

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

March 7, 2023

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:32 a.m., on February 28, 2023, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Jennifer Roeser, presiding, Trina Orrill, Scott Marcellin, Matt Kingsley, and Jeff Griffiths. Also present: County Administrator Nate Greenberg, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis, and Office Technician Hayley Carter.

Public Comment

The Chairperson asked for public comment related to Closed Session items, and no one requested to speak.

Closed Session

Chairperson Roeser recessed open session at 8:32 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): No. 2 **Public Employment – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: Water Director Appointment; No. 3 **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 Nate Greenberg, Assistant County Administrators Sue Dishion and Meaghan McCamman, Deputy Personnel Director Keri Oney, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Senior Budget Analyst Denelle Carrington, Health and Human Services Director Marilyn Mann, and Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson; No. 4 **Public Employment – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: Health & Human Services Director Appointment; No. 5 **Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation** - Initiation of litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(d)(4): 1 case; No. 6 **Conference with Real Property Negotiators – Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Government Code §54956.8** – Property: Bishop, Independence, and Lone Pine Landfills. Agency Negotiators: Nate Greenberg, John-Carl Vallejo, Greg James. Negotiating parties: Inyo County and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Under negotiation: price and terms of payment; and No. 7 **Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9** – Name of case: *Inyo County v. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Kern County Superior Court* Case Nos. BCV-18-101260-TSC, BCV-18-101261-TSC, and BCV-18-101262-TSC.

Open Session

Chairperson Roeser recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:03 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Kingsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report on Closed Session

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

Public Comment

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

Public comment was made by Lauralynn Hundley, Katharine Allen, Phil Moores, and "Kristine."

County Department

Public Works Director Mike Errante provided an update on the work his department is doing in

Reports

preparation for precipitation that is expected to hit the snow at higher elevations later in the week.

CAO Greenberg elaborated on the emergency services planning, including a local emergency proclamation that also focuses on longer-term impacts from high runoff. He said he is working with CalOES, Emergency Services Manager Mikaela Torres, and Mono County. He added that he is also working with the Sheriff's Office for a communications plan for the Aspendell area.

Regional Broadband Coordinator Scott Armstrong shared a demonstration of an online tool from the Federal Communications Commission that allows individuals to verify both the broadband service available where you live or work, and the precise location of the building or buildings where service is available.

Emergency Services Manager Mikaela Torres reported on the status of residential and business claims for storm damages that were submitted to CalOES.

*Clerk of the Board –
Approval of Minutes*

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of February 28, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

*Emergency Services –
SWCA Environmental
Consultants Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) declare SWCA Environmental Consultants of Half Moon Bay, CA, the successful respondent to Inyo County RFP OES--2022-12-01 Community Wildfire Protection Plan; B) authorize a contract be entered into with SWCA Environmental Consultants in an amount not to exceed \$149,935 for the term of March 1, 2023 through November 30, 2024, contingent upon the Board's adoption of future budgets; and C) authorize the Chairperson to sign the contract, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS – Medi-Cal
County Inmate
Program Agreement*

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve agreement No. 23-30024 between the County of Inyo and California Department of Health Care Services for the provision of Medi-Cal County Inmate Program Administrative Services in an amount not to exceed \$100,340.44 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the HHS Director to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –
Water Quality
Specialists
Amendment 3*

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve Amendment No. 3 to the Tecopa Hot Springs Sewer Lagoon Operator contract between the County of Inyo and Water Quality Specialists of Escondido, CA, extending the contract expiration date to June 30, 2024 and increasing the contract by \$5,000 to an amount not to exceed \$14,000, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

*Ag Commissioner –
Auction of Surplus
Vehicles*

Chairperson Roeser asked that this agenda item be pulled from the Consent Agenda and moved to Departmental for discussion. Ag Commissioner Nate Reade explained what types of surplus items were available, and how the auction process works. Moved by Chairperson Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to: A) declare the vehicles listed in Attachment 1 as surplus; B) authorize Motor Pool and Agriculture to offer the vehicles for sale utilizing the Public Surplus auction site; C) authorize Motor Pool/Agriculture to utilize either the previously approved consignment auction agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management or another auctioneer for the removal and sale of vehicle Public Surplus process; and D) authorize Agriculture to dispose of assets unable to sell as scrap. Motion carried unanimously.

*Auditor-Controller –
Updated Travel &
Expense
Reimbursement Policy*

Auditor-Controller Amy Shepherd presented a draft updated Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy, explaining that the existing policy has not been changed in over 25 years. She said the new policy is streamlined so the reimbursement process is less time-consuming for both staff and the Auditor's Office. She credited Payroll Manager Kortni Girardin for the thorough work on the draft update.

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve Resolution No. 2023-07 titled, "A Resolution of the Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California,

Rescinding Resolution 98-24, and Establishing a Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy for Inyo County Officers and Employees," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Water Department –
OVGA Meeting
Preview*

Water Director Dr. Aaron Steinwand reviewed for the Board the agenda for the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting scheduled for March 9, 2023. He also distributed copies of backup for the agenda item dealing with the OVGA budget. The Board did not have any specific direction for Supervisor Scott Marcellin, who serves on the OVGA board.

Item Postponed

At the request of the Public Administrator/Public Guardian, the following item was postponed:

19) **PA/PG Salary Discussion**

County Administrator | Sue Dishion, Patricia Barton
35 minutes (15min. Presentation / 20min. Discussion)

Recommended Action: A) Receive presentation from staff regarding the County's compensation policy; B) at the request of the elected Public Administrator / Public Guardian, consider her request for an increase in compensation for her position; and C) provide any direction to staff.

Public Comment

Chairperson Roeser asked if there was any public comment pending for items not calendared on the agenda and there was no one wishing to speak.

*Board Member & Staff
Reports*

County Counsel Vallejo reported attending the Inyo-L.A. Standing Committee meeting last week in Los Angeles and reminded the Board that it needed to return to closed session before the end of the meeting.

Supervisor Griffiths said he attended a Sierra Nevada Conservancy watershed improvement conference, an SNC board meeting, a California Association of Counties board meeting, and a CSAC Rural Caucus call on homelessness initiatives.

Supervisor Orrill reported attending the CSAC Rural Caucus call and board meeting remotely.

Supervisor Marcellin said he attended the joint meeting between the City of Bishop and Bishop Rural Fire Protection District, met with constituents, and did not attend the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control meeting because it was canceled due to poor weather.

Closed Session

Chairperson Roeser recessed open session at 11:11 a.m. and reconvened in closed session with all Board members present to continue discussion and possible action as appropriate on previously noted closed session items.

Open Session

Chairperson Roeser recessed closed session reconvened the meeting in open session at 12:47 p.m. with all Board members present except Supervisor Kingsley.

*Report on Closed
Session*

County Counsel Vallejo reported that by unanimous vote of all Board members present, with all present, the Board took action to appoint Dr. Holly Alpert as Acting Water Director.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 14, 2023, in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Clerk of the Board

by: _____
Darcy Ellis, Assistant