

ITEM 7A

Public Safety Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2020



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

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Chair Waymond Fermon, City of Indio, at 9:01 a.m. via Zoom videoconference, pursuant to Gov. Newsom's executive order governing how public meetings are held during the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. **ROLL CALL** - Roll call taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Members Present

City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Mark Carnevale (<i>Arrived in Item 8B</i>)
City of Coachella	Councilmember Megan Beaman-Jacinto, Vice Chair
City of Desert Hot Springs	Councilmember Russell Betts (<i>Arrived in Item 8A</i>)
City of Indian Wells	Councilmember Ted Mertens
City of Indio	Councilmember Waymond Fermon, Chair
City of La Quinta	Mayor Pro Tem John Peña (<i>Left during Item 8B</i>)
City of Palm Desert	Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Kelly
City of Palm Springs	Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Iris Smotrich
Riverside County	Assistant CEO Jeff Van Wagenen

Ex-Officio Members Present

City of Desert Hot Springs Police	Chief Jim Henson
City of Indio Police	Chief Mike Washburn
City of Palm Springs Police	Chief Bryan Reyes
City of Palm Springs Fire	Chief J. Kevin Nalder
Palm Desert Sheriff Station	Captain Dean Agnoletto
Riverside County District Attorney	ADA Gerald Fineman
Riverside County Fire Department	Division Robert Fish
Riverside County Probation	Chief Probation Officer Ron Miller
Thermal Sheriff Station	Captain Misty Reynolds
California Highway Patrol	Captain Dennis Woodbury

Members & Ex-Officios Not Present

City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez
Aqua Caliente	Margaret Muhr
City of Cathedral City Fire	Chief John Muhr
City of Cathedral City Police	Chief George Crum
Riverside County Sheriff	Sheriff Chad Bianco
U.S. Customs and Border Patrol	Assistant Chief Patrol Agent David Kim

Others Present

CVAG	Erica Felci
CVAG	Tom Cox
CVAG	Oscar Vizcarra
CVAG	Joanna Stueckle
Riverside County District 4	Patricia Cooper
CalOES	Emily Holland
Cal OES	Rachel Sierer Wooden
KP Public Affairs	Angela Hughes
SoCal Gas	Deborah McGarrey
City of Palm Desert	Stephen Aryan
Additional participants	Kristen Nelson
	Blake Goetz

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Fermon led the committee in the pledge

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Blake Goetz, former fire chief, commented on item 8C and CVAG's efforts to create a regional earthquake warning system.

5. CHAIR / COMMITTEE MEMBER/CVAG STAFF COMMENTS

Vice Chair Megan Beaman Jacinto expressed appreciation for the officer elections during the previous meeting at the previous meeting and that she looked forward to working with the committee.

Erica Felci mentioned the change in committee staffing, and that Tom Cox would be focused on the transition of CV Housing First.

6. EX-OFFICIO COMMENTS

None.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER BEAMAN JACINTO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MERTENS TO:

A. Approve the September 14, 2020 Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 8 AYES AND 3 ABSENT

Councilmember Johnny Rodriquez	ABSENT
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	ABSENT
Councilmember Megan Beaman Jacinto	AYE
Councilmember Russell Betts	ABSENT
Councilmember Ted Mertens	AYE

Councilmember Waymond Fermon	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem John Peña	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Kelly	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege	AYE
Councilmember Iris Smotrich	AYE
Assistant CEO Jeff Van Wagenen	AYE

8. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. Update on COVID-19 Public Health Crisis

Jeff Van Wagenen, Riverside County Assistant CEO, provided an overview of the COVID-19 current conditions, including testing strategies and outreach efforts at the statewide level.

There was no action taken as this was an information item.

B. Update on Countywide Efforts to Address Green Waste Fires

Ms. Felci introduced Division Chief Robert Fish, CalFire/ Riverside County Fire Department East Desert Division, to provide an update on the countywide Combustible Materials Taskforce. Chief Fish gave an overview of the progress made in the first year, and outlined the educational efforts and public outreach that would occur to keep making progress on addressing this issue.

Member discussion ensued and staff indicated they would follow up with additional information by email. There was no action taken as this was an information item.

C. Earthquake Education and Early Warning System

A presentation was provided by Emily Holland, Public Policy Specialist for California Earthquake Early Warning Program in the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services. This included an overview of the MyShake app, which can be downloaded on mobile devices.

There was no action taken as this was an information item.

D. Valleywide Conversation on Race, Diversity and Policing

Chair Fermon provided an overview of the work of the ad hoc and asked for input from Committee members and ex-officio members. Member discussion ensued and members expressed a consensus for the approach outlined in the draft resolution.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER BEAMAN JACINTO AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM KELLY TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 20-008 SUPPORTING A CONTINUED CONVERSATION AROUND RACE, DIVERSITY AND POLICING.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 9 AYES AND 2 ABSENT

Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez	ABSENT
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Councilmember Megan Beaman Jacinto	AYE

Councilmember Russell Betts	AYE
Councilmember Ted Mertens	AYE
Councilmember Waymond Fermon	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem John Peña	ABSENT
Mayor Pro Tem Kathleen Kelly	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege	AYE
Councilmember Iris Smotrich	AYE
Assistant CEO Jeff Van Wagenen	AYE

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

A. Attendance Record

B. Transition of CV Housing First Operations

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS –Upcoming Meetings via Zoom:

- Public Safety – Monday, January 11, 2021 at 9 a.m.
- Executive Committee – Monday, December 7, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

12. ADJOURN – Chair Fermon adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Felci

Assistant to the Executive Director