

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 13, 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 Ted Mertens  
Councilmember Waymond Fermon  
Mayor Pro Tem Steve Sanchez  
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan  
Mayor Pro Tem JR Roberts  
Mayor Iris Smotrich  
Jeff Van Wagenen

**AGENCY**

City of Cathedral City  
City of Coachella  
City of Desert Hot Springs  
City of Indian Wells  
City of Indio (*Arrived 9:08a*)  
City of La Quinta  
City of Palm Desert  
City of Palm Springs  
City of Rancho Mirage  
County of Riverside

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT**

Anthony Yoakum, Deputy Chief  
Paul Wilson, Chief  
Mike Washburn, Chief  
Jason Huskey, Captain  
Bryan Reyes, Chief  
Kevin Nalder, Chief  
Eddy Moore, Deputy Chief  
Jared Haringsmal, Chief DA  
Lori Wilson, Division Director  
Jeff Buompensiero, Lieutenant  
Mike Stefanoff, Captain

Cathedral City Police  
Cathedral City Fire  
Indio Police Department  
Palm Desert Sheriff Station  
Palm Springs Police Department  
Palm Springs Fire Department  
CALFIRE - Riverside County Fire East Ops  
Riverside County District Attorney's Office  
Riverside County Probation Department  
Thermal Sheriff Station  
California Highway Patrol

**MEMBERS AND EX-OFFICIOS NOT PRESENT**

Margaret Muhr  
Jim Henson, Deputy Chief  
Scott Garrett, Patrol Agent in Charge  
Chad Bianco

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
Desert Hot Springs Police Department  
U.S. Border Patrol  
Sheriff

**CVAG STAFF PRESENT**

Gary Leong  
Libby Carlson  
Jodi Adams

CVAG  
CVAG  
CVAG

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Councilmember Ted Weill  
Stephen Aryan  
Pat Cooper  
Christine Castro  
Frank Taylor  
Erin Sasse  
Jacqueline Quiniero

Rancho Mirage  
City of Palm Desert  
Office of Supervisor Perez  
Riverside County Probation Department  
Sheriff’s Captain (Retired)  
League of California Cities  
California Highway Patrol

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilmember Mertens 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 on recruitments and fire season preparation.
- Chief Washburn, Indio PD, reported on crime and officer involved shootings during April.
- Jason Huskey, Palm Desert Sheriff Station, gave an update on an injured officer.
- Chief Reyes, Palm Springs PD, reported on an increase in academy participation, conclusion of trial involving death of officer in 2016, and efforts to coordinate with Indio on anticipated increase in asylum seeker drop-offs by Border Patrol.
- Lt. Buompensiero, Thermal Sherriff Station, reported on hiring of 2 detectives and recent shooting.
- Deputy Chief Moore, CalFire, reported on preparations for fire season and advised residents to clear debris near homes.
- Captain Stefanoff, California Highway Patrol, reported on activity during festival season.
- Chief DA Haringsmal, Riverside County DA’s Office, reported on a recent tour of the new jail facility.
- Lori Wilson, Riverside County Probation Office Desert Division, introduced herself as the new Division Director and reported on hiring priorities, work with asylum seekers in Blythe, coordination with Palm Springs on firearm and stolen vehicle recovery, and recent homeless court graduation.

In response information from Palm Springs, Indio, and Riverside County, Chair Betts requested that a presentation on US Border Patrol activities related to asylum seekers be added to the Committee agenda for June.

**7. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Approve February 11, 2019 Committee Meeting Minutes**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER BEAMAN-JACINTO AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM SANCHEZ TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 11, 2019 MEETING MINUTES.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH 10 AYES.**

<b>COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER BEAMAN-JACINTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER BETTS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR MERTENS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER FERMON</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM SANCHEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM ROBERTS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR SMOTRICH</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MEMBER VAN WAGENEN</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**8. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

**A. CHP Perspective on Traffic and Safety on the I-10** – Captain Mike Stefanoff, California Highway Patrol, gave a presentation on trends related to traffic and safety on the I-10 and CHP’s overall jurisdiction, including DUIs, accidents, speeding, and distracted driving. Captain Stefanoff noted that courses on driver safety, distracted driving, and teen driver safety are available to community members through CHP, and invited any interested city to request a presentation.

**B. Legislative Update** – Erin Sasse, League of California Cities, provided an overview of current legislation related to cannabis and other public safety-related issues. Erin encouraged cities to send letters of support or opposition to proposed legislation. Erin will follow up regarding fiscal impact of AB 392. Erin noted that the League of California Cities has an easy to use search feature on its website (<http://www.cacities.org/Policy-Advocacy/Bill-Search>).

**C. CVAG Representative on Riverside County Emergency Medical Care Committee**

**IT WAS MOVED BY CHAIR BETTS AND SECONDED BY MAYOR SMOTRICH TO DIRECT STAFF TO ASK ALL CITY MANAGERS TO RECOMMEND A NOMINEE AND RETURN TO THE COMMITTEE WITH A RECOMMENDATION IN JUNE.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH 10 AYES.**

<b>COUNCILMEMBER GREGORY</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER BEAMAN-JACINTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER BETTS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR MERTENS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER FERMON</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM SANCHEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM ROBERTS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR SMOTRICH</b>	<b>AYE</b>

9. **INFORMATION**

The follow item was submitted for Committee information only:

1. **Attendance Record**

10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

- Executive Committee – Monday, June 3 at 4:30 pm
- Public Safety Committee – Monday, June 10 at 9 am

Upcoming meeting at Agua Caliente Casino Resort, 32-250 Bob Hope Dr, Rancho Mirage:

- General Assembly – Monday, June 24 at 6 pm

11. **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Libby Carlson