

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

January 17, 2023

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 January 17, 2023, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present per California Assembly Bill 361: Chairperson Jennifer Roeser, presiding, Jeff Griffiths, Trina Orrill, Scott Marcellin, and Matt Kingsley. 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 Chairperson Roeser 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 **Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation - Initiation of litigation pursuant to §54956.9(d)(4)** - Number of cases: one. Facts and circumstances: Fire Damage to Commander's House Property; 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; and No. 4 **Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: County Administrator.

Open Session Chairperson Roeser recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:04 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance Supervisor Marcellin 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.

Employee Service Recognition Awards The Board recognized the following employees who reached service milestones during the Fourth Quarter of 2022, many of whom were in attendance to receive their commemorative pins:

- Shane Riley, 20 years; John Bigham, 15 years; and Justin Drew, 5 years – Public Works
- Juan Martinez, 20 years; Joseph Kapturkiewicz, 15 years; Wendy Stine, 10 years; Seneca Willis, 10 years; Phil West, 10 years; and Julio Gonzalez, 5 years – Sheriff's Department
- Vanessa Rugio, 5 years; Tim Whitney, 5 years; Marissa Whitney, 5 years; April Eagan, 10 years; and Jean Bigham, 5 years – Health & Human Services
- Richard Beall, 10 years – District Attorney
- Scott Gadea, 5 years – Probation
- Brenda Delgado Botello, 5 years – Clerk-Recorder
- Benjamin Mitchell, 5 years; and Knight Porter, 5 years – Information Services

Introductions

The following new employees were introduced to the Board: Jane Theisen, PA/PG Specialist,

Public Comment

Public Administrator/Public Guardian's Office; and Dylan Rennie, Custodian, Robyn Ross, Office Technician III, and Carlos Sualez, Heavy Equipment Mechanic, Public Works. Chairperson Roeser asked if there was any public comment pending for items not calendared on the agenda.

Public comment was heard from Lauralynn Hundley.

County Department Reports

Risk Manager Aaron Holmberg introduced his office's new Safety Coordinator, Tehauna Tiffany.

HHS Director Marilyn Mann updated the Board on the closure of Countywide Covid testing sites effective January 22.

Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson gave an update on the Governor's budget.

Emergency Services Manager Mikaela Torres said that the August disaster will be submitted to California Office of Emergency Services shortly; that there will be a Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting on Thursday and another on March 9; and shared that social media accounts have been set up for Emergency Services on Facebook and Instagram.

Public Works Deputy Shannon Platt gave an update on road conditions due to the recent storms and answered board member questions. Board members gave thanks for an expedient and attentive response.

County Counsel – AB 361 Findings

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to adopt findings pursuant to AB 361 that: A) the Board reconsidered the circumstances of the existing State of Emergency issued March 4, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and B) local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing, and/or the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO – CA Public Utilities Commission 211-Designated County Application

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) application to become a 211-designated county and authorize the Chairperson to sign the cover letter. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Emergency Services – Emergency Proclamation/ Reso# 2023-03

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to declare the existence of a local emergency as a result of the atmospheric river event beginning on January 9, 2023, which resulted in extensive flooding throughout the County, by approving Resolution No. 2023-03. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Risk Management – Annual Safety Award Presentation

Risk Management's Tehauna Tiffany and Aaron Holmberg presented the 2022 "Most Improved in Safety" award to the Bishop Road Shop and the Inyo County Animal Shelter.

CAO-Advertising County Resources – Film Commissioner Report

Assistant CAO Meaghan McCamman introduced Film Commissioner Jesse Steele to the Board.

Steele gave a report on recent Film Commission activities, noting progress being made with various projects including: a new website; a multi-agency collaboration effort to revamp and streamline the permitting process; updating the Inyo County Film Guide; and networking with various contacts for the purpose of exchanging resources. Steele also shared ideas for future projects including volunteer cleanup parties and classes available to the public on production set training.

CAO- Information Services – Grant Updates

The Board received an update from Information Services Director Scott Armstrong on the Local Agency Technical Assistance and Inyo-Mono Broadband Consortium grants.

Armstrong explained that both grants had been approved at the California Public Utilities Commission on January 12 and broke down each grant explaining how much funding is expected and the purpose of the projects the funding will contribute.

The LATA grant will provide \$1,000,000 (\$500,000 a year for two years), for the purpose of providing the engineering for the last portion of the broadband project.

The IMBC grant will provide \$600,000 (\$200,000 a year for three years), for the purpose of hiring an individual to do community outreach, coordinate with providers, seek and secure additional grant funding, and develop a broadband strategy for the Inyo-Mono region.

Armstrong explained that once the grant award letter is received, the next steps will be to obtain signatures and make planning preparations with the appropriate parties.

Public Comment

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

Public comment was heard from Lauralynn Hundley.

Board Member & Staff Reports

Supervisor Kingsley reported he had attended constituent meetings and an Inyo Associates meeting at Stovepipe Wells.

Supervisor Marcellin said he met with constituents and met with Caltrans on the North Sierra Highway project.

Supervisor Orrill said she also met with Caltrans and concerned constituents and thanked County employees and citizens who have recently assisted with storm response.

Supervisor Roeser said she had taken constituent phone calls, participated in meetings with constituents and attended various Community Service District meetings. Roeser thanked Caltrans and the Inyo Road Department for assisting with the storm response.

Supervisor Griffiths said he attended strategic planning for the Eastern Sierra Foundation, an Eastern Sierra Transit Board meeting, and plans to attend a Homeless Action team meeting and the Rural Counties Representatives of California installation meeting this week. Griffiths thanked volunteers and first-responders for assisting with weather response.

CAO Greenberg said he attended several Unified Command meetings throughout the week, took calls with the National Weather Service and other partner agencies, met with schools, attended a Hazard Mitigation kick-off meeting, and had various meetings with staff.

Recess/Reconvene

Chairperson Roeser recessed the meeting at 12:06 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:48 p.m. with all Board members present.

CAO – 2023 Legislative Platform Presentation

The Board received a presentation and update from Kristi More, of The Ferguson Group, on legislative issues relevant to Inyo County.

Supervisor Kingsley excused himself from meeting at 1:33 to travel to an out-of-town meeting.

Public comment was made by Jefferey Ray, Tiffany Lau, and Cari Arnal.

After review and discussion, the Board decided that revisions were needed to finalize the adoption of the Inyo County 2023 Federal Legislative Platform. The Board asked Kristi More to complete those revisions and bring the platform back to the February 7 meeting for adoption.

Adjournment

Chairperson Roeser adjourned the meeting at 1:38 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, January 24, 2023, in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: NATE GREENBERG
Clerk of the Board*

*by: _____
Darcy Ellis, Assistant*