



DATE: January 13, 2026

TIME: 11:00 am

LOCATION: Virtual – Microsoft TEAMS

## Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

### I. Call to Order

#### a. Roll Call

Kevin Burton (Chair)	Don Bynum	Fred Plane
Denise Boshers	Ariana Joven	Janea Roberts
Michael Bowers	Traco Matthews	Chei Whitmore
Lillian Brust	Chase Nunneley	

### II. Public Comment

*The public may address the Board of Directors on items not on the agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Board. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes. If more than one person wishes to address the same topic, the total group time for the topic will be 10 minutes. Please state your name before making your presentation.*

### III. Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda consists of items that are considered routine and non-controversial. These items are approved in one motion unless a member of the Board or Public requests removal of a particular item. If comment or discussion is requested, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered in the order listed.

### IV. New Business

a. CAPK Foundation - New Board Members - **Action Item (p. 2)** Catherine Anspach, Director of Development

### V. Next Steps and Board Member Comments

### VI. Next Scheduled Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting  
12:00 pm  
Tuesday, January 27, 2026  
CAPK Administrative Offices, Board Room  
1300 18<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 200  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

### VII. Adjournment



## MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Directors

From: Catherine Anspach, Director of Development

Date: January 13, 2026

Subject: Agenda Item 4a.: CAPK Foundation - New Board Members - **Action Item**

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### Background

In response to the need to strengthen the Foundation's fundraising capacity and expand our board expertise, the Selection Committee conducted a comprehensive recruitment and interview process. We received multiple applications and conducted 1-hour structured interviews with each candidate, evaluating the following strengths of the candidates:

- Fundraising capacity and network connections
- Ability to meet the \$1,500 annual financial commitment
- Willingness to serve as Foundation ambassadors
- Alignment with CAPK's mission to help individuals and families achieve self-sufficiency
- Capacity to attend meetings and events consistently

*Brief summary of each candidate:*

### 1. Rudy Salas

Organization: Power House Strategies (Partner)

Key Qualifications:

- Former California State Legislator (2012-2022) with proven ability to secure funding (secured \$353M+ for Central Valley projects)
- Created California Economic Resiliency Fund (CERF) with \$600M initial budget
- Extensive government, business, and nonprofit networks across California
- Current member: California Workforce Development Board
- Professor, CSUB Political Science Department
- Board affiliations: CSUB, Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, KCCD

Fundraising Potential: Exceptional access to government funding streams, major donors, and strategic partnerships.

### 2. June Nachor

Organization: Tejon Indian Tribe (Vice Chairwoman)

Key Qualifications:

- Vice Chairwoman, Tejon Indian Tribe (2015-present)
- Program Director, Tejon CAP (Community Action Program)
- Member: CalTrans Native American Advisory Council, California Nations Indian Gaming Association, Honor Flight Fundraising
- Extensive experience in advocacy for vulnerable populations (DV, SA, HT victims)
- Board experience: The Open Door Network, CIMC, KCAHT

Fundraising Potential: Unique access to tribal government resources, Native American community networks, and coalition partnerships.

### **3. Leslie E. Friend**

Organization: LEFRIEND, LLC (Founder/Principal OD Consultant)

Key Qualifications:

- MS in Organization Development (University of San Francisco)
- Grew consulting practice to \$50K+ in first three months
- Former Director of Client Success at CLUTCH (managed \$3M budget for BASF)
- Former VP of Marketing, Laurel Ag & Water
- Deep agriculture industry connections (BASF, Valent U.S.A.)
- Board roles: Elder Board Secretary (Church of God Bakersfield), NAMA Board Membership Chair, North High Agriculture Advisory Board
- Leadership Bakersfield Class of 2022; launched Fit Wallet Conference

Fundraising Potential: Strong business development skills, agriculture industry networks, marketing expertise, and active community engagement

### **4. Maninder "Mike" Riar**

Organization: Multiple businesses (Entrepreneur)

Key Qualifications:

- President/CEO of The Nirvana Estate (event venue) and The Valencia Stores (UPS stores)
- BS in Biology from CSUB
- Former General Sales Manager, B&H Auto Group
- Extensive local business network
- States: "ability to connect with people, support them, and help them grow."

Fundraising Potential: Event venue ownership provides opportunities for hosted fundraising events, strong local business connections, and entrepreneurial networks.

### **5. Celeste Porter, CMA**

Organization: Grimmway Produce Group (Divisional CFO - Potatoes)

Key Qualifications:

- Certified Management Accountant with extensive CFO experience
- MBA (Indiana University Kelley School); MS Agricultural Economics (Purdue)

- Former CFO, Tasteful Selections LLC (\$250M revenue, 1,100+ employees)
- Managed \$165M credit facility and multiple acquisitions
- Board experience: HERAA Alumnae Association, CSUB Accounting Advisory Board, KHSD ERC Advisory Board, IMA Wild West Council
- Member: Women Leaders in Business, CFO Leadership Council
- Kern County resident since 1988

Fundraising Potential: Deep agriculture industry connections through Grimmway (global produce leader); financial expertise enhances donor confidence; extensive board network.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>
Sector Diversity	Government affairs, tribal government, agriculture/business, consulting, nonprofit
Fundraising Channels	Government grants, corporate sponsorships, tribal partnerships, major donors, and event hosting
Geographic Reach	Local (Bakersfield-based), regional (Central Valley), and state-level connections
Expertise Areas	Public policy, finance/accounting, marketing, organization development, community advocacy
Cultural Representation	Enhanced diversity, including Native American leadership and Hispanic community connections

***Recommendation***

The Ad Hoc Selection Committee and staff recommend that the CAPK Foundation Board of Directors approve the appointment of Rudy Salas, June Nachor, Leslie E. Friend, Maninder "Mike" Riar, and Celeste Porter to the Board of Directors, effective January 27, 2026.