

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 18, 2019**



*The audio file for this committee meeting can be found online at: <http://www.cvag.org/audio.htm>*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Betts at 9 am at CVAG, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Room 119, Palm Desert, CA.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Roll call was taken and was determined that a quorum was present. Those in attendance:

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councilmember Raymond Gregory  
Councilmember Megan Beaman-Jacinto  
Councilmember Russell Betts, Chair  
Mayor Pro Tem Ty Peabody  
Councilmember Waymond Fermon  
Councilmember John Peña  
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan  
Mayor Iris Smotrich  
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez

**AGENCY**

City of Cathedral City  
City of Coachella  
City of Desert Hot Springs  
City of Indian Wells  
City of Indio  
City of La Quinta  
City of Palm Desert  
City of Rancho Mirage  
County of Riverside

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT**

Paul Wilson, Chief  
Misty Reynolds, Captain  
Mike Washburn, Chief  
Joseph Belli, Captain  
Mike Kovaleff  
Mike Stefanoff, Captain  
David Kim, Assistant Chief Patrol Agent  
Salvador Moreno  
Robert Fish  
Lori Nelson  
Christopher Wright

Cathedral City Fire  
Thermal Sheriff Station  
Indio Police Department  
Palm Desert Sheriff Station  
Palm Springs Police Department  
California Highway Patrol  
U.S. Customs and Border Patrol – El Centro  
U.S. Customs and Border Patrol – Indio  
CALFIRE - Riverside County Fire East Ops  
Riverside County Probation Department  
Riverside County Probation Department

**MEMBERS AND EX-OFFICIOS NOT PRESENT**

Councilmember JR Roberts  
Margaret Muhr  
Anthony Yoakum, Acting Chief  
Jim Henson, Chief  
Kevin Nalder, Chief  
Chad Bianco  
Michael Hestrin

City of Palm Springs  
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
Cathedral City Police  
Desert Hot Springs Police Department  
Palm Springs Fire Department  
Riverside County Sheriff  
Riverside County District Attorney's Office

**CVAG STAFF PRESENT**

Tom Kirk  
Libby Carlson

Tom Cox  
Erica Felci

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jeff Van Wagenen  
Christine Castro  
Gerald Fineman  
Chris Wilson  
Mayor Steve Manos

County of Riverside  
Riverside County Probation  
Riverside County District Attorney’s Office  
Riverside County Sheriff – Palm Desert  
City of Lake Elsinore

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Mayor Manos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None.

5. **COMMITTEE MEMBER / DIRECTOR COMMENTS** – None.

6. **EX-OFFICIO COMMENTS**

- Chief Wilson, Cathedral City FD, reported that 10,000 were expected to attend upcoming event at new amphitheater.
- Chair Betts noted that Chief Henson, Desert Hot Springs PD, was unable to attend due to a shooting.
- Captain Reynolds, Thermal Sheriff Station, reported on preparation for 12/8/19 Ironman.
- Chief Washburn, Indio PD, reported that grant funding for regional firearms processing program was not awarded, and on funding awarded for radio system upgrades.
- Captain Belli, Palm Desert Sheriff Station, introduced himself and staff.
- Mike Kovaleff, Palm Springs PD, gave an update on preparation for holiday season, results of the election, and moving City Council meetings to Thursday starting in January.
- Robert Fish, CALFIRE, reported that fire season was extended to 12/22/19 and peak staffing maintained; Martinez Fire 98% contained, with new sprinklers and site security added, and progress made by the mulch/illegal dumping task force. *Supervisor Perez added that there are 33 sites involved and long term strategy in progress.*
- Captain Stefanoff, California Highway Patrol, reported on an increase in traffic collisions and a grant-funded DUI task force.
- Agent Kim, US Customs & Border Patrol, reported a decrease in migrant traffic and arrests and thanked the Committee for its help.
- Agent Moreno, US Customers & Border Patrol Indio, introduced himself.
- Lori Nelson, Riverside County Probation, reported that Christine Castro will be the new lead for the desert region.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. **Approve June 10, 2019 Committee Meeting Minutes**

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEM PEABODY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY TO APPROVE THE JUNE 10, 2019 MEETING MINUTES.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 9 AYES, 1 ABSENT**

**COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY  
COUNCILMEMBER BEAMAN-JACINTO**

**AYE  
AYE**

COUNCILMEMBER BETTS	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM PEABODY	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER FERMON	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER ROBERTS	ABSENT
MAYOR SMOTRICH	AYE
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE

**8. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

Items 8B and 8C were addressed before Item 8A

**B. Responding to the Unexpected: Lessons from Crisis Management** – Mayor Steve Manos, City of Lake Elsinore, gave a presentation on community response to a series of crisis situations from the perspective of local government, including resident outreach and communications strategies.

**C. The CV100: Coordinated Approach to Addressing Unsheltered Homelessness in Coachella Valley** – Tom Cox reported on efforts to strengthen coordination between public safety officers and homeless service providers, both on the ground and through ongoing communication.

Councilmember Jonathan provided additional context in relationship to the CV Housing First program. Supervisor Perez reported on related discussion held at by Riverside County executive staff and noted that Coachella Valley’s model is leading the way in Riverside County.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FERMON TO ENDORSE THE CV100 TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS THROUGHOUT COACHELLA VALLEY WITH COMPASSION THROUGH COORDINATED STREET OUTREACH AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 9 AYES, 1 ABSENT**

COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER BEAMAN-JACINTO	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER BETTS	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM PEABODY	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER FERMON	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER ROBERTS	ABSENT
MAYOR SMOTRICH	AYE
SUPERVISOR PEREZ	AYE

**A. Elect Committee Chair and Vice Chair for FY19/20**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER BETTS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JOANTHAN TO ELECT COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA AS CHAIR AND COUNCILMEMBER FERMON AS VICE CHAIR FOR FY19/20.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 9 AYES, 1 ABSENT**

<b>COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER BEAMAN-JACINTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER BETTS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM PEABODY</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER FERMON</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER ROBERTS</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MAYOR SMOTRICH</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>SUPERVISOR PEREZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**9. INFORMATION - The following items were submitted for Committee information only:**

**A. Committee Attendance Record**

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upcoming meetings at CVAG, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Room 119, Palm Desert:

- Executive Committee – Monday, December 2 at 4:30 pm
- Public Safety Committee – Monday, January 13 at 9 am

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Libby Carlson