

The NorthState Public Employee

Affiliated with Public Employees Union, Local 1
Serving BCEA Members in Butte County

LOCAL 1

Volume 22, Issue 4

April 2011

Local #1 represents public employees, is independent, and is run by the members

Summary of Findings of the Butte County Budget Analysis

by Rudy Jenkins

Below is the conclusion of the Butte County budget analysis commissioned by the All Union Coalition, the full report can be found on the BCEA website at www.bcealocal1.org.

Our findings include the following:

- The County's revenues have flattened, or are declining.

Current trends indicate future revenues will either be flat or decline in the immediate future.

- The County's budget process is very conservative as the County has consistently budgeted large deficits in its adopted budget.

Instead of these large projected deficits, the County has two much smaller deficits, and four surpluses.

The General Fund had a cumulative six year surplus of \$15.5 million.

- The General Fund has maintained strong cash and investments and total fund balance throughout the period covered by our report. Most of the fund balance is unreserved.
- The ratios of the General Fund's unre-

served fund balance to revenues and expenditures recovered in 2010.

Both ratios declined from their highs, but recovered to approximately three times the unreserved fund balance.

These are healthy ratios.

- The County's two insurance funds may have excess one time moneys that can be returned to the General Fund.
- Per the 2010-2011 Second Quarter Financial Report, the County projects a \$1.7 million surplus for the current fiscal year and a \$1.2 million surplus for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

The County has based its forecasts on continuing State revenues and has not included any current proposals to reduce the State's massive projected deficit.

As such, any State budget that reduces funding to counties will have a negative impact on these forecasts.

“SUMMARY” cont'd on page 3

Race to the Bottom - BOS Dictates not Negotiates

by Rudy Jenkins

At the Butte County Board of Supervisors meeting of March 29, the Board took a wrong turn and what could be described as a race to the bottom. Based on what the All Union Coalition believes is suspect financial information (see related article), the Board unilaterally implemented on the Deputy Sheriff's Association because the County was unable to reach a negotiated settlement with the deputies.

The Coalition spoke against the motion as we felt that the Board was making their decision upon what has become highly suspect financial data.

“RACE” cont'd on page 3

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BCEA newsletter is going “Green!”

We appreciate your involvement and interest in BCEA, Local #1. In an effort to make access to the newsletter more convenient, as well as, to conserve paper, limit costs, and increase overall efficiency, BCEA's newsletter, “The NorthState Public Employee,” will be distributed primarily in an online format effective May 2011. The digital newsletter will be available online at www.bcealocal1.org and will be in color. We will send out a broadcast notice to you via email when your monthly newsletter is available through our All Member county email list that we currently use for notifications. We will continue to print a hard copy of the newsletter for those members who lack the technology needed to receive their newsletter digitally or for those members (i.e., Public Works workers) whose jobs make it difficult for them to access the online version. You will continue to find the newsletter posted on our bulletin boards. If you have any problems receiving the online version of the newsletter, please contact the BCEA office at 533-8003.

BCEA DIRECTORY

2210 5th Avenue
Oroville, CA 95965

Phone: (530) 533-8003 or (800) 991-2232

Fax: (530) 533-7983

E-mail: bcea-gcea@onemain.com

Website: www.bcealocal1.org

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. & 1:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Staff

Executive Director	Rudy Jenkins
Office Manager	Eloise Herman

BCEA Officers and Directors

Jim Pulling, President	538-6608
Les Rodrigues, Vice President	538-7954
Leslie Roberts, Secretary	538-7282
Gary Jenkins, Sergeant-at-Arms	538-7606
Jennifer Honea, Treasurer	538-7322
Connie Alberico, Director	895-5050
Kelley Albright, Director	891-3029
Kandi Crane, Director	879-3460
Beth Standley, Director	538-5135
Pat Stevens, Director	538-6222

**BCEA Stewards
General Unit**

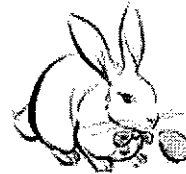
Chief Shop Steward-

Jim Pulling , Treasurer	538-6608
Kelley Albright, Chico Behavioral Hlth	891-3029
Doug Arnold, Public Works	538-7157
April Blankenship, Chico Behav Health	891-2999
Brett Cambra, Gridley Public Works	538-7606
Christine Foreman, Chico DESS	879-3471
Stephanie Eveatt, Child Sup. Ser.	538-7414
H. Leon Frazier, Behavioral Hlth.	538-5216
Randy Frieze, Probation	879-3962
Rick Haynes, Behavioral Hlth.	538-6930
Jennifer Honea, Sheriff	538-7322
Gary Jenkins, Public Works	538-7606
Jesse Magana, Chico Public Works	891-2769
Brent McGurie, Chico Beh Hlth	891-2997
Carri Roberson, Child Sup. Ser.	538-6531
Les Rodrigues, Behavioral Hlth.	538-7954
Patricia Sanchez, Public Hlth	532-5696
Robin Seligman, Child Sup. Serv.	538-6232
Beth Standley, DESS	538-5135
Pat Stevens, Public Hlth.	538-6222
Tracy Snyder, Public Hlth	532-5696
Mark Wietersen, Neal Rd. Landfill	345-2326

Welcome New BCEA Members



<i>Laurin Aguilar</i>	<i>DESS-SSW unit</i>
<i>Amanda Booth</i>	<i>Behavioral Health</i>
<i>Dawnette Britton</i>	<i>DESS-General unit</i>
<i>Yvette Castanon</i>	<i>Public Health</i>
<i>Kimberly Coffman</i>	<i>Behavioral Health</i>
<i>Summer Gilbert</i>	<i>DESS-General unit</i>
<i>Leah Goodliffe</i>	<i>Human Resources</i>
<i>Joseph Marinello</i>	<i>General Svcs-Facilities</i>
<i>Elizabeth Merino</i>	<i>Behavioral Health</i>
<i>Michael Regusci</i>	<i>DESS-SSW unit</i>
<i>Donovan Rhinehart</i>	<i>DESS-General unit</i>
<i>Kayla Roberson</i>	<i>DESS-SSW unit</i>
<i>Teresa Toribio</i>	<i>DESS-SSW unit</i>
<i>Deanna Wilden</i>	<i>Auditor</i>



**BCEA Members in Need of
Catastrophic Leave Donations at this time:**

Name	Department
Eleanor Duffert	DESS-SSW unit
Sandra Perez	DESS-SSW unit
Les Rodrigues	Behavioral Health
Molly Summerfield	Behavioral Health

To donate vacation or compensatory time, complete the Catastrophic Leave Donation forms available from the BCEA office, our Directors, Stewards, Site Reps or website www.bcealocal1.org

All Employee Catastrophic Leave Donation requests for publication in this newsletter is subject to the BCEA Board of Directors' policy. The policy is that: "only current dues paying BCEA members from the General unit and Social Services Workers unit qualify."

“SUMMARY” cont’d from page 1

In our opinion, the County of Butte financial position is healthy and has improved. It has maintained its reserves. However, the County’s revenues are under strong downward pressure, having flattened over the past two years. Current trends for its most important tax revenue, property taxes, and its most important revenue, aid from other governments, especially from the State, indicate possible declines in future revenues.

Sincerely,
Bachecki, Crom & Co., LLP

“RACE” cont’d from page 1

Apparently the Supervisors have abandoned what has been their long term commitment to their employees, which was to provide their constituents with a quality work force for Butte County.


By now you have all read the Chief Administrative Officer’s memo defending the budget, claiming that the budget is not in “great shape,” they need two million dollars for their buildings and putting his spin on the County’s reserves and the dangers of using them.

First of all, the budget for 2011-12 must

be in great shape as it went from a 4 plus million dollar deficit in May of last year to a 1.5 million dollar surplus in January of this year.

Secondly, County employees should take a personal affront in what appears that the County has more interest in their buildings than their employees.

Finally, regarding the Chief Administrative Officer’s spin on the reserves, remember that there is a huge difference if your reserves are less than adequate and are dwindling and if your reserves are more than adequate and are growing.



If you haven’t already received a free BCEA, Local One 2011 pocket calendar, please contact a shop steward or give us a call.



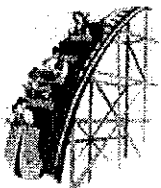
**BCEA Stewards Cont’d
Social Services Workers Unit**

Debbie Chamberlin, Oroville DESS	538-3776
Kandi Crane, Chico DESS	879-3460
Joan Fedler, Chico DESS	879-3641
Tammy Felder, Chico DESS	879-3732
Pamela Jawad, Oroville DESS	538-5074
Jean Osborn, Chico DESS	879-3656




Complementary Notary Services provided by Eloise between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call for an appointment at 533-8003.

Amusement park discount tickets will be available for 2011 sometime in the late spring. We will keep you posted.




Join the Camaraderie

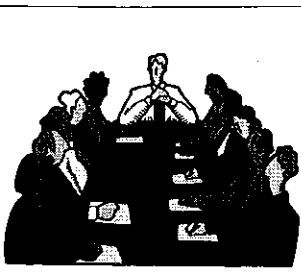


Come join us and volunteer your time to help with the BCEA, Local 1 floats. We are entering a float in the Gold Nugget Days Parade on **Saturday, April 30**, to be held in Paradise. Entries should be in the Holiday Market parking lot at Center Street and Skyway by 10:30 a.m. The parade starts at 12:00 noon sharp! The theme of this year’s festival will be “Gold Diggins.” We will be there on the behalf of working class families across Butte County. We welcome any of our members to attend.

We also are entering a float in the Feather Fiesta Days Parade on **Saturday, May 7**, to be held in Oroville. Parade starts at 10:00 a.m. The theme of this year’s parade is “Pioneers of Oroville,” a celebration of the long history of Native American and early settlers of all ethnic groups to the Oroville area.

For more information, contact Jim Pulling at 538-6608, Kelley Albright at 891-3029 or Pat Stevens at 538-6222. Hope you can make it!!! The weather should be perfect for the parades.





REMINDER: Please try and attend one of our Board of Directors meetings held every fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:00 P.M. They are usually at the Union Hall in Oroville (2210 5th Ave). Every third month we have them in Chico (*new location: Round Table Pizza, 2027 Forest Avenue, Chico*). Our Union aims to be visible to its members. Please come and introduce yourself to us, we will be happy to answer any questions or address your concerns. We look forward to seeing you there.



**BCEA, Local #1
Bargaining Advisory Meetings**

Last week the Board of Supervisors implemented a contract on the Deputy Sheriff's Association which includes them paying 3% of their PERS contribution with no offsetting salary increase. The All Union Coalition is now in the final stages of negotiating our MOU's with the County still demanding takeaways in light of our study which says it is not necessary. We have scheduled two Bargaining Advisory Committee meetings to provide you with more detailed information and get your feedback on these negotiations. The Coalition will be meeting later this month and we need to have your input for this meeting. Please plan on attending one of these meetings.

Monday, April 11, 2011
5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.
Board of Supervisors Chambers
25 County Center Drive, Oroville

Tuesday, April 12, 2011
5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.
Behavioral Health ASD Conference Room
109 Parmac Road, Chico

All members are encouraged to attend.

sun	mon	tue	wed	thr	fri	sat
 april 2011					1	2
3	4	5	6 Shop Stewards Trng Session 1 5:30 PM Oroville	7	8	9
10	11 Bargaining Advisory Mtg 5:30 PM Oroville	12 Bargining Advisory Mtg 5:30 PM Chico	13	14	15	16
17	18 Income Tax Day	19 PEU, Local One BOD Mtg 7:30 PM Sacramento	20 Shop Stewards Trng Session 2 5:30 PM Oroville	21	22 Earth Day	23
24 Easter	25	26 BCEA BOD Mtg 6:00 PM Oroville	27	28	29	30 Gold Nugget Parade 10:30 AM Paradise