

## CRESTON ADVISORY BODY

### Meeting Minutes

Creston Community Center – 5110 Swayze St, Creston  
Wednesday, January 21, 2026

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#### **Call to Order – Flag Salute**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM.

#### **Roll Call**

Present: Sheila Lyons (Chairperson), Kurt Almond (Vice Chair), Roy Barba (Treasurer), Michael Aarons, Jim Wortner, Juan Soto Absent: Don Clark and Thomas Edel.

#### **CAB Recorder for this meeting**

2. Jim Wortner will be the recorder for this meeting.

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#### **3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s)**

Corrections to November minutes prepared by Roy Barba were discussed and approved. Motion to approve November minutes was made and seconded; motion carried. Minutes from August and October still need to be completed.

#### **4. Public and/or CAB Member Comments (Items NOT on the agenda)**

- Juan Soto was welcomed as a new member.
- Discussion about potential new members, including Brian Minor, who remains interested but is currently busy with farming activities.

#### **5. Public Safety Reports**

##### **Sheriff's Department:**

Sergeant Slane (North Station) reported an uneventful December: one battery, two trespassing calls, one suspicious circumstance, and 14 patrol checks. Community feedback noted increased visibility of patrol cars. Nine new deputies graduated in January; more are in training. A question about drones and lights at the Nancy Wood Room was addressed—these were related to a TV production, not law enforcement.

##### **CAL FIRE:**

Captain Jesse Ryan reported from Nov 19 to Jan 21: 43 medical aids, 6 structure fires, 14 traffic collisions, 7 fire alarms/smoke checks, 2 power line incidents, and 2 vehicle fires (one large commercial). Noted a significant increase in lithium battery fires; advised safe charging practices and regular battery checks. Discussion about battery safety, fire risks, and recent structure fires.

**CHP:**

A CHP representative did not attend this meeting. No report filed.

**6. Fifth District Supervisor Report** - Jennifer Kinnear, Chief of Staff

Updates from Supervisor Moreno's office included:

- Caltrans will address water flow issues at the end of Swayze Road.
- PG&E has been upgrading lines on Webster to reduce future outages.
- Cal Portland's sand mining permit is under review; Fish and Wildlife response is pending.
- District 5 newsletter launched; community members can subscribe for updates.  
<https://app.indigov.com/pub/519f30e5-0376-4acf-850e-5e07a1892304/subscriptions/new>
- Parks and Recreation master planning is underway; input from the Garden Club is encouraged.

Decision agreed to, to Skip Item #7 to be after Item #8.

**8. Planning Department Update & Project Referrals** - Dominic Del Porta, SLO County Department of Planning and Building**Lot Line Adjustment Enholm N-SUB2025-00084:**

Roy Barba, CAB Area Rep for this project, lead discussion of a two home major lot line adjustment at 2390 and 2396 La Panza Rd resulting on one home for each property by reconfiguring internal property lines for estate planning and home placement. Site visit conducted; Recommendation of motion to approve was made by Roy Barba, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sheila Lyons, ensuing vote was unanimous to accept motion.

**Code Enforcement:**

Updates on Stanger and Jhelum Vineyards: Stanger's case closed; Jellum has permits in process. Cell tower permits are ready for issuance; minor road improvements may be required for access.

**Cell Tower:** Dominic Del Porta announced that the permits for the two cell towers proposed for Creston are done and ready pick up.

**Cannabis Projects:**

No significant updates; community efforts to monitor compliance continue.

**7. New Business****a. Proposed Transportation Tax Increase Discussion:**

A comprehensive presentation was given regarding the possibility of placing a transportation tax using a SLO County sales tax increase of 0.5% on the November 2026 ballot. The discussion highlighted the following key points:

- **Background:**

The state distributes transportation funding through the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), primarily funded by the gas tax (SB1). As more residents drive less and switch to hybrid or electric vehicles, the county's share of state funding has decreased. Neighboring counties (Santa Barbara, Monterey, Santa Cruz) have implemented voter-approved transportation taxes, generating significant local revenue—over \$100 million in 2024 alone—while San Luis Obispo County has not yet adopted such a measure.

- **Funding Structure:**

The proposed tax would generate approximately \$35 million per year. Of this, 55% would be distributed among the eight jurisdictions in the county (including unincorporated areas) for local road repairs, safety, and improvements, allocated based on population. The remaining 40% would fund regional capital and corridor improvement programs, with 4% set aside for transportation services for seniors, people with disabilities, and veterans, and up to 1% for administrative costs.

- **Local Control and Oversight:**

Funds collected would remain local, with each jurisdiction deciding how to spend its share. A Citizens Oversight Committee, including representatives from each supervisorial district and city, would monitor compliance and ensure fiscal integrity. Annual audits would be conducted to maintain transparency.

- **Community Input:**

Community Advisory Committees (CACs) would meet twice per two-year programming cycle to provide priority lists and feedback on project needs. The plan aims to address both major infrastructure projects and smaller, critical improvements like Safe Routes to School.

- **Tax Details:**

The proposed increase would be a 0.5% sales tax, not applied to housing, medical, or groceries. Tourists would also contribute through purchases, benefiting local infrastructure.

- **Discussion Points:**

Members raised questions about the impact of declining gas tax revenue, the possibility of taxing electric vehicles, and the fairness of funding distribution. The importance of leveraging local funds to attract state and federal grants was emphasized. Concerns were voiced about ensuring equitable benefits for smaller communities like Creston and maintaining current levels of road spending by cities.

- **Next Steps:**

The draft expenditure plan will be reviewed by the SLOCOG Board of Directors on February 4th, with further approvals sought from cities and the county before finalization in April and voter decision in November.

**Action:**

No formal vote was taken, but feedback was provided for consideration in the final plan.

**b. Moratorium on Treated Sewage Sludge:**

Discussion about the county's recurring moratorium on spreading treated sewage sludge. Concerns raised about water quality and long-term impacts to soils and the community. Motion made by Sheila, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim, to draft a letter will be prepared by Kurt, reviewed by Sheila, supporting a continued ban, focusing on longer term water/ soil protection; motion carried with all ayes, except Roy who abstained.

**c. SLO Bike Club Wildflower Ride:**

The club requested approval for their annual event in Creston. The County is requiring CAB approval prior to issuing them a permit. Motion to approve the event was made by Jim and seconded by Kurt;

motion carried unanimously. Discussion about logistics, including porta-potty placement and community benefits.

#### **9. Use of AI for Meeting Minutes:**

The group discussed using AI-generated summaries as official minutes, with human review for accuracy. Consensus to trial this approach, with summaries posted for review before ratification at the next meeting. Motion made by Roy, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim. Carried unanimously.

#### **10. Paso Basin Cooperative Committee Report**

Murray Powell reported on water usage, cannabis project compliance, and upcoming meetings. Noted ongoing challenges with outreach and funding for water projects. Next PRAGA meeting February 18<sup>th</sup>. There will be a meeting with DWR to discuss “dry wells” and management tools/objectives. Murray will try to attend even though he was not invited.

#### **11. Committee Reports**

##### **a. By-Laws:**

No updates.

##### **b. Elections:**

Juan Soto seated as new CAB District 2 representative; incumbents of even numbered CAB areas to announce intentions for re-election at February CAB Meeting. Sheila distributed Attachment D from By-laws, Conditions of Service form to be completed by incumbents who are up for election again. This included Kurt & Mike. Post meeting Sheila emailed form to Don Clark.

##### **c. Public Information:**

Website updates and community outreach discussed.

#### **12. Treasurer’s Report**

Roy Barba reported a balance of \$1,201.12. \$200 dues for CATCH to be paid as standard. Roy will file paperwork with the County for the next year of funding using new forms from County.

#### **13. Additional Public Comment**

Comments on Christmas decorations and road safety (rumble strips). Discussion about community events, rodeo board participation, and volunteer engagement.

#### **14. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:49 PM.

**Next CAB Meeting:** Wednesday, February 18, 2026

#### **Attachments:**

Meeting Attendee Sign in Sheet

CAB Meeting Agenda

SLO BC Wildflower Century Ride

SLOCOG Draft Expenditure Plan (Could not attach this file from CAB email)

CSI BofS #3 Sludge PFAS (Could not attach this file from CAB email)



The Creston Advisory Body

## Meeting Attendee Sign-In Sheet

Date: Jan 21, 2026

Name (Printed)	Address	Phone	E-Mail
Dominic Del Rio	SLO County	805 781 5710	oldalperto@co.slo.ca.us
Melissa Morford	SLO County		
Juan Soto	6235 Adams St. Creston CA	865 591-9324	cosoto@yahoo.com
Jennifer Kinnear	SLO County	805-731-4339	jkinnear@coslo.ca.us
Casey Salas	2390 La Pampa Creston	858 472 6085	CAT_Salas@AOL.COM
Casey Salas		949 228 3293	Casey.KeneSalas@gmail.com
BILL ENTHOLM	2390 La Pampa Street	805 360 9140	bill@mrhydrant.com
Jennie Endholm	2390 La Pampa Rd	949 212 4533	jeannie.endholm@gmail.com
SUSAN SOUZA	ODONOVAN ROAD		SUSAN7@AOL.COM
DENNIS HOGAN	5655 Linda Dr Rd	805-227-4862	HOGAN.DENNIS1945@GMAIL.COM
Anne Bousky	Ridgeview Rd 50 Robles		abousky@Slocog.org

## **CRESTON ADVISORY BODY**

### **Meeting Agenda**

Creston Community Center – 5110 Swayze St, Creston

Wednesday, **Jan. 21, 2026** 7:00 – 9:30 PM

Creston Advisory Body Contact – CrestonAB@gmail.com

Meetings scheduled on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month except December.

Chairperson – Sheila Lyons Vice Chair – Kurt Almond Treasurer – Roy Barba Secretary – rotating duty

- 1) Call to Order – Flag Salute
- 2) CAB Recorder for this meeting – TBD by Sheila Lyons (**TBD** up next)
- 3) Minutes of the previous meeting(s) (5 min) (**August 20th – Don Clark, October 15<sup>th</sup> – Kurt, November 19<sup>th</sup> – Roy**)  
All CAB approved minutes are posted at crestonadvisorybody.com .
- 4) Limited Public and/or CAB Member Comments for Items NOT on the agenda (3 min each) – This includes announcements of local events from Creston organizations
  - a. Potential new CAB members?? Brian Minor (Creston Rocky Canyon?) & Juan Soto (Eddy Ranch)
- 5) Public Safety - Cal Fire, Sheriff, CHP, etc. – 5 min. each
  - Sheriff's Department - Commander Sandra Arauza or Deputy Matthew Barksdale
  - CHP - Lt. Commander Darren Gennuso - Templeton Station
  - Cal Fire - Fire Captain – Jesse Ryan or Chad Mitchell
- 6) Fifth District Supervisor Report- Supervisor Heather Moreno/Chief of Staff Jennifer Kinnear may be present.  
Supervisor to provide update from B of S meetings. Regular Supervisor Monthly hours in Creston – 5:30-7:00 PM  
Unfinished Business – SLO COG Draft Investment Plan review – Annie Bowsky - Plan to be voted on by B of S in February. Usually at Creston Fire Station #50.
- 7) New Business –
  - a. James Worthley to present draft SLO-COG Expenditure Plan
  - b. David Broadwater to speak regarding Moratorium that is expiring March 2026 for preventing the spreading of treated sewer sludge on Ag land.
  - c. CAB approval to allow the County to issue a permit for SLO Bike Club Wildflower Ride to be held in Creston – This event generates significant income for Creston - Sheila Lyons
- 8) Planning Department Update & Project Referrals - CAB Liaison-Dominic Dal Porta
  - a. Project Description: La Panza Area of CAB – Roy Barba CAB Rep  
Enholm N-SUB2025-00084 (previously N-SUB2025-00067) Line line adjustment between two parcels (APN(s) 043-331-015 & 043-331-016). Two homes on parcel one currently. Would result in one home each parcel. Final parcel sizes 50 acres and 54.05 acres. Rural Lands category.  
Address is 2390 La Panza Rd. <https://sanluisobispocountyca-energovvweb.tylerhost.net/apps/selfservice#/plan/a82d9468-7c71-4da7-af53-e7a495c6774a>
  - b. Cannabis projects update – Jim Wortner
- 9) Unfinished Business –
  - a. CAB members discuss using recordings of meetings as official minutes. Mike Aarons/Kurt Almond
- 10) Report from the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee Special, if applicable  
– Murray Powell– He may/or may not be present. Report regarding latest info on PR GSA and JPA
- 11) Committee Reports/Next Steps (5-10 min each as needed) –
  - a. By-Laws – Sheila L. & Thomas E.
  - b. Elections – Sheila, Susan S. (public) –Alternates needed. Seeking new representatives from Areas of CAB – Creston VRL, Rocky Canyon/Hwy 229, and Creston East (Eddy Ranch)
  - c. Public Information — Roy Barba, Tom Edel & Mike Aarons, Kurt Almond A.  
CAB members – Mike Aarons
- 12) Treasurer's Report – (5 min) Roy Barba - Account balance. Approval of CATCH dues - \$200.
- 13) Additional Limited Public Comment period – Final words (3 minutes each)
- 14) Future meetings and agenda items- Next meeting **February 18, 2025**
- 15) Adjournment by approximately 9:30 p.m.



**Wildflower**

**C E N T U R Y**

**Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026**

**Start/Finish: Creston, CA**

The San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club is holding its annual Wildflower Century bike ride on April 18th.

There will be about 700 cyclists along with 10 support vehicles and CHP Officers on the Red and Blue roads during the times indicated.

Riders are reminded to ride safely, observe traffic laws, share the road and respect local residents.

We ask residents for help in making your beautiful rural roads extra safe for drivers and cyclists during the event.

The Wildflower supports the SLOBBC's annual donation of \$50,000 to Bike SLO County and cycling events and programs throughout the county and our community partners.

More Information At: [slobc.org/wildflower](http://slobc.org/wildflower)

