

Homelessness Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
July 15, 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 Homelessness Committee Chair Christy Holstege, City of Palm Springs, at 10:02 a.m. on Zoom videoconference.
- 2. ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

**Members Present**

City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez
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	Carrie Harmon, Assistant Director
Desert Healthcare District	Board Director Carol Rogers, RN

**Ex-Officio Members Present**

Martha's Village & Kitchen Shelter from the Storm	Rosa Verduzco Angelina Coe
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**Members & Ex-Officios Not Present**

Coachella Valley Housing Coalition Coachella Valley Rescue Mission Home Aid Inland Empire The Salvation Army	Alice Salinas Darla Burkett Julie Reay Kristina Starkey
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**Others Present**

CVAG	Tom Kirk Tom Cox Libby Carlson Erica Felci Greg Rodriguez Jessica Meza
CVAG/ Riverside County CCSB	City Manager Charles McClendon Councilmember Megan Beaman Jacinto Councilmember Russell Betts
City of Cathedral City City of Coachella City of Desert Hot Springs City of La Quinta City of Palm Desert City of Palm Springs Desert Healthcare District	Mayor Linda Evans Chris Gerry Jay Virata Donna Craig

Food Now  
Jewish Family Services  
Molina Healthcare  
National Core  
Path of Life Ministries

Dr. Conrado Barzaga  
Dana Johnson  
Becky Ruiz  
Jacqueline Portilla  
Tony Mize  
Jennifer Gonzalez  
Leonard Jarman

HHPWS  
RUHS-Behavioral Health  
Riverside County Probation Department

Tanya Torno  
Marcus Cannon  
Shelley Vedrode  
Cristine Castro

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

No public comments were submitted.

**4. CHAIR / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

Chair Holstege reported that the City of Palm Springs has received a formal agreement to secure a \$10 million grant with the State.

Councilmember Sabby Jonathan highlighted the importance of regional collaboration in Coachella Valley for addressing homelessness, and members expressed interest in providing feedback on Palm Springs' next steps.

Councilmember Mark Carnevale reported that the City of Cathedral City is opening a cooling center at the Elk's Lodge.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

**A. Approve the May 20, 2020 Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes**

**THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Josie Gonzalez	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Jan Pye	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Waymond Fermon	<b>AYE</b>
Mayor Pro Tem John Peña	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan	<b>AYE</b>
Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Charles Townsend	<b>AYE</b>
Director Carol Rogers	<b>AYE</b>
Assistant Director Carrie Harmon	<b>AYE</b>

**6. DISCUSSION / ACTION**

**A. Update on CV Housing First, The CV100 Homeless Outreach Initiative**

Tom Cox provided a presentation about ongoing CV Housing First activities, including outreach. Member discussion ensued.

No action was taken.

**B. COVID-19/Summer Update**

Greg Rodriguez gave members an update on efforts related to responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and summer programs. Member discussion ensued.

No action was taken.

**C. Update on CV Homelessness Collaborative**

Tom Cox presented information on the development of a collaborative to address homelessness and discussed the ongoing role of Government Affairs and Public Policy Advisor Greg Rodriguez. Member discussion ensued.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER PYE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE AMENDMENT #1 TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CVAG AND RIVERSIDE COUNTY FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY HOMELESSNESS COLLABORATIVE, EXTENDING THE TERM THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021 FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$90,000.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Josie Gonzalez	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Jan Pye	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Waymond Fermon	<b>AYE</b>
Mayor Pro Tem John Peña	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan	<b>AYE</b>
Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege	<b>AYE</b>
Councilmember Charles Townsend	<b>AYE</b>
Director Carol Rogers	<b>AYE</b>
Assistant Director Carrie Harmon	<b>AYE</b>

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

**A. Attendance Record**

**B. Ex-Officio Updates**

Angelina Coe, Shelter from the Storm Executive Director, reported that the shelter is open with modified services.

Tanya Torno, Riverside County Housing, Homeless Prevention, and Workforce Solutions, Principal Development Specialist, thanked all involved with Project Room Key.

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

Brad Anderson, Rancho Mirage resident, asked CVAG to consider making a local or toll-free phone number available for the public participation in Zoom meetings

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

Executive Committee – Monday, September 28 at 4:30 p.m.

Homelessness Committee – Wednesday, September 16 at 10 a.m.

10. **ADJOURN** - The meeting was adjourned at 11:06am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Cox