

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

June 1, 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 June 1, 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, Deputy Personnel Director Sue Dishion standing in for the Assistant Clerk of the Board, and County Counsel Marshall Rudolph.

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

No letters were emailed to the Assistant Clerk of the Board and nobody requested to speak via Zoom.

Closed Session Chairperson Griffiths 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: County Counsel; No. 3 **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: County Administrator; 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 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.

Linda Chaplin of Independence expressed concern about the fire hydrant system in Independence after discovering a hydrant that had been knocked and learning that it may or may not have been operational. She questioned how often the hydrants are tested and by whom, and whether there are other non-functional hydrants.

Josh Nicholson of Bishop thanked Supervisor Roeser for bringing last week's proclamation forward in honor of Memoria Day, VSO Gordon Greene for reading it, and the supervisors for helping the Memorial Day Ceremony at Mule Days happen. He asked the Board to consider in its upcoming decision-making the fact that service members sacrificed to defend and preserve our freedom, adding that he believes people traded their freedoms for comfort over the last year-and-a-half.

*CAO-Personnel –
2021-2024
ICEA MOU*

CAO Quilter presented for approval a new Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Inyo and the Inyo County Employees Association. He thanked the Board for its direction and the ICEA and its negotiating team for a cooperative process where both sides were able to arrive at a mutually agreeable contract. Samantha Rottner, senior member of the ICEA negotiating team, read a statement on behalf of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) extending gratitude to the Board and especially County Administration for being willing to listen and hear ICEA's valid concerns and work toward a fair contract. Janelle Kent, vice president of the ICEA, said it was heartening to hear how well negotiations went, considering some of the difficulty experienced in the past. She thanked the Board and the County's negotiating team for providing a good experience. ICEA member Don Gockley also thanked the Board and staff, noting that the new contract will go a long way toward helping the Road Department recruit and retain qualified staff. Chairperson Griffiths said the new contract shows the value of working together in an environment of trust and mutual respect, adding that he believes the agreement protects taxpayers while valuing employees and he is happy with negotiators on both sides. Supervisor Kingsley said he agreed with the Chairperson, noting that he has always been impressed with the employees working for the County. Supervisor Pucci expressed his gratitude to staff and the ICEA.

Deputy Personnel Director Sue Dishion and CAO Quilter reviewed some of the highlights of the new contract. Jane McDonald, AFSCME's Eastern Sierra representative, said she very much appreciated the Board and Administration for listening to ICEA's needs. Supervisor Totheroh said this serves as a great example of what happens when groups work together for a common goal. Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024 Memorandum of Understanding between the County of the Inyo and the Inyo County Employees Association (ICEA) and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*County Department
Reports*

HHS Director Marilyn Mann noted that June 1 marks the beginning of Elder Abuse Awareness Month. She said she will be bringing weekly information to the Board regarding ways to protect this vulnerable population.

CAO Quilter reported, as a follow-up to earlier public comment, that the Independence Fire Department is responsible for testing all of the hydrants in Independence, and the hydrant that was knocked over is operational.

*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. HHS Director Marilyn Mann said Inyo County remains in the Yellow Tier as the State prepares to move beyond the Blueprint for a Safer Economy on June 15. She noted that the State will be lifting many of its restrictions on businesses but cautioned that there will still be CDC and OSHA requirements that must be adhered to. Deputy HHS Director-Public Health Anna Scott provided an overview of the "Vax for the Win" incentive campaign launched by the State on May 27 as a last push to get as many Californians vaccinated as possible before listing restrictions on June 15. Public Health Officer Dr. James Richardson said cases seem to be low in prevalence, which is encouraging, and he predicts they will stay that way through summer and into the fall, when most schools will be returning to a pre-pandemic schedule.

*Child Support
Services – Child
Support Officer I-II*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for the requested position exists in the non-General Child Support Fund, as certified by the Child Support Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) the position could be filled by internal recruitment; however, an open recruitment would be more appropriate to ensure qualified applicants apply; and C) approve the hiring of one (1) Child Support Officer I-II, Range 57 (\$3,499 - \$4,251) or Range 60 (\$3,758 - \$4,564) and, depending on qualifications, authorize the hiring up to E step. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Behavioral
Health – APAR
HHS Specialist I*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley for the Board Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for one (1) A-PAR HHS Specialist I in the Behavioral Health budget, as certified by the HHS Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) where internal candidates may meet the qualifications for the position, the vacancy could possibly be filled through an internal recruitment, but an open recruitment is more appropriate to ensure

qualified applicants apply; and C) approve the hiring of one (1) A-PAR HHS Specialist I at Range 50 (\$15.97 - \$19.39 per hour). Motion carried unanimously.

*Ag Commissioner –
Advisory Board
Appointments*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to: A) approve the following appointments to the Agricultural Resource Advisory Board for three-year terms ending August 22, 2022: the Bishop Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau, the Inyo County Resource Conservation District Chair, and Liz Merrill serving in the Inyo County Community Business at Large position; and B) approve the following appointments to the Agricultural Resource Advisory Board for three-year terms ending August 22, 2021: Inyo/Mono Cattlemen's Association President Gabe Fogarty, Inyo/Mono Farm Bureau President Howard Arcularius, LADWP lessee Dr. Tom Talbot, and Tri-County Fair Board CEO Jen McGuire. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO – Josh
Hillemeier Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the agreement between the County of Inyo and Josh D. Hillemeier for the Provision of Professional Services As A Public Defender (North and South County) for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$576,000, pending adoption of future County Budgets and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Information Services
– ENA Blanket P.O.*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to authorize issuance of a blanket purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, payable to ENA of Nashville, TN for the purchase of Juniper Wi-Fi Access Points, 3-year cloud management licensing and support, and associated parts. Motion carried unanimously.

*Risk – Porter Scott
Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the agreement between the County of Inyo and Porter Scott for the provision of legal services in an amount not to exceed \$210,000 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, contingent upon the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Behavioral
Health – Robert Kittle
Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Robert Kittle, LCSW, of Tom's Place, CA, for the provision of Mental Health Services in an amount not to exceed \$22,500 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works-Airport
– Sprung Instant
Structures P.O.*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to authorize a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$266,000, payable to Sprung Instant Structures of San Francisco, CA for the purchase of an insulated tensioned fabric structure. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –
Bowman Asphalt Bid
Award*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to: A) declare Bowman Asphalt of Bakersfield, CA the successful bidder for 300 Tons of Plant Mixed Asphalt per Bid No. RD21-05; and B) authorize the purchase of 300 Tons of Plant Mixed Asphalt from Bowman Asphalt of Bakersfield, CA in an amount not to exceed \$50,971.50. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –
Wulfenstein
Construction Bid
Award*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to: A) declare Wulfenstein Construction Co., Inc. of Pahrump, NV the successful bidder for 300 Tons of Plant Mixed Asphalt per Bid No. RD21-05; and B) authorize the purchase of 300 Tons of Plant Mixed Asphalt from Wulfenstein Construction Co., Inc. of Pahrump, NV in an amount not to exceed \$38,358.93. Motion carried unanimously.

*Sheriff – Sole-Source
Jeep Purchase*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to: A) declare Victorville Motors of Victorville, CA a sole-source provider and; B) authorize the purchase of a 2021 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Rubicon from Victorville Motors of Victorville, CA, in an amount not to exceed \$52,630.79. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Behavioral
Health – Presentation*

The Board received a presentation on the services and programs offered by the Behavioral Health Division of Health and Human Services, which were more crucial than ever during the mental health crisis created by COVID-19.

<i>Recess/Reconvene</i>	The Chairperson recessed the meeting for a break at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12 p.m. with all Supervisors present.
<i>CAO-Economic Development – Letter Supporting RCRC Broadband Grant</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve a support letter for an Economic Development Administration Grant for Broadband Planning being submitted by the Rural Counties of California (RCRC). Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Planning – District 1 Planning Commissioner</i>	Planning Director Cathreen Richards asked the Board to consider letter of interest from Ms. Lanie Somers applying for the position of First Supervisorial District Planning Commissioner. Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to appoint Lanie Somers to an unexpired four-year term on the Inyo County Planning Commission ending December 31, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Works – SB 1 Funding/ Reso# 2021-30</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Approve proposed Resolution No. 2021-30, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Identifying Projects to be Funded by Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Funds Pursuant to SB 1: The Road Repair and Accountability Act," and authorize the Chairperson to sign; B) Approve the recommended project lists attached to satisfy the documentation requirements to receive SB1, Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 funding from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA); and C) Authorize the Public Works department to apply for and submit all required documentation to receive the Inyo County allotment of SB 1, Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 funding and authorize the Public Works department head, or his designee, to sign for the RMRA funding and all associated supporting documents. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Item Pulled</i>	The following item was pulled from the agenda: <p>26. <u>County Administrator - Parks & Recreation</u> - Request Board approve the concessionaire's agreement between the County of Inyo and Tecopa Hot Springs Conservancy, LLC of Las Vegas, NV for the operation and maintenance of the Tecopa Hot Springs Campground and Pools in Tecopa, CA for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2031, with two options to extend through June 30, 2041, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained.</p>
<i>CAO-Economic Development – AccompanyCo Contract</i>	Assistant County Administrator Leslie Chapman provided the Board with an update on progress towards opening a small business resource center on Main Street, Bishop. Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and AccompanyCo of Palisade, CO, for the provision of consulting services in an amount not to exceed \$46,238 for the period of June 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. 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 meeting of May 25, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Comment</i>	The Chairperson solicited public comment for the final public comment period. <p>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.</p>
<i>Board Member and Staff Reports</i>	Supervisor Pucci reported having just wrapped up a very successful Mule Day Celebration. <p>Supervisor Kingsley reported having good meetings throughout the week and noted that next year is the 100-year anniversary of the Inyo County Courthouse.</p> <p>Supervisor Totheroh thanked outgoing District 1 Planning Commissioner Frank Stewart for his leadership and years of service.</p>

Chairperson Griffiths reported on numerous meetings he attended and/or held throughout the week.

Adjournment

Chairperson Griffiths adjourned the meeting at 1:09 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 8, 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