

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024 6:30 PM TO 8:00 PM 675 Texas Street, Conference Room 1600, Fairfield, CA 94533

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE

Chair Macenski called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and Councilmember Roy Stockton lead the flag salute.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call done by Megan Richards. Members Present:

Councilmember Trevor Macenski, City of Benicia, Chair Mayor Steve Bird, City of Dixon, Vice Chair Councilmember Don Hendershot, City of Dixon Councilmember Jenalee Dawson, City of Suisun City Mayor Alma Hernandez, City of Suisun City Councilmember Rick Vaccaro, City of Fairfield Councilmember Doriss Panduro, City of Fairfield Mayor Ron Kott, City of Rio Vista Supervisor Wanda Williams, Solano County Supervisor John Vasquez, Solano County Councilmember Roy Stockton, City of Vacaville Councilmember Rozzana Verder-Aliga, City of Vallejo

3. PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING CHAIR

This item was on the agenda in error and removed from the agenda.

4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mike Wright shared that he currently serves on the Behavioral Health Advisory Board and has previously served on the civil grand jury. He shared information that he found through the grand jury about the inefficiency of the jail system. He stated the jails have a much smaller population, but staffed for a larger population which is wasting \$12 million of general funds that could be better used elsewhere in the county, such as funding grants for the JPA to address homelessness.

5. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA – DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Item 3 was deleted from the agenda.

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – ACTION

Supervisor Vasquez made a motion to approve the agenda with the deletion of Item 3 and Mayor Hernandez seconded the motion. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR - ACTION

- a. Approve the CAP Solano JPA Meeting Minutes from January 25, 2024
- b. Accept the Coordinated Entry Reports for January 2024
 - i. Resource Connect Solano (RCS) Coordinated Entry Monthly Report

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- c. Approve revised JPA Policies and Procedures based on Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Desk Monitoring
- d. Approve Resolution 2024-01 authorizing the Chair or Vice Chair of the Community Action Partnership Solano Joint Powers Authority (CAP Solano JPA) to submit Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) contract documents on behalf of the JPA to be ratified by the JPA at their next regularly scheduled meeting
- e. Approve a First Amendment with SHELTER Solano to modify the behavioral health services utilizing Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 3-4 funding

Supervisor Williams asked that 7e be removed from the consent calendar.

Mayor Bird made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar items 7a-d and Supervisor Williams seconded the motion. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

Regarding 7e, Supervisor Williams asked how much total funding was available for HHAP-4 and how much went toward the SHELTER Solano contract. Megan shared that \$1,567,225 was the total amount available to CAP Solano under HHAP-4 and just over \$470,000 was awarded to SHELTER Solano of HHAP 4 funds. Megan also shared that this the original contract was awarded from an RFP in early 2023, this is a no cost amendment due to challenges hiring a licensed clinician.

Councilmember Hendershot asked if there was contract savings due to the hiring of a lower-level position. Megan responded that based on the current hiring market, it is likely that the position will be at a similar rate even if not licensed. In addition, any savings incurred will be used to have a licensed clinician part-time or on contract so any services that are required by a licensed clinician will still be available.

Supervisor Williams made a motion to approve item 7e and Rick Vacarro seconded the motion. The Cities of Benicia, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Vacaville and Vallejo and the County of Solano voted yes. The City of Dixon voted no. There were no abstentions. The motion was approved with a vote of 7-1-0.

8. REGULAR CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Receive an overview of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 5
 application DISCUSSION AND ACTION
 - i. Consider approval of the funding for the HHAP-5 application as recommended by the HHAP-5 joint CAP Solano JPA and Tripartite Advisory Board Ad Hoc Committee
 - ii. Consider delegating authority to the Chair to sign the final Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) designating roles and responsibilities of CAP Solano JPA and Solano County as required by the HHAP-5 application

Kelly Shaban from Homebase presented on the HHAP-5 application. This is the fifth round of one-time funding from the state and is the first time that it is required that CAP Solano as the administrative entity of the CoC and the County apply together. Kelly shared the parts of the application, including the regional application, the funding plan, and community engagement/outreach. Kelly reviewed the process that was undertaken to complete the application and come up with the funding recommendation. Kelly shared the eligible uses of HHAP-5 funds and how these align with previous HHAP allocations, as well as community feedback in each strategy area. Finally, Kelly reviewed the recommendation from the HHAP-5 Committee which was 7% for

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administration, 10% for Youth Rapid Rehousing, 1% for HMIS, 41% for Prevention and Diversion, and 41% for Services Coordination.

Supervisor Williams asked when the Committee met and who from the JPA attended. Kelly responded that the Committee met on February 15, 2024. Councilmember Dawson responded that she was a part of the Committee.

Councilmember Macenski asked what does the interim housing landscape look like in Solano. Kelly shared what previous rounds of HHAP have funded for interim housing.

Supervisor Williams asked if the rationale for the recommendation from the Ad Hoc Committee can be shared. Kelly shared that the committee decided that both interim housing and permanent housing are hard to support with one time HHAP funding unless there are projects already underway. The Committee felt there was an obvious prevention/diversion plan that could easily utilize these funds and prevention/diversion had not been supported with past funding. Councilmember Dawson shared that wrap around services/service coordination has a huge impact on the success of people in housing which is why she recommended that as a part of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Councilmember Vaccaro asked if additional funding could go to rapid rehousing. Megan responded yes, that was the minimum for the youth set aside, but additional funding could be allocated to rapid rehousing for either youth or adults.

Mayor Hernandez asked how we know if we are using these funds equitably across the region. Megan shared that one reason to not spread the funding between all of the strategies areas is to ensure services can be provided throughout the region. Supervisor Williams echoed Mayor Henandez's sentiments and shared that ABAG is looking at being equitable in prevention, production, and preservation.

Supervisor Williams asked how street outreach is currently being funding. Councilmember Verder-Aliga shared that Behavioral Health has the HOPE Team and a contract with Abode for street outreach. Megan shared details of the street outreach that is launching with the Abode contract and mentioned that there was the possibility of the JPA in piggybacking on the Abode contract for the HHAP street outreach funding so there would be one coordinated effort. The Board concurred this could be brought to a future meeting.

During public comment, Kat Lawton-Caesar, District Representative for Supervisor Williams reminded the Board that the JPA is designating on the application on how the JPA is planning on utilizing the funding and details on who the funding will go to and where in the county the funding will be used is part of a future RFP process.

Samatha Burrows, Homeless Services Manager for the City of Fairfield, shared that prevention is the number one phone call their department receives and there is nowhere to refer people. In addition, services coordination can include outreach, but also could be a housing navigator that assists people in encampment to support them getting into housing and stabilizing once they are in housing. This is a huge gap in the Solano community.



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Mike Wright added that he recently attended a Sequential Intercept Model training and if we can intercept people when they are in need, we can prevent people from becoming homeless.

Dre Richard, Manager of Resource Connect Solano coordinated entry and Chair of the CoC, shared that street outreach is important and connected to coordinated entry. Also, coordinated entry is currently assisting people through system navigation because we do not have navigators. Ensuring all providers, including behavioral health, utilize HMIS is also a need. Additional shelter access is also needed.

Chair Macenski asked if additional systems support funding could assist in coordination of providers using HMIS. Megan shared that we are currently getting new partner MOUs signed which are HIPAA compliant to allow behavioral health providers to use HMIS. It is not necessarily funding that is needed to achieve further collaboration.

Councilmember Stockton made a motion to approve the Committee Recommendation and Councilmember Verder-Aliga seconded the motion. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved. Supervisor Williams noted that in addition to the approved recommendation, she would like to seek additional funding for street outreach.

Kelly reviewed the draft MOU that is required for submission with the application. Kelly noted that it is still being reviewed by the County and counsel, so that is why we are asking for delegated authority to the chair to sign the final version. If there are substantive changes, these will be shared with the JPA.

Councilmember Dawson made a motion to approve delegated authority for approval of the MOU and Councilmember Stockton seconded the motion. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

Receive a verbal update on CAP Solano staffing - DISCUSSION
 Megan Richards, JPA Facilitator, David Gassaway, City of Fairfield

Megan shared that Reneé's position has not been filled and Becky Farris who was the project manager assisting at the County received a full time position with the County so is no longer able to assist in JPA staffing..

David Gassaway, City Manager for Fairfield, shared that there is an MOU circulating among the city managers regarding the funding for staffing. We are waiting for feedback from all the jurisdictions and hoping to bring it back to next month's JPA meeting for approval. David also shared that he met with Senator Dodd and Assemblymember Wilson's offices and shared the funding need. The legislators think they may be able to secure state funding since the JPA is a model of all the jurisdictions coming together.

Supervisor Vasquez asked if the state ask for funding is one time. David responded it would be one-time but cover 4 years of fully funding staff. Supervisor Vasquez urged the need to act on the MOU because funding will not necessarily be secured and will not cover staffing long term. He stated the County cannot keep doing the work without dedicated staff.

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Mayor Hernandez asked if the JPA could put a timeline on bringing back the MOU. David shared we are waiting for the city managers to respond.

Councilmember Macenski asked if Megan could send the proposed MOU to JPA members with a copy to the City Managers so JPA members can follow up with their City Managers on the status. Megan agreed.

9. JPA STAFF UPDATES

- a. 2024 Point in Time Count Update
- b. Current Funding Opportunities

Megan shared the 2024 PIT Count was very successful. She shared we anticipate the numbers to be higher than last count, but we have to go through the process to get the final numbers and report.

Megan also shared that there is an RFP out for Permanent Housing using the HHAP 4 funds. The review panel recommendation will come to JPA in April for approval.

10. BOARD COMMENTS

Councilmember Vacarro shared he received a call from Mission Samoa who wants to get on agenda for March.

Councilmember Dawson shared she has been doing research on homeless and community courts and wanted to share best practices on this at a future meeting.

Supervisor Williams shared that ABAG voted to move the housing bond measure forward and asked for a presentation at an upcoming meeting.

Councilmember Verder Aliga shared the last meeting of the Vallejo City Council discussed homelessness.

Mayor Hernandez shared she submitted proposal to the League of California Cities conference for workshop on the JPA and it was accepted. The presentation will be in April.

11. ADJOURNMENT -

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM

Next Meeting:

March 28, 2024, 6:30 pm-8:00 pm

601 Texas St, Conference Room A, Fairfield

Upcoming Agenda Items: Bay Area Housing for All update on the BAHFA Regional Bond Measure, Grant Budget Update