

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, April 9, 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 Jeff Klay

#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

-Vacant

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*]

- Welcome Jeff Klay as District 1 representative (appointment approved by the BOS on March 24, 2026)
- Reappointment of Dawn Lien (approved by the BOS on March 24, 2026)

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/15 minutes*]

- RV/Trailer Deadline (Week of March 30, 2026): Post removal update
- Pallet 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/30 minutes*]

- Staff will report on Homeless Services projects and initiatives and answer questions from Committee members and the public.
 - Report on Transitional Rent: Overview/Eligibility/Providers
 - Miners Motel Update
 - Columbia Way (Veterans Housing) Update
- (*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, 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
- Thursday, July 9, 2026 @ 9:00 a.m. Committee & Commissions Room/48 Yaney/3rd Floor

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJOURNMENT



Tuolumne County Homelessness Committee

Minutes of March 12th, 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		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	✓		A							
Darla Merlin, Rep. Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians	A		A							
Thomas Crosby, Rep. Tuolumne County Business Council	✓		A							
Local Service Provider Larry Brunel (8/24)	✓		✓							
Lived Experience Phil Hickenbottom	A		A							
NON-VOTING ADVISORS REP.										
Tuolumne County Sheriff	A		✓							
Tuolumne County District Attorney's Office	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 Assistant Director William Vanderheiden, Social Services Supervisor Truman Kruse, DSS Admin. Support Erin Gandolfo, DSS Agency Manager Shauna Armbricht, DSS Eligibility Supervisor	Lisa Silva, Mastercare Nikki Hyske, Mastercare Anna Britt-Spears Jen Salazar 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
- Andy Merrill – City of Sonora
- Shelly Muniz – District 2 Representative
- Dawn Lien – District 3 Representative
- Stephanie Foster – District 4 Representative
- Chris Neves – District 5 Representative
- Joe Bors – ATCAA
-

Quorum Confirmed: Yes (Minimum requirement: 7 members)

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes from **January 8th, 2025**.

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

IV. Committee Membership:

- Received two applications, will go to the board of supervisors on the 24th of March.
- Discussed formal replacement of Phil Hickenbottom as Lived Experience Representative. No opposition to action removing Phil Hickenbottom from committee and declaring the Lived Experience Representative position vacant, public notice of position availability to be posted.

Public Comment:

- Lisa Silva with Mastercare requested the agendizing of transitional rent for CalAim services under behavioral health. Important to get more information to this group.
- Nikki Hyske from Mastercare discussed lack of and need for a homeless multidisciplinary team meeting. Desire to not hijack existing meetings and instead have a separate meeting. Possibility of adding time to Navigation Center meeting raised.

- Anna Britt-Spears, no longer homeless, discussed mindset of unhoused people, trauma associated with the experience of being unhoused. Requested wraparound services including therapy, coping skills, life skills coaching, flu vaccines. Thanked William Vanderheiden for his efforts.

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:

- Met on March 5th to discuss trailer status and next steps, as well as camp justice rules and expectations. Still need to be reviewed by county counsel. Handed out copies to other board members. Require clarification from committee on some sections, such as number of vehicles per individuals.
- Discussed costs associated with waste management. Influenced by illegal dumping. Acquired funding to post signage and added relevant language to rules. Additionally, if a 72-hour notice is given valuable possessions will be stored.
- Discussed pets at camp justice. A maximum of two pets per person allowed, and all vaccines and shots will be required. Must be working toward spaying or neutering. Need's input from county counsel.
- Questions from board members as to what constitutes an item of intrinsic value. Items such as legal papers, documents, photos, and other items of obvious monetary value were given as examples.
- Funding available through HHSA in conjunction with animal control to provide spay and neuter services. Services available through Tuolumne county spay and neuter. Note that later in meeting it was learned that Tuolumne Spay and Neuter has dissolved.
- William Vanderheiden discussed witnessing illegal dumping and notified sheriff's deputy. Trash was returned to offending party and education provided by sheriff's deputy.
- 60-day extension has proved to save county money. Less trailers need to be destroyed and several have been moved. 4-5 trailers currently need to be moved, down from 8-9 previously. Three times rent requirement continues to be an issue moving trailers out.
- Clarification on what constitutes destruction of RV's. Typically dismantled down to frame and parts taken to dump. Costs approximately \$3,000 per trailer, \$1,700 without towing. Original total cost estimate of \$25,000, now down to \$7,500.
- Michelle Clark made group aware that 60-day extension ends on March 28th, a Saturday, so there will be a small grace period till the week starts.

- To the knowledge of William all leaving motorhomes and RV's are leaving to legal sites.
- Planning to begin implementation of pallet system soon. Approved by board. Sheriff's office has begun mocking up sites.
- Questions about cleaning process with pallet system. Enough pallets for 15 total pallet sites. With test site there have been minimal issues. Will continue to monitor pest situation as move outs occur. Pest control company has confirmed minimal presence of pests.

Public Comment:

- Concerns about dogs at navigation center and camp justice, as well as need to neuter dogs.
- Questions about pallet construction and size. Pallets are plastic and standard size.

Back to Board:

- Questions about funding situation for neutering of pets at camp justice. MOU in effect with Animal Control as well through ERF funding.
- Sheriff's office approves of new camp justice rules and expectations.
- Questions about timeline on removal of inoperable vehicles. HHSA and Sheriff's office has discretion on enforcement.
- Motion to approve Camp Justice rules and expectations by Andy Merrill, second by Joe Bors.

VII. Tuolumne County Homeless Services Staff Report:

HHSA CalFresh Unit:

Able bodied adult without dependents work rule:

- Takes effect June 1st of 2026.
- Erin Gandolfo and Shauna Albright speaking.
- In order to qualify for CalFresh you must meeting a work requirement of 20 hours a week, 80 hours a month in order to be eligible for CalFresh for more than 3 months in a 36 month time period.
- Many exemptions to this as the program is designed for able bodied adults.
- Applies to adults between the ages of 18-64, without a disability, and without a dependent under the age of 14. Otherwise to be eligible you must meet the work rule or be an exemption.
- There is also a weekly dollar amount to qualify for an exemption. Additional exemptions are related to education and unemployment among others.
- If no exemptions or work rule is met you only qualify for 3 months of CalFresh in a 3 year time period.
- Education provided to CalFresh clients about how to deal with individual scenarios and problems navigating system.
- Volunteer work does count toward those 20 hours.
- Automation for process coming soon.
- One of the requirements for CalFresh Employment Training (CFET) is active CalFresh. Once an individual's CalFresh is discontinued, so is their CFET.

- Physical resources provided to group.

Public Comment:

- Questions about what constitutes disability. Can be through Social Security Disability, State Disability, and Veterans Disability among others. Obvious disabilities also mentioned as constituting disability.
- Request for a generic volunteer form.
- Opportunity for employment in trucking shared. Training and housing possibly provided. Swift Academy stated as name of company.
- Questions about training provided by county programs. Job skills primarily, largely job specific training on a case by case basis.

Navigation Center:

- 32 current residents.
- Since opening 102 clients served, 70 exited, 53 exited to stable housing. 75.7% success rate. Average success rate for interim housing in this state is 13%.
- Providing workshops and partnering with public health, open to other as they become available.
- Sponsor a room program started prior to navigation center opening. Information was lost. Attempting to restart program.
- Andy Merrill will bring program up to city council.
- Questions about process of donating to program and requirements.
- Questions about progression of camp justice program.
- ERF budget modification submitted in order to move money to camp justice.
- Camp Justice costs discussed. Approximately \$8,000 per month. Without solid waste costs ~\$7000. Roughly \$100,000 dollars a year.
- Discussions of CDBG funding application and other grant options.

Public Comment:

- Discussion of public dumping at camp, as well as potential solutions.
- Locks and timed opening of dumpsters discussed.
- Reminder to agendize transitional housing for future.

Back to Board:

- Questions about exited clients and if that information is recorded in HMIS. It is being recorded in HMIS.
- Information about success rates should be presented to board.
- Discussion of different definitions of permanent housing by other counties.
- Larry Brunel stated that Camp Justice needs to stay open, need to continue to find funding.
- Joe Bors shared that the average cost to ATCAA is approximately \$10,000 a month for their ~30 person camps, compared situation to Camp Justice cost of \$8,000 a

- month for ~40 person camp.
- Nancy's hope can be added to list of organizations funding a room at the navigation center.

VIII. Community Organizations Reports

City of Sonora:

- Tuolumne Spay and Neuter is dissolving. Lacking time, attention, and funding to continue
- Discussed impact of storm sweeping homeless related trash into creeks and streams. Brought up to CalTrans.
- Discussed need to help homeless population "harden" prior to storms or flooding.

ATCAA:

- New grant requirement that city and county do inspections of emergency shelters.
- ATCAA had first inspection by fire department.
- ATCAA emergency shelter likely being reduced to 14 beds from 23 due to inspection and fire code.
- Raised concern that a similar situation could be occurring with other shelters.
- February shelter residents: 23 total with 7 children. Multiple single mothers with children.
- Direction given to shelter coordinator to not refill beds as people leave.

Host:

- Will be going out on March 27th
- Mathiesen bus is now active.
- William Vanderheiden noted that El Dorado county sent at least one individual to Tuolumne County for homelessness services.

Nancy's hope and GSAC:

- Food recovery and recycle program soon to be in affect.
- Nancy's hope music festival has bands lined up.
- Need volunteers for various aspects of festival.
- GSAC has completed merger with Nancy's hope.

The refugee:

- Secured shared housing for a group of four to six males in crystal falls.

Brief 108 motel update:

- Habitat for humanity selected as recipient.
- Possibility of ERF funding availability.
- Full update agendized for next meeting.

Assisted Living Update:

- We now have a facility in Tuolumne County under CalAim Services.
- Questions about the lack of assisted living facilities in Tuolumne County.
- Many providers in surrounding counties, buildings for sale in Tuolumne County typically require significant work and are not cost effective.

Public comment:

- Information provided about employment as in home health service provider.
- Question about volunteering to transport people to medical services

IX. Future Meetings

- **April 9, 2026, @ 9 AM** – Committees & Commissions Room, 48 Yaney, 3rd Floor
- **May 14, 2026, @ 9 AM** – Committees & Commissions Room, 48 Yaney, 3rd Floor
- **June 11, 2026, @ 9 AM** – Committees & Commissions Room, 48 Yaney, 3rd Floor

X. Announcements & Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Chair, Ryan Campbell, at 10:59AM.

Future items:

Elderly housing,

108 report,

Transitional Rent,

Navigation Center wraparound services,

Homeless MDT,

Future Funding Camp Justice,

Response to trash after extreme weather.