

May 3, 2005

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Liz Kniss, District 5, Chair
Donald F. Gage, District 1
Blanca Alvarado, District 2
Pete McHugh, District 3
Jim Beall, District 4



Peter Kutras Jr.
County Executive

Phyllis Perez
Clerk of the Board

MINUTES OF MAY 3, 2005**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' CHAMBERS**

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SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL DISTRICTS
THE FIRE DISTRICTS
FINANCING AUTHORITY
PUBLIC AUTHORITY OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY
VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT
SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 2-3

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara convenes this day in regular session in the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors, 70 West Hedding Street, San Jose, California, at 9:36 a.m., with the following members present: Chair Liz Kniss, Supervisors Donald F. Gage, Blanca Alvarado, Pete McHugh, James T. Beall, Jr., Pete McHugh and Phyllis Perez, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

The meeting is called to order by the Chair and the following proceedings are had, to wit:

The Board receives invocation by Eric Nitzberg, Unity Palo Alto Community Church, Palo Alto.

Chair Kniss announces that the meeting will be adjourned in honor and memory of Lance Corporal Samuel A. Sharp, Jr., and the Victims of the Holocaust.

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submission of annual data required by the California Children's Services (CCS), in an amount not to exceed \$28,000, for the period of May 10, 2005 through May 9, 2010, following approval by County Counsel as to form and legality, and approval by the Office of the County Executive, with delegation of authority expiring on May 9, 2010.

- * 15. The Board considers a memorandum from Robert Sillen, Executive Director, Health and Hospital System, dated May 3, 2005, recommending that proposed salary ordinance amendment be adopted relating to compensation of employees in the Health and Hospital System, Valley Medical Center.

The Deputy Clerk of the Board reads the full title of Ordinance No. NS-5.04.81. On motion of Supervisor McHugh, seconded by Supervisor Alvarado, it is unanimously ordered on roll call vote that the reading in full of this Ordinance be waived. On motion of SSupervisor McHugh, seconded by Supervisor Alvarado, it is unanimously ordered on roll call vote that Salary Ordinance No. NS-5.04.81 (preliminary) be adopted amending Santa Clara County Salary Ordinance No. NS-5.04 relating to compensation of employees adding one unclassified Rehabilitation Therapy Specialist position in Health and Hospital System, Valley Medical Center.

- 16. The Board considers a memorandum from Peter Kutras, County Executive, Office of the County Executive, dated May 3, 2005, under advisement from the April 19, 2005 meeting (Item No. 30), recommending that the 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey be accepted; report relating to Keys to Housing be accepted; the Office of Affordable Housing be directed to communicate with stakeholders regarding next steps in the implementation of a 10-Year Plan; the members of the Homeless Task Force be commended; the Santa Clara County Collaborative on Affordable Housing and Homeless Issues collaborate with the Office of Affordable Housing and Oversight Committee to develop specific implementation and funding recommendations; and, that Resolution be adopted expressing the County's commitment to end chronic homelessness in the County in ten years. Chair Kniss welcomes the Homeless Task Force members and expresses appreciation for their attendance at the Board meeting.

Supervisor Gage, as Co-Chairperson of the Santa Clara County Homeless Task Force, provides introductory remarks relating to the overall collaborative effort from the various entities that served on the Task Force to address homeless issues such as housing, transportation, health and safety. He expresses appreciation to members of

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the Homeless Task Force, the working groups to the Task Force, representatives of the municipalities and of the County, service providers, community groups, business leaders, homeless individuals who provided insight, and to Marjorie Matthews, Director, Office of Affordable Housing, and Sister Margaret Gregg, Homeless Coordinator, HomeBase/The Center of Common Concerns. Supervisor Gage further expresses appreciation to individuals who assisted in the process for completing the 10-Year Plan to end chronic homelessness in Santa Clara County. He notes the necessity of the commitment to the process among the various entities within the County in achieving objectives for ending long-term homelessness. Supervisor Gage requests that the Administration provide an off-agenda report on a semi-annual basis, if the working group to the Homeless Task Force decides to meet quarterly.

In addition, Supervisor Beall, as Co-Chairperson of the Santa Clara County Homeless Task Force, advises that the initial goal of the Task Force was to set a framework that involved the participation of all governmental entities at the Federal, State and local levels. He expresses appreciation to County staff, Ms Matthews and Sister Gregg for facilitating the process. Supervisor Beall comments on the Homeless Census and Survey data by noting that the count of homeless individuals in the County for 2004 is within the range of the homeless population in San Francisco. He indicates that the homeless population in the County is not as visible as in San Francisco. Supervisor Beall states that the 10-Year Plan provides a blueprint to utilize in the future, which is a significant achievement on the part of the County. He expresses appreciation to those who contributed and participated in the development of the 10-Year Plan. Supervisor Beall acknowledges the Department Heads from the various County Departments whose efforts have also contributed to the 10-Year Plan.

Ms Matthews provides background information relating to the purpose for conducting the Homeless Census and Survey. She expresses the necessity for establishing a baseline for the number of homeless individuals in the County. Ms Matthews advises that in order for the County to receive McKinney-Vento funds, the Federal Government requires that a count of homeless individuals be conducted. She introduces Peter Connery, Project Director, Applied Survey Research (ASR), and Peter Theodore, Analyst, ASR, who, she states, are available to answer questions relating to the survey. Ms Matthews continues by commenting on the actual count of homelessness in Santa Clara County indicating that there are approximately 20,000 people who are homeless in the County. She notes that 64 percent are unsheltered and 36 percent are in a shelter. Ms Matthews states that one-third of the homeless population are under the age of 18. She continues by highlighting the central phase of

the plan, expressing the importance of shifting from homeless shelters to a "housing first model." Ms Mathews expresses concern that studies have indicated continued growth of homeless individuals in the community and notes the need to change the method of housing homeless individuals in the County. She indicates that the purpose of the 10-Year Plan is to move homeless individuals into permanent housing first in order for them to address other issues, such as alcoholism, domestic violence, lack of education and unemployment. In addition, Ms Mathews notes that the 10-Year Plan will address the alleviation of homelessness in the community by phasing out temporary shelters to permanent housing for homeless individuals. She references the San Francisco 10-Year Plan as an example of the difference in cost, by noting that permanent supportive housing for a homeless individual costs \$16,000 as opposed to \$60,000 for services for a homeless individual who requires an emergency care room or who is incarcerated. Ms Matthews indicates that the goal is to reduce the number of homeless individuals living in the County. She notes the importance of collaborative efforts among the various entities and the City of San Jose in partnering with Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of major shelter providers along with CEOs from the various business communities to act as a Steering Committee. Ms Matthews requests that the Board accept the 10-Year Plan to end homelessness in Santa Clara County. She concludes by expressing appreciation to the individuals, as acknowledged in the report, dated May 3, 2005, who have participated in the effort to end homelessness. Chair Kniss requests public comment.

Sister Gregg comments on the challenging task to implement the plan and notes that the key is for all entities within the County to commit to the effort to end homelessness in the County, as well as to explore creative methods for acquiring funds.

A brief discussion ensues between Chair Kniss and Ms Matthews regarding the progress of other cities currently utilizing a 10-Year Plan and Ms Matthews advises that other cities such as, New York City and Philadelphia, have begun to reduce homelessness. She notes that Philadelphia is one of the cities that is known to be successful in implementing a "housing first model." Ms Matthews comments that seven years ago Philadelphia identified 875 homeless and, to-date, there are 25 individuals who are homeless. Chair Kniss expresses interest in providing opportunities for individuals to travel to other cities to assess the "housing first models" that have been implemented.

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Chair Kniss directs attention to the letter from Barbara Harrelson, Regional Vice President, Hospital Council, dated May 3, 2005, relating to frequent users of the emergency departments within the County, and requests information on the issue. Ms Matthews advises that approximately 200 homeless individuals have been identified as utilizing emergency rooms in the County, as much as 20 times at each hospital annually. She notes that homeless individuals utilize emergency rooms for primary care. Ms Matthews continues by stating that the Hospital Council has been encouraged to develop a "housing first" approach in order to pursue Affordable Housing funds. Chair Kniss notes that the letter from Ms Harrelson also indicates that additional funding will be provided to New Directions for another three years. She commends the individuals who have participated in the effort.

Ken Yeager, Councilmember, City of San Jose, expresses honor in serving on the Homeless Task Force along with the numerous members, consultants and staff who facilitated the process. He congratulates the Task Force and staff for completing the 10-Year Plan expeditiously. Councilmember Yeager states that the City of San Jose has adopted a plan on homelessness and indicates that with a coordinated effort between the City of San Jose and the County, goals can be achieved to eradicate chronic homelessness. He encourages the County to allocate funds from Proposition 63 (State's Mental Health Services Act) for housing homeless individuals associated with mental illness. Councilmember Yeager advises that a nonprofit group of CEO's has convened meetings whose objectives are to identify gaps in delivery of services to the homeless population, as well as to develop strategies to close the gaps in service. He expresses appreciation to the Homeless Task Force for the leadership to end chronic homelessness in the County.

Mark Walker, United Way of Silicon Valley, expresses appreciation for serving on the Homeless Task Force and commends the process, the facilitation and leadership. He requests that the Board accept the Homeless Census and Survey, as well as the 10-Year Plan to end chronic homelessness in Santa Clara County.

Supervisor Gage expresses the importance of developing transitional housing for the homeless, and urges cities within the County not to utilize the title "homeless shelter" for the transitional housing facilities.

Chair Kniss inquires about the availability of other Federal funding sources and Ms Matthews advises that there is a new Federal Interagency Council on Homelessness that will allow the County to compete for funding this year.

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On motion of Supervisor Beall, seconded by Supervisor Gage, it is unanimously ordered on roll call vote that the 2004 Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey be accepted.

Also, on motion of Supervisor Beall, seconded by Supervisor Gage, it is unanimously ordered on roll call vote that report be accepted relating to Keys to Housing: A 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Santa Clara County, and the Administration be directed to forward the report to cities for review and comment.

Further, on motion of Supervisor Beall, seconded by Supervisor Gage, it is unanimously ordered on roll call vote that the Office of Affordable Housing be directed to communicate with County homeless service providers, the business community, and the philanthropic community regarding next steps in implementation of the 10-Year Plan.

Also, on motion of Supervisor Beall, seconded by Supervisor Gage, it is unanimously ordered on roll call vote that members of the Homeless Task Force be commended for their efforts and continue participation on a quarterly basis as an Oversight Committee regarding Keys to Housing: A 10-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in Santa Clara County.

Further, on motion of Supervisor Beall, seconded by Supervisor Gage, it is unanimously ordered on roll call vote that the Santa Clara County Collaborative on Affordable Housing and Homeless Issues collaborate with the Office of Affordable Housing and Oversight Committee to develop specific implementation and funding recommendations.

Lastly, on motion of Supervisor Beall, seconded by Supervisor Gage, it is unanimously ordered on roll call vote that Resolution be adopted expressing the County's commitment to end chronic homelessness in the County in ten years. Said Resolution, by reference hereto, is made a part of these minutes.

- * 17. On recommendation of Leode Franklin, Deputy County Executive, Employee Services Agency, as noted in memorandum dated May 3, 2005, and on motion of Supervisor McHugh, seconded by Supervisor Alvarado, it is unanimously ordered on roll call vote