

TUOLUMNE COUNTY HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

“The purpose of the Tuolumne County Homelessness Committee is to serve the County Board of Supervisors by advising on policy and practices related to services and programs that affect the County’s residents who are currently or at risk of experiencing homelessness.”

Date/Time: Thursday, November 13, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.

Location: Tuolumne County Committees & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor

Email &/or U.S. Mail comments to: Michelle Clark at MClark@co.tuolumne.ca.us or: CAO Office 2 S. Green St. Sonora CA 95370
no later than 8:00 AM on the morning of the meeting.

CHAIRPERSON

Supervisor Ryan Campbell

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

#1 Colette Such

#2 Shelley Muniz

#3 Dawn Lien

#4 Stephanie Foster

#5 Chris Neves

OTHER MEMBERS

ATCAA

-Joe Bors

City of Sonora

-Andy Merrill

Chicken Ranch Rancheria of
Me-Wuk Indians of California

-Wittney Hawkins

Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

-Darla Merlin

Tuolumne County Business Council

-Tom Crosby

Local Service Providers

-Larry Brunel

Lived Experience

-Phil Hickenbottom

NON-VOTING ADVISORS

Tuolumne County Sheriff

Tuolumne County District Attorney

STAFF

HHSA Assistant Director

-Michelle Clark

DSS Supervisor (Unhoused)

-William Vanderheiden

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions during roll call

- Confirm quorum requirements are met [*Quorum = 7 members*]

III. APPROVAL OF 08/14/2025 MEETING MINUTES

[*Committee Chair/Attachment/5 minutes*]

(*Public Comment (limited to three minutes per person)*)

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

[*Committee Chair/Community Members/15 minutes*]

- Members of the public may be heard on any item **not** on the Committee’s agenda. A person addressing the Committee will be limited to three minutes. Comments by members of the public on any item on the agenda will only be allowed during consideration of the item by the Committee.
(*Public Comment (limited to three minutes per person)*)

V. CAMP JUSTICE WORKGROUP UPDATE & RECOMMENDATIONS

[*Subcommittee Workgroups/Committee Members/30 minutes*]

- Subcommittee will provide an update on workgroup recommendations for Camp Justice.
(*Public Comment (limited to three minutes per person)*)

VI. TUOLUMNE COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES STAFF REPORT

[*Department of Social Services Team Members/ Committee Members/15 minutes*]

- Staff will report on Homeless Services projects and initiatives and answer questions from Committee members and the public.
(*Public Comment (limited to three minutes per person)*)

VII. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS REPORT

[*Committee Members/Community Members/15 minutes*]

- Members of the Committee will be given the opportunity to share updates on community projects addressing homelessness in Tuolumne County.
(*Public Comment (limited to three minutes per person)*)

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

[*Committee Chair/2 minutes maximum*]

- Thursday, December 11, 2025 @ 9 a.m. – Committees & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor
- Thursday, January 8, 2026 @ 9 a.m. - Committees & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor
- Thursday, February 12, 2026 @ 9 a.m. Committees & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJOURNMENT



Tuolumne County Homelessness Committee

Minutes of August 14th, 2025, Meeting
DRAFT

<u>2025 TCHC Membership</u>	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	Aug. 2025	Oct. 2025	Nov. 2025	Dec. 2025
Supervisor: Ryan Campbell - Chair		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Colette Such, District 1 Rep.		A	A	A	A	A	A			
Shelley Muniz, District 2 Rep.		✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓			
Dawn Lien, District 3 Rep.		✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓			
Stephanie Foster, District 4 Rep.		A	✓	A	✓	✓	A			
VACANT, District 5 Rep.		A	A	A	A	A	A			
ATCAA, Joe Bors		A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Andy Merrill, City of Sonora Rep.		A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓			
Wittney Hawkins, Rep. Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California		✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓			
Darla Merlin, Rep. Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians		✓	A	A	A	✓	✓			
Thomas Crosby, Rep. Tuolumne County Business Council		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Local Service Provider Larry Brunel (8/24)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Lived Experience Phil Hickenbottom		✓	A	A	A	A	A			
NON-VOTING ADVISORS REP.										
Tuolumne County Sheriff		✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A			
Tuolumne County District Attorney's Office		A	A	A	A	A	A			

Present = ✓ Absent = A Excused = E Vacant = V

13 Committee Members = 7 Quorum

<u>Tuolumne County Staff in Attendance</u>	<u>Guests in Attendance</u>
Annie Hockett, HHSA Director Will Vanderheiden, DSS Social Worker Tami Mariscal, Behavioral Health Director Truman Kruse, DSS Admin. Support	Several unidentified community members.

I. Call to Order

Chair Ryan Campbell called the meeting to order at **9:04 AM**.

II. Roll Call & Introductions

Present Members:

- Ryan Campbell – Chair
- Tom Crosby – Tuolumne County Business Council
- Larry Brunel – Local Service Providers
- Shelly Muniz – District 2 Representative
- Stephanie Foster – District 4 Representative
- Annie Hockett – Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)
- Joe Bors – ATCAA
- Wittney Hawkins – Rep. Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California
- Merci Rust – Rep. Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians (Darla Merlin Proxy)
- Andy Merrill – City of Sonora

Quorum Confirmed: Yes (Minimum requirement: 7 members)

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from **July 10, 2025**.

- **Motion:** Merrill
- **Second:** Brunel
- **Vote:** Unanimous approval, no opposition, no public comment.

IV. Oral Communications

- Committee made aware of Caltrans clean California grant.
- Questions about grant.

VI. Tuolumne County Homeless Services Staff Report: **William Vanderheiden – DSS Social Worker**

Navigation Center Updates:

- Family side full.
- 36 current residents.
- 16 previously unhoused children.
- Continue to have workshops with community partners.
- Highlighted recent successes.

Camp Justice Updates:

- 50-65 current residents, numbers fluxuate.
- Some summer heat measures implemented.
- Seeking community partners for ice deliveries.

Snell Street:

- Under construction.
- Transferred to behavioral health for operations.

Miner's Motel:

- Continuing to look at funding opportunities.

Colombia Way:

- Continuing to look at funding opportunities.

Board Questions and Comments:

- Questions about Miner's Motel situation and bidding process.
- Questions about education requests from camp justice residents.
- Discussion of Colombia College rising scholars' program.
- Need to focus on participants that want to do the work.
- Acknowledgement of Colette Such's intent to resign.

Public Comment:

- Need to hold MCPs accountable.

V. Behavioral Health Staff Report**Tami Meriscal – Director Behavioral Health**

- Presentation about the historical growth and progress of behavioral health in the state of California.
 - Explanation of 5150 law and related laws.
 - Mental health services act beginning of resource availability.
- Taking advantage of infrastructure grant.
- Request for a letter of support for grant.

Board Comments and Questions:

- Full utilization of Tuolumne General Hospital (TGH) possible soon.
- Questions on function of respite.
 - Provides shelter and stability.
- Questions about other services provided at TGH.
- Questions about volume of participants and what is covered by the grant.

Public Comment:

- Question on the realistic expectations of the grant.
- Questions about 5150 law and related laws.

VII. Community Organizations Reports

Chicken Ranch Rancheria:

- Several moved to permanent housing, three times rent primary barrier.
- Only have 4 beds currently.

ATCAA:

- Shelter currently full.
- A lot of success currently, all residents have employment.
- 8 exited to permanent housing, 4 terminated from shelter.
- Have complete wraparound services for current residents.

GSAC and Nancy's Hope:

- October 4th music festival fundraiser coming along well.
- Working as usual and continuing merger.
- Fentanyl awareness group coming under Nancy's Hope.

Public Comment:

- Discussion of veterans housing situation.

VIII. Group Discussion: Showcasing Success

- Former Navigation Center opponents now volunteering at Navigation Center.

Tabled for next meeting.

VIII. Strategic Planning Workgroup Update

- Updated rule set, communicating with county counsel.
- Aligned around the belief that RVs are not viable long term.
- Need to have more fencing and discernable boundaries.
- Need to look at preparing for winter conditions.

Public Comment:

- Field trip planned to Modesto to check out their housing actions.

IX. Future Meetings

- **September 11, 2025, @ 9 AM** – Committees & Commissions Room, 48 Yaney, 3rd Floor
- **October 9, 2025, @ 9 AM** – Committees & Commissions Room, 48 Yaney, 3rd Floor
- **November 13, 2025, @ 9 AM** – Committees & Commissions Room, 48 Yaney, 3rd Floor

X. Announcements & Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Chair, Ryan Campbell, at 10:53 AM.

DRAFT

Camp Justice: Rules & Expectations

Camp Justice is a sanctioned camping program designed to support individuals experiencing homelessness as they work toward obtaining safe, suitable, and permanent housing. The program provides access to temporary campsite and services without preconditions, while maintaining a safe, respectful, and orderly environment.

The program is time limited and designed to support individuals interested in locating permanent housing. Individuals are allowed to stay for up to 120 days while they work to obtain housing.

Participation in Camp Justice is voluntary and requires signed agreement to the following rules and expectations:

1. Program Participation & Support

- All participants will receive assistance to obtain and maintain safe and stable housing throughout their stay at Camp Justice. Staff will provide support in connecting participants to voluntary social and supportive services, as outlined in individualized service plans.
- All participants will engage in services as outlined in an individualized service plan, developed in collaboration with a service provider.
- Participation in services will be monitored by Tuolumne County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA-*Department of Social Services, Public Health, Behavioral Health, Veteran's Services*) staff or a designated Community-Based Organization (CBO).
- Service plans may include goals related to housing, health, substance use, mental health, employment, and other needs identified as barriers to personal stability.
- Participants unable to secure shelter during the program will be eligible for an extension of stay if they remain engaged in services to progress towards housing and stability.
- HHSA staff are available to review each participant's progress and provide services linkages where appropriate.

Examples of services that may be included in a service plan include, but are not limited to:

- Onsite meetings with Tuolumne County Department of Social Services
- Onsite meetings with Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Staff
- Onsite visits with Tuolumne County Public Health
- Onsite visits with Tuolumne County Veteran's Services
- Participation with Community Based Organizations
- Participation with Managed Care Providers
- Participation in individualized or group therapy
- Participation in 12 step meetings
- Compliance with Probation/Parole terms and conditions
- Compliance with Behavioral Health Treatment Plans
- Compliance with Court ordered service plans

Camp Justice: Rules & Expectations

2. Safety & Prohibited Conduct

To ensure safety and security for all participants:

- The following are strictly prohibited on site:
 - Weapons of any kind
 - Illegal drugs
 - Alcohol
 - Open flames, warming fires, or debris fires
- Participants may be immediately trespassed for:
 - Engaging in illegal activity
 - Posing a threat to the safety or wellbeing of others
- Participants with three (3) rule violations may be trespassed if behaviors continue after warnings. Trespassed individuals are not allowed to return to the site.

3. Site Behavior & Quiet Hours

- Quiet hours are enforced from 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM.
 - Generators may not be used during this time.
 - Loud music is prohibited at any time and is defined as any volume that generates a complaint.
- Respectful behavior toward others, staff, and property is expected at all times.
- Visitors (friends/family) are allowed, unless they have been previously trespassed from the camp.

4. Site Use & Guidelines

- Recreational Vehicles (RVs) are not permitted on the site.
- Camping is allowed only in designated spots. Unauthorized camping outside boundaries may result in trespass.
- Construction of structures, including fenced yards or added shelter elements, is not permitted.
- Participants may only have one personal, operable vehicle on site.
 - All vehicles must be driven safely and at 5 MPH or less within camp limits.

5. Cleanliness & Sanitation

- All participants must:
 - Use provided portable toilets for urination and defecation.
 - Dispose of all trash in designated dumpsters.

Camp Justice: Rules & Expectations

- The entire camp will be cleared for cleaning and maintenance at least twice per month. Additional clean-ups may occur as needed, determined by HHSA.
- Personal belongings must be kept inside tents or vehicles.
 - Excessive items, debris, or clutter are not permitted and will be removed by staff.

6. Pets

- Pets are allowed but must:
 - Be restrained or crated at all times
 - Not roam freely through the site
 - Be properly cared for, with all clean-up performed by the owner
- Aggressive animals are prohibited
 - Pets that display aggressive behavior or have bitten a person or another animals are not permitted at the site.
 - Any pet showing threatening or unsafe behaviors may be required to leave immediately for the safety of participants and staff.

7. Enforcement & Warnings

- Minor rule violations may result in a verbal or written warning unless they pose an immediate safety threat.
- Accumulation of three (3) violations may result in trespass and program exit.
- All trespass decisions are final, and individuals may not return once exited.

By residing at Camp Justice, participants agree to:

- Actively engage in services
- Follow site rules
- Comply with their individualized service plan
- Contribute to a safe, clean, and respectful community

By signing below, I acknowledge I understand the rules listed above and agree to follow them.

Participant Signature

Printed Name

Date