

CRESTON ADVISORY BODY

Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Creston Community Center – 5110 Swayze St, Creston

Creston Advisory Body Contact – CrestonAB@gmail.com

Meetings scheduled on the 3rd Wednesday of each month except December.

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

1) Call to Order – Flag Salute

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A roll call was conducted. Those identified as present were **Sheila Lyons, Michael Aarons, Thomas Edel, Juan Soto, Kurt Almond, Roy Barba** and **Don Clark**. **Matt Lynge** was identified as absent. Two seats were noted as vacant.

2) CAB Recorder for this meeting

Members discussed the use of an AI tool to assist with meeting minutes and noted that the process is easier than prior approaches. Members noted that improving results depends on clearly stating the agenda item being discussed, identifying speakers, and having new speakers spell their names.

Recorder: Don Clark was selected as recorder for the meeting.

3) Minutes of the previous meeting (August 20th – Don Clark, February – Juan Soto)

February minutes (prepared by **Juan Soto** and edited prior to the meeting) were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the February minutes, **Kurt Almond** Motioned, **Roy Barba** seconded, and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

4) Limited Public and/or CAB Member Comments for Items NOT on the agenda

No public comment from the audience was recorded.

CAB/community announcements included:

- The Creston Garden Club continued seeking donated barrels for the April 11 Plant & Bake event, with instructions to coordinate using the contact information listed on the agenda.
- Volunteers were requested for the Creston rodeo on September 11 and 12, with a note that **Donna Giubinni** was coordinating.
- The SLO Bicycle Wildflower Ride and the associated spaghetti dinner were discussed as uncertain/pending due to enrollment considerations.

5) Public Safety - Cal Fire, Sheriff, CHP, etc.

Sheriff's Department

A representative for the Sherrif's Department was not present.

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CHP

Commander Genuzo provided January–February statistics: four crashes investigated (three property-damage, one injury, no fatalities). Enforcement contacts were reported as increased compared to the prior year, with 44 enforcement contacts and 29 citations; 12 speeding citations were noted (including highway and county-road locations), and one DUI arrest was reported.

The CHP representative discussed use and purpose of a radar trailer (speed feedback only), noted it had been repositioned for safety, and described regional “saturation enforcement” and planned enforcement emphasis on Highway 41 based on crash statistics. Staffing levels and a forthcoming additional cadet/officer were also discussed.

Cal Fire

A CAL FIRE representative, **Dustin Heck**, introduced himself and began providing a calls-for-service overview. Portions of the CAL FIRE report were not fully captured clearly in the transcript; discussion included references to a short-duration restriction/ban period and internal staffing/administrative support topics.

6) Fifth District Supervisor Report

Supervisor Heather Moreno was not present. It was stated that **Jennifer Kinnear** was ill and not present.

Members discussed questions that had been sent regarding: (1) an upcoming Board of Supervisors vote related to cannabis taxation and (2) whether a reported county surplus would be allocated to roads. No responses to those questions were reported during the meeting. Discussion also referenced county efforts related to housing/shelter resources.

7) Planning Department Update & Project Referrals - CAB Liaison-Dominic Dal Porta

Dominic Dal Porta was not present.

The meeting discussed a pending project referral regarding a request by **Brad Goodrow** for a Minor Use Permit to allow for up to 50 temporary events per year across two locations. Members discussed that the county still had outstanding questions and discussed contacting the area planner to clarify the county’s concerns. Members also discussed potential community impacts (frequency of events, traffic, and neighborhood considerations).

8) Unfinished Business

No discussion.

9) Report from the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee Special

Murry Powell spoke about the Paso Basin Water Committee. Murry missed the previous month’s meeting. A supervisor meeting occurred a couple of weeks prior to this discussion. A fee charged to

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licensed operators was discussed at that supervisor meeting. The fee referenced is annual and approximately \$4,500.

The fee was paid to the state for an organization that has since been disbanded. There are constraints related to Proposition 26 that limit how fees can be structured. A new budget for capital projects cannot be created immediately and must return next year, with reference to a board meeting on the 25th.

Cities are charged through their public water systems, not directly as separate entities. All customers on the city water system are metered and receive monthly water bills.

A complaint will be filed with CWR (California Water Resources). The legal counsel budget is:

\$215,000 for the current fiscal year

\$144,000 budgeted for next year

Financial administrative work is billed at \$250 per hour.

There are four board members who are local. San Miguel and three other agencies have annual water use already higher than certain referenced figures. A project would add approximately 50–60 acre-feet of water use. One agency's current usage is stated as around 300 acre-feet, which is believed to be near its limit.

Supervisor Marino did not attend (did not show up). A board chair named **Jennifer Jones** is referenced. Five out of seven board members must vote to take certain actions. Murry stated he was removed from the board previously but will be back on it.

Committee Reports/Next Steps (5-10 min each as needed)

By-Laws – Sheila L. & Thomas E.

Bylaws were raised for review; no specific corrections were recorded.

Elections – Sheila, Susan S. (public) –Alternates needed.

Elections and related forms were discussed. It was stated that some forms had not yet been signed/returned, and members discussed where a form was currently located. No additional election actions were clearly recorded in the transcript.

Public Information – Roy Barba, Tom Edel & Mike Aarons, Kurt Almond

Website/public information items were discussed, including a misspelling correction on the website and a note that the email associated with the website had not yet been reviewed.

Treasurer's Report – Roy Barba - Account balance.

Treasurer-related discussion referenced a service fee and an item related to a website service payment and reimbursement handling. **An account balance was not clearly stated in the transcript.**

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Additional Limited Public Comment period

Additional discussion included community organization updates and volunteer needs (including support for events and facility operations/maintenance), and a Garden Club update referencing a donation and planning considerations for improvements and how they could affect other community uses. Specific numeric details were discussed in parts, but not all were clearly captured in the transcript.

Future meetings and agenda items- Next meeting April 15, 2026

No discussion.

Adjournment 8:16 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made **Thomas Edel**. No opposition was recorded, and the meeting was adjourned.