



## Meeting Minutes

### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY East Richmond Heights Municipal Advisory Council

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Wednesday, April 15, 2026

6:30 PM Open Door United Methodist Church, 6226

Arlington Blvd |

[https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/89528918999?](https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/89528918999?pwd=4uftQvRgGrauBDkPTc6DbK4VqlQiAB.1)

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**Jon Sargent (Chair), Victoria Lynn Curtis (Vice-Chair), Jinwei Zhang, Joann Pavlinec, Pam DeWitt, Bara Sapir**

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

#### 1. Roll Call and Introductions

**Present**

Pamela DeWitt, Joann Pavlinec, Bara Sapir, Jon Sargent, and Jinwei Zhang

**Absent**

Victoria Curtis

#### 2. Treasurer's Report

\$2,137.21

#### 3. Approval of Minutes

*Due to an unforeseen technical issue with the Zoom recording system, the April meeting was not fully recorded. The following summary minutes were reconstructed using available staff notes, agenda materials, departmental updates, and follow up communications.*

[26-1426](#)

**Attachments:**

[\(minutes\) 3.18.26 erhMAC](#)

#### 4. Presentations

*P.1. Presentation by Contra Costa County Supervisor's Office*

*P.2. Presentation by Sheriff's Office Bay Station Commander, Lt. Brian Fitzgerald*

*P.3. Presentation by Richmond Police Department, Sgt. Terry Thomas*

*P.4. Presentation by California Highway Patrol, Officer Rivera (tentative)*

*P.5. Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Update, Michelle Rinehart*

*P.6. Presentation on The Good Table, Dr. Melinda Mclain*

Dr. Melinda Mclain gave a presentation around the history of the Good Table, current offerings, and history of the location.

The Council received an update regarding the remediation of a property owned by the Assemblies of God church along Appian Way. Representatives shared that toxic chemicals left behind by a previous tenant required the relocation of the church's school operations and prompted ongoing environmental cleanup efforts. Funding support has been partially secured through grant opportunities, though additional resources are still needed to complete remediation activities.

Discussion also focused on the long-term vision for the property, including the possibility of selling the site to a low-income housing developer. Community members emphasized the importance of maintaining mixed-use zoning opportunities along the Appian Way corridor, including the potential for ground-floor retail and community-serving uses. It was also noted that the church parking lot continues to support community activities, including the local farmers market.

Councilmembers discussed the importance of continuing coordination through the County's Envision Contra Costa 2040 planning process to help preserve long-term community development opportunities within the corridor.

## **5. Discussion Items**

## **6. Subcommittee Reports**

*SR.1 Land Use Committee: Joann Pavlinec, Jinwei Zhang*

## **7. Agenda Items / Speakers for Upcoming ERHMAC Meetings**

**Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes).**

The Council discussed community emergency preparedness efforts, including a proposal to identify a permanent location for an eight-by-thirty-foot storage container intended to support emergency response operations and incident command activities during disasters.

Community members and Councilmembers discussed several potential locations for the container, including publicly accessible sites near community facilities or fire response infrastructure. Participants emphasized the importance of selecting a secure and accessible location that would not be vulnerable to wildfire or other high-risk hazards.

Additional discussion highlighted ongoing Firewise activities, future emergency preparedness trainings, and opportunities to host ham radio and certification classes at community locations in the area. Councilmembers requested that a future presentation be scheduled to provide additional details regarding the proposed container and its intended emergency response functions.

Community members raised concerns regarding a recently announced increase in sewer service charges and requested additional information regarding the proposed rate adjustments.

Residents discussed ongoing infrastructure improvements occurring throughout several neighborhoods and expressed interest in learning more about the long-term maintenance and capital improvement needs

driving the proposed increases.

The Council discussed the upcoming public hearing related to the rate increase and encouraged interested residents to participate in order to better understand the proposed changes and provide public feedback. A request was also made for County wastewater representatives to attend a future Council meeting to provide additional information and answer community questions.

Announcements were shared regarding several upcoming community events. An Earth Day cleanup event is scheduled to take place on April 25, 2026, at the El Sobrante Library.

The Council also received information regarding an upcoming interfaith peace event at Easter Hill United Methodist Church featuring discussions focused on peacebuilding and community dialogue. The event will include participation from faith leaders representing multiple perspectives and backgrounds.

Additional comments highlighted ongoing community efforts to address discrimination and promote inclusion through education and public engagement opportunities.

Councilmembers shared brief updates regarding upcoming community meetings, outreach opportunities, and future presentations. Community members were encouraged to continue participating in local meetings and public engagement efforts.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for May 20, 2026

Adjourn

The Council will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend the Council meetings. Contact the staff person listed below at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the County to a majority of members of the Council less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at Open Door United Methodist Church (6226 Arlington Blvd, Richmond, CA 94805) during normal business hours. Staff reports related to items on the agenda are also accessible online at [www.contracosta.ca.gov](http://www.contracosta.ca.gov). If the Zoom connection malfunctions for any reason, the meeting may be paused while a fix is attempted. If the connection is not reestablished, the committee will continue the meeting in person without remote access. Public comment may be submitted via electronic mail on agenda items at least one full work day prior to the published meeting time.

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