

**COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 15, 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 10:01 am.
2. **ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

**Members Present**

Mayor Pro Tem Jan Pye  
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik  
Councilmember Elaine Holmes  
Councilmember Kathleen Fitzpatrick  
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan, Chair  
Councilmember Charles Townsend  
Greg Rodriguez  
Director Carole Rogers

**Agency**

City of Desert Hot Springs  
City of Indian Wells  
City of Indio (Arrived 10:05a)  
City of La Quinta  
City of Palm Desert  
City of Rancho Mirage  
County Board of Supervisors District 4  
Desert Healthcare District

**Ex-Officio Members Present**

Julie Bornstein  
Darla Burkett  
Angelina Coe  
Jennie Rayner  
Julie Reay

**Agency**

Coachella Valley Housing Coalition  
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission  
Shelter from the Storm  
Health to Hope  
HomeAid Inland Empire

**Members & Ex-Officios Not Present**

Mayor Dale Reynolds  
Mayor Mark Carnevale  
Councilmember Josie Gonzalez  
Councilmember Christy Holstege, Vice Chair  
Kristina Starkey  
Linda Barrack

**Agency**

City of Blythe  
City of Cathedral City  
City of Coachella  
City of Palm Springs  
The Salvation Army  
Martha's Village & Kitchen

**Support Staff Present**

Casey Jackson  
Tanya Torno  
Natalie Komuro  
Jennifer Claar  
Marcus Cannon

**Agency**

Path of Life Ministries  
Riverside County Housing Authority  
Riverside County Homelessness Solutions  
Riverside County DPSS  
Riverside University Health System

**Staff Present**

Gary Leong  
Erica Felci  
Libby Carlson

**Agency**

CVAG  
CVAG  
CVAG

**Others Present**

Chris Gerry  
Deanna Mendone

**Agency**

City of Palm Desert  
City of Rancho Mirage

Carolyna DeJaynes  
Chad Austin  
Doug Morin  
Bruce Yeager  
Jocelyn Vargas  
Jacqueline Portilla  
Ruthy Argumedo  
Julie Jeffery  
Maria Lopez  
Christian Jelmsberg  
Sandra Curry  
Tom Kuhn

Riverside County Mental Health  
CVWD  
CV Volunteers in Medicine  
Desert Aids Project  
Lift to Rise  
Molina Healthcare  
Molina Healthcare  
Olive Crest Safe Families for Children  
Path of Life Ministries  
Street Life Project  
Well in the Desert

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Led by Director Rogers.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Kim Hardee, Coachella Animal Network/Humane Society, extended an offer to shelter homeless animals.
- Christian Jelmsberg, Street Life Project, gave an update on the tiny homes project.

5. **MEMBER/DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

- Director Rogers reported on a Well in the Desert volunteer helping homeless people register pets as support animals.
- Chair Jonathan congratulated CVAG members on a record \$1.8M in contributions to CV Housing First for FY18/19. Chair Jonathan also recognized Mayor Carnevale for his leadership and support.
- Councilmember Holmes reported that Indio City Council will consider making a CV Housing First contribution on May 15.
- Councilmember Muzik reported that the City of Indian Wells budgeted \$200,000 for homelessness, with allocation to be determined.
- Councilmember Townsend reported that the City of Rancho Mirage budgeted \$65,000 for homelessness in addition to \$100,000 for CV Housing First.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HOLMES TO:**

- A. Approve the April 17, 2019 Homeless Committee Meeting Minutes**
- B. Authorize Chair to Sign Memorandum of Understanding with City of La Quinta in the Amount of \$100,000 for CV Housing First**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 8 AYES AND 4 ABSENT.**

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

Councilmember Holmes	Aye
Councilmember Fitzpatrick	Aye
Councilmember Jonathan	Aye
Councilmember Holstege	Absent
Councilmember Townsend	Aye
Greg Rodriguez	Aye
Director Rogers	Aye

## 7. DISCUSSION/ACTION

- A. 2019 Point in Time Count** – Greg Rodriguez, Government Affairs and Public Policy Advisor to County Supervisor V. Manuel Perez, provided an overview of the 2019 Count and next steps. Data and findings are available online: <https://rivcoexchange.com/>.
- B. Quarterly Update on Riverside County Homelessness Initiatives** – Natalie Komuro, Deputy County Executive Officer – Homelessness Solutions, gave an overview of new protocols for coordinated response to homeless encampments, including the planning process, org chart, communication methods, and technology. A draft protocol manual will be completed by June. Ms. Komuro also outlined how cities will be involved and reported that a Memorandum of Understanding between the County and cities regarding encampment clearance protocols is under development.
- In response to Chair Jonathan, Greg Rodriguez provided information on County action to assist cities experiencing a significant increase in number of migrants being released by Border Patrol in their communities. Chair Jonathan noted that the situation is under discussion by the CVAG Public Safety Committee.
- C. Update on Homelessness Collaborative and CV Housing First** – Greg Rodriguez reported that his official start date will be June 1<sup>st</sup>, and stated that he will return to the Committee with an outline and timeline in June. Chair Jonathan encouraged Committee members to email input on the collaborative to him. Director Rogers recommended looking at community input received during development of Barbara Poppe’s report.
- D. State Budget Update** – Greg Rodriguez reported that the Revised State Budget proposal included a \$1B increase for homelessness, noting that funds would likely be distributed through a grant process. Mr. Rodriguez will provide a list of funding sources in June.

## 8. INFORMATION

- A. Attendance Record**
- B. CV Housing First Report, April 2019**

Casey Jackson, Path of Life Interim CEO, reported that they are updating the format of monthly reports. In response to Committee comments, Chair Jonathan asked Path of Life to make a presentation in June and asked staff for monthly financial reports.

## 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming meetings:

- Executive Committee – June 3 at 4:30 pm
- Homelessness Committee – June 19 at 10 am
- General Assembly – June 24 at 6 pm

Chair Jonathan encouraged people to attend Desert Sun Storytellers event on May 30.

Julie Bornstein, Coachella Valley Housing Coalition, reported on housing unit production and acquisition projects, State funding currently available for housing production projects, and SB 5.

Darla Burkett, Coachella Valley Rescue Mission, reported on funding for summer program, placement of encampment individuals into housing, and preventing homeless patients from being released back to the streets.

Natalie Komuro, County Executive Officer – Homelessness Solutions, reported on formation of a homelessness subcommittee for Hard to Count/Complete Count Committee.

Tanya Torno, Riverside County Housing Authority, reported on efforts focused on homeless youth, including input from youth on PIT Count strategies.

Marcus Cannon, Riverside Behavioral Health, reported on No Place Like Home funding opportunity for housing production and invited people to contact him with proposals or project ideas.

**10. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Libby Carlson