

ATTENTION: PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A UNIQUE PANELIST LINK BY EMAIL. PLEASE USE THIS LINK TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING.



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021
9:00 a.m.**

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 18, 2020), the Public Safety Committee meeting will only be conducted via video/teleconferencing.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public may use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87339830385?pwd=Qno1VUJaRGE4eTVrZEpyMkp4aW1mQT09>

Password: 540372

One Tap Mobile: +16699009128,,87339830385#

Dial In: +1 669 900 9128

Webinar ID: 873 3983 0385

Password: 540372

***This will provide listening access and ability to address the
Public Safety Committee when called upon.***

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO CONNECT VIA DIAL IN OPTION, PLEASE CALL 760-346-1127.

Public comment is encouraged to be emailed to the Public Safety Committee meeting prior to the meeting at cvag@cvag.org by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to the committee meeting. Comments intended to be read aloud should be no more than 300 characters.

**THIS MEETING IS HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE.
ACTION MAY RESULT ON ANY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Waymond Fermon, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Indio

2. **ROLL CALL**
 - A. **Member Roster** 4

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
 - A. **Moment of Silence for U.S. Marine Cpl. Hunter Lopez**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

This is the time and place for members of the public to address the Public Safety Committee on agenda items. At the discretion of the Chair, comments may be taken at the time items are presented. Please limit comments to three (3) minutes.

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

6. **EX-OFFICIO UPDATES**

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
 - A. **Approve the June 14, 2021 Public Safety Committee Minutes** 5
 - B. **Receive and file an update on the continued conversation on race, diversity and policing** 9

8. **DISCUSSION/ ACTION**
 - A. **Earthquake Education and the Great California ShakeOut – Erica Felci** 11

Recommendation: Information
 - B. **Update on COVID-19 Public Health Crisis – Kim Saruwatari, Riverside County Public Health Director**
 - C. **Election of Public Safety Committee Officers – Tom Kirk** 13

Recommendation: Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the Public Safety Committee for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

9. **INFORMATION**
 - A. **Attendance Record** 15

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

This is the time and place for members of the public to address the Public Safety Committee on items of general interest within the purview of this committee. Please limit comments to two (2) minutes.

11. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upcoming Meetings:

The next meeting of the **Public Safety Committee** will be held on Monday, November 8, 2021, at 9 a.m. either via Zoom webinar or in-person pending the State's guidance and finalization of logistics.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, September 27, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Item 2A

**Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Public Safety Committee
Member Roster
2021-2022**



Voting Members	
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Councilmember John Preckwinkle III
City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians	Vacant
City of Cathedral City	Councilmember Mark Carnevale
City of Coachella	Councilmember Megan Beaman-Jacinto – VICE CHAIR
City of Desert Hot Springs	Councilmember Roger Nuñez
City of Indian Wells	Councilmember Greg Sanders
City of Indio	Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon - CHAIR
City of La Quinta	Councilmember John Pena
City of Palm Desert	Councilmember Karina Quintanilla
City of Palm Springs	Councilmember Grace Garner
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Iris Smotrich
County of Riverside	Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
Ex-Officio Members	
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Robert Bradbury, Emergency Services Manager
California Highway Patrol	Dennis Woodbury, Commander
Cathedral City Fire	John Muhr, Fire Chief
Cathedral City Police	George Crum, Chief of Police
Desert Hot Springs Police	Jim Henson, Chief of Police
District Attorney's Office	Michael Hestrin, District Attorney
Indio Police	Mike Washburn, Chief of Police
Palm Desert Sheriff Station	Dean Agnoletto, Captain
Palm Springs Fire	J. Kevin Nalder, Fire Chief
Palm Springs Police	Bryan Reyes, Chief of Police
Riverside County Fire Department	Robert Fish, Deputy Chief
Riverside County Probation Department	Ron Miller, Chief Probation Officer
Riverside County Sheriff's Department	Sheriff Chad Bianco
Thermal Sheriff Station	Herman Lopez, Captain
U.S. Border Patrol	David Kim

ITEM 7A

Public Safety Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2021



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 9:05 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
City of Indian Wells	Councilmember Greg Sanders
City of Indio	Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon, Chair
City of La Quinta	Councilmember John Peña
City of Palm Desert	Councilmember Karina Quintanilla
City of Palm Springs	Mayor Christy Holstege
City of Rancho Mirage	Councilmember Iris Smotrich
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	Councilmember John Preckwinkle

Ex-Officio Members Present

City of Desert Hot Springs Police	Chief Jim Henson
City of Cathedral City Police	Chief George Crum
City of Indio Police	Chief Mike Washburn
City of Palm Springs Police	Chief Bryan Reyes
City of Palm Springs Fire	Chief J. Kevin Nalder
Riverside County Probation	Christine Castro
Riverside County Fire	Robert Fish
Agua Caliente	Robert Bradbury
California Highway Patrol	Dennis Woodbury

Members & Ex-Officios Not Present

City of Blythe	Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez
City of Coachella	Councilmember Megan Beaman-Jacinto, Vice Chair
City of Desert Hot Springs	Councilmember Roger Nuñez
County of Riverside	Supervisor V. Manuel Perez
City of Cathedral City Fire	Chief John Muhr
Riverside County Sheriff	Sheriff Chad Bianco
Riverside County DA	Mike Hestrin
U.S. Customs and Border Patrol	Assistant Chief Patrol Agent David Kim
Palm Desert Sheriff's Substation	Capitan Dean Agnoletto
Thermal Sheriff Station	Captain Herman Lopez

Others Present

CVAG

Riverside County Emergency Mgt.
Riverside County District Attorney
Riverside County Sheriff
Additional participants

Tom Kirk
Erica Felci
Joanna Stueckle
Oscar Vizcarra
Bruce Barton
Joe DelGiudice
Dennis Vrooman
One other joined video conference without full name listed

Following the roll call, Chair Fermon recognized the Committee's new voting and ex-officio members: Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Councilmember John Preckwinkle and Emergency Services Manager Robert Bradbury; Palm Springs Councilmember Grace Garner; and Riverside County Fire Deputy Chief Robert Fish.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A. Moment of Silence for San Bernardino County Sheriff Sgt. Dominic Vaca

Councilmember John Peña led the Committee in the pledge.

Chair Fermon asked for a moment of silence to honor Sgt. Dominic Vaca of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, who was shot and killed during a traffic stop on Memorial Day weekend.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

5. CHAIR / COMMITTEE MEMBER/CVAG STAFF COMMENTS

Erica Felci announced that the CVAG General Assembly meeting would be held at 6 p.m. June 28 via Zoom.

Chair Fermon recognized Palm Springs Police Chief Bryan Reyes, who is retiring in summer 2021. The Committee members acknowledged his service to the City, Coachella Valley and nation, and wished him well in retirement.

6. EX-OFFICIO COMMENTS

A. Re-launch of Cathedral City Police Department's Gang Unit

Chief George Crum, City of Cathedral City, highlighted the new gang unit in the City, noting the effort had led to arrests in just the initial weeks.

Deputy Chief Fish provided an update on the Pinyon Pines wildfire that started the prior day. He also addressed wildfire season, and stressed that illegal firework use at the holidays can attribute to fires.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

A. Approve the May 10, 2021 Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 6 AYES, 1 ABSTENTION AND 5 ABSENT

Councilmember Johnny Rodriquez	ABSENT
Councilmember Mark Carnevale	ABSTAIN
Councilmember Megan Beaman Jacinto	ABSENT
Councilmember Roger Nuñez	ABSENT
Councilmember Greg Sanders	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon	AYE
Councilmember John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Karina Quintanilla	AYE
Councilmember Grace Garner	ABSENT
Councilmember Iris Smotrich	AYE
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	ABSENT
Councilmember John Preckwinkle	AYE

8. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. Update on COVID-19 Public Health Crisis

Bruce Barton, Director of Riverside County's Emergency Management Department provided an overview of the COVID-19 current conditions, particularly the availability of the vaccine and the resulting lowered rates of hospitalization.

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

B. Riverside County's Coordinated Response to Asylum Seekers

Ms. Felci noted that the item was provided at the request of the Committee. Director Barton provided an overview to the County's response, noting how it overlaps with the precautions that are necessary to address COVID-19.

Member discussion ensued, with Director Barton answering questions on the availability of state and federal resources, as well as explaining what may be next if federal policy changes.

There was no action as this was an informational item.

C. Continued Conversation on Race, Diversity and Policing

Ms. Felci presented the staff report and recapped the recommendations from the ad hoc committee. Chair Fermon elaborated on the ad hoc committee's discussion, and encouraged members to discuss the issue with their individual jurisdictions.

There was no action as this was an informational item.

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

- A. Attendance Record**
- B. Member Survey on CVAG Meetings in Post-COVID Environment**
- C. Meeting Schedule for Fiscal Year 2021/2022**

Councilmember Karina Quintanilla inquired about the potential for the ad hoc to meet during the summer months, and Chair Fermon and Councilmember Pena indicated they would meet as necessary.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS – Upcoming Meetings:

The next meeting of the **Public Safety Committee** will be held on Monday, September 13, 2021, at 9 a.m. either via Zoom webinar or in-person.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, June 28, 2021, with closed session at 4 p.m. and regular session at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

The next meeting of the **General Assembly** will be held on Monday, June 28, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

12. ADJOURN

Chair Fermon adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Felci
Assistant to the Executive Director

ITEM 7B

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Public Safety Committee
September 13, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Continued Conversation on Race, Diversity and Policing

Contact: Erica Felci, Assistant Executive Director (efelci@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Receive and file an update on the continued conversation on race, diversity and policing

Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee: Requested staff compile additional data by fall 2021 about what CVAG's member jurisdictions have done (Meeting of June 3rd)

Background: At the December 7, 2020 meeting, the CVAG Executive Committee approved Resolution No. 20-008, which formally outlined CVAG's commitment to continuing the conversation in the Coachella Valley around race, diversity and policing. The resolution had developed out of extensive conversation by the Public Safety Committee, as well as an ad hoc committee formed in summer 2020 that was comprised of La Quinta Councilmember John Peña, Coachella Councilmember Megan Beaman Jacinto, Indio Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon and Palm Springs Mayor Christy Holstege.

The conversations by the Public Safety Committee, the ad hoc committee, and the community in general have centered on systemic racism, use of excessive force, public right to protest, and potential rioting. It also has included thoughtful input about potential next steps and best practices. Many of CVAG's member jurisdictions, and their law enforcement personnel, have held community listening sessions to keep this conversation moving forward.

Over the course of the year, the Public Safety Committee has received several updates on this topic, including updates from what CVAG member jurisdictions may be doing to continue the community conversation. In June 2021, CVAG staff coordinated a meeting of the ad hoc, which was attended by Mayor Pro Tem Fermon, Councilmember Peña and Palm Springs Councilmember Grace Garner. CVAG and County staff provided some options for soliciting input on these issues, and also acknowledged that CVAG's role is unique because CVAG does not have any policy control over local law enforcement.

Based on the feedback from the ad hoc members and the entire Public Safety Committee in June, CVAG staff was asked to compile data on what cities and the County have done. However, it was noted that CVAG should not immediately pursue any additional listening sessions or panels.

The following information was compiled from Riverside County and CVAG member cities that have their own police departments:

- In late 2020, Riverside County held a series of listening sessions, which had been done in partnership with the School of Public Policy at the University of California, Riverside. Recurring themes and topics emerged that included systemic racism and inequity; public safety and

criminal justice reform; funding for social services; the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; marijuana and industrial hemp; climate change; and education. Riverside County staff provided a recap of the findings at the February 2021 meeting of the Public Safety Committee. County staff have noted that this information was provided to the Supervisors in order to provide insight for their policy making and budget decisions.

- In the City of Desert Hot Springs, the Desert Hot Springs Police Department held a community meeting at Word of Life Church in June 2020. Police Chief Jim Henson was among the speakers, and officials also answered questions from the estimated 35- member crowd. The event was also broadcasted through Facebook live. According to the City, the overall community response was supportive of the Desert Hot Springs Police Department and residents expressed an interest in having more patrol.
- In the City of Palm Springs, the City Council held a special meeting on July 18, 2020 that was dedicated to receiving community input on the issues related to policing, racism, discrimination and related issues. According to the meeting minutes, more than 50 people provided public comment during the four-hour meeting. Based on the feedback and input, City Council at its July 23 regular meeting provided direction to City staff on a number of actions, which included a street renaming, addressing One-PS boundaries, actively recruiting and hiring for minorities for City jobs as well as providing anti-racism and implicit bias training for City Council, Boards and Commissions, staff and the business community.
- In the City of Cathedral City, the Cathedral City Police Department has held meetings with members of the Black Lives Matter organization. In June 2020, Police Chief George Crum issued a policy change to ban the use of the carotid choke hold on suspects by the City's police department. The Cathedral City Council held a special meeting to foster a community discussion on race, policing and economic opportunities in September 2020. The following month, Councilmember Mark Carnevale, who is a member of CVAG's Public Safety Committee, and Councilmember Rita Lamb joined Chief Crum for a virtual community discussion about policing.
- In the City of Indio, the Indio Police Department holds monthly meetings with the Chief's Advisory Board, which provides an information sharing opportunity and continues the community conversation.

CVAG staff is providing this information as a follow up.

Fiscal Impact: There is no cost to CVAG for this informational update. However, if listening sessions or panel discussions are led by CVAG, staff would note that funding would be needed as the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget does not include funding for a valleywide listening sessions.

The costs of community engagement would depend on the level and format. Earlier this year, CVAG received preliminary estimates on a valleywide survey and data report range that ranged from \$11,200 to \$31,500, depending on the extensiveness of the data report. The work would include survey development, online and offline data collection, and data analysis and reporting.

Based on the Public Safety Committee's previous discussions, CVAG also solicited an initial estimate on the tele-townhall format, which costs about \$4,025 to reach about 40,000-47,000 phone numbers. Based on the size of the Coachella Valley, CVAG could need more than one of these to reach residents across all cities.

ITEM 8A

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Public Safety Committee
September 13, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Earthquake Education and the Great California ShakeOut

Contact: Erica Felci, Assistant Executive Director (efelci@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Information

Background: Given the geographic proximity to the San Andreas fault line, earthquake preparedness is of upmost importance for the Coachella Valley. It also has been a longstanding topic of interest for CVAG's committees. In 2009, the CVAG Executive Committee approved CVAG's participation to co-lead the creation and implementation of the Coachella Valley Regional Earth Early Warning System (CREWS) with the Coachella Valley Emergency Managers Association (CVEMA). Now, the Coachella Valley CREWS system has about 21 stand-alone, non-networked earthquake warning systems and four dispatch centers.

In 2020, the Public Safety Committee was also provided an update on the Earthquake Warning California (EWC), which is the state's earthquake preparedness system. The MyShake app is a component of the EWC system that serves as a useful tool to help families, businesses, and communities prepare for earthquakes to "Drop, Cover, and Hold on" in advance of an earthquake.

International ShakeOut Day is every third Thursday of October, when organizations across the Coachella Valley practice an earthquake drill for at least one minute. More than 6.5 million Californians joined the Great California Shakeout in 2020, and more than 4.4 million people – including CVAG staff – have registered for this year's drill on October 21. In addition to tips for the earthquake drill, the State has also provided guidance on how to conduct the drills amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

In anticipation of the Shakeout, the Public Safety Committee will hear from Margaret Vinci from the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) Seismological Laboratory, where she manages the Office of Earthquake Programs. Ms. Vinci will preview this year's ShakeOut. She also will discuss the implementation of ShakeAlert Earthquake Early Warning machine-to-machine applications, which extend beyond the use of cell phone apps and implement technology that can help California reduce earthquake losses and injuries in an earthquake, there making communities more resilient.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no cost to CVAG for this presentation.

Attachment: Great California Shakeout Tip Sheet.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we have had to make many adaptations for home, work, and school - *all while learning a lot*. As you plan for ShakeOut this year, consider: When was the last time you checked on your disaster supplies? Have you “Secured Your Space” to prevent damage and injury? What changes are there to your emergency plans and contacts? ShakeOut organizers are here to help you (and everyone, everywhere) successfully participate again this year: **ShakeOut.org/covid19**.

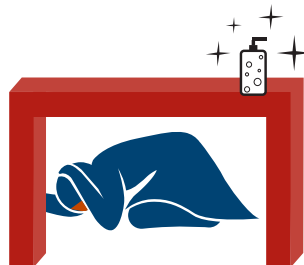


Considerations:

- **Where will your drill be?**
In-person, remote, or both?
Consider video conferencing and using drill leader presentations at **ShakeOut.org/covid19**.
- **Choose your own date** (or even *multiple* dates). Most may still participate on International ShakeOut Day (10/21 this year).
- **Follow local health and safety guidelines.**

...What Else?

- Follow the **Seven Steps to Earthquake Safety** to protect your family, workplace, property, and way of life ahead of the next big earthquake: **bit.ly/7stepsECA**.
- For tools and tips to lead and support ShakeOut online or in-person, visit **ShakeOut.org/covid19**.
- Prepare for **other hazards** near you, such as extreme weather, fires, floods, tsunamis, landslides, and volcanic eruptions.



ITEM 8C

Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Public Safety Committee
September 13, 2021



Staff Report

Subject: Election of Public Safety Committee Officers

Contact: Tom Kirk, Executive Director (tkirk@cvag.org)

Recommendation: Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the Public Safety Committee for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

Background: Each fiscal year, the Public Safety Committee considers the election of a Chair and Vice Chair. The Committee does not have a formal officer rotation, or a set policy for how to select the Chair and Vice Chair.

A list of the officers for this Committee, dating back to 2010, is attached for member information. The current Chair is Indio Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon, and the Vice Chair is Coachella Councilmember Megan Beaman-Jacinto.

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Committee provide nominations and elect its officers for this fiscal year.

Fiscal Analysis: There is no additional cost to the budget as Public Safety Committee officers receive the same per diem as other committee members.

Attachment: History of Chair and Vice Chair

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR HISTORY**



	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Vice Chair</u>
2020/2021	Waymond Fermon	Megan Beaman-Jacinto
2019/2020	John Peña	Waymond Fermon
2018/2019	Russell Betts	John Peña
2017/2018	Betty Sanchez	Russell Betts
2016/2017	Betty Sanchez	Russell Betts
2015/2016	Iris Smotrich	Betty Sanchez
2014/2015	Paul Lewin	Iris Smotrich
2013/2014	Paul Lewin	Iris Smotrich
2012/2013	Terry Henderson	Paul Lewin
2011/2012	Mary T. Roche	Terry Henderson
2010/2011	Lee Weigel	Mary T. Roche
2009/2010	Gene Gilbert	Lee Weigel

Item 9A

COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
ATTENDANCE RECORD
FY2020-2021

Voting Members	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	ATTENDED		
Aqua Caliente - <i>Vacant until June 2021</i>			*		*			*			*	●	1	out of	5
City of Blythe			○		○			○			○	○	0	out of	5
Cabazon Band - Vacant			*		*			*			*	*	0	out of	5
City of Cathedral City			●		●			●			○	●	4	out of	5
City of Coachella			○		●			●			●	○	3	out of	5
City of Desert Hot Springs			●		●			●			●	○	4	out of	5
City of Indian Wells			●		●			●			●	●	5	out of	5
City of Indio			●		●			●			●	●	5	out of	5
City of La Quinta			●		●			●			●	●	5	out of	5
City of Palm Desert			●		●			●			●	●	5	out of	5
City of Palm Springs			●		●			●			●	○	4	out of	5
City of Rancho Mirage			●		●			●			●	●	5	out of	5
Riverside County			●		●			●			○	○	3	out of	5
Total Attendance Per Meeting			9		10			10			8	7			

Ex Officio / Non-Voting Members	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	ATTENDED		
Agua Caliente			○		○			○			○	●	1	out of	5
California Highway Patrol			○		●			●			○	●	3	out of	5
Cathedral City Fire			○		○			○			○	○	0	out of	5
Cathedral City Police			○		○			○			●	●	2	out of	5
County Probation Department			●		●			●			●	●	5	out of	5
Desert Hot Springs Police			●		●			●			●	●	5	out of	5
District Attorney's Office			●		●			●			●	○	4	out of	5
Indio Police			●		●			●			●	●	5	out of	5
Palm Desert Sheriff Station			●		●			○			○	○	2	out of	5
Palm Springs Fire			●		●			●			●	●	5	out of	5
Palm Springs Police			●		●			●			●	●	5	out of	5
Riverside County Fire			●		●			●			○	●	4	out of	5
Riverside County Sheriff			○		○			○			○	○	0	out of	5
Thermal Sheriff Station			●		●			●			○	○	3	out of	5
U.S. Border Patrol			○		○			○			○	○	0	out of	5
Total Attendance Per Meeting			9		10			9			7	9			

Scheduled Dark Month
 Vacant *
 Present ●
 Absent ○