

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

August 15, 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 August 15, 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, Assistant County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, and Office Technician Hayley Carter.

Closed Session The Chairperson asked for public comment related to closed session items and there was nobody wishing to speak.
Public Comment

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 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. 3 **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 10:06 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance Office Technician Hayley Carter 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 for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and public comment was heard from Independence resident Lauralyn Hundley and Chairperson Roeser.

County Department Reports Public Works Director Mike Errante provided updates on road conditions in various areas of the County.

County Wildfire Preparedness Coordinator Kristin Pfeiler spoke about recent Community Wildfire Protection Plan meetings and encouraged the public to participate in the survey for wildfire preparedness which is available on the Ready Inyo website.

Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve an amendment to the regular Board of Supervisors meeting minutes for August 1, 2023, to include the action taken on Item 22 and approve the minutes from the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of August 8, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Emergency Services – Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to continue the local emergency proclaimed in response to the 2023 storms and projected spring runoff in March 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Local Emergency Continuation

CAO-Personnel – Atkinson, Loya, Ruud & Romo Contract

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve and ratify the contract between the County of Inyo and Atkinson, Loya, Ruud & Romo for the provision of Legal Services - General Labor and Employment Advice, in the amount of \$320,000 for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget, and authorize Chairperson to sign the contract and HIPPA Business Associate Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Personnel – Hanson Bridgett LLP Contract

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to ratify and approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Hanson Bridgett LLP for the provision of Specialized Law Enforcement Legal Services and Employment Advice, in the amount of \$100,000 for the term of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget, authorize the Chairperson to sign the contract and HIPPA Business Associate Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-Behavioral Health – DHCS Drug Medi-Cal Agreement

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve and ratify the standard agreement between the County of Inyo and the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for the provision of substance abuse treatment in an amount not to exceed \$1,076,000 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the HHS Acting Director to sign the Standard Agreement, Contractor Certification Clauses, and the California Civil Rights Laws Certification. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-Behavioral Health – Ordinance 1300 (DDP Fees)

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve Ordinance 1300, titled, "An Ordinance of the board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Repealing Ordinance No. 1172 (2012) Regarding Fees for the Inyo County Driving Under the Influence Program." Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-Behavioral Health – Annual 22/23 & 23/24 MHSA Agreement Updates

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) 2022-2023 Annual Update and approve the MHSA 2023-2024 Annual Update in order to access funds under the approved MHSA Agreement, and authorize the HHS Deputy Director, Behavioral Health Division, as the County's Mental Health Director, to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-ESAAA – Mono County ESAAA Contract Amendment No. 1

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) 2022-2023 Annual Update and approve the MHSA 2023-2024 Annual Update in order to access funds under the approved MHSA Agreement, and authorize the HHS Deputy Director, Behavioral Health Division, as the County's Mental Health Director, to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Department – USGS Joint Funding Agreement

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve the Joint Funding Agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey for wells and springs monitoring in the Amargosa Desert in the amount of \$8,000 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – Shelter Construction Plans & Specs

At the request of Supervisor Griffiths, item # 17 was pulled from the Consent Agenda to highlight the project and make the public fully aware of progress being made.

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve the plans and specifications for the Big Pine Animal Shelter Project and authorize the Public Works Director to advertise the project. Motion carried unanimously.

Item Postponed

At the request of CAO Greenberg, the following item was postponed until the September 5 Board of Supervisors meeting:

18) **Request for Landfill Fee Waiver**

Public Works - Recycling & Waste Management | Michael Errante

Recommended Action: Approve a waiver up to the historical cap of \$100 toward the Bishop Paiute Tribe Friends of the Conservation Open Space Area pilot project.

CAO –
*Cal-Ore Life Flight LLC
(Sierra Lifeflight)
30-Day Contract
Extension*

CAO Greenberg provided the Board with a brief update on the status of EMS services in the greater Bishop area.

Chairperson Roeser asked if there was anyone wishing to speak and public comment was given by Olancho Fire Chief Chelsea Benbrook.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by supervisor Orrill to authorize an amendment to the current agreement with Cal-Ore Life Flight LLC (dba Sierra Lifeflight) for the provision of 911 Emergency Medical Services in the greater Bishop area, extending the term for an additional 30 days – until September 22, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

*Sheriff –
Department
Presentation*

Board members received a presentation from Sheriff Rennie regarding the functions, core services, mission, and projects of the Sheriff's Office.

Board members thanked Sheriff Rennie and requested a presentation in the future to include information on the Animal Control and Correctional divisions of the department.

*Board of Supervisors –
Indian Wells Valley
Groundwater Authority
EIR Public Process*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to authorize the County Administrative Officer to provide comments on the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA) Environmental Impact Report public process consistent with Inyo County's prior expressions of support for an IWVGA water import project utilizing water sources from other than the Owens Valley River and groundwater systems. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO-Personnel –
Water Director
Personal Services
Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to:

- A) Approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Dr. Holly Alpert for the provision of personal services as the Water Director at Range 155, Step B, \$10,463 per month effective August 17, 2023, and authorize the Chairperson to sign; and
- B) Approve Resolution 2023-23, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Amending Resolution 2021-52, Changing Salary and/or Terms and Conditions of Employment for Appointed Officials Employed in the Several Offices of Institutions of the County of Inyo," and authorize the Chairperson to sign.

Motion carried unanimously.

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*

CAO Greenberg said he continues to work on EMS issues as well as the FY 23-24 budget and mentioned that the Board will be dark until September 5. Greenberg also said he will be traveling to Sacramento this Wednesday to teach a class for the California State Association of Counties.

Supervisor Griffiths said he attended meetings with constituents, the California State Association of Counties Executive Board, and Bishop City Council and noted that previously scheduled meetings for the Eastern Sierra Transportation Authority and the Tribal Consultation were both cancelled. Griffiths said he will be attending the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments meeting this Thursday.

Supervisor Roeser said she met with constituents and community service district representatives recently, then briefly discussed a resolution passed at the Northern Inyo Airport Advisory Commission meeting supporting maintenance improvements. Roeser also informed the public of the Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery annual dinner taking place on August 19.

Supervisor Orrill said she attended meetings with constituents, a meeting on the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and a virtual meeting with the Lieutenant Governor's office. Orrill encouraged participation in the survey for wildfire preparedness and wished Supervisor

Griffiths a happy birthday.

Supervisor Marcellin said he had lunch with Supervisor Griffiths after the Tribal Consultation meeting was cancelled, attended a Northern Inyo Airport Advisory Committee meeting, and had meetings with constituents.

Supervisor Kingsley said that he met with the new Lone Pine Superintendent of Schools and local volunteer fire chiefs and said he will be leaving the meeting early to travel to the Rural County Representatives of California Executive Meeting in Sacramento.

Closed Session

Chairperson Roeser recessed open session at 11:32 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to continue discussion and possible action as appropriate on previously noted closed session items.

Report on Closed Session

No action was taken in closed session that is required to be reported.

Recess/Reconvene – Board of Equalization/ Attendance Change

Chairperson Roeser reconvened from closed session as the Inyo County Board of Equalization (separate minutes) at 1:01 p.m. with all Board members present. The Chairperson adjourned the Board of Equalization meeting at 1:39 p.m. to reconvene as the Board of Supervisors with all Board members present except Supervisor Kingsley.

Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, September 5, 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