



**Tuolumne County Homelessness Committee  
(Minutes of the Meeting on May 11, 2023)**

**FINAL**

<u>2022 TCCoH Membership</u>	Aug 2022	Sep 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 9, 2023	Mar 20, 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	Jun 2023	Jul 2023
Supervisor David Goldemberg - Chair	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓		
Colette Such, District 1 Rep.	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E		
Shelley Muniz, District 2 Rep.	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
*Dawn Lien, District 3 Rep.											✓		
Dana Butow, District 4 Rep.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Jeanette Lambert, District 5 Rep.	E	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Joe Bors, ATCAA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	E	E	✓	✓		
Andy Merrill, City of Sonora Rep.	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
LeeAnn Hatton, Rep. Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California	E	E	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	E		
Darla Merlin, Rep. Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians	E	E	✓	A	✓*	✓	A	✓	E	✓	A		
Thomas Crosby, Rep. Tuolumne County Business Council	V	✓	E	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Bill Pooley, Tuolumne County Sheriff	E	E	✓	✓	✓*	A	E	✓*	✓*	E	✓		
Kris Albrecht, Tuolumne County Veteran Services	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓	✓		
Cathie Peacock, Interfaith	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	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**

\* May 11, 2023 first meeting as new member

<u><b>Tuolumne County Staff in Attendance</b></u>	<u><b>Other Guests in Attendance</b></u>
Michael Roberson, Homeless Services Coordinator	
Christina Cunha, Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors	
Tanya Bruchacek, Executive Clerk-Relief	

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Supervisor Goldemberg called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

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

**III. APPROVAL OF 4/6/23 MEETING MINUTES**

Bill Pooley made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2023 meeting. Andy Merrill seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

A member of the public provided comment regarding the homeless situation and more homeless coming to our county over the border with the new laws. He also provided comment regarding his passion for homeless people but stated counties need to work together.

A member of the public provided comment regarding housing vacancy rates in Tuolumne County from the past and present.

**V. CLARIFICATION ON COMMITTEE ROLE**

Supervisor Goldemberg spoke about the committee's role as advisors to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors is responsible for setting policy with recommendations from the committee.

Committee members provided comments and discussion ensured regarding feedback to the committee when the Board does not approve something the committee recommends.

Dana Butow arrived at 5:45 p.m.

A member of the public provided comment regarding the Board of Supervisor meetings and stated they are recorded. She also provided comment regarding committee concerns and votes.

A member of the public provided comment regarding the meeting dates and times being hidden. Feedback was provided regarding how to subscribe to receive meeting notifications.

A member of the public provided comment regarding meeting notifications.

A member of the public provided comment regarding surveys and publications.

## **VI. COMMUNITY INPUT FORUMS UPDATE & DISCUSSION**

Michael Roberson, Homeless Services Coordinator summarized the development of the workgroup and their mission to rally the community around assisting the unhoused populations and how to receive community input. He noted after two productive meetings the workgroup is requesting to table this item due to timing. They would like to revisit the Community Input Forum process in the fall to perhaps tie it to the Homelessness Awareness Month activities.

Workgroup members Dana Butow, Andy Merrill, Tom Crosby and Shelley Muniz spoke of their agreement with tabling the Community Input Forms project due to wrong timing and perhaps use some lessons learned for a roll-out for community outreach in the fall.

Committee members provided comment and asked clarifying questions.

A member of the public provided comment on the importance of community input and that people need to help people.

A member of the public provided comment regarding her agreement with the previous public comment process but disagrees with the delay in community input.

## **VII. STAFF UPDATE & DISCUSSION ON THE NAVIGATION CENTER**

Michael Roberson, Homeless Service Coordinator provided an update on the Navigation Center. He explained the process followed regarding community input and reported out on meetings that took place over the past 3 weeks with multiple concerned groups, such as Sonora Vista Homeowner's group, Willow Springs Homeowner's group and Soulsbyville Elementary Board, to name a few. Questions and comments were collected from those meetings and included in a staff memo and materials for consideration at the May 16<sup>th</sup> meeting Board of Supervisors meeting according to the Board's direction at the April 11, 2023 Board direction.

Committee members provided comment and asked clarifying questions.

A member of the public provided comment regarding storms, living outside, and school being nearby and that is a very nice area.

A member of the public provided a comment regarding the documents released and that they are not clear regarding who will be placed in the facility. Clear information needs to be clear on the plan for the facility.

A member of the public provided comment regarding the mentally ill and shootings and spoke of the cost for a 6 months stay, and also mentioned concerns regarding storage for personal property and vehicles.

A member of the public provided comment regarding a visual overhead map of the area and spoke to the distance from the school (visual map shared by public).

A member of the public provided comment regarding caring for others and thanked everyone for their service. She noted where she lives and would welcome something similar to the Navigation Center in her neighborhood. She stated people should be ashamed of themselves.

A member of the public provided comment regarding the Navigation Center not being an enclosed area, there is nowhere for people to walk, or to do anything and realtors have stated a decrease in property value.

Michael Spiegelman a member of the public speaking for the Soulsbyville community provided comment that Soulsbyville is not a good location due to the distance from the school and parks, and public safety as law enforcement is not in that area. He suggested other options for locations.

A member of the public provided comment regarding what a proposed shelter will do to the community. Soulsbyville does not have resources nearby, residents need to be close to jobs, and cell phones do not work. Home prices will decrease, and fire insurance will increase. Also, comments were provided regarding the facility not being fenced its close proximately to the school and park. This is a bad location for the homeless and for Soulsbyville.

A member of the public provided comment regarding his home near the facility and that it will not fit well in the community. He commented on the loss of home value and clean-up.

Jane Kelly provided comment regarding her support for the homeless. This is a bad location due to storms. She provided further comment regarding the State getting involved in assisting. She commented on her opposition to having the Navigation Center in that location.

A member of the public provided comment regarding seeing homeless in the community and it breaks her heart. She lives near the facility and has concerns regarding the bus stops for her grandchildren. She commented that the Navigation Center is a good thing, but not done well and there are fire protection concerns.

A member of the public provided comment regarding using Tuolumne General Hospital and spoke of all of the resources nearby. He also commented that memory centers should be opened back up to be used as memory care centers due to the high number of seniors living in Tuolumne County.

A member of the public provided comment regarding working together specifically with students who are homeless. She provided further comment regarding dedicated funds to cover fire hazards if the Navigation Center is opened. She commented on the decrease in property values, demographics of those placed, and homeless funds and that a delay is okay.

A member of the public provided comment of thanks for taking care of the homeless individuals commented on her volunteer work. She spoke of the homeless who are elderly and provided support for keeping the work going and hanging in there.

Valorie Ogletree retired from real estate provided comment regarding housing prices and disclosures when selling homes in Sonora Vista of the Navigation Center is placed in Sonora Vista. She shared her personal experiences with helping others and commented that Soulsbyville is not the place for this facility.

### **VIII. SERVICE PROVIDER REPORTS**

Jeanette Lambert, David Lambert Drop-in Center announced the need for volunteers.

Shelly Muniz, Resiliency Village invited all to visit. She spoke of a medical grant with a future focus on a medical van. She spoke of Compassion Outreach, a program created and run by a team of non-profits whose first program was an outreach trash program.

Kris Albright, Veterans Office announced their availability to assist Veterans.

Cathie Peacock, Interfaith spoke of the Care Compassion Outreach upcoming projects and noted that they are seeing more seniors at Interfaith that are unhoused.

Cathy Parker, Adventist Health stated that the “Project Hope” donor funds requests have increased.

Christina Nixon, Health and Human Services Agency spoke of the draft plan for the proposed Navigation Center and emphasis that staff are taking it very seriously with safety as the priority.

A member of the public provided comment regarding the need for people who do function but need temporary support.

Jennifer Salazar spoke of her work with Compassion Outreach regarding community trash clean-up.

Committee members provided words of support.

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

IX. was tabled to the next meeting.

### **X. FUTURE MEETING DATES & TIMES**

Thursday, June 8, @ 9 a.m. – Board of Supervisors Conference Room

Thursday, July 13 @ 9 a.m. – Board of Supervisors Conference Room

Thursday, August 10 @ 5:30 p.m. – Board of Supervisors Conference Room

Michael Roberson provided clarification that the August 10<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at 5:30 p.m.

### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Supervisor Goldemberg adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.