

# REVISED

## ITEM 7A

Public Safety Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
May 9, 2022



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 9:00 a.m. via Zoom videoconference, pursuant to AB 361 and the guidelines for virtual meetings.
2. **ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

### Members Present

City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez ( <i>arrived during Item 5</i> )
City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Raymond Gregory
City of Desert Hot Springs	Councilmember Roger Nuñez
City of Indio	Mayor Waymond Fermon, Chair
City of La Quinta	Councilmember John Peña
City of Palm Springs	Mayor Pro Tem Grace Garner
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Iris Smotrich ( <i>arrived during Item 8B</i> )
City of Coachella	Councilmember Megan Beaman-Jacinto, Vice Chair
City of Palm Desert	Councilmember Karina Quintanilla
County of Riverside	Juan Perez, Chief Operating Officer ( <i>left during Item 8B</i> )

### Ex-Officio Members Present

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Robert Bradbury, Emergency Services Manager
Cathedral City Fire	Chief John Muhr
City of Desert Hot Springs Police	Chief Jim Henson
City of Indio Police	Chief Mike Washburn
Palm Desert Sheriff's Substation	Captain Dean Agnoletto
City of Palm Springs Fire	Chief J. Kevin Nalder
City of Cathedral City Police	George Crum, Chief of Police
Riverside County Fire	Deputy Chief Robert Fish
Riverside County Probation	Cristina Castro
Riverside County Sheriff	Lt. David Wright
California Highway Patrol	Commander Dennis Woodbury

### Members & Ex-Officios Not Present

Aqua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Councilmember John Preckwinkle III
City of Indian Wells	Councilmember Greg Sanders
Thermal Sheriff Station	Captain Michael Bianco
U.S. Customs and Border Patrol	Assistant Chief Patrol Agent David Kim
City of Palm Springs Police	Chief Andrew Mills
Riverside County Sheriff's Dept.	Sheriff Chad Bianco

**Others Present**

CVAG	Tom Kirk Erica Felci Joanna Stueckle Jennifer Nelson Kevin Broadie Emmanuel Martinez Tony Quiroz
Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation Inland SOCAL Crisis & Suicide Hotline County of Riverside	Donna Craig Jen Carson Pat Cooper Rebecca Antillon
Riverside County Probation Individuals	Christine Castro R. Tethal Chris Willison Capt. Alley Kristen Nelson Jana Trew Brad Anderson One individual by phone

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Fermon led the Public Safety Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

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

Chair Fermon gave an update on the festival weekends in Indio. Councilmember John Peña requested that staff come back to a future meeting with information on banning Mylar balloons and any educational campaigns that might be in place. Councilmember Karina Quintanilla gave an update on the Homelessness Task Force, noting there is currently a vacancy on the city’s subcommittee and requested staff explore an ordinance to limit or prohibit the sale of mylar balloons. Councilmember Nunez provided updates on public safety items in Desert Hot Springs.

Erica Felci reminded the Committee members to mark their calendars for the upcoming General Assembly.

**6. EX-OFFICIO COMMENTS**

Indio Chief of Police Mike Washburn provided an update on the public safety response to the festival weekends, including the numbers of arrests and rescues during the three weekends.

Cathedral City Chief of Police George Crum provided a brief update on items in Cathedral City.

**7. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER PENA AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SANDERS TO:**

**A. Approve the January 10, 2022 Public Safety Committee Minutes**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 9 AYES AND 3 MEMBERS ABSENT**

<b>Councilmember John Preckwinkle</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Raymond Gregory</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Megan Beaman Jacinto</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Roger Nuñez</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Greg Sanders</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>Mayor Waymond Fermon</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember John Peña</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Karina Quintanilla</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Mayor Pro Tem Grace Garner</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Councilmember Iris Smotrich</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>COO Juan Perez</b>	<b>AYE</b>

**8. DISCUSSION / ACTION**

**A. Update from the Riverside County District Attorney’s Office – Erica Felci**

Erica Felci introduced Riverside County District Attorney Mike Hestrin, who gave a detailed presentation on the dangers of fentanyl. A robust member discussion ensued with Committee members requesting a copy of the presentation. District Attorney Hestrin answered questions and offered to present the information at individual City Council meetings as requested.

No action was taken as this was an informational item.

**B. Rollout of the 9-8- 8 Mental Health Crisis Hotline in Riverside County – Erica Felci**

Erica Felci introduced the item and Jen Carson from Inland SOCAL Crisis & Suicide Hotline, who provided a presentation on mental health awareness and the 9-8-8 crisis hotline that will roll out this summer.

Member discussion ensued with Ms. Carson providing the Committee with the crisis hotline number and offering to present the information at future City Council meetings.

No action was taken as this was an informational item.

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

**A. Attendance Record**

- B. Update on legislative advocacy efforts**
- C. CVAG Meeting Calendar for Fiscal Year 2022/23**
- D. Update on Ad Hoc Efforts to Explore Additional Homelessness Resources and Policies**

#### **10. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Brad Anderson expressed his thoughts on virtual meetings, the timing of public comments on the meeting agendas and commended District Attorney Hestrin and the Riverside County Sheriff's department for their hard work addressing current issues within the County.

#### **11. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Upcoming Meetings:**

Upcoming Meetings:

The next meeting of the **Public Safety Committee** will be held on Monday, June 13, 2022, at 9 a.m. via Zoom webinar.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, June 6, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

The next meeting of the **General Assembly** will be held on Monday, June 27, 2022, at 6 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

#### **12. ADJOURN**

Chair Fermon adjourned the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jennifer Nelson*  
Executive Assistant/Clerk