

ATTACHMENT#2



MEETING MINUTES

IMPERIAL VALLEY CONTINUUM OF CARE COUNCIL

SPECIAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

January 10, 2020 at 3:00 P.M.

Location: Department of Social Services
2999 S. 4th Street, El Centro, CA 92243

Name	Executive Board	Present
Les Smith, General Manager, Desert Trails RV & Golf Resort	Chair	X
Victor Estrada, Director of Worship & Local Missions, Gateway Church	Vice Chair	Excused
Rosie Blankenship, Director, Imperial County, Public Administrator/AAA	Secretary	Excused
Dr. Kathleen Lang, California Health & Wellness	Treasurer	Excused
Andrea Kuhlen, Director, Imperial County Behavioral Health Services	Board Member	X
Brian Johnson, Chief, El Centro Police Department	Board Member	X
Ernie Mariscal, Veterans Community Representative	Board Member	Excused
Maria Nava-Froelich, Director, Calipatria-Niland Family Resource Center	Board Member	X
Robert M. Brown, Chief of Human Resources, Pioneers Memorial Hospital	Board Member	X
Javier Moreno, Community Member	Board Member	X
Veronica E. Rodriguez, Director, Imperial County Department of Social Services	Admin Entity Lead	Via Phone
Paula Llanas, Assistant Director, Imperial County Department of Social Services	Admin Entity Lead	Excused

Guests: Rosyo Ramirez, Program Manager, Imperial County Department of Social Services; Esperanza Colio Warren-Deputy County Executive Officer, County of Imperial; Daniel Esparza, Deputy Director, Imperial County Department of Social Services; Isaen Equihua, Imperial County Department of Social Services; Chris Westlake, Westlake Consultant; Gina Vargas, Executive Director, Woman Haven; Anna Garcia, Code Enforcement Officer, City of El Centro; Susan Chasang, Executive Director, Sister Evelyn Mourey Center; Stacy Mendoza, Economic and Development Manager, City of Centro; Ray Roben, Owner, Roben Real Estate.

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairman Les Smith called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Rosie Blankenship, Victor Estrada, Dr. Kathleen Lang, Ernie Mariscal, and Paula Llanas were absent.
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** Javier Moreno motioned to approve the agenda with no changes. Maria Nava seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes were not provided for this special executive board meeting.
- V. **Public Comment:**
 - A. Ray Roben shared some ideas about services that are needed here in Imperial County. He is

interested in further developing housing for homelessness. He shared about El Dorado Parkway and their system of CSU and POF. Robert Brown asked how long does it take through Ashpad. Ray responded that Ashpad is a long process, although if they build less than 16 units, then they don't have to go through Ashpad. Ray provided additional details about CSU and POF. Andrea Kuhlen shared that both CSU and POF are not medical facilities. These facilities will not accept individuals without having been medically cleared. Ms. Kuhlen said the benefit of the POF system is that individuals can stay in it for up to fourteen (14) days. She continued to share that ICBHS currently has a CSU, where clients have stayed in it for up to one (1) week.

- B. Isaen Equihua provided an update for the Point in Time (PIT) Count to the Executive Board. He provided the board with an update on an estimated number of volunteers who have been trained for the PIT Count. He emphasized a need for more volunteers. Although he also shared that the PIT Count Committee had recently made adjustments to decrease the amount of teams, compared to prior years. Specifically, they came to a conclusion of having eleven (11) teams to cover all inner cities (not including teams who will take care of Brawley, Palo Verde, and Winter Haven). He also informed the board that the PIT Count committee had recently visited Slab City with Chief Rodelo to scout the area. The committee observed several changes in the area, compared to last year. From a glance, they feel that there is a higher population at the Slabs. The committee was informed that more assaults had been reported in the past year at Slab City. Therefore, he shared that the committee is in need of having law enforcement present during the Point in Time Count. He passed out copies of the PIT Count flyer and trainings schedules, reminding everyone that there are still two (2) more trainings left.

VI. **Discussion/Action Calendar**

A. **Discussion/action of the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) (Attachment #1 & #2):**

- 1. **Authorize the Chairman of the IVCCC Council to sign a binding resolution that redirects County allocated HHAP funds to the Imperial Valley Continuum of Care Council to administer the funds.**

Rosyo Ramirez shared that with the HHAP, there's two (2) separate allocations we'll be receiving. One will be the CoC allocations which is \$1,664,521.41 and the other will be County allocations which is \$1,552,844.76. Although, for our CoC, it was previously decided that the HHAP allocations will be combined (as offered by the State), so both allocations will be handled by the CoC. Totaling to about \$3.2 million. Esperanza Colio added that the redirection of allocations is still "tentative", and to keep in mind that the final decision is up to the Board of Supervisors (BOS). She informed everyone that it must be submitted to the BOS by January 28, 2020. Les asked "is there a chance that the BOS wouldn't accept the HHAP?" Esperanza responded that the BOS need to know what kind of financial responsibility the County will have with the State for HHAP. Veronica said that everything is going to be dependent upon the County and CoC. She emphasized that the IVCCC Executive Board needs to make a decision. Esperanza asked Veronica if we can have a plan B. The other way around, such as the CoC redirecting its allocations to the County. Veronica responded that she did not see any language from the State that allows for HHAP funds to be redirected from the CoC to the County to which Daniel Esparza, DSS Fiscal Deputy Director agreed. Veronica pointed out that by us combining our CoC and County HHAP allocations, then it would be more efficient for the CoC's administrative

entity (AE) to handle HHAP. Otherwise, it is extra work for the AE to have the allocations separated. Rosyo added that it makes more sense to combine and streamline the HHAP.

Chief Brian Johnson motioned to Authorize the Chairman of the IVCCC Council to sign a binding resolution that redirects County allocated HHAP funds to the Imperial Valley Continuum of Care Council to administer the funds and it was seconded by Maria Nava.

2. Authorize the County of Imperial as the Administrative Entity to complete and submit the HHAP grant application on behalf of the Imperial Valley Continuum of Care Council.

Rosyo Ramirez, requested approval for social services to submit the HHAP application on behalf of the IVCCC as the administrative entity.

Chief Brian Johnson motioned to approve the County of Imperial as the Administrative Entity to complete and submit the HHAP grant application on behalf of the Imperial Valley Continuum of Care Council and it was seconded by Maria Nava.

3. Prioritize the use of local HHAP funding:

- Rosyo provided an insight about HHAP and eligible activities on how we can spend our HHAP funds. She provided a breakdown on the white board of the allowable percentages and exact monies that are required by the State for awardees to spend on. Such as
 - CoC Allocation - \$1,664,521.41 / County Allocation-\$1,552,844.76
Combined Allocation- \$3,21,366.17
 - 8% for Youth- \$257,389
 - 5% for CES/ HMIS -\$160,868
 - 7% for Administration -\$225,216
 - Eligible Activities: \$2,573,893

After Rosyo's break down, chief Johnson asked how we would spend the \$160,000 for CES/ HMIS. Rosyo provided a brief insight on what has been going on with HMIS and she identified Isaen as the HMIS coordinator. Rosyo added that they are still working on the contract for the HMIS. Potentially looking at another HMIS software for the future. Rosyo emphasized the importance of HMIS, such as reports that are mandated by HUD and can only be obtained through HMIS. Veronica expressed, we need to focus on HMIS.

- Maria asked Rosyo to cover eligible items 1-8 on page 3 of the HHAP Program Guidance. That way we could provide a recap for individuals who were not present in the last executive board meeting and recommendations on the agenda. Rosyo went through all eight (8) eligible uses for HHAP. Some of the boards recommendations was that some of the eligible uses were already being funded by other sources. Rosyo asked Isaen Equihua for the number of beds that were reported to HUD in 2019 for Imperial County. Isaen said there was about 750 beds in total reported. Maria Nava asked, "do we have to limit ourselves to the eight (8) eligible items in HHAP?" Rosyo responded that we don't have to limit ourselves. Veronica asked the board, "where is the gap we left behind?" She continued on to say, "if it's the beds, then we must prioritize the beds." Veronica wants everyone to consider what the

gap is that we're leaving behind. Johnson responded that it is housing, but we do not have enough money for building apartments. Maria Nava suggested adding incentives to landlords. Rosyo shared on past ideas that have been spoken of for incentives for landlords. Gina Vargas expressed that the deposit money is needed for homes that get deteriorated. Susan Chasang shared that giving landlords a deposit is good and she agreed with Gina.

- Chris Westlake expressed that there's no housing money, and that we should be focusing on just one activity since it's not a lot of money. He provided additionally insight on State funds and how they function.
- Ray Roben said he thinks that cleaning up hotels to then provide beds to homeless, would be a good idea.
- City of Calexico Mayor Hodge shared about the need for the Men's shelter from Calexico.
- Rosyo expressed that we need to spread the \$2.5 million HHAP funds within 5 years. We also need guidance and decisions made today, so that the AE can work on the RFP, budget, and narrative. That way, the AE can report back to the executive board in February.
- Robert Brown asked if we are limiting ourselves to just *Delivery of permanent housing and innovative housing solutions such as hotel and motel conversions*. Robert emphasized that we don't want to limit ourselves to just one eligible activity. Maria suggested of adding "Emergency Shelters." Rosyo responded that we can. Ray Roben shared that they would be applying for Permanent Supportive Housing. Veronica suggested that the board can broaden or shorten the extent of activities.
- After discussion and all comments considered, Robert Brown called to vote.

Chief Brian Johnson motioned to approve the \$2,573,893 of HHAP funds, to be spent Delivery of permanent housing and innovative housing solutions such as hotel and motel conversions, and tiny homes. It was seconded by Maria Nava.

VII. Meeting Adjournment

Les Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:23 p.m.

Next meeting is on Wednesday February 5, 2020 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.