



Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care

Butte County Continuum of Care

Councilmember Minutes

Monday November 14, 2022

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Zoom Meeting Hosted by: Butte County Employment & Social Services

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amber Abney-Bass, Jesus Center
Anastacia Snyder, Catalyst
Ann Winters, Greater Chico Task Force
Brad Brunner, Caminar
Don Taylor, DESS H&H
Ed Mayer, HACB
Emily Pereira, Youth for Change
Eric Smith, City of Oroville
Josh Jamison, Oroville Hope Center
Marie Demers, City of Chico
Michael O'Brien, City of Chico
Tami Ritter, BC Board of Supervisors

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

John Mitchell
Keesha Hills, OSCIA
Marin Hambley, Stonewall
Meagan Meloy, BCOE
Sarah Frohock, BCDBH
Steve Culleton, Town of Paradise

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Tara Sullivan-Hames, Butte-Glenn 211
Denver Nash, DESS H&H
Christina Swint, Butte County Probation
Annie Terry, ORM
MaryJo Alonzo, City of Chico
Theresa Nantor, CHIP
Kathleen Sweeney, Tami Ritter's Office
Amy Bergstrom, City of Oroville
Pahua Thao, DESS H&H
Michael Weber, Chico ER
Tracey Gillihan, Butte-Glenn 211

OTHER ATTENDEES CONT:

Erin Murray, DESS H&H
Melissa Jamison, United Way of Northern California
Seana O'Shaughnessy, CHIP
Debbie Villasenor, Housing Consultant
James Wilson, Anthem Blue Cross
Jessica Gianola, CHAT
Sherisse Allen, Butte County Administration
Shelly Storkan, BCDBH
Gene Azparren, BCDPH
Charles Withuhn, North State Shelter Team
Kevin Thompson, OSCIA
Mary Kay Benson, North State Shelter Team
Taylor Storey, TNHA
Carnella Marks, Restoring Our Community
Elisa Rawlinson, DES H&H
Kaitlyn Sherrill, DESS H&H
Hilary Crosby, Safe Space
Yesenia Gallegos, CHAT
Ian Clement, DESS H&H
Meagan Smith, NCIHA
Shelly Forbes, Nation's Finest
Caitlin Davis-Rivers, CHAT
Wendy Lo, DESS H&H
Josiah Vasey, Butte-Glenn 211
Santy Gray, BCOE School Ties
Shelly Miller, Children and Families Commission
Jay Coughlin, DESS H&H
Carolyn Neeley Chesser, Community Connect
Melody Proebstel, United Way of Northern California
Amie Decker, Nation's Finest
Samantha Davis, Ampla Health
Leslie Johnson, CHAT
Angie Little, HACB

CoC Coordinator: Briana Harvey Butterfield, DESS H&H **Recording:** Erin Murray, DESS H&H

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. **CONVENE MEETING AND ESTABLISH QUORUM:** The meeting was called to order by A. Snyder, Chair, at 1:02 P.M. This meeting is being recorded. Roll call of the councilmembers was completed by A. Snyder whom facilitated the meeting. It was determined that there were enough councilmembers were present to establish a quorum.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – ACTION:** A motion was made to approve the following minutes:
 - a. October 17, 2022 – CoC Council Meeting

Request by A. Snyder to amend minutes to correct typos: adjust spelling in “Catalyst” under Committee Members Present and change “append” to “amend” under Approval of Minutes.

Motion: Ed Mayer, HACB
Second: Tami Ritter, Butte County Board of Supervisors
Opposed: None
Abstain: None

3. **MOBILEHOME PARK RENT STABILIZATION – DISCUSSION:**

Supervisor Ritter stated that previous Assembly Bills put protections in place for mobilehome park tenants to prevent drastic rent increases specifically for counties that had experienced disasters – increases were limited to less than 10% annually. Senior and mobilehome parks rent increases are exempt from protections put in place due to COVID. The land lease amount paid by mobilehome park tenants, which is often in addition to the mortgage of the home itself, has been increasing 6 – 10% each year. On October 1st, 2022, the Butte County Board of Supervisors received a presentation from Western Manufacturing Association, representing owners of mobile parks, asking that the Board write a letter to Governor Newsom to not be included in the extension of the land lease rent increase protections. As a result, the Governor excluded Butte County from the extension of mobilehome park rent protections. Most residents in senior and mobilehome parks are on fixed incomes and are seeing significant increases each year with nothing they can do to stop it. There was also a loss of over 20,000 units 2018.

A. Snyder: Are any residents of mobilehome communities organizing?

Sup. Ritter: There may be groups advocating on behalf of residents. However there are additional challenges - some parks are on a master lease for utility services. Not only are residents paying a fee to be hooked up to the master lease and they are unable to apply for low income PGE or CalWater rates because the services are not in their name. California Public Utilities Commission representatives stated that they need 10% of the residents to write a letter to complaining about the fee for anything to be done. A lot of mobilehome parks have no organizing body and it would take door to door canvassing to get the word out.

M. Demers: California Department of Housing and Community Development licenses the parks, can they weigh in on some sort of advocacy? Do you have any sort of solution or retraction that can occur?

Sup. Ritter: The CoC could write a letter to the governor to say that the CoC feels like Butte County should not have been excluded because Butte is still responding to a housing crisis that was occurring before all the disasters. A letter from individual organizations that provide services could also be helpful.

B. Bruner: Can the people having a hard time with rent increases gather people together?

Sup. Ritter: A form letter can be sent out for everyone to send back in, but then someone will have to organize the process. It's possible that residents could get this together, but they may need assistance. Also, this only addresses one aspect of the problem. Manufactured homes are usually sold and not moved, so if someone can't pay the land lease they have to sell their home. Generally the park offers to buy it for under the market value. People are being priced out of the parks and they don't get to take their homes with them. From a homeless prevention perspective, this is causing problems.

A. Snyder: This is not an action item so no action can be taken. We also have to think, as a body, how this action would fit into our mission as a CoC, being mindful of the purpose of the CoC.

C. Withuhn: We are in a shelter crisis. Senior homelessness is expected to triple in the next 8 years. I suggest attending to this item.

M. Smith: I would consider taking action as it will impact seniors and those receiving Social Security income. This is going to hit the population hard. A lot of seniors don't have the ability or feel empowered to have the ability to advocate for themselves to write a letter to the governor.

A. Snyder: How many other communities voted to end the rent protections?

Sup. Ritter: That is unknown. Western Manufacturing connecting with Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services Director Shelby Boston. Western Manufacturing claims there is a clause in the land lease that allows for a rent reduction due to hardship. Based on canvassing, no one is aware of this clause. The number of affected individuals is unknown at this time. Mobilehome parks in Paradise are not going to rebuild unless the state provides money to do so, private entities are not going to do so. It is unknown how many people in parks fall below median income.

E. Mayer: Is there an ordinance that is being considered? How can we be supportive? The CoC has not traditionally been an advocacy entity.

Sup. Ritter: Local ordinances exist in other regions – not statewide. An ordinance would only be successful if it was county wide, including the jurisdictions.

A. Snyder: To clarify, we had protections that were Camp Fire/COVID related?

Sup. Ritter: Mobilehome parks did not get the same COVID protections that everyone else got – senior parks were exempted. Six counties were given disaster specific exemptions that limited 10% increases annually.

C. Marks: Even though it's not an action item, the CoC can call a special meeting to address a letter of support.

A. Snyder: A special meeting could be called, but the CoC has to make sure that is understood how this falls within the work of the CoC. The Executive Committee will have to meet to discuss. The CoC has to be mindful of its purpose and what precedent is set.

C. Marks: Is there a timeline to submit the letter? Is there CoC procedure documented of when a letter of support can be drafted?

Sup. Ritter: There is not a timeframe as we've already been removed from the emergency order. Hopefully there are people in this meeting that can answer the question of how many parks and how many people are affected. We

need to gather information and then start doing research on what kinds of rent increases have occurred over the last five years.

A. Snyder: Groundwork needs to be done, there is intersection between agencies. Agencies can get together to discuss what can be done. Executive Committee will get together to review policy for advocacy.

Sup. Ritter: Put information in the chat or email to set up a meeting of service providers.

4. COUNCIL MEMBER NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS – ACTION All Voting Members:

B.H. Butterfield stated that the first item for vote is regarding CoC Council. Nominations to the CoC Council were solicited for the election process on October 28. The memo and nomination forms are included in the packet. For this election, six service areas must be filled for a two year term starting in January. HUD requires that someone on the Council represents the Homeless or Formally Homeless category, so a minimum of one of the six open positions must be filled with a Homeless or Formerly Homeless nominee.

Note: Council election made available for vote via Survey Monkey link posted in the chat.

Votes tallied and the following individuals were elected for two year term starting January 1, 2023:

Ian Clement representing Homeless or Formally Homeless

Keesha Hills representing Faith-Based Organizations

Meagan Meloy representing School Administrator and Homeless Liaisons (Preschool-12th Grade)

Emily Pereira representing Youth Homeless Organizations and Youth Advocates

Anastacia Snyder representing Domestic Violence Service Providers

Marie Demers representing CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitled Jurisdictions/Local Government Staff

5. APPROVE GOVERNANCE UPDATES – ACTION All Voting Members:

B.H. Butterfield stated that the Governance Committee has worked on new policies. The first one available for vote is the Appeals Policy. This policy outlines when and how an appeal can be made when an agency disagrees with the review and ranking decision made.

Comments:

D. Villasenor – Request to make a formatting change. Change Step 1 in the appeal process to make the email address align with the statement of how the appeal is submitted and add the website link for the project ranking results at the end.

B.H. Butterfield – Noted.

D. Villasenor – Is the two day response time from the Executive Committee enough time?

B.H. Butterfield – Due to the short timelines with funding, that timeframe is necessary.

M. Demers – Noted typo in email address.

B.H. Butterfield – Noted.

Votes tallied and the Appeals Policy was approved: 22 voted for approval, 1 voted against.

B.H. Butterfield stated that the second policy available for vote is the Equity Policy. The intent is to focus on the CoC's efforts to be more equitable. To accomplish this the CoC will use appropriate and inclusive language,

continue to develop partnerships with agencies that represent underserved communities, make sure the demographics of the CoC Council are reflective of the community, and establish and maintain an Equity Committee.

Comments:

A. Snyder - Note that this policy was at the direction of HUD Technical Assistance.

D. Villasenor – Establishing this policy as a response to HUD’s requirements is helping empower future applications.

Votes tallied and the Equity Policy was approved: 22 voted for approval, 1 voted against.

Note: Both policies made available for vote via separate Survey Monkey links posted in the chat.

6. 2023 POINT IN TIME METHODOLOGY – ACTION All Voting Members:

B.H. Butterfield reported that the Point in Time (PIT) Committee has been meeting to prepare for the 2023 unsheltered PIT count that will be occurring in January 2023. Within the CoC packet is the PIT Methodology as brought forward by the PIT Committee. The count will occur the last Wednesday of January with the process being consistent with last year utilizing volunteers to conduct the survey through the Counting Us application. The sheltered PIT and Housing Inventory Count will also occur simultaneously. There are minimal changes to the survey questions, included in the packet.

Comments:

Question from Y. Gallegos in the chat - How is the date decided for the PIT count?

B.H. Butterfield - The date is decided by HUD within the last 10 days of January. Our community has always completed the unsheltered count on the last Wednesday of the month.

D. Villasenor – Question 4 of the survey includes options for those that spent the night of the count in permanent housing. Aren’t we not collecting information for people that are in permanent housing or have leases?

B.H. Butterfield – The way that the survey is set up is that if you choose options H through R, you would not be included in the unsheltered count but may be included in the sheltered count. However, if you are in permanent housing, the survey would automatically end as you are not eligible to complete the survey.

A. Snyder – Should Catalyst be listed in Question 4 option H as an example of emergency shelter?

B.H. Butterfield – The volunteers are trained to read the questions in their entirety and Catalyst can be added to the list of examples.

A. Abney-Bass – The pallet shelter is an emergency housing site, where would volunteers place those that reside there? How do we want to capture that data?

B.H. Butterfield – We are currently under the impression that it would qualify as an emergency shelter, but we will connect with City of Chico and Jesus Center to determine the accurate placement on the options list and will specifically call it out in the survey.

B.H. Butterfield added that approval of the PIT survey and methodology will allow for the PIT Committee to move forward in the process and that more information and training will be provided at the December CoC meeting.

Votes tallied and the Point in Time Methodology was approved: 21 voted for approval, 1 voted against.

Note: PIT Methodology made available for vote via Survey Monkey link posted in the chat.

7. 2023 CoC MEETING CALENDAR – INFORMATION

B.H. Butterfield shared the 2023 CoC Meeting Calendar is in the packet. Meetings will continue virtually, if they change to in person meetings, membership will be notified.

8. HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE AND PREVENTION (HHAP) ROUND 4 APPLICATION – DISCUSSION

E. Murray provided information on the HHAP Round 4 Application. The HHAP Round 4 Application is due at the end of November and allows for a discussion at the CoC level on what the funds should be used for and the proposed outcome goals. The application will be a joint County and CoC application as the CoC previously redirected funds to the County. The main goal is to gather as much feedback as possible to incorporate into the application, note that all CoC membership feedback is requested, not just voting members.

E. Murray reviewed the funding categories and requested that, using the Zoom polling function, CoC membership provide their feedback on determining the priority of each category by labeling them as “Very Important”, “Important”, “Less Important”, or “Not Needed”. As noted in the slide, the categories in bold are the funding categories prioritized with HHAP Round 3. HHAP Round 4 Allocations are not yet known but are anticipated to be similar to HHAP Round 3.

Results of Zoom poll in the table below.

Number of Votes for Each Category and Level of Importance				
	Very Important	Important	Less Important	Not Needed
Rapid Rehousing	9	20	9	1
Operating Subsidies	22	13	4	1
Street Outreach	26	9	8	0
Services Coordination	12	17	6	0
Systems Support	2	24	6	1
Permanent Housing	26	7	4	0
Diversion/Homeless Prevention	15	10	7	0
Interim Shelter	12	14	6	0
Improvements to Existing Emergency Shelter	11	11	11	0

E. Murray stated that the State has identified outcome goals measures by statute and the application process allows for each region to identify their specific targets. The State has identified permanent housing as the main priority so the goals brought forward for discussion today are specifically related to success in that area. For HHAP-4, established goals are to be met by June 30, 2025.

- Goal 3: Increasing the number of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing. For HHAP Round 3, the baseline data was pulled from 2020 data and shows that 367 people exited into permanent housing. The goal established was to permanently house 37 people by June 30, 2024. The baseline data for HHAP Round 4, from 2021 data, 333.

A. Abney-Bass – Question for M. Demers. How many affordable housing projects are in the queue that you think would be available that this population considering access to vouchers and rent less than market rate?

M. Demers – That information is not available on the spot.

A. Abney-Bass – Are the 43 project vouchers for Jamboree - Park Ave coming available?

E. Mayer – HACB has around 500 vouchers in Butte County.

D. Villasenor – Remember we are looking at housing from homelessness. Creekside Place is leasing now and has 15 units specifically set aside for people coming from homelessness.

D. Taylor – In HHAP Round 3 the state had set aside funding for bonus funds for jurisdictions that met their outcome goals. Is that similar for HHAP Round 4?

E. Murray – HHAP Round 4 does have incentive dollars/bonus funds set aside for those that meet their goals. As a region, we want to have aggressive but realistic goals to decrease homelessness, but we also want to anticipate expected changes in the homeless landscape. Are we going to see an influx of people coming from outside of the County seeking housing opportunities? Are we going to see an increase in homelessness due to the end of rent protections?

Results of Zoom poll in the table below. Median: 35, Mean: 51.16

Increase exits to permanent housing from baseline data (in additional people housed over baseline)	
0	35 (2 votes)
1	36
2	40
7	50 (3 votes)
17 (2 votes)	67
20	100
25	134
27	150 (2 votes)
33 (3 votes)	167

- Goal 5: Reducing the number of persons who return to homelessness after exiting homelessness to permanent housing. For HHAP Round 3, baseline data shows 10% of permanently housed people

returned to homelessness. The goal established was to decrease by 1% by June 30, 2024. The baseline data for HHAP Round 4 is at 9%.

D. Taylor – Do you have data from previous years on this particular goal? Haven't we already significantly reduced this number already? Would it be reasonable to channel resources into keeping this number consistent instead of pushing for a reduction which may not be possible as results would eventually level off?

E. Murray – In 2018 the County was at 18%, 2019 at 10%, 2020 at 10%, and 2021 at 9%.

D. Taylor - We've already managed a 50% reduction and with the efforts of the community it seems like keeping it status quo would be a realistic goal.

Results of Zoom poll in the table below. Median: 8, Mean: 7.875

Reduce the number of returns to homelessness (in percent of returns)
5% (5 votes)
7% (3 votes)
8% (6 votes)
9% (5 votes)
10% (5 votes)

- Goal 6: Increasing successful placements from street outreach. For HHAP Round 3, baseline data shows 0 successful placements from street outreach due to information not being entered into HMIS at that time. The goal established was to increase by 100 people. The baseline data for HHAP Round 4 is still 0. Note that successful placements from street outreach includes emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing – but it does exclude some forms on institutionalization.

D. Villasenor – Doesn't this goal tie into goal 3?

E. Murray – A lot of the goals do have overlap. Goals are measured separately but someone that exits homelessness into permanent housing could have been placed via street outreach, thus addressing both goal 3 and 6. However, all information is captured via HMIS and will only count toward the outcome goals if progress is tracked there.

Sup. Ritter – Can the goals be anything?

D. Taylor – The outcome measures are provided by the state but each region can set the goal outcomes, correct?

E. Murray – Correct, the measure is set by statute but the goal is set by region.

A. Snyder – What about Catalyst using an HMIS comparable database?

E. Murray – As a domestic service provider exempted from HMIS, the comparable data pulled from Catalyst's system will be tracked and counted toward the outcome goals.

D. Villasenor – If we match and exceed goals we are eligible for bonus funds. So it is a strategy to set goals that are realistic and can be exceeded.

E. Murray – Correct, however I would caution you to set goals that are still aggressive and still capture the State’s goal of ending homelessness. Setting too low of a goal may cause delays or a rejection in the application process.

Results of Zoom poll in the table below. Median: 50, Mean: 68.96

Increase successful placements from street outreach (increase from 0)	
0 (2 votes)	50 (2 votes)
5	75
10 (4 votes)	100 (6 votes)
17 (2 votes)	150 (2 votes)
20	200
25 (2 votes)	300

- E. Murray requested input on establishing strategies in three specific areas to accomplish the outcome goals.
- Building the capacity of homelessness response system to utilize resources, implement best practices, and/or achieve outcomes.
 - Expanding and strengthening partnerships with people with lived expertise.
 - Reaching underserved and historically marginalized communities.

A. Abney-Bass in the chat – The Community Council at the Pallet Shelter may be a model for expanding and strengthening partnerships with people with lived experience.

Due to the limited time available, E. Murray requested membership provide input via email and included email address and strategy information in the chat.

9. LEAD AGENCY, COLLABORTIVE APPLICANT, and ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY UPDATES – INFORMATION:

E. Rawlinson provided an update on HMIS MOUs. The current MOUs are set to terminate December 31, 2022. New MOUs are in process and will be sent to participating agencies in the next three weeks. The new MOU term will be a three year period to align with the CoC’s MOU with the County for Lead Agency: January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025.

D. Taylor reported on HHAP Round 3. The Governor recently announced that agreements and payments are delayed, he said publically that he was expecting a greater response in goals set through the outcome measures. Cumulatively, all regions in the state reported a 2% increase in exiting people into permanent housing. What wasn’t mentioned were some of the reasons for low goals, such as a lack of affordable housing units available to meet those goals. California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) is meeting with the Governor this week, they are providing assurances that they will be moving forward with agreements and payments. HHAP Round 3 RFP has been moving forward and the County will continue to relay info as received from CalICH. The County has been in communication with Cal ICH and has provided clarification on outcome goals as requested.

D. Taylor also reported changes in the Lead Agency. After the December meeting, D. Taylor reported he will be stepping down from Council because he is retiring. The Housing and Homeless team will appoint another member to serve on the Executive Team and the CoC will follow its processes for filling the council seat within the DESS designation. This will not affect the lead agency's ability to provide administrative support.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS – INFORMATION:

Governance: B.H. Butterfield reported nothing further to report outside of the policies brought forward for vote.

HMIS/CES: E. Rawlinson reported working on At Risk of Chronic Homelessness designation being added into CE. This category was previously approved by the CoC. The Committee also reviewed new HMIS functions and spoke about MOUs. The next meeting is scheduled for the Monday before the next CoC meeting.

Veterans: E. Rawlinson reported the committee voted in Matt McCoy as new chair and John Zepeda as vice chair. Discussed successes of Standdown. The Committee will be bringing forth the new chair and vice chair for CoC approval at the next meeting.

Youth Homelessness: E. Pereira reported November is Runaway Youth Awareness Month. See Instagram and Facebook for specific information on upcoming events. Thursday November 17 at 5pm at 421 Main St in Chico is the candlelight vigil. If anyone wants to complete a Commitment card to show they are supporting youth, complete and send back to Emily. Thank you to CHAT, Butte 211, and School Ties for their commitment cards.

Equity Committee: B.H. Butterfield reported that the Committee is trying to find a chair. More to come at the December CoC meeting.

Chronic Homeless: E. Murray reported that the Committee is continuing to meet and share resources. The next meeting is scheduled for December 21.

11. COALITION AND JURISDICTION REPORTS/UPDATES – INFORMATION:

Chico Coalition: A. Winters reported the October meeting provided information regarding Runaway Youth Awareness Month, the November meeting is cancelled, and the next meeting scheduled for December.

Oroville Coalition: J. Jamison reported that the Coalition met last week to reboot. They were joined by City of Oroville and the Housing and Homeless team with continued collaboration from Oroville Rescue Mission, Oroville Southside Community Improvement Association, and the Oroville Hope Center. More updates to come.

Board of Supervisors: Sup. Ritter reported no updates.

City of Oroville: Councilmember Smith reported no updates.

City of Chico: Councilmember O'Brien reported no updates.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEXT MEETING: *The next CoC Council Meeting will be on Monday December 12, 2022.*

13. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 P.M.