



**Tuolumne County Homelessness Committee  
(Minutes of the Meeting on March 09, 2023)**

**DRAFT**

<u>2022 TCCoH Membership</u>	Aug 2022	Sep 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	Jun 2023	Jul 2023
Supervisor David Goldemberg - Chair	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓	✓*				
Colette Such, District 1 Rep.	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Shelley Muniz, District 2 Rep.	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓				
Larry Barsetti, District 3 Rep.	V	V	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓				
Dana Butow, District 4 Rep.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Jeanette Lambert, District 5 Rep.	E	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Joe Bors, ATCAA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	E				
Andy Merrill, City of Sonora Rep.	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
LeeAnn Hatton, Rep. Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California	E	E	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	E				
Darla Merlin, Rep. Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians	E	E	✓	A	✓*	✓	A	✓				
Thomas Crosby, Rep. Tuolumne County Business Council	V	✓	E	✓	E	✓	✓	✓				
Bill Pooley, Tuolumne County Sheriff	E	E	✓	✓	✓*	A	E	✓*				
Kris Albrecht, Tuolumne County Veteran Services	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Cathie Peacock, Interfaith	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	E	✓	✓				
Jennifer Salazar, Lived Experience	V	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
<b>NON-VOTING ADVISORS REP.</b>												
Adventist Health Sonora					✓	✓	✓	✓				
Central Sierra Continuum of Care (CSCoC) Youth Advisory Board					✓	✓	✓					
Law Enforcement						✓		✓				
Superintendent of Schools Office		✓				✓						
Tuolumne County District Attorney's Office	✓						✓	✓				
Tuolumne County Health & Human Services Agency	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				

**Present = ✓ Absent = A Excused = E Vacant = V 15 Committee Members = 9 Quorum**

\* Alternate Supervisor Jaron Brandon  
\*\*Neil Evans

<u><b>Tuolumne County Staff in Attendance</b></u>	<u><b>Other Guests in Attendance</b></u>
Michael Roberson, Homeless Services Coordinator	Emily Graham, Mother Lode Job Training
Christina Cunha, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors	

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Supervisor Brandon called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

**II. ROLL CALL**

All Committee Members and staff introduced themselves. Christina Cunha confirmed a quorum was present.

**III. APPROVAL OF 2/9/2023, MEETING MINUTES**

Christina Cunha noted an error under item number 6. Morgan Rain represents LGBTQ Rural Resources Center. Andy Merrill made a motion to approve the minutes of February 09, 2023, with the noted change. Colette Such seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as amended. Shelly Muniz joined at 9:03 AM.

**IV. ORAL COMMUNICATION (3 minutes per person, maximum 15 minutes)**

A member of the public provided comment regarding engaging the public with vetting the homeless housing projects moving forward and to consider not having a large number of homeless people housed in the same area.

**V. PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION FROM MOTHER LODE JOB TRAINING**

Emily Graham, Planning Manager for Mother Lode Job Training introduced herself and reported that she provides support for multiple surrounding counties. She provided a presentation and handout on information regarding their “REBOOT” – a Workforce Accelerator Funding Project (see handout attached for details).

Jennifer Salazar joined at 9:11 AM.

Committee members asked Emily Graham questions regarding services.

A member of the public thanked Emily for her presentation.

Michael Roberson provided comments of appreciation for everything Mother Lode Job Training does for our community, specifically Emily’s passion for the work.

## **VI. HOMELESS SERVICES REPORT & DISCUSSION**

Michael Roberson provided his report focused on the priority projects the Board of Supervisors approved. He provided an update on the status of the Safe Parking and the Community Took Kit. He explained what a Navigation Center could include and spoke of property acquisitions and some of the difficulties when it comes to government entity acquisitions. County team members are working on a strategic plan for how and when to get public input within the process of housing acquisitions. Later on the agenda, he will be asking for committee volunteers to help with this process. Michael Roberson spoke about distributive, supportive, and permanent housing, and how they have been successful locally. He noted funding is available for housing but there are deadlines for using the money. He also noted he had an opportunity to speak at a Senate hearing and impress upon them housing funding needs for rural counties.

A member of the public suggested community education on homelessness.

Chair Brandon requested to take the next items out of order.

## **X. TUOLUMNE COUNTY HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS & DISCUSSION**

Chief Vanderwiel noted the status quo with the homeless population.

Undersheriff Evans noted that the Sheriff's Office's primary focus is the public safety of the community at large. He requested they be involved with projects moving forward.

Jennifer Salazar announced how she has helped people during the storms and has noticed desperation in the homeless during these storms.

Tom Crosby spoke of the need to separate the needs and solutions that have been fully vetted as we try to develop solutions.

Colette Such thanked the County for opening the Community Resilience Centers and noted she is happy to help as a volunteer in the future.

Shelley Muniz commented that there is so much to be done, but we must keep pushing forward and providing community education.

Larry Barsetti noted a need for mobile outreach services.

Dana Butow stated she was happy that Michael Roberson spoke at a Senate for accessibility for rural counties.

Jeanette Lambert spoke about the article in the newspaper regarding a homeless individual's success and now owning a home.

Cathie Peacock spoke regarding isolated seniors during emergencies and the homeless population's need for transportation.

Andy Merrill spoke about his issues regarding closed-session decision-making and stated it is critical to have community engagement. This committee should vet ideas before the Board. He noted his concern about not having the same Supervisor present consistently at the meetings.

Kris Albrecht reported on his visit with legislators at the State Capital.

Darla Merlin spoke about having an emergency response plan to organize ahead of time for the homeless.

Christina Nixon with Health and Human Services spoke about the services provided during the storms and noted that Search and Rescue were very busy helping to get people in hotels.

Kelsey Stone, District Attorney Victim Witness advocates for homeless individuals who are victims of crime. She also noted she assisted at the shelter.

Supervisor Brandon encouraged a re-evaluation of the housing project. He suggested policies be vetted to allow more community interaction. He supports the strategic plan to include the community.

A member of the public provided comment agreeing with Andy Merrill and suggested this committee be part of the strategic plan. She spoke of the notification system and how other counties use it.

A member of the public provided comment on her support for healthy people and some positive solutions.

**VII. HOMELESS SERVICES INCLEMENT WEATHER PLAN DISCUSSION & WORK GROUP RECRUITMENT**

Michael Roberson requested a small group of volunteers interested in assisting with developing an inclement weather plan for the unhoused populations as their needs differ from others. These volunteers will interact with the Office of Emergency Services and Health and Human Services Agency Staff and other stakeholders and will report back to the full committee.

Colette Such, Shelley Muniz, Jennifer Salazar, and Cathie Peacock volunteered to be part of the workgroup.

A member of the public commented about an already existing volunteer list and County employees and when they are activated to be disaster workers.

**VIII. HOMELESS SERVICES COMMUNITY INPUT FORUMS DISCUSSION & WORK GROUP RECRUITMENT**

Michael Roberson requested a small group of volunteers to work together to design a public input process for housing opportunities for the unhoused. This recommendation will come back to the full committee and then to the Board of Supervisors for the ultimate vote.

LeeAnn Hatton could not be at the meeting but brought this idea up as she has experience in this area.

LeeAnn Hatton, Andy Merrill, Dana Butow, Tom Crosby, and Shelley Muniz volunteered to be part of the workgroup.

Committee Members provided comments.

A member of the public provided comment regarding a firm that worked with the City of Sonora to provide data and noted a consultant who attended the Board Workshop.

## **IX. SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS & DISCUSSION**

Shelley Muniz, with Resiliency Village, shared about the food redistribution project and how they are working with the Chicken Ranch Band of Me-Wuk Indians and Mother Lode Job training. She spoke of the health care initiative group working with the Matheson Clinic on an outreach medical van. Shelley Muniz, Jeanette Lambert, and Cathie Peacock shared information regarding the collaborative program of “Compassion Outreach” and the positive efforts moving forward with garbage collection and more.

Jeanette Lambert commented on her recent time spent with the Health and Human Services staff.

Cathie Peacock spoke positively of the Compassion Outreach Team.

Andy Merrill reported that the recent solid waste committee was canceled. However, there could be a garbage clean-up grant funding opportunity through Tuolumne County Transportation Council.

Jennifer Salazar spoke about trash clean-up history and stated her excitement regarding the new garbage program through “Compassion Outreach”.

A member of public health commented on hygiene kits they have that need to be distributed but have been delayed due to the storms.

## **XI. FUTURE MEETING DATES & TIMES REMINDER**

Michael Roberson noted a date change needed for the regular meeting in April and requested a show of hands of voting members who could attend an afternoon meeting on Thursday, April 6 @ 1 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Conference Room. The new date was agreed upon. All future dates are noted below.

- Thursday, May 11 @ 5:30 p.m. – Board of Supervisors Conference Room
- Thursday, June 8, @ 9 a.m. – Board of Supervisors Conference Room

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Supervisor Brandon adjourned the meeting at 10:59 PM.