

**ITEM 5A**

**Homelessness Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
November 16, 2022**



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

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** - The November 16, 2022 meeting was called to order by Homelessness Committee Vice Chair John Peña, City of La Quinta, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom videoconference, pursuant to AB 361 and the guidelines for virtual public meetings.
- 2. ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

**Members Present**

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
City of Blythe  
City of Cathedral City  
Desert Healthcare District  
City of Desert Hot Springs  
City of Indian Wells  
City of Indio  
City of La Quinta  
City of Palm Desert  
City of Rancho Mirage  
Riverside County – District 4

Councilmember John Preckwinkle III (*arrived at 6C*)  
Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez (*arrived at Item 4*)  
Councilmember Mark Carnevale  
Director Carole Rogers, RN (*arrived at Item 4*)  
Councilmember Jan Pye  
Councilmember Rob Bernheimer  
Mayor Waymond Fermon, Vice Chair  
Councilmember John Peña, Chair  
Councilmember Karina Quintanilla  
Mayor Charles Townsend  
Greg Rodriguez, Housing & Workforce Solutions

**Ex-Officio Members Present**

Shelter from the Storm

Angelina Coe

**Members and Ex-Officios Not Present**

City of Coachella  
City of Palm Springs  
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition  
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission  
Martha's Village and Kitchen

Mayor Pro Tem Josie Gonzalez  
Councilmember Christy Holstege  
Pedro S.G. Rodriguez  
Darla Burkett  
Samuel Hollenbeck

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

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

**A. Grand Opening of Veterans Village in Cathedral City**

Assistant Executive Director Erica Felci highlighted the recent grand opening of the Veterans Village housing project and shared a video of a veteran who was housed after CVAG’s case management. Councilmember Mark Carnevale provided additional project highlights and urged other communities to support similar projects.

Ms. Felci acknowledged the Committee’s outgoing members as a result of the recent Council elections and thanked them for their leadership. She also shared that Palm Desert Mayor Pro Tem Sabby Jonathan asked staff to share his appreciation as he could not attend the meeting. Brief member comment ensued.

Councilmember Karina Quintanilla noted her work on the Palm Desert’s homelessness taskforce, her request that she be Mr. Jonathan’s successor on the committee, and noted more must be done to address challenges for veterans housing.

Greg Rodriguez, Deputy Director for Government Affairs and Community Engagement for the County’s Housing and Workforce Solutions, also praised the outgoing Committee members and lauded members’ work to also address affordable housing shortages.

Mayor Charles Townsend made departing remarks and thanked Mayor Pro Tem Jonathan, the Committee’s former Chair, for his leadership and dedication. Councilmember Carnevale echoed the sentiments expressed for departing members and expressed excitement for fresh leadership.

Mayor Waymond Fermon highlighted the City of Indio’s new resource pamphlet and efforts to make the information available online. He also asked that a future meeting include information on efforts to address homeless along the railroad tracks.

Councilmember Carnevale announced he was working with businesses to roll out anti-panhandling signage.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR TOWNSEND AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ TO:**

- A. Approve the September 21, 2022 Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes**
- B. Receive and file the quarterly report for the CV Housing First program, representing clients served in the third quarter of 2022**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 8 AYES, 2 ABSTENTIONS AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT ON ITEM 5A AND 10 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT ON ITEM 5B.**

<b>Councilmember John Preckwinkle III</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Mark Carnevale</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Mayor Pro Tem Josie Gonzalez</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Director Carole Rogers</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Councilmember Jan Pye	AYE
Councilmember Rob Bernheimer	AYE
Mayor Waymond Fermon	ABSTAIN ON 5A/ AYE ON 5B
Councilmember John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Karina Quintanilla	ABSTAIN ON 5A/ AYE ON 5B
Councilmember Christy Holstege	ABSENT
Mayor Charles Townsend	AYE
County staff Greg Rodriguez	AYE

## 6. DISCUSSION / ACTION

### A. REAP 2.0 Housing Infill Project Scoping – Peter Satin

Regional Planner Peter Satin provided the staff report and detailed next steps for the REAP process. Member discussion ensued, including noting that it could tie into other funding opportunities.

**IT WAS MOVED BY DEPUTY DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER QUINTANILLA TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO APPLY FOR THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS' REGIONAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING (REAP) 2.0 PROGRAM FOR A PROJECT THAT ASSESS PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY AVAILABILITY FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND A MICRO-HOUSING PILOT PROJECT**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 10 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT.**

Councilmember John Preckwinkle III	ABSENT
Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez	AYE
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Josie Gonzalez	ABSENT
Director Carole Rogers	AYE
Councilmember Jan Pye	AYE
Councilmember Rob Bernheimer	AYE
Mayor Waymond Fermon	AYE
Councilmember John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Karina Quintanilla	AYE
Councilmember Christy Holstege	ABSENT
Mayor Charles Townsend	AYE
County staff Greg Rodriguez	AYE

### B. Federal and State Legislative Advocacy for 2023 – Emmanuel Martinez

Senior Programs Manager Emmanuel Martinez provided the staff report and noted staff would take feedback on the homeless and affordable housing section of the draft 2023 Federal and State Legislative Platform through next week.

No action was taken as this was an informational item.

### C. Statewide Pause on Funding for Homelessness Services – Erica Felci

Mr. Rodriguez provided the staff report and an overview of ongoing conversations with the Governor's office. Member discussion ensued, with staff addressing questions on the impact in the region.

No action was taken as this was an informational item.

**7. INFORMATION** – The following items were provided for the Committee's information.

**A. Attendance Record**

**B. Ex-Officio Update**

**C. Unaudited Financial Statement for CV Housing First Program through September 2022**

**D. SB 535 and California Climate Investments - Tribal Designation**

**E. Launch of Countywide "Faces of Fentanyl" Campaign**

There were no ex-officio updates.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upcoming Meetings:

The next meeting of the **Homelessness Committee** will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom webinar.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, December 5, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

**10. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Chair Peña extended appreciation to outgoing members, wished the Committee a Happy Thanksgiving and adjourned the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Erica Felcí*

CVAG Assistant Executive Director