

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, March 12, 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 01/8, 2026 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*]

- Camp Justice Rules & Expectations, scheduled to go live on March 30, 2026, with discussion of potential additional edits.
- Solid Waste: Status Update
- Recreational Vehicles: Status Update
- Pallet Pilot Project: Status Update

(*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.
- Report on CalFresh Able-Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD) Work Requirements
(*Public Comment (limited to three minutes per person)*)

VIII. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS REPRORT

[*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, April 9, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m. Committees & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor
- Thursday, May 14, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m. Committees & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor
- Thursday, June 11, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m. Committees & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJOURNMENT



Tuolumne County Homelessness Committee

Minutes of January 1st, 2026, Meeting
DRAFT

<u>2026 TCHC Membership</u>	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	June 2026	July 2026	Aug. 2026	Oct. 2026	Nov. 2026	Dec. 2026
Supervisor: Ryan Campbell - Chair	✓									
VACANT, District 1 Rep.	A									
Shelley Muniz, District 2 Rep.	✓									
Dawn Lien, District 3 Rep.	✓									
Stephanie Foster, District 4 Rep.	A									
Chris Neves, District 5 Rep.	✓									
ATCAA, Joe Bors	✓									
Andy Merrill, City of Sonora Rep.	A									
Wittney Hawkins, Rep. Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California	✓									
Darla Merlin, Rep. Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians	A									
Thomas Crosby, Rep. Tuolumne County Business Council	✓									
Local Service Provider Larry Brunel (8/24)	✓									
Lived Experience Phil Hickenbottom	A									
NON-VOTING ADVISORS REP.										
Tuolumne County Sheriff	A									
Tuolumne County District Attorney's Office	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 Assistant Director William Vanderheiden, Social Services Supervisor Tami Mariscal, Behavioral Health Director Truman Kruse, DSS Admin. Support	Ethan Jordan, Camp Justice Resident Amber Anderson, Camp Justice Resident Jessica Williams, Hillside Mobility Anna Britt Jen Salazar Jeff Clay, Prospective District 1 Representative Catherine Hodges, Prospective District 1 Representative, 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
- Dawn Lien – District 3 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)
- Thomas Crosby – Tuolumne County Business Council

Quorum Confirmed: Yes (Minimum requirement: 7 members)

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes from **December 11th, 2025**.

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

IV. Committee Membership:

- Still need Dawn Lien's membership application.

Public Comment:

- Jeff Clay announced that he applied for the vacant district 1 representative position.
- Kathryn Hodges announced that she applied for the vacant district 1 representative position.
- Questions about the status of the lived experience position, possibility of removing current member.

V. Oral Communication

- Jessica Williams announced the availability of hillside mobility, non-emergency medical transportation.
- Jen Salazar had questions about CalFresh and Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABWD) work requirements. Possibility of an extension was noted.
- CalFRESH topic tabled for future meeting.
- Anna Britt discussed a camp justice resident passing away.
- Caroline, last name unknown, discussed conditions of camp justice as well as the challenges of winter.
- Shelly Muniz thanked camp justice residents for attending.

VI. Camp Justice Workgroup update & recommendations:

- There are currently 12 RV/trailer units at Camp Justice, with 2 residents requesting financial assistance to make their vehicles operational. An additional 8 units require some level of repair to be functional. Staff researched commercial RV parks that will allow these vehicles despite their conditions, resulting in minimal options. Attendees expressed the need to determine whose responsibility it is to search for RV parks that will allow this, and to negotiate with these RV parks.
- Working with community-based organizations to find sites. Distinction is made between safe parking and RV/Trailer parking.
- Discussed the vehicles currently in camp justice and what would be done if they are parked illegally at camp justice or other locations.
- Discussed the HUD definition of Homeless and determined that those in RVs or Trailers qualify as homeless.
- County does not have tax base or programs to provide a space similar to what other counties do. Other counties provide security and services.
- Discussion of options on private land or with private entities. Need to discuss further with Community Development and County Counsel.
- Recommended to work with private entities and resiliency village. Need further discussion and plan the county can support.
- Co-compliance continues to be an issue.
- William Vanderheiden discussed the counties efforts to find an RV park that will take on these vehicles. Issues involve inability to pay rent. 30-day notices issued to all RVs and trailers at camp justice. Several will likely be unable to comply and will be dealt with by the sheriff's department. Only options necessitate more time.
- Questions about the facilities at resiliency village. Had power and water. Not standard hookups.
- Discussion of possible eligibility, funding, and code compliance issues.
- William Vanderheiden discussed considerations related to the Board of Supervisors and noted that the Board may have concerns regarding the recommendation. Motion to request from the board of supervisors: extension of site by thirty days, direction to work with CDD and County Counsel, direction to work with CBO's, and direction to identify potential funding sources.

- Motion carried unanimously, First by Tom Crosby, second by Shelley Muniz.

Public Comment:

- Question about why trailers are being moved in the first place. Request for clarification.
- Complaint about distance of Camp Justice to transit center.
- Clay Hill provides outreach to the camp. Confused as to why people are being moved from trailers to tents. Provided complaints about FEMA. Requested delaying evictions till winter ends.
- Discussion of the need to present the consequences of eviction to the Board of Supervisors.
- Question about why other counties are able to provide these services and we are unable.
- James Taylor discussed conditions at camp justice and the effect of weather.
- Discussion of how homeless camps are handled in other areas. An example of people purchasing small plots was given. Additional discussions of need for rules at the camp.

Back to Board:

- **Pallet Discussion**
 - Background of the pallet experiment and recent developments. Originally purchased 120 pallets in order to help lift people out of the dirt and establish perimeter of individual camps.
 - Originally planned 4x4 grid of pallets, no longer large enough space.
 - Need clarification on board of supervisor's direction regarding pallet program.
 - Michelle Clark will get clarification from relevant board of supervisor member.
- **Pest Control Discussion**
 - Met with pest control company to discuss possible issues at camp justice.
 - Possible concerns about liability.
 - No issues found at this time, echoing sentiment of current residents.
 - Concerns about potential spraying of chemicals around residents.

VII. Tuolumne County Homeless Services Staff Report:

HDAP trailer project:

- Residents are applying for social security and disability.
- Currently have 100% success rate of people exiting to permanent housing.

Navigation Center:

- Two camp justice trailer residents approved for the navigation center.
- 2025 navigation center statistics:
 - 80 total residents
 - 51 residents exited program.
 - 38 exited to permanent stable housing.
 - 74.5% success rate.
- Discussion of unexpected camp justice costs. Approximately \$22,000 dollars a year

in waste management.

Public Comment:

- Discussion of public dumping at camp, as well as potential solutions.
- Locks and timed opening of dumpsters discussed.

Back to Board:

- Discussion of current situation and realities of an unmanaged site like camp justice.
- Possibility of a lock with a code discussed.
- Discussion of moving dumpsters, current location necessitated by trash removal.
- Request to reagendaize this topic for a future meeting.

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

GSAC and Nancy's Hope:

- Stuff the bus event very successful.
- Distribution day at the Lambert Center, January 16th.
- Items include tents and tarps.

IX. Future Meetings

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

X. Announcements & Adjournment

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

Future items:

Camp Justice Waste Management