

# MINUTES



# County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

May 4, 2021

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:31 a.m., on May 4, 2021, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present via videoconferencing per California Governor Executive Order N-25-20: Chairperson Jeff Griffiths, presiding, Dan Totheroh, Rick Pucci, Jennifer Roeser, and Matt Kingsley. Also present: County Administrative Officer Clint Quilter, Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis, and County Counsel Marshall Rudolph.

## *Public Comment*

Chairperson Griffiths asked if there was any public comment pending for items not calendared on the agenda.

Eric Warkentine spoke via Zoom to express his disappointment with the Board's rejection of the safe parking project and its subsequent inaction in finding an alternate solution. He said the project would have been a critical first step in addressing the homelessness problem and also would have helped identify people in need of additional services. He noted that multiple people have asked the Board to provide an agenda update, and he asked what it will take to get that item on the agenda. He said as elected representatives, the Board needs to be responsive to its constituents and take action now.

## *Closed Session*

Chairperson Griffiths recessed open session at 8:33 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): No. 2 **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9** – Name of case: *Hollowell v. County of Inyo et al.* (Sac. Sup. Ct. Case No. 34-2021-00295566); No. 3 **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: County Counsel; and No. 4 **CONFERENCE WITH COUNTY'S LABOR NEGOTIATORS – Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6** – Regarding employee organizations: Deputy Sheriff's Association (DSA); Elected Officials Assistant Association (EOAA); Inyo County Correctional Officers Association (ICCOA); Inyo County Employees Association (ICEA); Inyo County Probation Peace Officers Association (ICPPOA); IHSS Workers; Law Enforcement Administrators' Association (LEAA). Unrepresented employees: all. County designated representatives – Administrative Officer Clint Quilter, Assistant County Administrator Leslie Chapman, Deputy Personnel Director Sue Dishion, County Counsel Marshall Rudolph, Health and Human Services Director Marilyn Mann, and Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson.

## *Open Session*

Chairperson Griffiths recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:01 a.m. with all Board members now present.

## *Pledge of Allegiance*

Supervisor Griffiths led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## *Report on Closed Session*

County Counsel Rudolph reported that no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported.

## *Public Comment*

Chairperson Griffiths asked if there was any public comment pending for items not calendared on the agenda.

The Assistant Clerk of the Board said she did not receive any emailed comments and nobody requested to speak to the Board via the "hand-waving" feature on Zoom.

## *County Department*

Planning Director Cathreen Richards announced that BLM is gearing up to prepare a comprehensive river management plan for the Amargosa River, and opened a public scoping

*Reports*

period April 30.

Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson announced there will be some Drug Court graduations in Bishop tomorrow morning. He also shared the sad news that Toby Dickinson, former Chief Probation Officer, has passed away. The Board expressed their sadness at the news and the Chairperson announced the meeting would be adjourned in his honor.

Public Works Director Mike Errante reported that South Lake Road is open as of this morning, and said he was grateful to staff and the contractor for their hard work.

*Introductions*

The following new employees were introduced to the Board: Dena L. Dondero, Registered Nurse, HHS; Salvador Jesse "Sal" Montanez, HHS Specialist IV, HHS; Robert Rubio, Residential Caregiver, HHS; Donald N. Arrowood Jr., Airport Technician, Public Works; and James Young, Building Maintenance Worker II, Public Works. New employee Robert Rubio, Residential Caregiver, HHS, was unavailable for his introduction.

*COVID-19 Staff Update*

The Board heard staff's weekly update on the status of COVID-19 cases locally, as well as state and national trends. Staff also updated the Board on the distribution of vaccines and ongoing testing. HHS Director Marilyn Mann reported that the State is expected to bump Inyo County up to the Orange Tier in its Blueprint for a Safer Economy, which means capacity can be increased in various sectors. She said Inyo County is on par with the State as far as vaccination rates – with an estimated 56.3% of the population having received at least one shot and an estimated 42.7% being fully vaccinated – but said Public Health wants those rates to increase. Deputy HHS Director-Public Health Anna Scott shared information about where and how to get the vaccines. Public Health Officer Dr. James Richardson reported on promising future treatments, including boosters by Moderna and Pfizer, a new oral anti-viral treatment, and oral vaccines.

*BOS – Caltrans SHOPP Projects*

The Board received a presentation from Cal Trans District 9 staff (Adam Weitzmann, Austin West, Jill Batchelder, and Mark Heckman) on the SHOPP-funded Manzanar Pavement and Fish Springs Pavement projects, and engaged in discussion of the best options for incorporating pedestrian safety elements within the timeframe and funding available.

*Child Support – Administrative Analyst Step E*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the hiring of one (1) Administrative Analyst in the Child Support Department at Step E. Motion carried unanimously.

*Probation – Deputy Probation Officer I-II*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to find that consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for the requested position exists, as certified by the Chief Probation Officer and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) where internal candidates meet the qualifications for the position, the vacancy could possibly be filled through an internal recruitment, but an open recruitment would be more appropriate to ensure qualified applicants apply for this position; and C) approve the hiring of one (1) Deputy Probation Officer I or II at Range 67 (\$3,852 - \$4,676) or Range 70 (\$4,660 - \$5,668) up to E step depending on qualifications. Motion carried unanimously.

*Ag-OVMAP – SCI Consulting Group Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to: A) Approve a three-year contract with SCI Consulting Group for the administration and levying of the 1998 Owens Valley Mosquito Abatement Program Assessment and the 2005 Mosquito Control and Disease Prevention Assessment for the fiscal years 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 in an amount not to exceed \$39,214.00, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets; and B) authorize the Chairperson to sign the contract, contingent upon the appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO – Emergency Services Manager Amendment 2*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Amendment #2 to the agreement between the County of Inyo and Kelley Williams for the provision of personal services as Emergency Services Manager, effective May 4, 2021, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Coroner – Jarrett Michael Schneider*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Amendment #1 to the contract between the County of Inyo and Jarrett Michael Schneider, for the provision of

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <i>Amendment 1</i>                                       | Personal Services as a County Officer, amending the contract by: A) changing the end date of the contract to June 30, 2022; B) increasing the contract amount by \$15,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$45,000, contingent upon the approval of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget; and C) authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.  |
| <i>Coroner – Taema Weiss, M.D. Contract</i>              | Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the contract with Taema Weiss, M.D., for autopsy services for the term of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$45,000, contingent upon the Board's adoption of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.   |
| <i>HHS-ESAAA – CDA Amendment 2</i>                       | Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Amendment No. 2 to the Standard Agreement for Contract Number AP-2021-16 between the County of Inyo and the California Department of Aging, extending the contract term for an additional year, to June 30, 2022 for only the State Funded Nutrition Augmentation Program and the State funding for quarterly visits for the Ombudsman Program, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget, and authorize the HHS Director to sign. Motion carried unanimously. |
| <i>Probation – Tulare County Agreement</i>               | Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the agreement between the County of Inyo and Tulare County for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, with the option to extend the term by written amendment to the agreement by both parties, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.   |
| <i>Sheriff – Adamson's Police Products P.O. Increase</i> | Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to authorize an increase of Sheriff's Office purchasing authority with Adamson's Police Products of Los Alamitos, CA by \$9,998, to a total not-to-exceed amount of \$55,000, for the purchase of law enforcement safety equipment. Motion carried unanimously.  |
| <i>Sheriff – Axon Enterprises Amendment 2</i>            | Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Amendment No. 02 to the agreement between the County of Inyo and Axon Enterprise, Inc. of Scottsdale, AZ, adding five (5) body cameras and increasing the contract to an amount not to exceed \$140,191.00, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.  |
| <i>BOS – FY 2022 Appropriations Funding Requests</i>     | Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) approve letters to Senator Dianne Feinstein and Senator Alex Padilla requesting funding for the Eastern Sierra Small Business Resource Center and the Olancho-Cartago Four-Lane Project, as they consider Congressionally Directed Spending requests in the FY 2022 appropriations process; and B) allow staff flexibility to edit the letters as necessary to meet as-yet undetermined submission guidelines. Motion carried unanimously.   |
| <i>Risk Management – Enacting Ordinance 1265</i>         | Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to enact Ordinance 1265, titled, "An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Adding and Amending Certain Sections of Chapter 1.28 of the Inyo County Code Pertaining to Claims." Motion carried unanimously.   |
| <i>Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes</i>          | Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meetings of April 27, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.  |
| <i>Public Comment</i>                                    | The Chairperson solicited public comment for the final public comment period.<br><br>The Assistant Clerk of the Board did not receive any emailed comments and nobody requested to speak to the Board via the "hand-waving" feature on Zoom.   |
| <i>Board Member and Staff Reports</i>                    | Supervisor Pucci said there seems to be misinformation going around about the safe parking project and he recommended the issue be put on a future agenda so the Board can have a discussion.<br><br>Supervisor Totheroh announced that May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and he said he appreciated Supervisor Pucci's suggestion.  |

Supervisor Roeser said she has had a lot of constituent interaction, including talks about Mendenhall Park and LADWP leases, and she attended a meeting with Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control staff about EPA designations.

Supervisor Kingsley reported also have interactions with constituents, and said he will have an RCRC meeting tomorrow and a Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District board meeting on Thursday.

Chairperson Griffiths reported having a busy week, noting that this week he will attend another meeting about the veterans housing project and on Thursday a dispersed camping summit.

*Adjournment*

Chairperson Griffiths adjourned the meeting in memory of Mr. Toby Dickinson at 11:54 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 11, 2021 in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

---

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: CLINT G. QUILTER  
Clerk of the Board*

by: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Darcy Ellis, Assistant*