

**CSA Weekly Update** 

November 17, 2017

OF ARIZONA

# A research and advocacy association, supporting efficient, responsive county government in Arizona.



In the November 17, 2017, CSA Update:

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# Wishing Everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!



Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the CSA Newsletter will not be sent out next week.

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## **New CSA President Anthony Smith & Executive Committee Elected**

On Thursday the CSA Board of Directors elected the six Executive Committee Officials to lead the organization during the coming year. Pinal County Supervisor Anthony Smith was unanimously elected by his colleagues as the President of CSA.

Also elected to serve with President Smith on the executive committee are:

- President-elect: Yuma County Supervisor Russell McCloud
- First Vice President: Santa Cruz County Supervisor Rudy Molera
- Second Vice President: Maricopa County Supervisor Steve Gallardo
- Third Vice President: Yavapai County Supervisor Jack Smith
- Immediate Past-President: Gila County Supervisor Tommie Cline Martin

"I am extremely grateful to my colleagues who selected me for this position," Supervisor Smith said. "This year I am looking to expand our supervisor to legislator outreach and communication. As supervisors being actively involved in the legislative process as the most valuable tool we have to further our objectives as an association."

"Supervisor Smith is a dedicated public servant whose experience and commitment to local government make him an exceptional representative of Arizona counties," declared outgoing CSA President and Gila County Supervisor Tommie Cline Martin. "His selection as President reflects the trust and confidence that his fellow supervisors have in him."

CSA's executive committee helps to develop plans and implement strategies for strengthening Arizona counties in state and federal policymaking.

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## House Speaker Shares Perspective with CSA Board

On Thursday, House Speaker, J.D. Mesnard joined the CSA Board of Directors to share his perspective on the upcoming 2018 legislative session.

Speaker Mesnard expressed...

Speaker Mesnard explained that the biggest issue this year will again be the state budget, as there is currently a rather significant cash shortfall which will limit opportunities to fund one time issues this year.

Speaker Mesnard fielded questions from the CSA Board, sharing his perspective on CSA's budget and legislative priorities. He shared his belief in the importance of focusing on transportation issues and the value of restoring Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) in this year's budget.

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# Arizona Department of Agriculture & Apache County Hold Food Access Workshop

On Monday, the Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) partnered with Apache County to hold a Food Access Workshop in St. John's, Arizona. AZDA is one of the agencies working to advance <u>Governor Doug Ducey's Food</u> <u>Desert Initiative</u>, which has the goal of reducing food insecurity as well as diabetes and obesity throughout the state of Arizona.

The workshop will explore food access issues in Apache County and neighboring counties and see how the AZDA and its partners might be of assistance. The workshop is for non-profit organizations, state/federal agencies, city/county officials, tribes, local residents, producers, and the public.

At the workshop, attendees will hear from/about the following: Director Mark Killian from the AZDA will welcome the attendees, Supervisor Doyel Shamley and other local residents will discuss issues, tax deduction for the donation of produce, grants/programs available (USDA, Department of Education, Cooperative Extension, St. Mary's, etc.), building grant capacity and helpful hints for obtaining grants (AZ Rural Development Council, U.S. Department of Agriculture, AZ Commerce Authority)

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# CSA Board Adopts Resolution Opposing the Permanent Transfer of Colorado River Water Rights & Letter Urging Study of Electronic License Plates

This week at the November 16, 2017 County Supervisors Association Board of Directors (Board), adopted a resolution outlining their opposition to transferring Colorado River water rights or allocations designated to the river counties in Arizona to the Central Arizona Water Conservation District for the use in the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District or any other entity.

In attrition, the Board adopted a letter requesting the Arizona Department of Transportation evaluate implementing automatic identification and data capture technology on state registered vehicles.

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