

**ITEM 6A**

**Homelessness Committee  
Special Meeting Minutes  
September 18, 2023**



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

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** - The September 18, 2023 special meeting was called to order by Homelessness Committee Chair John Peña, City of La Quinta, at 10:00 a.m. at the CVAG Conference Room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, in Palm Desert.
- 2. ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

**Members Present**

City of Cathedral City	Mayor Pro Tem Mark Carnevale
City of Coachella	Councilmember Denise Delgado ( <i>arrived at item 3</i> )
Desert Healthcare District	Director Carole Rogers, RN
City of Desert Hot Springs	Councilmember Jan Pye ( <i>arrived at item 3</i> )
City of Indian Wells	Mayor Donna Griffith
City of Indio	Councilmember Waymond Fermon, Vice Chair
City of La Quinta	Councilmember John Peña, Chair
City of Palm Desert	Mayor Pro Tem Karina Quintanilla
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Lynn Mallotto
Riverside County – District 4	Deputy Director Greg Rodriguez
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	Vice Chair Joseph Mirelez ( <i>arrived at item 5</i> )

**Ex Officios Present**

Shelter from the Storm	Angelina Coe
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**Members and Ex-Officios Not Present**

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Councilmember John Preckwinkle III
City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez
City of Palm Springs	Councilmember Christy Holstege
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition	Pedro S.G. Rodriguez
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission	Darla Burkett
Martha's Village and Kitchen	Samuel Hollenbeck

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Executive Director Tom Kirk led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Brad Anderson, resident of Rancho Mirage, addressed the committee and expressed his opposition to agenda item 7B and the state's Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court program.

**5. CHAIR / COMMITTEE MEMBER/CVAG STAFF COMMENTS**

Councilmember Fermon remarked on the unsheltered/unhoused population along the railroad corridors and freeways and requested that programs reach them during outreach efforts.

Chief Operating Officer Erica Felci noted agenda item 8E provides further details on the County's Point-in-Time count as promised at the last Homelessness Committee meeting.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**IT WAS MOVED MAYOR PRO TEM QUINTANILLA AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FERMON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.**

- A. Approve the May 17, 2023 Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes**
- B. Receive and file the quarterly report for the CV Housing First program, representing clients served in the second quarter of 2023**

**THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 11 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT**

<b>COUNCILMEMBER PRECKWINKLE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM CARNEVALE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER DELGADO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>DIRECTOR ROGERS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PYE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR GRIFFITH</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER FERMON</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM QUINTANILLA</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER HOLSTEGE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER MALLOTTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>DEPUTY DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**7. DISCUSSION / ACTION**

**A. Presentation on Riverside County's Homeless Action Plan**

Greg Rodriguez, Deputy Director of Housing and Workforce Solutions for Riverside County, presented the staff report.

Member discussion ensued with Deputy Director Rodriguez answering questions regarding items addressed in the action plan and questions about the availability of vouchers.

No action was taken as this was an information item.

**B. Rollout of the State’s Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court**

Deputy Director Rodriguez presented the staff report and detailed how the county has prepared for the roll out of the CARE program to launch on October 2, 2023.

Member discussion ensued with Mr. Rodriguez answering questions regarding ability to monitor success of the program and privacy issues.

No action was taken as this was an information item.

**C. Additional funding from the California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program**

Chief Operating Officer Erica Felci presented the staff report.

**IT WAS MOVED MAYOR GRIFFITH AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FERMON TO APPROVE AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ACCEPT \$34,393.59 IN ADDITIONAL FUNDING FROM THE CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS AND HOUSING (CESH) PROGRAM, INCLUDING AMENDING THE SCOPE OF WORK TO REFLECT SERVICES OFFERED BY THE CV HOUSING PROGRAM**

**THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 11 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT**

<b>COUNCILMEMBER PRECKWINKLE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM CARNEVALE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER DELGADO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>DIRECTOR ROGERS</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PYE</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR GRIFFITH</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER FERMON</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>MAYOR PRO TEM QUINTANILLA</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER HOLSTEGE</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER MALLOTTO</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>DEPUTY DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**C. Election of the Homelessness Committee Officers**

Executive Director Tom Kirk opened the floor to nominations for Chair.

Councilmember Fermon nominated Councilmember Peña for Chair. No other nominations received.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER FERMON AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM QUINTANILLA TO ELECT COUNCILMEMBER PENA AS CHAIR OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 11 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT

COUNCILMEMBER PRECKWINKLE	ABSENT
COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ	ABSENT
MAYOR PRO TEM CARNEVALE	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER DELGADO	AYE
DIRECTOR ROGERS	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER PYE	AYE
MAYOR GRIFFITH	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER FERMON	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM QUINTANILLA	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER HOLSTEGE	ABSENT
COUNCILMEMBER MALLOTTO	AYE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ	AYE
VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ	AYE

Chair Peña nominated Councilmember Fermon for Vice Chair. No other nominations received.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHAIR PENA AND SECONDED BY TRIBAL VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ TO ELECT COUNCILMEMBER FERMON AS VICE CHAIR OF THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

THE MOTION TO CARRIED WITH 11 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT

COUNCILMEMBER PRECKWINKLE	ABSENT
COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ	ABSENT
MAYOR PRO TEM CARNEVALE	AYE
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COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA	AYE
MAYOR PRO TEM QUINTANILLA	AYE
COUNCILMEMBER HOLSTEGE	ABSENT
COUNCILMEMBER MALLOTTO	AYE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ	AYE
VICE CHAIR MIRELEZ	AYE

8. **INFORMATION**

A. **Attendance Record**

B. **Updates from Ex Officio Members**

Angelina Coe, Executive Director from Shelter of the Storm, expressed concern about the impact of looming funding cuts. She noted that Shelter from the Storm is the only provider of services for victims of domestic violence and crime.

Ms. Coe also highlighted October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and asks that people wear purple on Thursdays in support.

**C. Letter from CVAG Chairman Scott Matas**

**D. Unaudited Financial Statement for CV Housing First Program through June 30, 2023**

**E. Annual Point-in-Time Count of Homeless Individuals**

**9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Anderson, resident of Rancho Mirage, addressed the committee regarding his concerns about the process of how public comments are received and access to staff reports.

Lamont Jackson, Executive Director with Creative Build, expressed his desire to collaborate with the committee and its members to secure funding for programs and also commended the Homelessness Committee for their great work.

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upcoming Meetings:

The next meeting of the **Homelessness Committee** will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Peña adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ely Regalado*  
CVAG Management Analyst