

**COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 17, 2019**



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 Jonathan at 10:08 am.
2. **ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Members Present

Mayor Mark Carnevale
Councilmember Josie Gonzalez
Mayor Pro Tem Jan Pye
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik
Councilmember Elaine Holmes
Councilmember John Peña
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan, Chair
Councilmember Christy Holstege, Vice Chair
Councilmember Charles Townsend
Absent
Director Carole Rogers

Agency

City of Cathedral City
City of Coachella
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio (Arrived 10:11a)
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
County of Riverside – 4th District
Desert Healthcare District

Ex-Officio Members Present

Angelina Coe
Julie Reay

Agency

Shelter from the Storm
HomeAid Inland Empire

Members & Ex-Officios Not Present

Mayor Dale Reynolds
Darla Burkett
Julie Bornstein
Kristina Starkey
Linda Barrack
Paul Flores

Agency

City of Blythe
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition
The Salvation Army
Martha's Village & Kitchen
Health to Hope

Support Staff Present

Casey Jackson
Marcus Cannon
Chris Christensen

Agency

Path of Life Ministries
Riverside University Health System
Desert Healthcare District

Staff Present

Tom Kirk
Erica Felci
Libby Carlson
Greg Rodriguez

Agency

CVAG
CVAG
CVAG
Office of County Supervisor V. Manuel Perez

Others Present

Mayor Linda Evans
Bill Ballas
Blair Wagner

City of La Quinta
Health to Hope
Street Life Project

Christian Jelmborg
Donna Craig
Dyana Swanson
Eve Guenther-James
Jacquie Jaurequi
Javier Lopez
Judy Shea
Les Zendel
Matthew Martello
Misty Reynolds
Richard Ravich
Thomi Clinton
Toni Mize
Tony Ortega
Yaneli Hernandez

Street Life Project
Desert Healthcare District
Palm Desert Resident
RAP Foundation
DHS Resident
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition
DHS CTF / Shea's Veterans Center
Desert Healthcare District Board
Palm Desert Police Department
Thermal Sheriff Station
Palm Desert Resident
Transgender Health & Wellness Center
National Core
DPSS Riverside County
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Led by Mayor Pro Tem Pye.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Judy Shea, DHS Community Task Force, gave an update on Shea's Veterans Center.
- Christian Jelmborg, Street Life Project, gave an update on tiny home campus land acquisition.

5. **MEMBER/DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

- Christy Holstege is Lift to Rise's new Director of Collective Impact.
- The Desert Healthcare District/Foundation is moving forward with a community behavioral/mental health needs assessment.
- Cathedral City budgeted a second homeless liaison and services will be available 7 days/week.
- Guidelines for lease of Caltrans property for use as shelters have not been finalized.
- Palm Springs approved \$100,000 to bridge the gap between Section 8 vouchers and rent, and 25 families will be housed immediately.
- La Quinta is exploring transitional housing options for seniors and vets.
- Desert Hot Springs may form a homelessness subcommittee.
- Coachella has designated a contact person for referrals.
- Palm Desert approved funding for two resource officers.
- The updated Affordable Housing Directory is now online:
https://www.cvag.org/library/pdf_files/comres/AHD.pdf
- Public education and outreach will be added to a future agenda.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. **Approve the February 20, 2019 Homeless Committee Meeting Minutes**

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND, SECONDED BY MAYOR CARNEVALE, TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 20, 2019 MEETING MINUTES.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 11 AYES, 2 ABSENT.

Councilmember Reynolds	Absent
Mayor Carnevale	Aye
Councilmember Gonzalez	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Pye	Aye
Councilmember Muzik	Aye
Councilmember Holmes	Aye

Councilmember Peña	Aye
Councilmember Jonathan	Aye
Councilmember Holstege	Aye
Councilmember Townsend	Aye
Riverside County 4 th District	Absent
Director Rogers	Aye

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION

A. Presentation: Homelessness in the Transgender, Intersex, and Gender Diverse Community – Thomi Clinton, CEO of Transgender Health & Wellness Center and the Transgender Community Coalition, provided an overview on the transgender, intersex, and gender diverse clients served by the Center since opening in May 2018, including demographics, areas of concern, and types of resources accessed.

Vice Chair Holstege thanked Thomi for her work.

B. Request from Assemblymembers Chad Mayes and Eduardo Garcia for State Funding to Combat Homelessness in Coachella Valley – Tom Kirk provided background on the \$10M state funding request - 70% for new projects in the western Valley and 30% for existing services in the broader Valley. Councilmember Peña reported that the City of La Quinta authorized a letter of support.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND, TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN A LETTER IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLYMEMBERS MAYES AND GARCIA’S REQUEST FOR STATE FUNDING TO COMBAT HOMELESSNESS IN COACHELLA VALLEY.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 11 AYES, 2 ABSENT.

Councilmember Reynolds	Absent
Mayor Carnevale	Aye
Councilmember Gonzalez	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Pye	Aye
Councilmember Muzik	Aye
Councilmember Holmes	Aye
Councilmember Peña	Aye
Councilmember Jonathan	Aye
Councilmember Holstege	Aye
Councilmember Townsend	Aye
Riverside County 4 th District	Absent
Director Rogers	Aye

C. 2019 PIT Homeless Count Results – Greg Rodriguez reported that 2019 PIT findings will be released soon; and noted that the County and State are working to improve data reliability.

D. Update: CV Housing First Update

E. Update: Coachella Valley Homelessness Collaborative

Items 7D and 7E were addressed together.

Tom Kirk provided an update on CV Housing First contributions and the contract with Path of Life; and reported that the County Board of Supervisors will consider renewing its \$359,711 contribution for FY18/19 in June. Committee discussion regarding resource allocation and distribution of services followed.

Tom Kirk then summarized the action the Committee took on February 20 regarding the collaborative and the staffing alternative offered by Supervisor Perez, as well as direction taken by the Desert Healthcare District/Foundation following the Committee meeting. Greg Rodriguez clarified the Supervisor's proposal, stating that the Supervisor would dedicate 100% of Mr. Rodriguez's time to lead implementation of the homelessness collaborative and homelessness-related issues. The County would maintain 25% of his negotiated salary and all County benefits.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAIR JONATHAN, SECONDED BY MAYOR TOWNSEND, TO APPOINT GREG RODRIGUEZ, GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC POLICY ADVISOR TO SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ, TO LEAD IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COACHELLA VALLEY HOMELESSNESS COLLABORATIVE, WITH CVAG'S SHARE OF COSTS NOT TO EXCEED \$90,000 FOR ONE YEAR.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 9 AYES, 2 ABSENT.

Councilmember Reynolds	Absent
Mayor Carnevale	Aye
Councilmember Gonzalez	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Pye	Aye
Councilmember Muzik	Aye
Councilmember Holmes	Aye
Councilmember Peña	Aye
Councilmember Jonathan	Aye
Councilmember Holstege	Aye
Councilmember Townsend	Aye
Riverside County 4 th District	Absent
Director Roger	Aye

8. INFORMATION – The following items were submitted for information only:

- A. Attendance Record**
- B. Alan Seman Bus Pass Program 2018 Annual Report**
- C. CV Housing First Report, February – March 2019**
- D. 2019 HARC Coachella Valley Community Health Survey**
- E. Update: HEAP Funding and 25 Faces Pilot Project**
- F. FY18/19 Year-to-Date Financial Report**

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Upcoming meetings at CVAG, 73710 Fred Waring Dr, Palm Desert:

- Executive Committee – Monday, April 29 at 4:30 pm
- Homelessness Committee – Wednesday, May 15 at 10 am

10. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Libby Carlson