

**Homelessness Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2020**



Audio for this meeting can be found online at: <http://www.cvag.org/audio.htm>

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Chair Holstege at 10:00am on Zoom.
- 2. ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Members Present

City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Mark Carnevale
City of Coachella	Councilmember Josie Gonzalez
City of Desert Hot Springs	Councilmember Jan Pye
City of Indian Wells	Councilmember Kimberly Muzik
City of Indio	Councilmember Waymond Fermon
City of La Quinta	Mayor Pro Tem John Peña, Vice Chair
City of Palm Desert	Councilmember Sabby Jonathan
City of Palm Springs	Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege, Chair
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Charles Townsend
Riverside County District 4	Natalie Komuro
Desert Healthcare District	Carol Rogers, RN

Ex Officio Members Present

Coachella Valley Rescue Mission	Darla Burkett
Martha's Village & Kitchen	Rosa Verduzco
Shelter from the Storm	Angelina Coe

Members & Ex-Officios Not Present

City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition	Julie Bornstein
Home Aid Inland Empire	Julie Reay
The Salvation Army	Kristina Starkey

Others Present

CVAG/Riverside County	Greg Rodriguez
CVAG	Tom Kirk
	Tom Cox
	Libby Carlson
	Erica Felci
City of Coachella	Councilmember Megan Beaman Jacinto
City of La Quinta	Mayor Linda Evans
Desert Healthcare District	Donna Craig
	Dr. Conrado Barzaga
Jewish Family Services	Becky Ruiz
Molina Healthcare	Jacqueline Portilla
National Core	Tony Mize
Path of Life Ministries	Casey Jackson
Riverside County	Natalie Komuro
Riverside County Housing Authority	Tanya Torno

RUHS-Behavioral Health
Riverside County Probation Department

Street Life Project

Marcus Cannon
Shelley Vedrode
Cristine Castro
Christian Jelmberg

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – None.

4. CHAIR / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

- Councilmember Jonathan reported that the City of Palm Desert is applying for a grant funding that would support two full-time contracted County employees and a bridge housing unit. City is also funding an emergency rental assistance program.
- Chair Holstege reported that the City of Palm Springs is finalizing the grant agreement with the State. Chair Holstege also reported on efforts to renew the DHCD matching program for CV Housing First, and reiterated the request for each city to add the annual program contribution as a standing line item in its budget.
- Natalie Komuro, Deputy County Executive Officer Homelessness Solutions, reported that that County and the Continuum of Care has funding for rental assistance and additional diversion and prevention interventions starting July 1.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM PENA TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

- A. Approve the February 19, 2020 Homeless Committee Meeting Minutes**
- B. Authorize the Executive Director to Negotiate and Execute Amendment #4 to Grant Agreement with Riverside County for CV Housing First extending Term Through June 30, 2021 for an Additional \$359,711.**

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 9 AYES AND 1 ABSENT.

Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez	ABSENT
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Josie Gonzalez	AYE
Councilmember Jan Pye	AYE
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik	AYE
Councilmember Waymond Fermon	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege	AYE
Councilmember Charles Townsend	AYE
Director Carol Rogers	AYE
Natalie Komuro	AYE

6. DISCUSSION / ACTION

- A. Update on CV Housing First, The CV100 Homeless Outreach Initiative, and plans for 2020 Summer Response – Tom Cox and Greg Rodriguez provided an informational update on the program and plans for summer response.**

- B. Regional Funding Advocacy Related to COVID19** – Erica Felci provided an overview of the advocacy request.

IT WAS MOVED BY DIRECTOR ROGERS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO: (1) ADVOCATE FOR THE COACHELLA VALLEY’S FAIR SHARE IN ANY STATE OR FEDERAL LEGISLATION DEVELOPED IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 ECONOMIC REBOUND AND TO SEEK FUNDING REIMBURSEMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AS THEY DEVELOP, TO OFFSET COSTS INCURRED BY REGIONAL PROGRAMS; AND (2) CIRCULATE A LETTER TO CITIES ASKING THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO REQUEST THE SUB-REGIONAL FLEXIBILITY BE INCLUDED IN THE GOVERNOR’S COVID POLICY MAKING AND SUGGESTING REOPENING ORDERS TO BE TAILORED ACCORDINGLY.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 9 AYES AND 1 ABSTENTION AND 1 ABSENT.

Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez	ABSENT
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Josie Gonzalez	ABSTAIN
Councilmember Jan Pye	AYE
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik	AYE
Councilmember Waymond Fermon	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege	AYE
Councilmember Charles Townsend	AYE
Director Carol Rogers	AYE
Natalie Komuro	AYE

- C. 2020 PIT Count Results** - Greg Rodriguez provided an informational update on the findings from the 2020 PIT Count.

- D. Update on CV Homelessness Collaborative** - Greg Rodriguez gave an overview of the options presented to the collaborative subcommittee and the subcommittee’s recommendation.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNATHAN AND SECONDED BY DIRECTOR ROGERS TO SUPPORT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDED OPTION AND AUTHORIZE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO TRANSMIT REQUEST TO RIVERSIDE COUNTY.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez	ABSENT
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Josie Gonzalez	AYE
Councilmember Jan Pye	AYE
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik	AYE
Councilmember Waymond Fermon	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege	AYE
Councilmember Charles Townsend	AYE
Director Carol Rogers	AYE
Natalie Komuro	AYE

7. **INFORMATION** – The following items were provided for information only:

A. Attendance Record

B. Ex Officio Updates

- Natalie Komuro, Deputy County Executive Officer Homelessness Solutions, provided an update on HHAP and Project Room Key.
- Julie Bornstein, Coachella Valley Housing Coalition, provided an update on uncollected rents, unemployment, and new housing projects in the Coachella Valley.
- Angelina Coe, Shelter from the Storm, reported that the shelter is open with modified services and has seen an increase of those requesting Domestic Violence services.
- Chair Holstege reported that Greg Rodriguez, the County, and Congressman Ruiz are working on a hotel program for victims of domestic violence. A Palm Springs City Order designated services to victims of domestic violence as essential.
- Marcus Cannon, Riverside County Behavioral Health, provided an update on efforts to repurpose the facility that formerly housed Roy's Desert Resource Center.
- Tanya Torno, Riverside County Housing Authority, thanked all involved with the Project Room Key.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- Christian Jelmsberg, Street Life Project, addressed the Committee regarding tiny homes, shelter, and COVID-19.

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** - Upcoming CVAG meetings via Zoom:

- Executive Committee – Monday, June 1 at 4:30 pm
- Homelessness Committee – Wednesday, June 17 at 10 am

10. **ADJOURN** - The meeting was adjourned at 11:54am.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Cox