

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, January 8, 2026 @ 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 Vacant

#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 11/13/2025 MEETING MINUTES

[*Committee Chair/Attachment/5 minutes*]

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

IV. Committee Membership

[*Committee membership expiration and vacancies 5 minutes*]

V. 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)*)

VI. CAMP JUSTICE WORKGROUP UPDATE & RECOMMENDATIONS

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

- Subcommittee will provide an update on workgroup recommendations for Camp Justice.
- Recreational Vehicles: Status Update for relocating existing RVs
- Pallet Pilot Project: Status Update
- Pest Control: Cost Estimate and Discussion

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

VII. 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.
- Review Waste Management costs
(*Public Comment (limited to three minutes per person)*)

VIII. 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)*)

IX. FUTURE MEETINGS

[*Committee Chair/2 minutes maximum*]

- Thursday, February 12, 2026 @ 9 a.m. Committees & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor
- Thursday, March 12, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m. Committees & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor
- Thursday, April 9, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m. Committees & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJOURNMENT



Tuolumne County Homelessness Committee

Minutes of December 11th, 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		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
VACANT, District 1 Rep.		A	A	A	A	A	A		A	A
Shelley Muniz, District 2 Rep.		✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓		✓	✓
Dawn Lien, District 3 Rep.		✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓		✓	A
Stephanie Foster, District 4 Rep.		A	✓	A	✓	✓	A		A	✓
Chris Neves, 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	✓	✓		A	✓
Thomas Crosby, Rep. Tuolumne County Business Council		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		A	✓
Local Service Provider Larry Brunel (8/24)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Lived Experience Phil Hickenbottom		✓	A	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		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>
Michelle Clark, HHSA Director Tami Mariscal, Behavioral Health Director Truman Kruse, DSS Admin. Support David Vasquez, Sheriff	Chris Khan, Refuge Recovery Center Director Ethan Jordan, Camp Justice Resident Amber Anderson, Camp Justice Resident Several unidentified community members.

I. Call to Order

Chair Ryan Campbell called the meeting to order at **9:00 AM**.

II. Roll Call & Introductions

Present Members:

- Ryan Campbell – Chair
- Larry Brunel – Local Service Providers
- Shelly Muniz – District 2 Representative
- Chris Neves – District 5 Representative
- 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
- Phil Hickenbottom – Lived Experience
- Thomas Crosby – Tuolumne County Business Council
- Stephanie Foster – District 4 Representative

Quorum Confirmed: Yes (Minimum requirement: 7 members)

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes from **November 6th, 2025**.

- **Motion:** Bors
- **Second:** Muniz
- **Vote:** Unanimous approval, no opposition, no public comment.

IV. Committee Membership:

- New applications for committee membership needed for Shelley Muniz, District 2, Dawn Lien, District 3, Stephanie Foster, District 4, and Larry Brunel, Local Service Provider. Once applications are received can include on a January Board of Supervisors agenda for membership approval.
- Vacancy for district one is posted.

V. Oral Communication

- None provided.

VI. Camp Justice Workgroup update & recommendations:

- The use of pallets at Camp Justice was discussed following questions about whether they had been approved by the Board of Supervisors. It was recalled that the Board had agreed to a pilot project involving four pallets retrofitted together within a frame and staked into the ground. The intent was to elevate the pallets to reduce rodent issues and to limit or prevent movement. One such installation has been completed.
- Pest control concerns at Camp Justice were discussed, including reports of cockroaches and mice. It was requested that this item be added to the January agenda to include associated costs.
- The cost of trash service was discussed, as it had not previously been included in the total cost of operating Camp Justice and the costs have increased due to the dumpsters being regularly overfilled.
- Recap of Board of Supervisors Camp Justice discussion.
- Recommendations largely accepted by the Board of Supervisors.
- Discussion of finding a new homeless site and associated funding requirements.
- General thoughts on project provided by Sheriff.
- Suggestion of increased involvement by other agencies in order to move out trailers.

Public Comment:

- Chris Khan commented on his cost to support Camp Justice clean-up days.
- Amber (last name unknown) stated that there were no issues with insects or mice and that pest control services were not needed.
- Ethan Jordan expressed disagreement with placing tents on pallets, citing knee issues and a preference for being on the ground. Refutation of need for pest control.
- Comments about the physical difficulties related to Camp Justice move outs.
- Questions were raised regarding the need to move trailers, with a determination that existing RVs would be addressed through individual solutions.
- Suggestions of ideas to deal with trailer situation, including a community-based organization looking into specialized camp site for RVs, and a non-profit managed mobile home site
- Comments about the conditions of trailers barring them from trailer parks.

VII. Tuolumne County Homeless Services Staff Report:

Hotel Utilization as part of the Homelessness Continuum: Eligibility review and discussion:

- Overview of funding, reduce to 28-30 days for hotel stays, additional challenges, and eligibility criteria for each program (Home Safe, Bringing Families Home, Housing and Disability Advocacy Program, Housing Support Program, and Encampment Resolution Funding).

Board Questions and Comments:

- Questions about vetting through other programs.
- Questions about Columbia Way Project status. Pursuing same process as that associated with the Miner's Motel. Explained the Board of Supervisor process and the need to release a Request for Proposals.
- Questions about the status of the Navigation Center. Currently full, with a wait list.

Public Comment:

Chris Khan provided an overview of the Refuge's recent activities related to the Columbia Inn and the Refuge's funding situation.

VIII. Community Organizations Reports**Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Mi-Wuk Indians:**

- Shared success with thanksgiving dinner.
- Community dinner at casino.
- Indigenous market and tamale cooking demo upcoming events.

ATCAA:

- 16 in shelter.
- Placed 9th person into permanent housing.

GSAC and Nancy's Hope:

- Shared success of Thanksgiving dinner.
- Shared information about Christmas activities

Host Team:

- Next activities in December.

Compassion Outreach:

- Requesting warm weather clothing.
- Consulting with Food Shift to improve food distribution.

Refuge:

- Taken over Columbia Inn.
- Operating as Low Barrier housing.
- Scaling back transportation services, various agency representatives provided options.
- Difficulties with justice involved individuals and transportation.

IX. Future Meetings

- **January 8, 2026, @ 9 AM** – Committees & Commissions Room, 48 Yaney, 3rd Floor
- **February 12, 2025, @ 9 AM** – Committees & Commissions Room, 48 Yaney, 3rd Floor
- **March 12, 2025, @ 9 AM** – Committees & Commissions Room, 48 Yaney, 3rd Floor

X. Announcements & Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Chair, Ryan Campbell, at 10:47 AM.

Future items:

Pest control issues

Revisit RV situation

Pallet Pilot Project update

Review waste management costs