

## **ITEM 7A**

### **Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes June 9, 2025**



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 Raymond Gregory, City of Cathedral City, at 9:00 a.m. at the CVAG Conference Room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, in the City of Palm Desert.
2. **ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

#### **Members Present**

City of Blythe  
City of Cathedral City  
City of Indio  
City of Indian Wells  
City of La Quinta  
City of Palm Desert  
City of Rancho Mirage

Vice Mayor Johnny Rodriguez  
Mayor Pro Tem Raymond Gregory, *Chair*  
Councilmember Waymond Fermon, *Vice Chair*  
Councilmember Toper Taylor  
Councilmember John Peña  
Councilmember Eve Fromberg Edelstein  
Councilmember Karina Quintanilla

#### **Ex-Officio Members Present**

Desert Hot Springs Police  
Cathedral City Fire  
Cathedral City Police  
Indio Police Department  
Palm Springs Fire  
Palm Springs Police  
Palm Desert Sheriff's Substation

Sergeant Cory Carranza  
Fire Chief Michael Contreras  
Deputy Chief Rick Sanchez  
Chief Brian Tully  
Fire Chief Paul Alvarado  
Sergeant Kevin Lu  
Lieutenant Daniel Porras

#### **Members & Ex-Officios Not Present**

City of Coachella  
City of Desert Hot Springs  
City of Palm Springs  
County of Riverside  
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians  
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians  
California Highway Patrol  
District Attorney's Office  
Riverside County Fire  
Riverside County Probation  
Riverside County Sheriff's Department  
Thermal Sheriff Station  
U.S. Customs and Border Patrol

Councilmember Frank Figueroa  
Councilmember Daniel Pitts  
Councilmember Grace Garner  
Supervisor V. Manuel Perez  
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez  
Emergency Services Manager Robert Bradbury  
Officer Castro  
Asst DA Rodney Tethal  
Deputy Chief Robert Fissh  
Chief Probation Officer Christopher Wright  
Sheriff Chad Bianco  
Captain Michael Bianco  
Assistant Chief Patrol Agent David Kim

### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City of Palm Desert Councilmember Karina Quintanilla led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

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

Chief Operating Officer Erica Felci announced CVAG's General Assembly will be held on Monday, June 30 at 6 p.m. at the Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort & Spa in Rancho Mirage and reminded all members to register.

Ms. Felci announced that this would be the Committee's final meeting in the current space, as the building is scheduled for demolition in early fall to make way for the City of Palm Desert's new public library. The City has committed to establishing a dedicated meeting space within the new library for CVAG's committees. In the meantime, CVAG is anticipating holding all meetings across the parking lot in the Colorado Regional Water Quality Control Board room and will announce if anything changes.

*[Administrative note: After the meeting, it was determined that meetings would be held at the Coachella Valley Water District, Steve Robbins Administration Building Training Room, 75515 Hovley Lane East, Palm Desert, 92260]*

City of Indian Wells Councilmember Topper Taylor requested a future agenda item on Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the Coachella Valley.

### 6. EX-OFFICIO COMMENTS

City of Indio Chief of Police Brian Tully informed the committee that a fiber optic cut occurred today, temporarily disabling Indio's 911 system. However, service remains unaffected, as the Palm Springs Police Department is assisting with 911 calls while repairs are underway.

Chief Tully also reported that a peaceful protest took place on June 8 at the Indio Border Patrol office.

Cathedral City Police Department Deputy Chief Rick Sanchez reported the City Council approved the Drone First Responder program which will assist the department to have aerial views of incidents or large events in real time.

Palm Springs Police Department Sergeant Kevin Lu reported that the city will have a busy weekend with many events taking place including Freedom Fest and the No Kings Rally.

Desert Hot Springs Police Department Sergeant Cory Carranza provided an update on the Community Response Team as well as announced the City would be hosting their Fireworks Spectacular on Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at Mission Springs Park.

Riverside County Sheriff's Department Lieutenant Daniel Porras emphasized the importance of preparing for the heat when engaging in outdoor activities, such as hiking, as summer has arrived. He noted that the department has already had to conduct rescues for hikers experiencing heat-related emergencies.

Cathedral City Fire Chief Michael Contreras provided an update on Measure W. Chief Contreras also announced they have five new members graduating the academy this month.

Palm Springs Fire Chief Paul Alvarado addressed the Committee on a range of topics, including coordination among agencies and safety at street events.

## **7. CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **A. Approve the minutes from the May 12, 2025, meeting of the Public Safety Committee**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER PENA AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FERMON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 7 AYES AND 5 MEMBERS ABSENT**

Vice Mayor Johnny Rodriguez	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Raymond Gregory	AYE
Councilmember Frank Figueroa	ABSENT
Councilmember Daniel Pitts	ABSENT
Councilmember Toper Taylor	AYE
Councilmember Waymond Fermon	AYE
Councilmember John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Karina Quintanilla	AYE
Councilmember Grace Garner	ABSENT
Councilmember Eve Fromberg Edelstein	AYE
Supervisor V Manuel Perez	ABSENT
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez	ABSENT

## **8. DISCUSSION / ACTION**

### **A. Presentation: Keeping crowds safe during large street events**

Deputy Chief Sanchez provided a PowerPoint presentation detailing the preparation that goes into ensuring crowd safety during large street events.

Robust member discussion ensued with Deputy Chief Sanchez and other ex-officio members answering questions from the committee regarding preparation and available resources.

No action was taken as this was an informational only item.

### **B. CV Link Maintenance Agreement with Desert Recreation District**

Assistant Director of Transportation Randy Bowman presented the staff report.

Member discussion ensued with Mr. Bowman answering questions from the committee, including collaboration with local law enforcement and funding being used from measure A.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER FERMON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER QUINTANILLA TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DESERT RECREATION DISTRICT FOR TWO YEARS, WITH AN OPTIONAL ONE-YEAR RENEWAL, FOR A NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$600,000 PER YEAR TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE CV LINK

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 7 AYES AND 5 MEMBERS ABSENT

Vice Mayor Johnny Rodriguez	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Raymond Gregory	AYE
Councilmember Frank Figueroa	ABSENT
Councilmember Daniel Pitts	ABSENT
Councilmember Toper Taylor	AYE
Councilmember Waymond Fermon	AYE
Councilmember John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Karina Quintanilla	AYE
Councilmember Grace Garner	ABSENT
Councilmember Eve Fromberg Edelstein	AYE
Supervisor V Manuel Perez	ABSENT
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez	ABSENT

**C. CVAG Representative on Riverside County's Emergency Medical Care Committee**

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER PENA AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER FERMON TO APPOINT TORRES MARTINEZ DESERT CAHUILLA INDIANS' TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR SHAWN ISAAC TO SERVE AS CVAG'S REPRESENTATIVE ON RIVERSIDE COUNTY'S EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMITTEE FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM THAT ENDS ON JUNE 30, 2028

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 7 AYES AND 5 MEMBERS ABSENT

Vice Mayor Johnny Rodriguez	AYE
Mayor Pro Tem Raymond Gregory	AYE
Councilmember Frank Figueroa	ABSENT
Councilmember Daniel Pitts	ABSENT
Councilmember Toper Taylor	AYE
Councilmember Waymond Fermon	AYE
Councilmember John Peña	AYE
Councilmember Karina Quintanilla	AYE
Councilmember Grace Garner	ABSENT
Councilmember Eve Fromberg Edelstein	AYE
Supervisor V Manuel Perez	ABSENT
Tribal Chair Joseph Mirelez	ABSENT

**9. INFORMATION –** The following item was provided for information only:

**A. Attendance Record**

**B. CVAG Meeting Calendar for Fiscal Year 2025-26**

## 10. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

## 11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the **Public Safety Committee** will be held on Monday, September 8, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the CVAG conference room, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 104, Palm Desert, 92260. The meeting is expected to be held at the Colorado Regional Water Quality Control Board, 73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100, Palm Desert, CA 92260. CVAG staff will confirm the location closer to the meeting date.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, June 30, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. at the Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort & Spa, 71333 Dinah Shore Dr., Rancho Mirage, 92270.

The next meeting of the **General Assembly** will be held on Monday, June 30, 2025, at 6 p.m. at the Westin Rancho Mirage Golf Resort & Spa, 71333 Dinah Shore Dr., Rancho Mirage, 92270.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Gregory adjourned the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, *Elysia Regalado*, Management Analyst