going virtual. We have gotten better at Zoom and stream live on YouTube. But we are still using our school district Zoom account so the last board meeting we approved to go to zoom. But before that happens we needed to figure out a way to get CASTO emails looking at gmail which is free to 501C3 non profits CASTO is a 501C6 non profit which does not qualify. So now we are looking into how much is cost to get gmail, the purpose behind this is because we can't sign into Zoom with our district email accounts because we have district Zoom accounts, we need to have separate email accounts for google for CASTO. Looking into all of this we have found that their at companies that host virtual conference and hoping to find one so we can have a conference in March. Hope one reached the CASTOways new letter we send out in the fall. We are preparing to release another in the next couple of weeks, so stay tuned to your emails. It goes to what every email you have register in Wild Apricot. If you have anything to put up on the website send to him.

IV. Business and Issues

A. Old Business

1. *Purchase of Zoom Suite* – Christina Celeste, Mike Sawyer, see above.

B. New Business

1. *Close of Nominations for the 2021-2022 New Officers* – Pam McDonald – will be closing nominations today, if you are going to nominate someone from the floor make sure your mic is on, Mike will also be monitoring the YouTube chat as well.
Professional Association Representative Nominee; Angeles Valerio and Melissa Konkel
Nominations Closed (M) Mike Sawyer (S) Matthew Thomas (C)
Treasurer; Christina Celeste-Russo Nominations Closed (M) Jennifer Hanshew (S) Chad Barksdale (C)
Secretary; Amanda Hightman Nominations Closed (M) Matthew Thomas (S) Jennifer Hanshew (C)
2nd Vice President; Kerri Gardner Nominations Closed (M) Jill Bender (S) Jennifer Hanshew (C)
1st Vice President; Mike Sawyer Nominations Closed (M) Jennifer Hanshew (S) Sam Anderson (C)
President; Matthew Thomas Nominations Closed (M) Jill Bender (S) Tony Peregrina (C)

Nominations closed by Acclamation excluding the Professional Association Representative. (M) Jennifer Hanshew (S) Chad Barksdale (C) Ballots will be emailed to the membership for a virtual vote.

2. *CASTO Awards* – Amanda Hightman – Nominate someone for the four awards Arnita Moon, Fred Sowash, Member of the Year and the Life / Honorary Life / Honorary Member. Deadline to submit the nominations to me are February 7th, 2021. Applications are available on the CASTOways website.
3. *Poster Contest* – Amanda Hightman –. Theme “Ride Safe, Ride Yellow” extend the deadline to January 29, 2021. Sent a photo of the poster to me and we will have a special virtual meeting to decide on the winning poster. Want to thank TransTrak for continuing this year as our poster contest sponsor of \$2000.00.
4. *2021 State Conference* – Tony Peregrina / Kerri Gardner – Will not have an in-person conference, we also do not have the ok from the conference site. We will have a virtual one-day virtual conference. In order to have a virtual conference we will need help professionally. It will cost us money, how much we are still not sure. The idea is to have conference on Saturday March 27, 2021. A one-day virtual conference, three programs, keynote speakers plus a virtual vendor show, finishing the day with the State Board meeting including the awards presentations, poster contest winner and installing the 2021-2022 Officers. Kerri shared when she started looking into the program for the conference, she believed the program needs a positive upbeat message to our industry. Want to kick conference off with a good motivational speaker like to have another speaker talk about mental emotional social emotional health. Also talk about special education and how we are meeting all the COVID guidelines as will as serving students needs. And maybe organizational leadership and how everyone plays a role in success, how we all have a part in the choices we make. If anyone has any ideas on great speakers or if you think we are missing the mark on a topic we should be bring to our industry, please feel free to email me at castoprogramchair2@gmail.com .
5. *Email Scams* – Tony Peregrina, President scam email will be hacked. They use the President name as the title then follow with a different email address. If I ask for something it will come from my district email account, never will I ask for money. If I need money, I will ask Christina, and I will only ask for what has been approved. Please make sure that you check the email address to make sure that it is coming truly from me or any incoming President. They will try to use any President that is in coming.

V. INFORMATION EXCHANGE

A. Chapter News – Chapter Presidents

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

VI. ADJOURNMENT 1:42pm (M) Pam McDonald (S) Jennifer Hanshew (C)