

# MINUTES



# County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

**March 14, 2017**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:30 a.m., on March 14, 2017, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Mark Tillemans, presiding, Dan Tothoroh, Rick Pucci, Jeff Griffiths and Matt Kingsley.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** Chairperson Tillemans asked for public comment during the first public comment period and there was none.

**CLOSED SESSION** Chairperson Tillemans recessed open session at 8:35 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following items: No. 2 **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS [Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6]** – 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. Agency designated representatives: County Administrative Officer Kevin Carunchio, Assistant County Administrator Rick Benson, Deputy Personnel Director Sue Dishion, County Counsel Marshall Rudolph, and Assistant County Counsel John Vallejo; and No. 3 **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT [Pursuant to Government Code §54957]** – Title: Environmental Health Director, Information Services Director, Health and Human Services Director, and Planning Director.

**OPEN SESSION** Chairperson Tillemans recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:02 a.m. with all Board members present.

**PLEDGE** Assistant Clerk of the Board Ellis led the pledge of allegiance.

**REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION** County Counsel Marshall Rudolph reported that no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** Chairperson Tillemans asked for public comment during the second public comment period. A member of the traveling public who did not introduce himself told the Board about his concerns with the future of Independence now that Subway is closed and travelers have even less incentive to stop if they can’t get something to eat in town. He also said he initially questioned the use of taxpayer money on improvements to Dehy Park, which he doubted travelers are interested in or stop to use, but then learned the project was funded with grant money. He suggested the County invest in banners along main drag to promote cultural activities. Chairperson Tillemans gave the gentlemen his card and said he would be happy to speak with him more on the subject face-to-face.

**COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS** Water Director Dr. Bob Harrington provided an update on the ongoing SGMA workshops with other local eligible agencies. He said Thursday’s workshop in Bishop drew about 60 people representing a broad cross-section of groundwater stakeholders who engaged in a spirited discussion about a Joint Powers Authority Framework the Board adopted on February 21. He said the Bishop City Council took actions last night parallel to those of the Board on February 21, scheduling a public hearing for April 10 to consider becoming a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for its service area and endorsing the multi-agency inclusive Framework as well as the Principles for a multi-agency Groundwater Sustainability Agency arrangement. He said overall, the process for meeting the State’s June 30 deadline for having Groundwater Sustainability Agencies for the entire groundwater basin is moving forward in a timely manner.

Public Works Director Clint Quilter updated the Board on emergency repairs being made to Whitney Portal Road, which should be wrapping up very soon and leading to longer-term repair efforts. He said substantial storm damage has occurred at Horseshoe Meadow Road and fixing it will ultimately require building a new lane.

Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters Kammi Foote said she spent a week in Los Angeles County learning about election technology. She distributed to the Board a copy of Orange County's notice regarding an upcoming Request for Proposals for a new voting system and a related Election Technology Open House set for March 29. Foote said she would be attending as it might be a good opportunity for research. She noted she would be coming back before the Board with another workshop on some of the more realistic technology options for Inyo County.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Anna Scott, HHS Deputy Director-Public Health and Prevention, introduced to the Board new employees Heather Echterling, Office Tech II, and Kelly Nugent, Progress House Residential Caregiver.

**RECYCLING & WASTE  
– STEVE'S AUTO  
BLANKET P.O.  
INCREASE**

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to authorize an increase in the blanket purchase order for Steve's Auto Parts from \$17,000 to \$24,000 for equipment parts; an increase in the blanket purchase order for Dave's Auto from \$17,000 to \$19,000; and an increase in the blanket purchase order for Britt's Diesel from \$10,000 to \$15,000 for vehicle maintenance. Motion carried unanimously.

**RECYCLING & WASTE  
– ROTOCHOPPER  
SOLE-SOURCE**

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) declare Rotochopper a sole-source provider for the purchase of a rotor drum assembly for the wood chipper located at the Bishop-Sunland Landfill; and B) authorize the purchase of a rotor drum assembly from Rotorchopper in the amount of \$16,172 (including freight and sales tax). Motion carried unanimously.

**RECYCLING & WASTE  
– REJECT & AWARD  
CATERPILLAR BID**

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) reject the low bid submitted by Coastline Equipment for not meeting bid specifications in accordance with Inyo County's Purchasing Policy, Chapter V, Section D, paragraph 3; B) award a bid to and approve the purchase of a Caterpillar 725C Series II articulated off-road dump truck in the amount of \$407,295 from Quinn Company of Lancaster, California; and C) authorize the County Administrator or designee to sign all documents relevant to the purchase of the articulated off-road dump truck. Motion carried unanimously.

**HHS-BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH – ANNE SIPPI  
AMENDMENT NO. 1**

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve Amendment No. 1 to the contract between Inyo County Health and Human Services Behavioral Health and Anne Sippi Treatment Group (for residential placement for adults in a locked facility) in an additional amount of \$20,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$70,000 for the period of April 12, 2016 through June 30, 2017, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

**HHS-PUBLIC HEALTH  
– EXTEND TEMP  
NURSE STATUS**

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve an extension to the temporary status of one (1) registered nurse for up to an additional six (6) months, not to exceed September 20, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

**HHS-SOCIAL  
SERVICES – 13  
LAPTOPS & 15  
DOCKING STATIONS**

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve: A) an additional \$591.05 for the purchase of 13 CWS/CMS laptop computers and 15 docking stations from Dell/Premier in an amount not exceed \$16,780.05 plus tax, shipping, and handling costs; and B) an additional \$1,330.38 for the purchase of the operating systems and software licenses from Southern Computer Warehouse in an amount not to exceed \$8,931.52 plus tax, shipping, and handling costs. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC WORKS –  
SORRELLS TRUST  
IRRECOVABLE OFFER  
OF DEDICATION**

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to accept the Irrevocable Offer of Dedication of Road Easements from the Alice Keefer and Charles J. Sorrells Trust. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC WORKS –  
PARCEL MAP NO. 395**

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve Parcel Map No. 395 and accept the Offer of Dedication for a 60-foot right-of-way and four (4) 30-foot rights-of-way for road and utility purposes. Motion carried unanimously.

*PUBLIC WORKS –  
BRANSON TRUST  
OFFICE SPACE LEASE*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) approve a lease with the Bruce and Dorothy Branson Trust for office space at 310 S. Jackson St., Lone Pine, CA 93545 for the period of April 1, 2017 through March 30, 2019 at a cost of \$850 per month for the three-year term with two options to extend for one (1) year in 2019 and 2020 each subject to a potential discretionary increase of no more than 6%; and B) authorize the Chairperson to sign contingent on Board approval of future budgets. Motion carried unanimously.

*PUBLIC WORKS –  
BISHOP AIRPORT  
PAVEMENT &  
FENCING NOC*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve a 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 Bishop Airport-Airfield Pavement Crack Repair, Pavement Sealing and Paint Markings, and Terminal Area Security Fencing Project.” Motion carried unanimously.

*PRESENTATION –  
LOCAL MINING  
INTERESTS RE: BLM  
MINING WITHDRAWAL*

Local mining interests were present to discuss with the Board the potential negative impacts to their current and future operations as a result of the BLM’s two-year prohibition of metallic mineral mining on lands designated California Desert National Conservation Lands in Phase I of the Desert Conservation Renewable Energy Plan. Supervisor Kingsley explained that over the last several weeks he has had a lot of interaction with miners and mining operations to be affected by the metallic mineral mining withdrawal in Southeast Inyo. He has written and received letters on the topic. Steve Emmert of Chatsworth, California said he currently leases more than 300 mining claims over 6,000 contiguous acres on Conglomerate Mesa to Silver Standard Resources of British Columbia, Canada. He said his business has been an active partner in employing residents of Inyo County for the past 20 years. Environmental studies have indicated no plant or animal species or cultural artifacts are directly impacted by his mining claims, he said, which are located on lands that were released from Wilderness Study Area status because of their mining potential. He said state law further requires reclamation efforts to restore the landscape to its pre-mining condition once mining operations have ceased. He said if the withdrawal stays in place, it will essentially eliminate any new mining and he strongly encouraged the Board to consider the withdrawal’s economic impacts. Chairperson Tillemans said he toured the Briggs Mine a couple of years ago and was unable to detect previously mined areas that had been reclaimed. Angela Johnson, Project Geologist with Silver Standard Resources, said she was speaking on behalf of Silver Standard and other exploration companies likely to be affected by the BLM mining withdrawal. She spoke about their Perdito Project, which is already in the approval process and will allow Silver Standard to drill exploratory holes at several sites this summer. The plan was to analyze the samples over the winter and if they like what they saw, apply for extraction permits. However, the withdrawal would prohibit metallic mineral mining in the entire historic mining district, which they believe is rich with potential not just for Silver Standard but for other companies. Silver Standard is planning to bring \$2.47 million into California’s economy, which could attract other companies to the state. She said Silver Standard could potentially be a huge employer for the County, and has and will continue to mitigate impacts where they exist. Earl Wilson of Lone Pine said he asked Russell Scofield, Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan Implementation Coordinator for the BLM, what would happen to additional mining claims under Phase II of the DRECP and his answer was vague. He said the idea of reactivating mining districts has been discussed at the BLM Roundtables. Wilson urged the County to keep at a seat at the table to avoid becoming a part of the menu. Adena Fansler, the County’s retired Associate Planner in charge of mining reclamation oversight for 16 years, said there is room for mining as well as other land uses in Inyo County. She said mining is people’s livelihoods and hopes the Board fights to save room for it. Supervisor Kingsley said what confuses him is the ongoing actions to curtail mining when 95 percent of the land is wilderness and less than .01 percent of the land is disturbed by mining. He said the landscape is well protected and it’s just as important to protect mining as a historic use and for economic reasons. He said he’s not a mining fanatic but he does not support precluding it as a multiple use. The Board agreed to move on to the next agenda item and discuss possible approval of a letter urging policymakers to rescind the mining withdrawal.

*PLANNING – BLM  
MINING WITHDRAWAL  
COMMENT LETTER*

Interim Planning Director Cathreen Richards offered some background on the mining withdrawal as a refresher for the Board. It was first discussed before the Board during a January 10, 2017 presentation by Russell Scofield, Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) Implementation Coordinator for the BLM, and new California Desert District Manager Beth Ransel. The Board learned at that time that the Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior plans to withdraw 270,110 acres of public land in Inyo County from “metallic mineral”

mining, and prohibits – through a segregation of that land from United States mining laws – any new “metallic mineral” mining in that vast area for the next two years. During that two-year period, the BLM will be performing an environmental analysis to determine whether a 20-year withdrawal is justified. The segregation/withdrawal is taking place under Phase I of the DRECP. Richards noted there are two additional phases yet to come. She said the County is also concerned about a 1 percent disturbance cap to be placed on these same lands, especially since the BLM has determined that roads will be counted towards that cap. This could prevent the County from repairing damaged roads within its road network. She said the letter mentions concerns about road maintenance as well as impacts to the economy with the curtailing of mining activity. Supervisor Griffiths noted that the BLM itself doesn’t know how it will determine units of disturbance, and said even campgrounds could be counted against the disturbance cap. He also provided background on the process that led to the County being assured there would be no mineral withdrawal and then finding out at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour that not only was that not true, but it would be impacting the most mineral rich areas of the County. He called staff’s comment letter to the BLM a good letter, and Supervisor Totheroh said it had his support. Supervisor Pucci said he liked the details from Supervisor Kingsley’s personal letter to the Acting Secretary of the Interior. Supervisor Griffiths noted that the draft letter up for consideration today is specifically taking a different approach by pointing out Phase I’s inconsistencies with the County’s General Plan and requesting official coordination with the BLM. CAO Carunchio said staff’s draft letter takes the important first step in demanding coordination and states very clearly that it hasn’t happened yet. Carunchio also suggested a series of edits to the letter. Supervisor Totheroh concurred. Fred Johnson, PG, SME RM, of Industrial Mineral Developments, Inc., said his mining claims in Southeast Inyo have been impacted by the segregation. He said Inyo County can’t survive economically on tourism alone, and believes every year more and more regulations are placed on mining in an attempt to eliminate it altogether, which he doesn’t understand in a country with the best environmental record and best protections already in place. In response to a question from Clerk-Recorder Kammi Foote, he said if a miner fails to file any documents on time, he will lose his claim and, under the segregation, the right to mine on that claim. Stephen Mulqueen of St. George, Utah, a geologist and former longtime Southern California resident, added that it seems like every year a little more land is lost to public interest, and the BLM’s annual land grabs need to stop. He said mining needs to once again be a vibrant industry in Inyo County. Chairperson Tillemans pointed to the fact that mining operations are already subject to strict reclamation laws, and thanked Supervisor Kingsley for bringing this issue to the Board. Supervisor Kingsley said he was in agreement with CAO Carunchio’s edits and noted that he might re-work his previous letter to send as part of the current comment period, which ends March 27. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to prepare the letter for the Chairperson’s signature, and sent with the recommended edits. Motion carried unanimously.

*PRESENTATION –  
LADWP 2017 RUN-OFF  
PROJECTIONS*

CAO Carunchio introduced a presentation on 2017 runoff projections from Jim Yannotta, Northern Division Aqueduct Manager, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, by noting that the storms this year have caused quite a bit of damage, including to Whitney Portal and Horse Meadow Roads, and \$4 million in damage to DWP power poles. In preparation for the runoff, the County has already started emergency pre-planning, holding meetings with DWP, the City of Bishop, and Southern California Edison. He said the Office of Emergency Services has scheduled a meeting with Tribal representatives so everyone is on the same page about keeping conveyance systems clear. He told the Board Los Angeles is considering a proactive emergency proclamation, but irrespective of that, the runoff will likely be beyond the County’s capabilities to protect life and property, so the Supervisors should expect a local proclamation in the next week or two. Yannotta said that while all of the water has been good after five years of drought, a snowpack that’s 243 percent of normal as of March 1 will create more runoff than they can handle. He said the key to dealing with so much water will be cooperation from other agencies and so far DWP has received great cooperation from the U.S. Forest Service, Lahontan Water Quality Control Board, and Bureau of Land Management as it spreads excess water along the valley floor. He said they anticipate the runoff to start coming in earnest in April, May, and June. DWP is running a full flow down the Gorge to prevent the Crowley reservoir from spilling – a No. 1 priority for the department. He noted that ranchers will get their full allotment of irrigation water this year, and have already started receiving water which Greg Loveland of DWP said will not count against their allotment. He said he anticipates in 7-10 days the Mayor of Los Angeles will issue a proclamation that an emergency exists on lands adjacent to the aqueduct in Inyo, Mono, Kern, and Los Angeles counties. He said DWP is also meeting with Great Basin Air Pollution Control District because, historically, in very wet years a lot of water flows onto the dry lake. He said a number of agencies will be involved in that discussion.

Yannotta said the peak flows estimated to be coming the down from the creeks are 1,000 cubic feet per second; the aqueduct's maximum capacity is 900 cfs, when he said water begins touching the bottoms of bridges. He said from the McNally Canals area in the north to Haiwee Reservoir in the south, DWP is either spreading or diverting water to relieve pressure on the aqueduct. He said DWP is being careful not to saturate the valley floor too much now, however, so the water doesn't just flood indiscriminately later in the summer. Supervisor Kingsley said that makes sense but putting more water down now might also make the ground capable of holding more later on. Supervisor Griffiths said a big concern for his constituents is the mosquito problem that will result from the excess water and asked what considerations DWP is making for standing water or the County's vector control efforts. Yannotta said he wasn't sure but it would be discussed. Supervisor Griffiths switched topics and asked Yannotta if there is any update on when the Board can expect to hear something on DWP's commercial leases throughout Inyo County and what the new policy is going to look like. Yannotta said the Department sent its commercial lessees a questionnaire and about 65 percent responded. Of those, about half are interested in purchasing their businesses in the next five years. He said DWP is trying to contract with someone familiar with local properties to get reasonable appraisals while still adhering to the City Charter, and is looking into releasing properties not being used for operational purposes. Chairperson Tillemans said because Yannotta has pull with DWP headquarters, he should take advantage of the opportunity to do what is right and help the Big Pine Paiute Tribe get its irrigation water. Yannotta said he would do what he could to work with locals while staying within his mandates. Supervisor Pucci said there will be a need to educate the public about the coming runoff because a lot of residents will not have seen anything like this before. He said it will require close coordination among agencies. Supervisor Kingsley noted he thought a lot of people are looking at these near-historic runoff levels as an opportunity to recharge the groundwater and save the trees. Jill Paydon, Big Pine Tribal Administrator, said the Tribe watched about 75 percent of irrigation water last year run off across DWP land, wasted, even though it was measured as being delivered to the Tribe. She said the water leaked out of pipes on DWP land and the Tribe is asking DWP to fix it so it can receive its water. Sally Manning, Big Pine Tribe Environmental Director, said the Tribe has not been getting its full allotment for the past couple years because of the broken pipe, which as far as she can tell DWP has still done nothing to fix despite Tribal requests. Paul Huetter, utility operator, Tribal member and a member of the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission, said the Tribe has tried working with DWP management but they are all talk. He said he considers DWP a slum lord who will not fix a pipe on their own land. He noted that DWP is not doing the valley a favor by spreading water and would take all of it if it would fit down the aqueduct. He said a contingent would be attending the March 21 meeting of the Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners and would hope for a letter of support from the Inyo County Board of Supervisors. He thanked the Board for hearing the Tribe's concerns and said the Tribe is here to help as well. Supervisor Griffiths asked whether the Tribe would have the pipe fixed by April 1. Yannotta said it would be inappropriate to comment because negotiations are still in progress. Huetter responded that as far as the Tribe is concerned negotiations are over because DWP has made the proposed agreement so one-sided. Earl Wilson of Lone Pine agreed with an earlier comment by Chairperson Tillemans that there are "holes" in the water spreading scheme that can be filled to the benefit of long-dry areas. He urged DWP to get the water table back up and use this opportunity to meet its Long-Term Water Agreement commitments.

*DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
– DOCUMENT  
DESTRUCTION  
POLICY*

District Attorney Tom Hardy explained to the Board that with his office's emergency relocation this past winter because of storm damage at the former Bishop office, staff discovered files and documents no longer needed. He noted that his predecessors would bring forward resolutions for document destruction on a certain schedule and his resolution establishes a policy wherein he would implement a regular program for document destruction without having to obtain continuous Board approval. He also noted that with the new integrated case management system being installed, all files will be saved electronically and will always exist in some digital form. He added that most D.A.'s Office documents, except what's cited in the resolution, get destroyed anyway. Supervisor Griffiths asked whether Hardy ever makes findings of historical significance with regard to documents. He said it's no secret the file on the Manson case lives on the floor of his office because as soon as they put it somewhere, someone will ask for it. He said he did build a provision into the policy that allows the D.A. to save anything appearing to have historical significance. Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Tothoroh to approve a resolution titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors for Inyo County, State of California, Authorizing Adoption of a Policy by the Inyo County District Attorney for the Destruction of Certain Documents, Papers and Files in the Possession of the Inyo County District Attorney" (4/5ths vote required). Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**HHS-BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH – PROGRAM  
CHIEF**

Anna Scott, HHS Deputy Director-Public Health and Prevention, said the Behavioral Health Program Chief position has been filled by a very capable candidate the past 16 years who is planning to retire this summer, thus HHS is asking to backfill the position. Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of non-General Funds for a Program Chief in the HHS Behavioral Health Division exists in the non-General Fund Mental Health budget, as certified by the HHS Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) whereas it is unlikely that the Program Chief position could be filled by internal candidates meeting the qualifications of the position, an open recruitment would be more appropriate to ensure qualified applicants apply for the specialized position; and C) approve the hiring of one (1) Program Chief at Range 84 (\$6,131 - \$7,451). Motion carried unanimously.

**HHS-ESAAA/IC-GOLD  
– B-PAR PROGRAM  
SERVICES  
ASSISTANT II**

Anna Scott, HHS Deputy Director-Public Health and Prevention, said filling the vacant B-PAR Program Services Assistant II position in the ESAAA/IC-GOLD program will allow for the resumption of home visits. Supervisor Kingsley said he knows they have been missed. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of non-General Funds for the position of B-Par Program Services Assistant II exists in the non-General Fund Mental Health budget, as certified by the HHS Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) where due to the part-time nature of this position it is unlikely that the position could be filled by internal candidates meeting the qualifications of the position, an open recruitment would be more appropriate to ensure qualified applicants apply; and C) approve the hiring of one (1) B-Par PSA II at Range 42PT (\$12.26 - \$14.91/hr.), depending on qualifications. Motion carried unanimously.

**SHERIFF – DOMESTIC  
CANNABIS LOA**

Supervisor Griffiths noted this was a routine item of business and made the motion, with Supervisor Totheroh providing the second, to approve the 2017 Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program Letter of Agreement in the amount of \$5,000, authorize Sheriff Lutze to sign the agreement and all necessary paperwork and authorize Treasurer-Tax Collector Alisha McMurtrie to sign as the authorize agency representative to enable electronic fund transfer when available, contingent upon adoption of the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 budget. Motion carried unanimously.

**SHERIFF – DEPUTY  
SHERIFF AND  
CORRECTIONAL  
OFFICER**

Sergeant Eric Pritchard explained that two members of the Department left to work for other agencies, leaving two vacancies that need to be filled. Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Pucci for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funds for one (1) Deputy Sheriff and one (1) Correctional Officer position exists in the General Fund, as certified by the Sheriff and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; where internal candidates may meet the qualifications for the positions and the positions could be filled by an internal recruitment, an open recruitment is more appropriate to ensure the positions are filled with the most qualified candidates; C) approve the hiring of one (1) Deputy Sheriff, Range 67SA-SC (\$4,317 - \$5,791), and authorize up to the D step for a qualified lateral applicant; and D) approve the hiring of one (1) Correctional Officer, Range 64 (\$3,810 - \$4,630). Motion carried unanimously.

**SHERIFF –  
ADAMSON'S  
INDUSTRIES SOLE-  
SOURCE & BUDGET  
AMENDMENT**

Sergeant Eric Pritchard said that because of turnover and other factors, additional funds are needed to obtain new ballistic vests for new hires. COPS funding will be used. Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) declare Adamson's Industries of Los Alamitos as the sole-source provider and approve the purchase of 20 ballistic vests for new hires and the replacement of outdated equipment in the amount of \$16,776.68; and B) amend the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Sheriff General Budget (Budget 022700) and Jail General Budget (Budget 022900) as follows: increase estimated revenue in Sheriff General Budget (Budget 022700) COPS (Revenue Code 4488) by \$3,356 and Jail General Budget (Budget 022900) COPS (Revenue Code 4488) by \$3,356 and increase appropriation in Sheriff General Budget (Budget 022700) Personal and Safety Equipment (Object Code 5112) by \$3,356 and Jail General Budget (Budget 022900) Personal and Safety Equipment (Object Code 5112) by \$3,356 (4/5ths vote required). Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**PARKS & REC – JOB DESCRIPTION/HIRE OF PARK AND CAMPGROUND ATTENDANT**

Assistant County Administrator Rick Benson said it was determined the seasonal maintenance worker assigned to Diaz Lake would need to perform additional duties – such as interacting with the public, checking in guests, performing quagga mussel defense activities, and therefore would need a different skill set. The pay grade will be the same, he said, as the traditional position. He said the new position was anticipated in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget. Supervisor Kingsley said it would be great if all seasonal park and campground workers were working with this skill set. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh for the Board to: A) create and approve the job description for Park and Campground Attendant Range 50PT; B) find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: 1) the availability of funding for the requested position comes from the General Fund, as certified by the Assistant Deputy County Administrator, and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; 2) where due to the seasonal nature of the position it is unlikely that the position could be filled by internal candidates meeting the qualifications for the position, an open recruitment is appropriate to ensure qualified applicants apply; and 3) approve the hiring of one seasonal Park and Campground Attendant, Range PT50 (\$14.75 - \$17.91), contingent upon Board approval of future budgets. Motion carried unanimously.

**CLERK OF THE BOARD – APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meetings of February 7, 2017 and February 14, 2017. Motion carried unanimously.

**RECESS FOR LUNCH**

Chairperson Tillemans recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:52 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 1:29 p.m. with all Board members present.

**WORKSHOP – HHS/PROBATION JUVENILE SERVICES REDESIGN UPDATE**

HHS Director Jean Turner and Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thompson presented an almost four-hour long presentation to the Board on the ongoing Juvenile Services Redesign effort which officially began in August 2016 with the Board approving the *Area Resource Center Plan for Serving Children, Juveniles and Their Families* that the Departments of Probation and Health and Human Services were directed to develop in the Spring 2016. Approval of the Plan included approving the individual Agreements between Inyo County and Tulare, Kern, El Dorado and Nevada counties for bed space for out-of-county placements of detained/committed Inyo County youth; approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Inyo, Inyo County Board of Education, Inyo County Superintendent of Schools, and Bishop Unified School District Regarding The Provision of Juvenile Services And The Operation of A Court School; and directing that mid-week intakes of detained youth (e.g., 72-hour holds) who are deemed to be low-level offenders and who do not pose a community safety risk are to be accomplished first through local Foster/Relative Homes and then at out-of-county facilities; and, the Inyo County Juvenile Center not be used for mid-week intakes or 72-hour holds. Thomson said HHS and Probation are changing the way they do business, and have done quite a bit of work in a short amount of time, with plenty of work still to go. Turner and Thomson recognized the people who have been instrumental in helping to implement program changes, including case workers, probation officers, managers, and foster parents. Gail Zwier, Director of Behavioral Health, and Marilyn Mann, Assistant HHS Director, reviewed staffing changes and system conversion needs. Turner explained it has been difficult keeping mission-focused and bringing the workforce along, and said it has meant constantly evaluating and re-evaluating training needs. She said new job roles and requires interfering with workers' personal lives has been difficult to adjust to, and talented managers who have been able to frame the redesign mission as a top priority deserve all the praise for inspiring staff. Thomson said adjusting to non-traditional hours has also been a shift for Probation since they usually work Monday through Friday, 8-5. He said ideally, they would like to try and prevent the need for after-hours calls by preventing crises ahead of time. However, if a juvenile has an issue, they will have someone at the ready. Thomson reviewed Probation's current juvenile caseload, noting there is one juvenile in specialized placement because he failed his first placement. He said there has been disagreement between Probation and HHS regarding whether placement is appropriate in some cases but said he believed they were close to reaching common ground. Thomson added that they are working with evidence-based practices and sanctions are a critical component to that. If a juvenile violates probation, a warrant can be requested for their arrest. He said if they decide to remove a child from the home, they know to find the least restrictive option that's going to meet the child's needs. First would be a relative's home, then a resource family, then maybe a group home for the short-term, or a court-ordered facility for commitment. He said the total bed cost to the County so far has been \$20,970 for 140 days of detention – well below what the County budgeted. He noted that in the past five months, Probation has had four call-outs with 1 requiring a location response and none requiring detention, with the exception of the

juvenile reporting to the detention center on warrants. Supervisor Griffiths said that the number seemed awfully low and said it could be a problem if there's a perception among law enforcement that there's no need to detain problem juveniles because there's no place to put them. He said juveniles still need to be assessed for their own safety and that of the public, and there are people on call trained to deal with them even if Juvenile Hall is closed during the week. Thomson said outreach efforts would be redoubled. Regarding Court School, six students have been ordered to attend and four are currently attending. Supervisor Totheroh mentioned the concern that youth would start using drugs and alcohol again if they were not held in Juvenile Hall 24/7. Probation Officer Mark Olson said they are testing positive. Thomson said it's a dilemma whether to impose sanctions on these kids or refer them to treatment. He did add that 20 to 25 additional youth not in the Probation system are receiving services at Jill Kinmont Boothe School, and students are starting to reach out to administration for help with their substance abuse and other issues. Supervisor Kingsley said he was disappointed that none of these efforts were happening in the South County schools, and he is hearing the same disappointment from constituents. Thomson said that while there are no kids on Probation in Big Pine or Owens Valley, the programs would be expanding south in the next couple weeks. He stressed that with limited staffing and resources, he wanted to make sure they had a well-established game plan before expanding to other communities. Turner noted that a survey was being presented to Inyo County Jail inmates to help HHS, Probation, law enforcement, and educators determine some of the exact factors that led to these local residents ending up in jail, and how they might be addressed in local youth. Supervisor Kingsley said he thought that was a great idea but said he still saw the cultural shift in the departments as a major issue, and even continued to see a rift between the departments. Thomson said integration has been a challenge but he is hopeful agreement can be reached. Supervisor Griffiths said that even within his own family, Mom and Dad don't always agree on the case management of a child, but he commends the employees for not just undertaking difficult work but also enduring dramatic changes in their job descriptions, philosophies, and hours. Thomson noted that meetings between the departments and allied agencies and institutions are happening on a regular basis. Samantha Rottner, FIRST Supervisor, said she switched to HHS from Probation after 20 years not because she doesn't respect what Probation does but because she firmly believes in the Wraparound approach. She said instead of sending kids to Juvenile Hall on weekends – sometimes so long after their arrest that the punishment feels disconnected from the crime they committed – they should be made to stay home under electronic monitoring. She said sanctions would still be imposed, youth will not be taken out of their homes, and staff time will not be spent keeping the detention facility open for a single youth. Supervisor Kingsley suggested she return in the future with more information about her proposal. Additional staff members spoke about their experiences in both Probation and HHS. The Board also heard from longtime foster care provider Freda Lindsey, who noted the redesign is new to foster parents as well. Supervisor Totheroh praised Probation for taking the initiative to work with youth outside of Probation, and commended staff members for moving outside of their comfort zones. Supervisor Pucci commended all of the staff members in the room, noting that having youth voluntarily seek help for their issues is huge. Chairperson Tillemans said it is great to have these programs up and running and said staff has to get beyond the scheduling issues because they need to be available to youth when school is not in session. CAO Carunchio said he would schedule monthly check-ins for the Board on the progress of the Juvenile Services Redesign. He too commended all staff members present, but noted that it seems like Probation resources are transitioning to cover things that could be paid for through non-General Fund HHS programs.

**BOARD MEMBERS  
AND STAFF REPORTS**

Supervisor Kingsley said he wanted to poll his fellow Supervisors about holding a Board meeting in Tecopa in May. He attended a meeting of the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District last Thursday where there was good discussion about impacts to the dry lake from the impending runoff. He said he plans to take a tour of the lake with City staff. He also noted that he and Supervisor Griffiths met with members of the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe yesterday in Bishop for an update on the Tribe's marijuana operation at Death Valley Junction, which is proceeding as planned. He said it appears the Tribe is interested in working with the County where possible.

Supervisor Totheroh said he attended the Groundwater Sustainability Agency workshop in Bishop, thinking the context was now there for bringing everything together that is required under the State Groundwater Management Act. However, at the meeting he heard suggestions ranging from having the County take over, to establishing a committee with 60 members with voting rights. He said he'd be attending the Quad State meeting in Primm, Nevada on Friday,



and mentioned the cannabis meeting held in Rovana had low attendance. He said the next cannabis meeting for District 1 would be in the Northern Inyo Hospital Board room on March 16.

Supervisor Griffiths said he attended a CSAC regional meeting last week where SGMA was also discussed and it was apparent the difference is vast in the way the Central Valley and Inyo County are approaching the law. He said the week before he attended a Sierra Nevada Conservancy Board meeting in Sacramento with 300 people in attendance. The topic was forest health. Griffiths discussed the most recent City Council meeting, where they took SGMA actions, had a robust discussion on short-term vacation rentals, and a substantial discussion on possible adoption of a value statement that Bishop is a place that welcomes all people. He said no action was taken and it is unclear whether the Council will support the statement or not. Supervisor Griffiths received the Citizen of the Quarter at the same meeting.

CAO Carunchio said the wisdom of the Board's actions on February 21 regarding SGMA spoke volumes at the SGMA workshop. He said unfortunately, it seems the groups the County has gone out of its way to include have been the most divergent from the proposal put forth.

Chairperson Tillemans noted the County kicked off its community cannabis forums in Big Pine with a well-attended meeting. He said he attended the Cattleman's Association Dinner and planned to attend the next District 4 cannabis meeting tomorrow in Independence.

*ADJOURN*

Chairperson Tillemans adjourned the meeting 4:49 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at the County Administrative Center in Independence.

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Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

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

by: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Darcy Ellis, Assistant*