

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

November 15, 2016

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 10 a.m., on November 15, 2016, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Jeff Griffiths, presiding, Dan Totheroh, Rick Pucci, Mark Tillemans, and Matt Kingsley.

- OPEN SESSION** Chairperson Griffiths convened the meeting at 10:08 a.m. with all Board members present.
- PLEDGE** CAO Carunchio led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- INTRODUCTION POSTPONED** The introduction of new employee Alisa Rodriguez was pulled from the agenda due to her unavailability.
- ITEM PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA** Item No. 5 was pulled from the Consent Agenda and moved to Departmental for further discussion.
- RECYCLING & WASTE MANAGEMENT BLANKET P.O. INCREASE** Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to increase the blanket purchase order for Steve's Auto Parts from \$7,800 to \$17,000 for equipment parts. Motion carried unanimously.
- P.W. MICHAEL BAKER CONTRACT AMENDMENT 1** Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the County of Inyo and Michael Baker International, for the provision of professional services in the development of a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, extending the term of the contract for 12 months, from December 3, 2016 to December 2, 2017, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon appropriate signatures being obtained and upon Board approval of future budgets. Motion carried unanimously.
- P.W. ESE CONTRACT AMENDMENT 2** Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve Amendment No. 2 to County of Inyo Standard Contract No. 156 between the County of Inyo and Eastern Sierra Engineering, increasing the amount of the contract \$13,932.60 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$139,099.40, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon the adoption of future budgets. Motion carried unanimously.
- P.W. AWARD OF FLOORING PROJECT BID** Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to: A) award the construction contract for the base bid and additive bid item No. 1 for the Inyo County Buildings Flooring Project to Michael Flooring Inc. of Bakersfield, California, in the amount of \$149,513; B) do not award the construction contract additive bid item No. 2 for the project to Michael Flooring Inc. of Bakersfield, California in the amount of \$112,945 due to funding constraints; C) authorize the Chairperson to execute the contract, contingent on appropriate signatures being obtained; and D) authorize the Public Works Director to execute all other contract documents, including contract change orders, to the extent permitted by Public Contract Code Section 20142 and other applicable law. Motion carried unanimously.
- P.W. NOC, RESOLUTION FOR ED POWERS BIKE LANE** Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to: A) approve the resolution titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California Authorizing the Recording of a Notice of Completion for the Ed Powers Bicycle Lanes Project;" and B) authorize the recording of a Notice of Completion for the Ed Powers Bicycle Lanes Project. Motion carried unanimously.
- HHS ES RURAL HEALTH NETWORK** HHS Director Jean Turner presented the Board and public with updated, final copies of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to participate as a partner in a federal grant application

MOU

for coordinated health care in Inyo County along with Toiyabe Indian Health Project as lead agency, and Northern Inyo Hospital. She said the MOU took a long time to prepare and said County Counsel Rudolph especially put a lot of time and effort into it. Rudolph pointed out some of the changes between the draft MOU and final version. Turner noted the deadline for submitting the grant application is November 30 and again thanked Rudolph for all of his time and assistance. Supervisor Pucci congratulated staff and said the MOU is the kind of collaboration that makes sense in order to get the funding needed to help the populace. Moved by Supervisor Tothoroh and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to authorize Turner to sign the MOU. Motion carried unanimously.

*P.W. ESE CONTRACT
AMENDMENT 1
RATIFICATION*

Public Works Director Clint Quilter explained that the contract with the Dehy Park contractor needed to be amended while the staff member working on the project was out on leave. Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to ratify Amendment No. 1 to County of Inyo Standard Contract No. 156 between the County of Inyo and Eastern Sierra Engineering to increase the amount of the contract by \$41,836 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$125,166.80, contingent upon the adoption of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*SHERIFF
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT*

Sheriff Bill Lutze said his current assistant would be retiring December 30 and he needs to backfill her position. He said there are possibly some internal candidates lined up to replace her. If an external candidate is hired, however, some overlap might be required for about six weeks until the new hire is up to speed, and because the mid-year budget is approaching. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tothoroh for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for the Sheriff Administrative Assistant position comes from the General Fund, and exists in the Sheriff's general budget, as certified by the Sheriff, and concurred with by the County Administrator and the Auditor Controller; B) where sufficient internal candidates may meet the qualifications for the position, and the position represents a promotional opportunity, it is appropriate to first attempt to fill the position through a closed countywide recruitment; C) approve the hiring of one Sheriff Administrative Assistant at Range 70 (\$4,391 - \$5,341) up to Step D, depending upon qualifications; D) if the closed, countywide recruitment results in hiring a candidate within the Sheriff's Office, authorize hiring to backfill the vacancy created by the promotion; and, E) If the closed countywide recruitment results in hiring a candidate from another County department, authorize the position being filled, on a temporary and overlapping basis beginning in November 17, 2016, and continuing until but no longer than December 30, 2106 when the incumbent retires by approving a change in Authorized Staffing for the Sheriff's Office by adding an Sheriff Administrative Assistant (Range 70) to the Authorized Strength for the Sheriff's Office effective November 17, 2016 and deleting a Sheriff Administrative Assistant (Range 70) effective December 30, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

*WATER – ANNUAL
LORP ACCOUNTING
REPORT*

Water Director Dr. Bob Harrington presented the 2015-2016 Lower Owens River Project Annual Accounting Report for Board approval. He described the Annual Accounting Report as a retrospective look at whether all work outlined in the spring work plan was accomplished, and at what cost, and how the actual costs stacked up against the budgeted costs. He said the Accounting Report doesn't actually involve any commitment of funds, but rather helps guide the Technical Group in development of future work plans and budgets. He said the LORP proceeded pretty much as planned in 2015-2016. He then offered an overview of the LORP Trust (held by the County) and LORP Credit (held by LADWP). He said total expenditures for LORP work in Fiscal Year 2015-2016 were \$544,065, with Inyo County contributing \$217,433 and LADWP paying \$326,632. Half of the difference came out of the Credit account, he said. Water Department staff time was paid out of the Trust. Chairman Griffiths asked how many years the County could sustain work on the LORP at this level of spending. Dr. Harrington gave a rough guess of 10 years, depending on whether the County dips into the Trust to fund a significant adaptive management measure, for example. CAO Carunchio said Dr. Harrington and the Water Department, but especially Dr. Harrington, has been a great steward of the Trust and Credit. He noted that when the Long-Term Water Agreement was negotiated, rewatering the river was thought to be a much easier and less expensive project. He said Dr. Harrington has done a great job every year working with Public Works when necessary to develop the work plans. Carunchio also noted that it is important to recognize that any future modifications, such as adaptive management needed to address the tule/islands issues, should be considered the result of design flaws for which LADWP is responsible. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tothoroh to approve the 2015-2016 LORP Annual Accounting Report. Motion carried unanimously.

*PLANNING – REVIEW
OF PRELIM DRAFT
LAND USE ISSUE
SCOPE OF WORK*

Planner Cathreen Richards brought back before the Board a preliminary draft scope of work to investigate public lands issues, as requested by the Board on October 11, 2016 so that these issues could be explored more broadly with comprehensive public input. She reviewed the list of general land use issues of concern to the County (Wilderness Study Areas, land tenure and possible land releases, new designations on federally managed lands, etc.) and suggested subtopics worth exploring could include recreation, sustainable economics, and community development. She said Planning staff would incorporate today's feedback into a more detailed, refined proposal to bring back to the Board as a future timed item. Richards said the proposed scope of work would be divided into seven quarters, starting with the development of baseline information and ending with a final report. Task #1, the development of baseline information, includes: procurement of a consultant, inventorying existing data, interviewing key stakeholders, building GIS data, and undertaking preliminary outreach. The total cost for the entire effort, which Richards said would take about two years to finish, would be \$80,000 in County costs and \$350,000 for the consultants' work. Supervisor Kingsley said it was good to review the costs now to determine whether the endeavor is economically feasible or if grant funding is available to help. Supervisor Pucci said he doesn't see the County being able to foot the half-a-million dollar bill but doesn't think the task should be put solely on staff either. He noted that the identification of goals, which is listed in the proposed scope of work under task #4, should be higher on the list in order to make the most efficient use of consultants' time. He said it would be best to get stakeholder/public input on goals first and then put the consultants to work. Supervisor Totheroh said he agreed completely regarding the first step and noted it will involve significant public outreach. He added that he has a hard time picturing what the County is going to achieve for half a million dollars and whether it will be worth the expense. Supervisor Totheroh said the Eastern Sierra Coalition of Governments shares similar land use concerns with Inyo County, so there might be a way to share costs via a regional approach. Chairperson Griffiths reiterated his view that the whole process is a way to be proactive. He said the County spends significant resources on individual issues, such as the DRECP, whenever they crop up. He said the County can either pay now or pay later. He said the Board is a long way from knowing what exactly the proactive process will look like, but it shouldn't be viewed as an expenditure of extra dollars and instead as pre-spending of funds to hopefully prepare the County for whatever issue comes next, or to put the County in a position where it can be in the driver's seat. Supervisor Kingsley noted that before identifying goals and objectives, he would like to know what the County can and cannot do in terms of land use regulations and legislation. Supervisor Totheroh agreed that it would be helpful in focusing on the areas where the County can make the most impact. Chairman Griffiths and Supervisor Kingsley both noted a lot of work and commitment will be required of staff and the Board moving forward. Supervisor Totheroh inquired about limits in what the County can request from federal land management agencies and Supervisor Pucci said those limits shouldn't stop the County from fighting for what it wants. Supervisor Kingsley suggested a workshop to discuss limitations but said the County can make land designations through legislation and discussions should focus on what the County can do legislatively. Staff agreed to a January workshop regarding preliminary limitations and opportunities. Discussions then shifted to topics for CAO Carunchio, Chairman Griffiths, and Supervisor Kingsley to investigate/bring forward during their upcoming visit to Washington, D.C. Supervisor Tillemans suggested: the regionalization of Bishop Airport; wildfire smoke issues; public lands mitigation funds; funding of recreational opportunities on public lands; and land releases. Supervisor Totheroh added: proactive work on fuels reduction to reduce smoke issues and disinvestment in natural resources and recreation. Supervisor Pucci said the trip will be a good opportunity for the County to establish new contacts and get advice on legislative strategies.

*ENACTMENT OF
MERIT SYSTEM
EXEMPTION
ORDINANCE*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to enact an ordinance titled, "An Ordinance of the County of Inyo, State of California, Amending Section 2.80.055 of the Inyo County Code Pertaining to Exemptions from the Competitive Service." Motion carried unanimously.

*RECYCLING & WASTE
EQUIPMENT
OPERATOR I/II*

CAO Carunchio presented the agenda item to the Board on behalf of Assistant CAO Benson, who was meeting with LADWP in Bishop. He said the request is a result of an upcoming retirement and noted that the County has been getting some great candidates for these positions lately. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for an Equipment Operator position exists in the non-General Fund Solid Waste Budget, as certified by the Assistant County Administrator Rick Benson and certified by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) where internal candidates meet the qualifications of the position, the vacancy

could possibly be filled through an internal recruitment, however it would be more appropriate to fill the position through an existing eligibility list was approved and created for the position; and C) hire one (1) Equipment Operator I, Range 58 (\$3,310 - \$4,027), or Equipment Operator II, Range 60 (\$3,471 - \$4,216), depending on qualifications. Motion carried unanimously.

*GULLY WASHER
EMERGENCY*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to continue the local emergency known as the "Gully Washer Emergency" that resulted in flooding in the central, south and southeastern portion of Inyo County during the month of July, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

*LAND OF EVEN LESS
WATER EMERGENCY*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to continue the local emergency known as the "Land of EVEN Less Water Emergency" that was proclaimed as a result of extreme drought conditions that exist in the County. Motion carried unanimously.

*DV DOWN BUT NOT
OUT EMERGENCY*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to continue the local emergency known as the "Death Valley Down But Not Out Emergency" that was proclaimed as a result of flooding in the central, south and southeastern portion of Inyo County during the month of October, 2015. Motion carried unanimously.

*BOARD CLERK –
APPROVAL OF
MINUTES*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meetings of November 1, 2016 and November 8, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

RECESS/RECONVENE

Chairperson Griffiths recessed the meeting at 11:13 a.m. for a 15-minute break and reconvened the meeting in open session at 11:33 a.m. with all Board members present.

*LADWP – STATUS OF
BUSINESS LEASES &
PERMITS IN OV*

CAO Carunchio explained that uncertainty regarding the status of Los Angeles agricultural and commercial leases in the Owens Valley has understandably led to concern over the past several years. Last month the Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners took steps to provide some clarity by revamping long-standing, 80- to 100-year-old policies regarding how those leases are transferred. Carunchio noted that the changes were discussed with the ag community but not L.A.'s commercial leaseholders, prompting the Board to point this out in an urgent letter to the Commissioners. Yannotta thanked the Board for that timely input and said the City acknowledges the need for outreach as well as the need to keep updating of commercial leases a separate process. He said a meeting with commercial leaseholders was scheduled for November 22 to begin explaining LADWP's need to reconcile traditional practice with the City's competitive bidding lease requirements. He said he was confident an equitable solution could be reached and noted that while leases are a matter between L.A. and leaseholders, the City acknowledges the County has an overall economic interest. He said LADWP remains committed to its lessees and local businesses. Chairperson Griffiths solicited comment from the audience. Fred Brown, owner of Frosty Chalet and Sierra View Trailer Park on property leased from LADWP, said L.A. should consider approaching each business lease on a case-by-case basis. The trailer park, for example, provides low-income housing. He said he acquired this property five years ago and made significant improvements in good faith. The proposed one-time sale policy makes those investments worthless – he can't recoup his costs since nobody is going to buy a business they can only own for five years. Shane Huntley of Bishop said while the Board of Supervisors and City Council might not be able to get involved in individual leases, he encouraged them to remain involved until commercial leaseholders can get some clarity on the new proposal. Mike Allen, owner of Sierra Saddlery and commercial LADWP lessee, said it is hard to understand the Charles M. Brown Act and the L.A. City Charter because they seemingly contradict each other. He said he did read a part in the Charter where the City Council has the authority to extend leases beyond five years. He also noted he had yet to receive a letter notifying him of the November 22 meeting and he talked to four or five other lessees who hadn't received one either. Yannotta said the City's goal is to work with lessees so their businesses are viable. He said there will be experts from the City Attorney's Office at the November 22 meeting to provide clarity on the CM Brown Act and City Charter and to go through the one-time transfer policy in exhaustive detail. He said LADWP will consider offering longer-term leases if it's appropriate for certain leases. He added that under the CM Brown Act, existing tenants of lawful leases have the opportunity to continue leasing or purchase the properties at a reasonable rate. He also said LADWP will be evaluating which properties it needs and which it doesn't for operational purposes, and it will divest of those it deems unnecessary. Chairperson Griffiths said the order in which these things take place is important; instituting the one-time transfer policy first could negate the other options. Yannotta said the

divestitures would require a lengthy process and would not be considered until next year at the earliest. Chairperson Griffiths asked about the business owners who have been trying to sell their businesses for several years now. Yannotta said he urged those lessees to come to the November 22 meeting to get the process started. He added that the meeting would be the start of lengthy outreach. Chairperson Griffiths said Yannotta has stated that the lease agreement reached with the ranchers was amicable, but a lot of ag lessees he's spoken to said they felt they had to accept it in order to keep any kind of lease. Yannotta responded that some prominent ranchers who he was not going to identify said they appreciated the City coming up with a lease policy they could live with. Chairman Griffiths said he took that to mean they're happy they get to keep a lease but not necessarily happy with the one-time transfer. Supervisor Pucci urged Yannotta to consider opening the November 22 meeting to the public because LADWP might get some valuable feedback from the community at-large. He also said he hears about the need for business lessees to have a specific person to call at the LADWP office. Yannotta said he was surprised to hear that because all lessees should know they can contact the real estate office in Bishop. He said he would reiterate that point on November 22. Supervisor Totheroh asked Yannotta who would buy a business if they couldn't transfer the lease. Yannotta said he couldn't answer that. Supervisor Totheroh said such a policy seems to be inconsistent with his statement that LADWP wants Owens Valley businesses to survive. Yannotta responded that LADWP is trying to comply with the requirements of the City of Los Angeles. County Counsel Marshall Rudolph read from the CM Brown Act where he said it does create the opportunity for a lessee to keep leasing. He said it doesn't mention anything on transferability which means it also doesn't prohibit it. He said he understood the provision as allowing a public agency like LADWP to not have to go through the bidding process if it finds not doing so is in the public interest. Supervisor Tillemans asked Yannotta what he thought the Department's purpose was. Yannotta said providing a reliable source of water to the City of Los Angeles while avoiding environmental impacts in the Owens Valley. Supervisor Tillemans noted that agreements in the Owens Valley that don't serve L.A.'s purpose, like commercial leases, were meant to enhance the local economy. He asked whether there had been another policy change that now saw the City viewing business leases as part of the Department's purpose. Yannotta said the LADWP's core business is delivering water but there are other facets to it. Supervisor Tillemans said the commercial leases are of no benefit to LADWP other than enhancing the local economy to make up for past economic damage. He said if these holdings are truly for enhancing the valley's economy, then other options – lifetime and long-term leases – need to be considered. He said if the lease policy moves forward as presented, it will harm the economy and create more empty buildings. He asked what LADWP planned to do with them. Yannotta reiterated the Department's future plan to look at all properties and consider whether they are needed operationally. If not, Yannotta said, they will be appraised, priced at fair market value, and hopefully sold. Supervisor Kingsley said if L.A. is considering a policy, it should be a policy that sustains business in the Owens Valley. He said if they run Sierra View Trailer Park out of business, a lot of residents will be homeless and there will be yet another vacant eyesore on Main Street. He said the loss of businesses snowballs into loss of services. He also noted that at least once a week somebody will ask him who owns some vacant lot because they want to put a business there and he tells them they can't because LADWP owns it. He said Yannotta knows as well as he does that the process of leasing vacant property from LADWP is too prohibitive. Yannotta said LADWP will do what it can to streamline that process. CAO Carunchio said he thought everyone needed to examine the need to adopt a new policy at all. He said the CM Brown Act has been serving the public interest for 100 years and gives LADWP the right to do whatever it wants with regard to leases. And despite L.A.'s claim that it needs to reconcile past practice with the City Charter, Carunchio said parts of the Charter exempt some departments from those lease requirements and it looks like Water and Power is one of those departments. Yannotta said he would bring Carunchio's question back to city attorneys. Yannotta added that when they talk about the requirements of the City Charter, they're referring to the competitive bidding process. County Counsel Rudolph pointed out again that the entire section he read from the CM Brown Act says L.A. doesn't have to comply with the bidding process if it's in the public interest. Chairperson Griffiths told Yannotta he hoped he and the City understood the impact the one-time transfer policy would have on the Owens Valley. He echoed Supervisor Totheroh's comment nobody is going to buy a business they can't later sell. He said this could be the largest economic impact to the community since L.A.'s original acquiring of Owens Valley land. He said it also sounds like something, according to the County's legal counsel, that doesn't need to be done but something that L.A. is choosing to do. Chairperson Griffiths said it is hard to understand why L.A. would do something that would cause so much harm. He added that if LADWP has to comply with a competitive bidding process, why hasn't it done so with the dozens of empty buildings lining U.S. 395 for so many years? He said he

doesn't have a lot of confidence the sales Yannotta spoke of will happen. He also told Yannotta that if you talk to people on the street wondering why L.A. is doing this, they'll tell you it's because LADWP doesn't want anyone living here. Yannotta said that assertion is 100 percent wrong. Supervisor Totheroh asked Yannotta to prove it through LADWP's future actions, and reminded him that the RM Brown Act was created to mitigate economic harm done by the City 70 years ago. Yannotta thanked the Board and business owners for their input and said it had not fallen on deaf ears. Chairperson Griffiths and Supervisor Tillemans agreed to attend the November 22 meeting on behalf of the entire Board.

RECESS/RECONVENE Chairperson Griffiths recessed the meeting at 12:41 p.m. for lunch and reconvened the meeting in open session at 1:43 p.m. with all Board members present.

RECYCLING & WASTE WEIGHT-BASED FEE WORKSHOP Assistant County Administrator Rick Benson explained the County has been working for several years on an effort to convert to weight-based tipping fees at its landfills. In December 2015 it had a scale installed at the Bishop Sunland Landfill, which accepts 70 percent of the county's waste, in order to ensure fairness and consistency in the fees charged to customers and to improve the accuracy of landfill data reported to the State. Benson said the current system includes a flat rate – \$5/per cubic yard – being charged to the general public based on volume estimates that are later converted to tonnages, which is the industry standard for measuring waste. The Recycling and Waste Management Program spent almost a year collecting data with the scale, weighing more than 3,000 loads that came through the landfill. The loads were divided into eight categories (roll-offs, trash trucks, self-haulers, mixed C&D, etc.) and the data converted to tonnages. Benson said the analysis revealed that self-haulers were paying \$109.72 a ton at \$5/cubic yard while commercial haulers were paying \$15.34 a ton at \$1/cubic yard. Essentially, as Supervisor Totheroh described it, the County was inadvertently overcharging self-haulers and under-charging commercial haulers. Benson said based on this data, staff recommended a new, weight-based fee structure based on a \$50 per ton tipping fee. The rate for self-haulers would remain at \$5 per load up to 200 pounds. Benson said the result would be an estimated annual increase in revenue by \$650,000 – needed if this enterprise fund is ever to be self-sustaining as intended. He said this revenue would primarily come from commercial haulers who have been getting a fantastic deal. He said the \$50/ton – a \$35/ton increase – will have a major impact on commercial haulers and their business models, and the County recognizes that. He said the impact will likely be passed on to these businesses' customers. He said the next step, if the Board decides to implement the new fee structure, is public outreach, so that the County can explain to the haulers' customers why rate increases might be coming their way. He said the Board will also have to pick an implementation date, maybe February 1, and direct staff to bring back a resolution for the new rates. Supervisor Totheroh said the goal of trying to be equitable was easy for him to justify. Rick Vahl of Bishop Waste Disposal said the County is right about the need to true-up rates but thinks the increase should be phased in, since changing from yardage to tonnage will be a big adjustment for commercial haulers. He noted there might be an opportunity to get rid of the floor rate altogether, and added that most self-haulers he knows go to the landfill maybe once a month or less. Dale Comontofski of Preferred Septic and Disposal said he was in favor of the rate increase but would like to see it done so it doesn't hurt the commercial haulers. He also said the floor rate is in place to ensure a level playing field and preserve competition between the only two commercial haulers in the County. He also noted that such an increase will greatly reduce his business' cash flow. He said he anticipates a \$30,000 increase, which he can pass onto customers, but until they pay him he's out an additional \$30,000. He encouraged the County to set a new floor rate. He also said the gate fee of \$5 per load for the public should be raised to \$10 since a lot of self-haulers don't go to the landfill every week. He also said he'd like to see the Board incorporate the new rate structure with the approval of the franchise fee. CAO Carunchio thanked Benson and Scott Eagan for their work on the analysis and proposal. He clarified that the County doesn't want to raise rates but correct the current rates. He added that the Board approved the setting of the floor rate but it is up to the haulers to request adjustments to it and justify what they should be. He said everyone should recognize that it will cost more to have someone come pick up your trash than to drop it off yourself. Carunchio also noted that state law requires disposal of trash at least once a week, so he thought staff's once-a-week self-hauler landfill visits was a reasonable assumption. Supervisor Totheroh said he thought \$50/ton was fair. Supervisor Kingsley said the only issue for him was the lack of scales at the other landfills in the County and asked that their addition be added into a plan for the future. Supervisor Pucci encouraged residents to use the services of waste haulers, and also said everyone at one point will have to self-haul something to the landfill. Benson thanked the commercial haulers for their assistance with the analysis. Supervisor Tillemans said he thought

a tiered approach to the adjustment sounded better. He said the change was not going to be popular but they were elected to make the tough decisions. Chairperson Griffith asked whether the franchise fee and new rate structure could be dealt with at the same time. CAO Carunchio said the handle could be jiggled on some things. Benson was directed to target February 1 as an approval date for both.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Griffiths asked for public comment and there was none.

BOARD AND STAFF REPORTS

Supervisor Kingsley said he attended a workshop hosted by Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District on wildfires and air quality impacts. He said a lot of scientists were in attendance and they did a great job of making the discussion interesting. He said he wished more of the public had attended.

Chairperson Griffiths said he was disappointed nobody from the media was at the workshop, despite it being heavily advertised. He said the workshop was a good presentation that really revealed the extent of the damage done to the forest by beetles and drought.

Supervisor Totheroh said he attended a Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting yesterday in Lone Pine where it was revealed there is an increase in office visits and more calls related to potential suicides. He also said anxiety was reported to be up among minorities as a result of recent political developments.

Supervisor Tillemans said he attended another great Veterans Day Ceremony in Big Pine. He said there was also a meeting of the Big Pine Civic Club last night where members discussed upcoming Christmas activities.

CAO Carunchio told the Board to save the date of December 16 for Administration's annual holiday lunch.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Griffiths adjourned the meeting at 3:18 p.m., to Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: *KEVIN D. CARUNCHIO*
Clerk of the Board

by: _____
Darcy Ellis, Assistant