

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



**MINUTES**  
**Saturday January 11, 2020**  
**10:30am**  
**Hilton Garden Inn**  
**20 Advantage Ct.,**  
**Sacramento CA 95834**  
**(916) 579-7000**

**I. OPENING – 10:32am by President Tony Peregrina**

**A. Pledge of allegiance** - Led by Sam Anderson

**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.,  
CASTOway's Editor, CASBO Rep., CDE Rep., DMV Rep., Legislative Rep.*

2. *Verification of Eligibility –*

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 and Audience

**D. Minutes of Prior Meeting** – Sam question if Pam attended the last meeting and she was not, minutes have been corrected. (M) Sam Anderson (S) Nanette Rondeau (C)

**E. Correspondence** – Pam McDonald Received a Thanksgiving Card from C. Sanders Emblems (Membership, Conference and Rodeo Pins)

**F. Additions/changes to the Agenda** – (M) Nanette Rondeau (S) Gingi Borg (C)

**II. REPORTS -**

**A. Treasurer** – Christina Celeste, Balances in Checking \$145,072.44, in Savings \$5,791.90 total \$150,864.34. Christy Stevenson question Income on the State Board? \$390.00, It was backpack sales. Other question was Income Business Forum and Conference Coupons? Coupons are when Vendors purchase drink tickets for events, they are recorded under coupons. Sam question under expenses under Services Charges, in Quickbooks there is two line items Merchant fees and Service fees believes that they both mean and probably need to be all recorded under Merchant fees and if that is the case it is a quick and easy fix to move them all under Merchant Fees. Christina clarified under Conference Expenses on the second page under the Trade Show portion the amount \$1350.00 that has been moved to the income side Tyler Technology signed up for the conference and they paid \$1500.00 then they were no longer able to attend so they wanted to be reimbursed, Refunded them \$1350.00 and recorded under Conference income under Vendor Registration. Dano asked about the \$3000.00 recorded under lodging is actually a deposit of the Conference at Burbank Marriot in 2023 and asked if a new budget line item could be created so the future Board would know that amount was for the 2023 Conference deposit, Christina believed she could create a new line item under conference expense for 2023. Pam under expenses we have allocated \$1500.00 for due to the Transportation Coalition but we don't pay due to the

Coalition so she made a motion that we make that \$1500.00 available for the NCST (National Congress on School Transportation, Des Moines Iowa ) Conference that is coming up in May for expenses for the State Delegates, Pam McDonald (M) Jennifer Hanshew (S) (C) Anna shared that the NCST Conference is every five years which is a body of delegates from all of the states that come together to create a book (National Standards) that are the best practices and some states adopt that as their operation policies and procedures. This has been happening since 1939. Report Pam McDonald (M) Sam Anderson (S) (C)

**B. Membership** – Christina Celeste / Mike Sawyer, Mike passed out a handout of a breakdown of memberships types and the agency types, and how it adds up to our total numbers to date we have 1748 members as of Thursday then we had a scramble for early bird registration for conference that ended yesterday which added another 100 members in one day. So now our numbers are 1822 CASTO members. How many agency members do we have in the room? Show of hands, five. You all need to go back and pound the pavement and get you district to join. Mike also passed out a California map that showed a breakdown of how many members per Chapter. They are true numbers. 100%. Christina shared how in San Diego County she has been shown how to log into a secure site to be able to identify who the check is for and has been able now to activate the suspended accounts. Mike would no longer like for chapters to use membership as an incentive to attend workshop he suggested that attendees bring their renewal invoice to the workshop as a ticket to get into the workshop that way members are being responsible to renew on their own. Or provide a hotspot and have to member renew themselves on the spot.

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

**D. Special Representatives**

1. **California Department of Education** - Anna Borges, Anna reminded about the Lyres email notification and that if you are not on the list to sign up CDE uses that email notification system to communicate important information. CDE just sent one out from CHP about the School Bus Driver of the Year. She encouraged all in attendance to submit a name. The panel on the board is CASTO, CDE and CHP, who decides the School Bus Driver of the Year. It's really sad when they only receive 4 -5 application out of 50,000 school bus drivers. The Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol goes out to present the award to the winning submission. So please submit your choice. Since Anna spoke with us in September she has met with Highway Patrol and the Department of Motor Vehicles, She had reported to us that the Highway Patrol was only going to test School Bus Driver applicants if they had a instruction permit all other applicants for a certificate must have a permanent Commercial License which was leading up to the ELDT requirements at the Federal level. In this conversation with them they have decided to take School Bus, SPAB, and Youth Bus with permits, so the process has not changed for these three at all. Transit will go into DMV and Farm Labor will come to CHP with a permanent Commercial License. Anna has also had an opportunity to work with DMV to create policy for their employees of how the process works. And now they are only issuing the Permanent Certificate at a Commercial Drivers License Unit of DMV. Melainie Boyak is CHP, School Bus Program Coordinator. She attended the last School Bus Officers training in December, she seems to be very involved is responsive when people reach out to her, hoping she will be around for a while. Anna has also had opportunity to work with David Birchman at DMV to help correct the Commercial Handbook she is hoping next year the corrections will be made. She also has heard that the Director of DMV is retiring so we will be getting someone new.

Department of Education, ELDT Entry Level Driver Training requirements which is supposed to take effect February 2020 which would require you the subject matter at the Federal level which no hours are attached to it to be taught to applicants for a

Commercial Drivers License. DMV is not changing the process so that remains the same. Anna attended NASDPTS, National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services, in Washington DC in October, she had an opportunity to speak with Larry Minor who is one of the administrators from the Federal Motor Safety Carriers Administration and said off to the side this is what I need to know, Does our curriculum meet the standards? And as he did a two-hour program answering all the questions from every state in there, the answer was "yes" we meet the standard because we are a training school and all the curriculum is there. He also said that the Federal Motor Safety Carriers Administration will be sending out information postponing the requirements for ELDT until February 2022. You hear about MAP-21, MAP-21 encompasses somethings, the Clearinghouse for Drug and Alcohol, National Registry for Medicals, and now the ELDT requirements. Putting it all on a big database that we are all going to have to report to. They are trying to lower accidents rates, provide education keep take of people who have tested positive or refused a drugs and alcohol test. They are trying to get them out of the system, it's a lot of people who carry a Commercial Drivers License. So that's the purpose of MAP-21. ELDT has been in the works for a very long time 2001, 2003 and they are wanting to postpone until 2022 its just not ready to go. You all need to registry all your folks for Drug and Alcohol that is already in the works, you need to report the positive tests which we know the MRO Medical Review Officer will be required to report and on that system that record will stay with us for a minimum of 5 years. After 5 years they get rid of the information and go on. Your perspective employee, each driver will have to register on this website and give you permission to pull their record of Drug and Alcohol electronically. That is a perspective employee and a current employee. Current employees' records are checked or pulled once a year. Also, in that they discussed medicals and it was alluded to that they are in conversation about adding an agility test in the medical there are drivers out there really not fit to drive commercially. Senator Monty has put out statute, 15250.1 VC he says look at Title 49 ELDT requirement, you will need to comply in order to get a commercial license, which we know and again there are no hours required in the federal, it's just subject matter. But in section B of the vehicle code section he says you're going to have to get a minimum of 15 hours of behind the wheel to comply with Title 49, 50 minutes is as go as doing an hour so basically you down to 12.5 hours, unlike the Department of Ed we don't round up we round down. Our statute by far supersede that except for Farm Labor and some of the Youth Bus B.

So, 50 years of this program... We will be celebrating at CASTO Conference. We invited the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to be a Keynote Speaker, unfortunately at the time of the invitation they don't start booking anything until after the new year which did not work for us since conference is in February. So, she invited the Commissioner of California Highway Patrol, who will be our keynote speaker on Sunday. Commissioner Stanley and the Department of Ed / OST has a really great relationship with him. They meet with him every year for the proclamation that is presented to CASTO and the OST for the good work our folks do all year. So, School Bus is very near and dear to is heart, he comes to the School Bus Officers class and speaks to the officers about how important it is. I'm excited about him being there. Excited about the conference, excited about Saturday night to be able to celebrate anybody valid instructor, anybody who has come through the program, anybody who wants to be in the future. And they want to recognize all the staff that has ever worked at the Department of Education. Anna would also like to recognize Lisa Middlekauff, SSA, she has been putting together a book of all the classes from class 1 all the way to class 311 of every person who has ever attended along with their class motto.

2. ***Sustaining Member Representative*** - ~~Jason Hohalek~~, no report

3. **Contractors Representative** - ~~Erin Borda~~ no report
4. **CASBO Representative** - Pam McDonald, she is in her last year as the State Chair for CASBO, the in coming Chair will be Matt Sanchez. The Conference is March 29<sup>th</sup> - April 1<sup>st</sup> in Palm Springs. Everything is on the Website all the classes are listed it is still early bird registration if you are having trouble getting a Hotel room email CASBO there are extra room where the Vendor are registered to stay.

**E. Standing Committee Reports**

1. **Legislation** – Nico Chavez, on Friday Governor released the January budget and there are no changes to Transportation and there has not been in over 30 years to the funding program. The good news is there is \$4 billion surplus that will be up for grabs unfortunately none of the money is required to go to Education. We are in the second year of the legislation session, Deadline – old bills from last year that did not make it to the Governors desk have to be reported out by January 17<sup>th</sup>. We are not looking at any of those bills, we are looking at new bills. Looking at a funding bill authored by Assemblyman Cooper that was determined to provide a cost of living adjustment to the funding program based on the federal set inflation cost of living adjustment school transportation would get more funding. The other piece is based on how under funded your school is you would get proportionally that more money. Bad news this bill is not going to be ready this year, it has already been pulled by the author. What we are working on now is getting an informational committee set up where it will be a stand alone committee to look at school transportation preparing for this Billing hearing Kern County looked at every single School District Transportation Offices' expenses throughout the County and what they found was back in 2012-2013 the last time we had state wide numbers saying how much money a school district spent on transportation compared to how much they were going to get from the state to provide that transportation, use to be county wide it averaged \$.40 on every dollar, the reimbursement rate for the school districts. What they have found out now here in 2019 now 2020 the rate has dropped 20% county wide. We are talking about a community that serves unserved population and they are spending way more of their budget just to get the kids to school to get them to breakfast to get them educated. So using that information, working with Justin Binion we are going to be getting more information state wide, we are going to be relying on the Chapter Presidents to talk to their members to get that information for us because if this is a trend state wide this is something that will be very powerful in California's Legislature and we might have an opportunity to make some real change to the funding formula. The Bill is not to be heard going forward the reason for that it is a funding Bill that requires a budget appropriation. Along with the Committee we will also be looking and talking with the budget subcommittee chairs to try and get it heard and the item into the budget. For both those committee hearing as soon as they are set the information on when, where and how to attend those meetings will be sent out CASTO wide and Statewide, this will give us the opportunity to have our voice heard. Regarding the Rideshare Companies, and the new mode of transportation that is being targeted at your CBOs, he is working on language, working with legislative counsel to get this all hammered out, here is the general concepts of the Bill, 1. Definition for what these drivers are, the definition is any TNC Transportation Network Company, Uber Lift, will not harm any of the other carrier or any other services you use to for your transportation needs for your special needs only if they are used through a Transportation Network Company. That's when a Transportation Network Company contracts with your school district to provide transportation for a student 12 grade level and under. They use a Class C drivers License and their personal vehicle as defined with a TNC. The other piece they will be required to have the same medical form as every school driver goes through, they will have to meet the same medical requirements as a school bus driver. The third piece they will have to go through the same drug and

alcohol testing as every school bus driver. They will also have the same background checks as a school bus driver. They are also going to have to meet the same behind the wheel training requirement VC 15250.1. And the last piece is we are going to try and put them in with the SPAB training requirements. So as with the legislative process we are starting out very strong and it will get watered down, but we are going to keep it as strong as we can. These are the general conditions we are starting with.

Break 11:59am – 12:20pm

2. **Roadeo Report** - Doug Smith, he was sad to report that Karen Wiggington and Reggie Foley have retired from the Roadeo Committee, they have filled the positions and the committee is complete. Have secured the location for the Southern Sectional, they had worked and worked to secure the Rosebowl but they only date they had available was Mother's Day and they did not believe that date would work so the Southern Roadeo will be at Irwindale Raceway on April 25, 2020. Northern Section will be at Galt Market Place on May 2, 2020. Then the State Championships will be at Galt Market Place May 24, 2020. They have added a State Scorekeeper Jana Graham. Start Line - Kevin Sellstrom. Student Loading - Jennifer Moren, Parallel Park – Jennifer Hanshew, Back up Stall – Cynthia Zwartjes, Right Turn - Jay Patten, Left Turn – Debbie Barker, Stop Line Double Crossover – Sandy Dillman, Offset Alley – Barbara Hicks. Past Chairman – John Cain, State Vice Chairperson – Antonio Perez. Please send in your Roadeo dates.  
Tony excused the Roadeo Committee for their meeting.
3. **CASTOway's Editor** – ~~Kristy Fletcher / Ted Saltzstein~~, neither Kristy nor Ted were able to make it to the meeting, Tony shared that the edition of the CASTOways is just about ready to be sent out. The Challenge every year since the start of CASTOways is getting the chapters to send in a report If you have a Workshop, Roadeo or just something special happening it does not take much to send in a small report. You take picture we all see it on Facebook send them in for us to use in the CASTOways, send them to your Editor. Southern, Ted Saltzstein, Northern, Kristy Fletcher. This one should be out soon, next one in April.
4. **Access & Mobility** – Tony Peregrina, At this time we have sold \$1345.00 books we are on our way to selling \$3000.00. You are our best-selling point, If you don't have one please purchase one you can purchase them online. We have about 100 books left.
5. **Fundraiser/Bingo** - Dano Rybar, We have been operating BINGO for nine years on Fridays in Sacramento It's regular open to the public, the Executive Board went last night and had fun. The volunteers last night were glad to see the faces of CASTO. March 6<sup>th</sup> will be our last night at the Sacramento BINGO Center. Our revenue has been slowing going down and our rent has gone up. We are currently only making enough to pay the bills. Lot of homeless people and they are scaring our senior clientele, we have added additional security but its still scary for our seniors. So what happened in July and August is there is another BINGO Hall in Roseville, have always wanted to work out of the Roseville Center, it's a lot larger and the clientele is completely different, so since July we have been operating out of the Roseville Center all day on Sundays as well as on Friday nights. With us closing Friday nights in March we will be keeping Sundays. Our revenue on Sundays have been offsetting the loses on Friday so once we get rid of that our revenues will kick up. We are using the money we are making at Grand Oaks to offset our the loses at Sacramento. Another thing we have done through BINGO is helped so many parents get there kids recognized for scholarships, they come in to volunteer and we make donations to they associations where these kids are part of paid for sports where they get college recruiters who look for them at these events parents really can't afford the expense and travel, tuition so the parents work for CASTO BINGO to help cover the costs. We have had two kids get recognized one in Volleyball and the other is Baseball by a recruiter for college scholarships because CASTO help the parents keep those kids in the sport.

6. **CASTOways.org Web page** - Mike Sawyer, CASTOways go look at the website to see if anything needs to be update. Send things to me in PDF format I can usually get them posted within the hour they are sent to me. Photos too! Anna wanted to say that the website looks beautiful. It's a lot of work it looks professional. Thank you, Mike.

**CLOSED SESSION** – State Board of Directors and Life Members only

Meeting back in session 1:00pm

### **III. BUSINESS AND ISSUES –**

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

1. **Managers Forum** - Matt Thomas, Christina Celeste, Christina passed out a supplement budget vs actuals report. Total income was \$55,793.80 budget \$60,000.00. Total expenses was \$57,534.18 budget \$45,800.00 so on the actuals side we are - \$1,740.38. we had hoped to make about \$15,000.00 and we did not so we will need to make that up at the Conference which is our annual money maker. We had 27 Vendors this year where last year we had 35, this year we had 116 attendees and last year we had 160. So, as you can see the difference from where we budgeted and what we brought in. We also have outstanding fees of \$1,944.00, all our vendors are paid, we have 6 attendees outstanding, 3 at the registration rate of \$299.00 and 3 at \$349.00. If we can recoup those fees, we will be ahead just a little bit. Tony also shared that beside the attendance is that the cost of the equipment rental went up considerably, Tony plans on working with Dano on that cost for future contracts. Managers Forum is in Sacramento this year, Matt will be reaching out to the Northern folks to help him find people to present.

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

- 1 **Close Nominations** – Pam McDonald, to date Pam has not received any outside nominations other than the current board. Nominations were closed with;  
Professional Rep – Angeles Valerio, (M) Mike Sawyer (S) Nanette Rondeau (C).  
Treasurer – Christina Celeste, (M) Justin Binion (S) Sam Anderson (C).  
Secretary – Amanda Hightman, (M) Matt Thomas (S) Ross Rosborough (C).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Mike Sawyer, (M) Sam Anderson (S) Steven Mirelez (C).  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Matt Thomas, (M) Sam Anderson (S) Christopher Bates (C).  
President – Tony Peregrina (M) Mike Sawyer (S) Sam Anderson (C).  
Motion was made to accept the nominations through acclamation for the Executive Board. (M) Sam Anderson (S) Jeannette Ford (C)
- 2 **CASTO Awards** – Tony Peregrina, Chapter President we need your help, we have outstanding people out there that we all need to hear about, we need you all to nominate them, we have several awards that they qualify for, nominate them. Tony will be sending out emails to remind you of the deadline dates. The Arnita Moon Memorial Service above self, Fred Sowash Memorial Leadership Award, Member of the Year, Life / Honorary Life / Honorary Member. All application can be found on the CASTOways Website.
- 3 **Roadeo Policy** – Tony Peregrina, Tony passed out a handout of the changes needed to be made to the Roadeo Policy, the changes were on page 2 and page 4 adding Start Line Coordinator and Scoring Coordinator. (M) Pam McDonald (S) Justin Binion (C).
- 4 **Poster Contest** - Amanda Hightman, The Winner of the Poster Contest is Eden Choi from Fairmont Private Schools Historic Anaheim Campus.

- 5 **2020 State Conference** – Kerri Gardner, all slots are confirmed, and ready to roll. Touching all aspects of the industry. We will have programs for Instructors, Drivers, Dispatch program the Elk Grove Unified put together, a few classes for Maintenance personnel and Leadership. Saturday Keynote Speaker is Solano County Office of Education Superintendent Lissette Estrella Henderson, she spoke at Chapter 10's Workshop a few years ago The program she does about Transportation is phenomenal. Anna confirmed Commissioner Stanley today. Kerri is still in need of a few more Moderators. Mike shared that we have a total of 320 attendees at this point, the super duper early bird special, if you were in attendance at Managers Forum you were privy to that level of pricing, 9. School Bus Driver Saturday only 68. Full Conference Members before 1/10, 83. Full Conference Non-Members before 1/10, 43. Weekend Special Members, 73. Weekend Special Non-Members, 27. Full Conference Retirees, 4. Tony's goal is for us to get to a least 500 attendees. He encourages those Chapters in Northern to encourage their members to attend the Conference. Tony spoke to Donna King our Vendor Chair and she is nearing capacity in getting those vendors out to attend.
- 6 **Officers Workshop** – Tony Peregrina, Officers Workshop is designed for your and your board, the people that run your chapter. It is imperative that we all get together at least once a year. Not just as an executive board and board of directors, but all the boards. I'm asking you that as you plan your next year's budget that you put a line item on your budget so that you will put the Officer Workshop in that budget. That means you have to plan towards putting that money aside and making the money so that your chapter representatives can be there. It does not matter if you have been there before, its important to have this time together as a board. We don't know who is going to be the head of your chapter at any given time, if someone falls, the next person needs to be there to step in, to back them up. It important for the Past President, Immediate Past President of your chapter needs to get involved with your President as well to mentor the others. Put some money aside, if you have an idea of what its going to cost, planning that we would be attending in Oceano, you know how expensive it is, speaking with Dano and the cost for us to go there, sadden by the fact that some chapters could not come because of the cost. We can bring the Officers Workshop to Sacramento and cut the cost significantly. And with as much as we love Oceano we need to get the Professional Development side of things done, the question is should we move our Officers Workshop to Sacramento? Should he look for another place that might be even cheaper? So that we can all attend. Nanette shared that is it very difficult for her chapter to travel to Oceano, the cost and travel time. Pam suggested the Presidents go back to their boards and we do an online poll say in a couple of months. Right now, Oceano is booked for June 26 – 27.

#### **IV. Information Exchange**

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

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT 2:05pm (M) Pam McDonald (S) Christopher Bates (C)**

