

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



**MINUTES  
Friday September 11, 2020  
10:45am – 1:00pm  
Woodland, CA 95776  
(530) 406-5981**

**I. OPENING** – President Tony Peregrina 11:00am

**A. Pledge of Allegiance** - Tony Peregrina

On this day 19 years ago, the United States had the worst terrorist attack in our history and hopefully it will never repeat itself. In memory of the lives that were lost let us have a moment of silence.

**B. Attendance**

1. ~~4, 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., CASTOway's Editor, CASBO Rep., GDE Rep., DMV Rep., Legislative Rep.*

2. *Verification of Eligibility* – and Chapter Membership counts

~~1-126, 2-218, 3-242, 4-65, 5-14, 6-135, 7-138, 8-84, 9-30, 10-178, 12-159, 13-256, 14-144, 15-10, 17-27, 18-81, 19-38, 20-57~~

**C. Introductions and Welcome** -State Board, Executive Board, Audience

**D. Minutes of Prior Meetings** – (M) Kelly Jenal-Stainbrook (S) Ross Rosborough (C)

**E. Correspondence** None at this time.

**F. Additions / Changes to the Agenda** – No Addition or changes

**II. Reports**

**A. Treasurer** – Christina Celeste, Budget vs Actuals report sent out via email prior to meeting. Some of the money recorded is Insurance payments from chapters for the 2019 / 2020 fiscal year. Insurance payments \$250.00 per chapter as required will be \$4,500.00 per year assuming every chapter follows the rules and pays there outstanding balance from fiscal year 2020 and their current invoices for the fiscal year 2021 then at the end of this year in the final report this number will be great then \$4,500.00. So, if your chapter still owes please get your payments in. The liability Insurance, Self Insured Schools of California, was budgeted at \$10,600.00 and when the bill came in \$13,125.00 a 25% increase do to potential volatility and unpredictability for large claims for property and liability. Sam had a question about the storage unit, in the past we though the \$1,188.00 was for two years but it is only for one year, it is still a good price of \$99.00 per month for an air conditioned unit. Therefore, next year we will need to adjust the Budget to reflect the actual cost of \$1,188.00 per year for the storage unit. Checking \$146,546.31, savings \$5,792.08 total \$152,338.39. (M) Kelly Jenal-Stainbrook (S) Jennifer Hanshew (C)

**B. Membership** – Christina Celeste / Mike Sawyer – We have 2170 Members. We still have a couple of agency member who still need to update their membership. If you all need help reach to Mike Sawyer he will set up time to help you out has been doing google meeting to go over the process.

**C. State Officers** – Executive Board

**D. Special Representatives** –

1. *California Department of Education* – Anna Borges – Anna was not available so Tony shared on her behalf, state what he was told, at this time the Federals, the State of California and the Department of Education have extended the grace period for credentials that have expired until September 30, 2020 and Anna feels like there will be another extension. Things are slow for CDE they had been told not to come in to their office; all classes at this time have been cancelled and will be rescheduled at a further date. All staff is working remotely, they have the capability to answer phone calls and emails.
2. *Sustaining Member Representative* - Jason Hohalek – It has been difficult for Manufactures to adapt to Buses not running they have been working had to adapt, to aid the best they can to get buses up and operational to providing some safety for the drivers, safety school personnel and safety for students and ridership. There are a few camera systems that have come up with a system to that will scan the ridership as they get on with a green or red light to indicate a fever. There has been some concern about the drivers monitoring temperature of the ridership and this will provide a simple process. Check out Provision or Safety Vision. They have been working from the Transit agency side on Driver protection, driver barriers working with CHP. Cannot seem to get through the policies for school bus, with FMVSS and the qualification. They have a prototype they are working on, a polycarbonate or Plexiglas that would not need to be FMVSS qualified for a school bus but they have a vinyl they are going to ask CHP. It is a spit guard that will go right behind the driver, floor to ceiling. It will provide some sort of protection for the driver and still give visibility, as it is clear. It is FMVSS 302 compliant meets the flammability. Also, have triangle inserts that go right over the seats to block off those seats for social distancing. They are 36 inches and \$45.00 per seat. Another avenue is bus cleaning there is a number of products out there to decontaminate the buses. There is CARES money to help purchase those products. Other product Bio protectors, outside the daily spraying or decontamination, they have a product that is an antimicrobial and antibacterial for up to 90 days it does not eliminate the daily cleaning but it does provide protection to the seat materials. An added protection is a water-based product called Smart Shield applied to your hands and can last up to six hours. Still Grants available for zero emissions and ultra-low knox vehicles. PPE is available through your local dealer.
3. *Contractors Representative* – Erin Borda – Things are not rosy for the contractors in our state nor are they rosy for the contractors in our country. There was an article in the New York Times at couple of weekends ago talking about School Bus Contractors and that they are in real crisis, we are starting to see large contractors starting to go bankrupt or close up their operation entirely, large businesses with over 1400 school buses in them. In California, very concerned that we are going to start to see the same thing for the school bus contractors. In the spring, we had good success in collecting revenue maybe not all of the revenue but as a good we did well, that helped care us through to this point. But now a lot of districts and private schools don't have the budget or funding if you are not going to be transporting passengers, we are not going to continue paying. And this is a serious problem for the contractors. Its concerning to us because when we do go back to school everyone is going to need us, but we may not be able to provide the same service. They have had to reduce mechanic and

dispatchers' hours and some contractors have had to take everyone off payroll. And without money coming in it makes it a challenge to buy all the PPE. It's possible that for us in LA county we made not come back until January 2021 and that makes it a real problem for contractors across the state. Let us hope this passes soon because it will be very sad if a lot of companies have to go out of business. If there is anything as an association, we can do to help the contractors let us know.

4. *CASBO Representative* – Matt Sanchez – With the conference cancelled last year looking at scheduling similar programs but we are going to make some modification because we try and create programs based off the need of current events so you can see how this is going to evolve with some of the topics chosen for the conference this year. CASBO just put out a professional development catalog for 2020-2021 which includes the course that Mike Rea and Tim Purvis teach Director of Transportation course.

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

1. Legislation – Nico Chavez – This year's legislative session has been one of the strangest, there have been a lot of breaks from COVID outbreaks within the legislature itself, which concluded with the legislature sending the whole Republican Senate home given that one of their members got COVID that they had eaten lunch together, they had to finish the session by zoom. Going into this next year the state right now based off our offices' projections they are looking at about a \$36,000,000,000.00 deficit so similar to our fight this year will be fighting to protect the little bit of monies we get for school transportation. We were successful in adopting the legislative version of the budget as compared to the Governor's version. The Governor's version recommended a 10% cut across the board. We have two bills we were working on, Assemblyman Coopers' office AB3303 home to school transportation, transportation network driver requirements bill, that one was cut pretty early the Assemblyman's office decided not to move forward with it this year given the COVID implication and the requirements that were put on all bills to move forward. This bill did not meet the test to move forward in the assembly. This bill would have provided the same requirements to Transportation Network Company drivers as are required of school bus drivers, in an effort to protect the children we take to school every day. Then later in the session Assemblyman Bonta got an amended AB1203 to do a similar bill and this bill did not move, this bill had a key difference then AB3303, this bill AB1203 would have required school districts to be the policing agencies or enforcing agents of AB5 which is a bill that requires that transportation network companies classify their drivers as employees. It would have placed penalties and liabilities on school districts who were to hire such a company if that company was not classifying their drivers as employees or abiding by AB5 rules. This bill was not heard in committee either and it sounds like the author is going to look to do this again Bonta, however I have spoken with Assemblyman Coopers' office and they understand we are not involved with that and are committed to working with their office on this bill next year should it be appropriate. A Transportation Survey has been sent out the survey is looking forward to doing getting information on what transporting students looks like in COVID to education the legislature, so they understand what the implications are of their decision going into next year. With the deficit we are looking at it is really important we have this information together and are ready to educate early and often the legislature, so they understand exactly what these decisions mean especially for school transportation. Distance learning as we have seen it has hit or missed and all it has done is exacerbated the equity divide in education. And you will see in the survey there are questions regarding which students are losing transportation based on their backgrounds and where they come from if they are English Learners. Any information

you can provide will be helpful. So, the last piece of legislation to highlight that was passed this year still waiting to be signed by the Governor is AB820 this is the Education Finance Trailer Bill so what that means is this is a bill that is a part of the budget so as soon as the Governor signs it like every budget bill it will take effect immediately into law. One of the key provisions in SB820 is addressing health and safety concerns including but not limited to health testing, personal protective equipment, supplies to sanitize and clean facilities and school buses of Local Education Agencies and other related needs. So, what that refers to is the Federal Money that was channeled through the State in the original CARES Act and the State supports for COVID there now so you can use those funds specifically to clean and buy the cleaning materials needed for School Buses. Coming up in the near future are two Air Resource Board meetings the first is on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 1:00-4:00pm this meeting will be talking about the School Bus Report. The one I want everyone to circle on their calendar is September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 9:00am – 1:00pm this one there is money involved they are going to working on the clean transportation incentives in this work group meeting. And this is where the school bus replacement monies are located. Your participation can have a big impact on the funding that is put forward in the budget for Air Resource Board next year.

2. Rodeo Report – Doug Smith – Still in touch with Irwindale at this point they are cancelling everything. Have been working on the trailer cleaning it up so the trailer will be in better condition when we are ready to go next year.
3. Fundraiser / Bingo – ~~Dano Rybar~~ – Dano is not available today, working BINGO as hard as he can. Dano created a parking lot BINGO, he purchased a FM Radio frequency like a drive in and they call BINGO that way, if they win, they honk their horn flash their lights. Dano is conducting business. So, if you are around Citrus Heights on Friday or Saturday nights go play parking lot BINGO.
4. Re-Open California – ~~Nanette Rondeau~~ – As you all know we put a committee together to create a document that will assist School District, County Offices, Private School or whomever to get some insights into some things that we are all going to have to deal with and the challenges in transporting. Nanette Rondeau is our chairperson but she had to go to an emergency meeting so Tony Lavezzo will speak about the committee and the class we are planning for Management. The document is on the website, The Road Map on Guidance to Reopening Pupil Transportation. Thank you to those on the committee who helped out, those that are here today, Tony Peregrina, Jennifer Hanshew, Kerri Gardner, Chrissie Stevenson including many more professionals across California. Currently Tony, Nanette and myself are working on setting up a webinar to present the document and how it can be used.
5. CASTOways.org Web page – ~~Mike Sawyer~~ – If you have any information going on in the future please sent it to Mike and he will get it posted on the web page.

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

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

1. Officer's Workshop, Mechanic's Workshop. Manager's Forum Cancellations – Tony Peregrina – everything is cancelled for 2020. We did receive a letter from Double Tree telling us that if we did not put on The Managers Forum that we would owe them \$23,000.00 Dano believes they sent the letter as a scary tactic and he believes that we have language in our contract with Double Tree that will protect us and get us out of paying any monies. The idea is that everything that we were not able to put on because of our COVID 19 restriction if we are allowed will be at our State Conference. It will look

a lot like the State Conferences in the past all those courses will be pushed onto the State Conference. We will have Mechanic strains; Managers strains as well as Driver strains.

## **B. New Business**

1. State Conference – Tony Peregrina, ~~Dano Rybar~~, Kerri Gardner - at this point in time we cannot guarantee that we will have a State Conference. We are waiting on the State to decide on when and how we can have conference in the State of California. We are going to wait until our meeting November 6th, 2020 to talk more about the conference. Kerri Gardner is our program chair and she will begin to work on the program along with Tony Lavezzo and Matt Thomas.
2. CASTO Awards – Amanda Hightman – It that time of the year to consider the CASTO Awards. The awards include The Arnita Moon Memorial Service Above Self Award, The Fred Sowash Memorial Leadership Award, Member of the Year Award, there are four categories to this award 1. Official Member 2. Professional Member 3. Associate Member and 4. Student / Retired Member, and Life / Honorary Life, Honorary Member Award. Go onto the website under the Award section, the description and application for each of this award is there. Its not to early to get those nominations in.
3. Poster Contest – Amanda Hightman – went on the NAPT website to find the theme for the 2020/2021 poster contest. The have not released the new theme as they as still working on the 2010/2020 theme because of National School Bus Safety week in October. I will get back to you all as soon as they release the new theme. I will also have Mikey put it on the Website. We want the posters in to make the decision at our January meeting. But with us not meeting in person we are going to have to vote virtual. Maybe we will take photos of the posters and present them on the screen in their categories. Send them in as a photo.
4. Saturday State Board Meetings – Tony Peregrina – Our next board meeting November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 which is a Friday. The question to everybody is should we move our meeting back to Saturday? The idea is to keep the meeting at 2 hours and 15 minutes, we could even start in early like around 8:00am so it does not take up your whole Saturday. Or leave it at 11:00am? Do we leave it on Friday or back to Saturday?  
Chapter 1-Friday, Chapter 6-Friday, Chapter 7-Friday, Chapter 9-Friday, Chapter 10-Saturday, Chapter 12-Friday, Chapter13-, Chapter 14-, Chapter 17-, Chapter 18-Friday, Chapter 19-, Chapter 20-Friday, Angeles-Friday, Matt-Friday, Mike-, Christina -Friday, Jason-, Erin-, Pam-Friday,  
The consensus is Friday.

## **V. INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

### **A. Chapter News – Chapter Presidents**

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

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT 1:13pm (M) Kelly Jenal-Stainbrook (S) Jennifer Hanshew (C)**

