

**YVCOG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
May 24, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jim Restucci called the May 24, 2018 special meeting of the YVCOG Executive Committee to order at 1:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL &
INTRODUCTIONS**

- Members present: Jim Restucci, John Hodkinson, Bill Moore, Janice Gonzales, Mike Leita
- Members absent: Dan Olson*, Brad Hill*. Excused, so ordered.
- YVCOG staff present: Larry Mattson, Chris Wickenhagen, Crystal Testerman, and Jodi Smith
- Others present: Sara Watkins, Joan Davenport, Lowel Krueger, Geoff Baker, Duane Monick, Deb Sterling.
- A quorum was present.

**Indicates notice of absence received prior to meeting.*

PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY

It is the policy of the Yakima Valley Executive Committee to accept public comment on agenda items at the time the item is being discussed. Public comments regarding items not on the agenda will be heard at the end of the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

*Homeless Housing &
Assistance Program – Future
Advisory Structure**

YVCOG Presentation - Larry Mattson, Executive Director

Where have we been and how do we move forward? Successes for the Homeless Program under YVCOG include:

- Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee
- New providers brought to the table
- Catholic Charities Housing Services
- Union Gospel Mission
- Transform Yakima Together
- New programs for young people
- Tiny Homes development

YVCOG's role is as an Administrator, not as a service provider.

YVCOG suggests clearly articulated roles for stakeholders, administrators and the YVCOG Executive Committee to avoid conflicts of interest and infighting.

Program input comes from the Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC) where each sector gets one seat. The SAC is responsible for oversight and funding recommendations and consults the Task Force.

The Task Force would be similar to the Homeless Network.

YVCOG's Executive Committee would make final decisions and authority.

Homeless Program Advisory Committee Presentation –

Sara Watkins, Senior Assistant City of Yakima Attorney and Lowel Krueger, Executive Director, Yakima Housing Authority

Governance proposal was also presented to the City Council and Homeless Network.

Most of the work will be done at the Task Force level.

The Homeless Program Executive Committee (HP EC) is a sub-committee of the Task

Force.

The Contract Administrator/Staff reports to the Task Force and the HP EC. The Contract Administrator supports the work of the Task Force and provides technical assistance.

Questions and discussions followed, including clarification and definitions, the role of the contract administrator, what is the funding authority of the HP funding committee? YVCOG EC is composed of all elected officials who are responsible to the voters and tax payers. The HP EC are not elected officials. County oversight of 2163 funds is through the interlocal agreement.

Suggestions included hiring an expert to write the 5-year plan; adding one more level so that HP EC reports to YVCOG EC; experts needed for insights into homelessness, similar to the model the Transportation Policy Board uses.

Comments included the inability to yield the fiscal responsibilities and duties to taxpayers by the YVCOG Executive Committee to a body of non-elected officials; the YVCOG contract with state funds ends in 2 years. County contract with YVCOG is renewed annually.

County has the control of funds via RCW. Mr. Leita stated that he believes there is room for improvement with more community engagement.

Next steps: a hybrid of the 2? Mr. Leita requested a proposal be brought to the next YVCOG EC meeting and suggested that Larry Mattson meet with members of the Governance Committee.

Action: Information

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joan Davenport made a request on behalf of the City Council for assistance on homelessness. They need a bigger voice in determining what happens to homeless funds. 90% of the homeless population is in Yakima.

Deb Sterling stated that 100% of the Homeless Network voted in favor of the proposal and invited Crystal Testerman to participate in Homeless Network meetings. They want everyone at the table.

ADJOURN

With no other business, Chair Restucci adjourned the meeting at 3:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Restucci, YVCOG Executive Committee Chair

6/18/18
Date signed

ATTEST:


Jodi Smith, Office Specialist