

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

October 26, 2021

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 10:02 a.m., on October 26, 2021, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present via webinar per California Assembly Bill 361: Chairperson Jeff Griffiths, presiding, Dan Totheroh, Rick Pucci, Jennifer Roeser, and Matt Kingsley. Also present: County Administrator Leslie Chapman, Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis, and County Counsel Marshall Rudolph.

Pledge of Allegiance Supervisor Pucci led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Wynne Benti of Bishop urged the Board to think about securing broadband infrastructure funding for the Meadow Farms area while Caltrans will be digging up the road for improvements.

Supervisor Roeser provided an update on the Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery, which the state is considering turning over to the Fort Independence Tribe.

Wes French of Bishop prayed for wisdom from above for the Board and staff members behind the scenes.

Introductions The following new employees were introduced to the Board: Carolyn Jarvis, Lab Technician, Environmental Health; Shawn Lum, Museum Administrator, County Administrator's Office; Jason Schuler, Building Maintenance Worker, Public Works; Tehauna Tiffany, Gate Attendant, Recycling & Waste Management; and Shelby Lauer, Shelter Attendant, Sheriff's Office.

County Department Reports Deputy County Counsel Grace Chuchla provided an update on the redistricting process, advising that she would put out a press release about this Thursday evening's mapping tutorial.

Risk Manager Aaron Holmberg provided an annual report on the activities of the County's safety committee.

COVID-19 Staff Update HHS Director Marilyn Mann and HHS Deputy Director-Public Health & Prevention Anna Scott provided the Board with an update on COVID-19, including local case numbers (including a sharp increase in pediatric cases), vaccinations, current hospitalizations, and upcoming availability of booster shots. They noted that Health staff is closely monitoring impacts on hospitals and the availability of out-of-area hospital beds. Ms. Scott also shared a slide show with data showing local trends, noting that Inyo County now has the highest case rate in the state with an exponential increase in pediatric cases. Dr. Richardson announced he would be putting a universal, indoor masking order in place to hopefully slow the spread.

Public comment was received from Cari Arnal, Wes French, Craig Thornburg, Lynette McIntosh, and Josh Nicholson opposing vaccines and mandates, and disputing the information coming from health officials. Assistant Clerk of the Board Ellis read aloud a letter from Xandra Maddock stating that people are not sick and should not have to cover their breathing airholes. Public comment was also received from Mary Roper in support of people getting vaccinated and calling out some of the earlier speakers for forming a hostile gauntlet at the last vaccine clinic, and from Debborah Morales expressing disappointment at the

misinformation being spread by the anti-vaccine contingent and that numbers are soaring again despite healthcare workers' sacrifice and hard work. Supervisor Roeser added that it is incumbent on the Board to listen to the public with respect and without making facial expressions. Supervisor Kingsley said he agreed but also thinks it's incumbent on the Board to demand respect for staff and the Public Health Officer.

Recess/Reconvene The Chairperson recessed the meeting at 12:05 p.m. for a break and reconvened the meeting at 12:22 p.m. with all Board members present.

Personnel – John-Carl Vallejo County Counsel Contract/Reso# 2021-52 Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to: A) approve contract between the County of Inyo and John-Carl Vallejo for provision of professional services as County Counsel at a monthly salary of \$14,066, effective October 28, 2021, and authorize the Chairperson to sign; and B) approve Resolution 2021-52, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Amending Resolution 2021-33, Changing Salary and/or Terms and Conditions of Employment for Appointed Officials Employed in the Several Offices or Institutions of the County of Inyo," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Child Support – Child Support Officer I-III Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to:

- A) Change the authorized strength in the Child Support Department to correct a clerical item as follows:
 - 1. Increase the authorized strength within the Child Support Department by adding one (1) Child Support Officer I-III position, Range 57-64 (\$3,639 - \$5,211);
- B) Find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy:
 - 1. The availability of funding for the positions exists in (the General Fund OR one or more non-General Fund budgets OR a combination of the two), as certified by the Child Support Services Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller;
 - 2. Where internal candidates may meet the qualifications for the position, the vacancy could possibly be filled through internal recruitment, but an open recruitment is more appropriate to ensure qualified applications apply; and
- C) Approve the hiring of one (1) Child Support Officer I-III position, Range 57-64 (\$3,639 - \$5,211) up to an E Step, depending on the qualifications.

Motion carried unanimously.

Risk Management – Employee Safety Programs Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to acknowledge and approve the employee safety programs "Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan" and "Aerosol Transmissible Disease Exposure Control Plan." Motion carried unanimously.

District Attorney – FY 21-22 CalOES Grant Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to: A) authorize acceptance of the Inyo County Victim/Witness Assistance Program (VW 21 30 0140) Grant from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services for Fiscal Year 2021-2022; and B) authorize the District Attorney to sign any documentation to accept and utilize the grant on behalf of the County. Motion carried unanimously.

Environmental Health – CAEHA Amendment 2 Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Amendment No. 2 to the contract between the County of Inyo and the California Association of Environmental Health Administrators (CAEHA), extending the contract end date to June 30, 2022, and changing the language to include flexible staffing approved by the Environmental Health Director, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-First 5 – Triple P America P.O. Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve purchases during Fiscal Year 2021-2022 from Triple P America in the amount of \$23,000, including a blanket purchase order in the amount of \$14,373 for the remainder of the fiscal year. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – ESE FY 20-21 Payment Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to authorize payment to Eastern Sierra Engineering of Reno, NV for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 invoice in the amount of \$1,531.00 for material testing services. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – Recycling & Waste Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Shred Pro Inc. of Mammoth Lakes, CA for the provision of

Management - Shred Pro Contract document shredding in an amount not to exceed \$116,952 for the period of January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027, 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.

County Counsel – VOIP Co-op Agreement/BBK Agreement Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) approve entry into a Joint Representation and Cooperation Agreement with Mono, Placer, and Nevada counties, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, and the Town of Truckee to enhance Inyo County's efforts to improve the customer service and service quality standards of voice over internet protocol and broadband services, and authorize the Chairperson to sign; and B) authorize the County Administrator to enter into a related legal representation agreement with Best Best & Krieger and to execute the accompanying Conflict Waiver. Motion carried unanimously.

Recess/Reconvene – Capital Asset Leasing Corporation The Chairperson recessed the Board of Supervisors meeting at 12:36 p.m. to reconvene as the Capital Asset Leasing Corporation (separate minutes). The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m. and the Board of Supervisors meeting was reconvened with all members present.

CAO – CAPP II Projects CAO Leslie Chapman presented a request for the Board to identify projects for the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District Clean Air Projects Program (CAPP) II funds, including a list of potential projects prioritized by staff. After some discussion, the Board readjusted the prioritization.

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

- A) approve the following list of projects, in order of priority:
 1. Courthouse Project
 2. Lone Pine Landfill Solar Project
 3. Electric Vehicle Charging Station (one for Bishop, one for Lone Pine)
 4. Diaz Lake Surface Improvement
 5. Millpond Surface Improvements; and
- B) authorize the County Administrative Office to sign the CAPP II Block Grant Guideline form so that funds may be released to Inyo County in the amount of \$820,063.

Motion carried unanimously.

Library – Mobile Library Grant Funding & Purchase Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) accept funding from the California State Library in the amount of \$173,685 for the purchase of a mobile library; B) declare Farber Specialty Vehicles the successful bidder for one (1) 2021 Mercedes Sprinter van customized for a mobile library; and C) authorize the purchase of the van in an amount not to exceed \$169,858.02. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-Behavioral Health – SmithWaters Group Contract Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve the agreement between the County of Inyo and SmithWaters Group of Sacramento, CA for the provision of Mental Health Patients' Rights Advocacy in an amount not to exceed \$16,200 for the period of October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-Social Services – UC Regents Contract Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to ratify and approve the contract between the County of Inyo and the Regents of the University of California, on behalf of its Davis Campus University Extension, for training services in an amount not to exceed \$118,575.00 for the period of November 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-Behavioral Health – Center for Reflective Communities MOU Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Inyo and the Center for Reflective Communities of Los Angeles, CA for the provision Reflective Parenting Training in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for the period of October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and authorize the HHS Director to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – SES Staffing Agreement Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to ratify and approve Staffing Vendor Agreement between Sierra Employment Services, Inc. (SES) of Mammoth Lakes, CA and Inyo County for the provision of temporary employment services to the Inyo County Public Works Department for the period of October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

*Information Services
– Info-Tech Sole-
Source Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to declare Info-Tech Research Group, Inc., of Las Vegas, NV a sole-source provider of Information Technology Improvement Services; B) ratify and approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Info-Tech Research Group, Inc., of Las Vegas, NV for the provision of continuing Information Technology Improvement Services in an amount not to exceed \$28,524 (\$14,262 annually) for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023 contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets; and C) authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Chairperson Griffiths solicited public comment for the final public comment period.

The Assistant Clerk of the Board read aloud a letter from Linda Chaplin of Independence expressing support for the new book mobile.

Josh Nicholson of Bishop asserted that none of the questions he asked during the COVID-19 report were answered and accused Supervisor Totheroh of being disrespectful. He said leadership is influence, not mandates.

*Board Member and
Staff Reports*

County Counsel Rudolph acknowledged that today is his last Board meeting with the County, and thanked the Board for the opportunity. He said it's been a pleasure to work with the Board, who is head and shoulders above other boards he's worked with, especially for managing to find a way to let everyone be heard and treating constituents with respect. He said he is happy leaving the County with the capable legal team of John-Carl Vallejo and Grace Chuchla. He also personally thanked Cori Ellis, legal secretary, CAO Chapman, and Deputy Personnel Director Sue Dishion. He told the Board that County staff is very talented and very competent and he has been amazed at the caliber of staff since day 1. Supervisor Kingsley said he appreciates Mr. Rudolph's service and has always admired him for being an outstanding father. Supervisor Pucci said Mr. Rudolph is probably one of the best counsels he's ever worked with. Supervisor Roeser thanked Mr. Rudolph for helping her start her career as a supervisor on the right foot. Assistant Clerk of the Board Ellis thanked Mr. Rudolph for his expertise, thoughtfulness, and legal support, and being available to assist whenever she needed him. She said she would miss him and his stories from ComiCon. CAO Chapman thanked Mr. Rudolph for all of his leadership and for leaving the County in good hands, because she knows he's downloaded all of vast knowledge into his legal team. Supervisor Totheroh said he respects Mr. Rudolph not just for his technical competence, but also for his humanity. Chairperson Griffiths said he always appreciated Mr. Rudolph as a human being, and a wonderful asset to the community, his family, and Inyo County.

Adjournment

Chairperson Griffiths adjourned the meeting at 1:59 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, November 2, 2021 in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: *LESLIE CHAPMAN*
Clerk of the Board

by: _____
Darcy Ellis, Assistant

