

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

January 28, 2020

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 10:00 a.m., on January 28, 2020, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Matt Kingsley, presiding, Dan Totheroh, Jeff Griffiths, and Rick Pucci. Absent: Mark Tillemans.

Pledge County Counsel Marshall Rudolph led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment Chairperson Kingsley asked for public comment during the first public comment period.

Linda Chaplin of Independence shared her concern about national chain stores setting up shop along U.S. 395 with signage and other trappings that might be in conflict with a community's overall character and make a bad impression on the traveling public. She cited the new shoe store at the south end of Independence as a specific example. Chaplin noted that the community of Lone Pine has architectural guidelines in place, but asked the Board to think about countywide guidelines.

County Department Reports HHS Director Marilyn Mann distributed to the Board a flyer on influenza and a packet titled, "Inyo County Health and Human Services' Stories of Strengthening Resilience and Well-Being in our Community." She updated the Board on the current flu season locally and nationally; reported that there are at least 41 individuals enrolled in the EMT course hosted by the Big Pine Volunteer Fire Department; and said her department will be holding its annual all-staff day this Friday.

Planning Director Cathreen Richards reported that the BLM has published the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Haiwee Geothermal Leasing Area Project in Inyo County, opening the 30-day public comment period. She said staff reviewed the document and determined most of the County's comments were included and she does not recommend sending a protest letter.

Public Works Director Mike Errante reported that the second scoping meeting for the Bishop Airport was held in Mammoth last night. He said he and Associate Engineer Ashley Helms will be traveling to meet with FAA staff in Southern California this week and that standing meetings have been arranged between the County and FAA.

Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson updated the Board on his department's goings-on, including Probation staff continuing to work in the schools, the development of an anger management course for youth at Jill Kinmont Boothe School, a Drug Court graduation on February 19, and staff making a presentation at the Death Valley school about the pitfalls and dangers of social media.

Ag Commissioner Nate Reade provided an update on the latest round of commercial cannabis licensing, noting that he will be bringing applications forward for Board approval in mid-February.

Introductions Environmental Health Director Kathe Barton introduced to the Board new Environmental Health Technician Ana Tobio, and Treasurer-Tax Collector Alisha McMurtrie introduced new Office Technician I Aide Hernandez Torres.

Ag Commissioner-ESWMA – 2 Seasonal Field Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for the requested positions exists, as certified by the Agricultural Commissioner and concurred

Assistants

with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) although internal candidates meet the qualifications for the positions and the vacancies could possibly be filled through internal recruitment, an open recruitment would be more appropriate; and C) approve the hiring of two (2) seasonal Field Assistants 01, Range 050PT (\$15.66 - \$19.01/hr.), from April 5, 2020 through September 30, 2020, contingent upon the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

Ag Commissioner-OVMAP – 4 Field Assistant 01’s

Ag Commissioner Nate Reade said the salary range listed in his staff report and on the agenda for this item is misstated and that it should be \$15.66 - \$19.01 an hour. Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to accept the correction, and for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for the requested positions exists, as certified by the Agricultural Commissioner and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) although internal candidates meet the qualifications for the positions and the vacancies could possibly be filled through internal recruitment, an open recruitment would be more appropriate; and C) approve the hiring of four (4) seasonal Field Assistants 01, Range 050PT (\$15.66 - \$19.01/hr.), from April 5, 2020 through September 30, 2020, contingent upon the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budgets. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

Ag Commissioner-ESWMA – Noxious Weed Grant Applications/Reso # 2020-04

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve and authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution No. 2020-04, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California Approving the Application for Grant Funds from the California Department of Food and Agriculture under the 2020 Noxious Weed Grant Program," authorizing the Agricultural Commissioner to submit two grant applications to the California Department of Food and Agriculture in the amount of up to \$40,000 each. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

Information Services – CFS and ABM Master Lease

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve and authorize the Information Services Director to sign the Master Lease Agreement and maintenance agreement for managed multi-function machines through Canon Financial Services and American Business Machines for a 48-month term and an annual amount of \$125,000 plus any per-copy overage fees. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

Parks & Recreation – Per Capita Grant Applications/Reso # 2020-05

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve Resolution No. 2020-05, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Approving Application(s) for Per Capita Grant Funds," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

Treasurer-Tax Collector – 2020 Statement of Investment Policy

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve the 2020 Statement of Investment Policy. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

Treasurer-Tax Collector – 2020 Investment Authority/Reso # 2020-06

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve Resolution No. 2020-06, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo Delegating to the County Treasurer its Investment Authority Pursuant to Section 53607 of the Government Code," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

Parks & Recreation – Prop 68 Project Approval

Assistant County Administrator Leslie Chapman presented the Board with options for using the balance of the County’s Prop 68 per capita allocation since the estimated cost for the previously approved Diaz Lake potable water project is \$285,000, leaving a minimum of \$115,000 for one or more additional projects. She also explained that the County’s per capita allocation will be at least \$400,000, but could be more, and when the allocation is made there will be a short turnaround time for the County to apply for the funds. Chapman presented the recommendation that the minimum per capita allocation be used for the already approved Diaz Lake project and a project to repair the water system at Laws Railroad Museum, estimated at \$105,500. She said those two projects have risen to the top of the stack because of their priority based on the Guiding Principles for park maintenance and improvement that the Board adopted in December. She explained that doing both projects will leave a balance of \$9,500 in the minimum allocation and staff needs to plan for spending that balance and any additional

per capita funding that the State may add to the minimum allocation. Chapman said staff has identified additional projects that can be completed if the State allocates additional funds. She presented the option of repairing and reroofing buildings at Laws Museum (at an estimate of \$7,000 to \$10,000 per roof on each of the 10 buildings), noting that the County can prioritize the repairs according to available funding. Chapman also presented the option of installing vault toilets at Diaz Lake, for an estimated \$60,000. Board members discussed project priority and funding sources to cover the additional projects beyond whatever can be used from the per capita allocation. Chapman cautioned that there will not be enough per capita allocation to complete both the vault toilet and Laws repair/roofing projects, and the Board has previously identified countywide priorities for the \$250,000 in the Parks Rehabilitation and Development Trust. Additional discussion ensued, with the Board concluding the County could do all or a portion of the additional projects at both sites by tapping into up to \$100,000 of the budget set-aside for parks and the money already earmarked for Laws in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget – after using all available Prop 68 per capita funding so that none goes unspent.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to:

- A) Include both the Diaz Lake and Laws Railroad water projects and other projects up to the full amount allocated in the Prop 68 grant application;
- B) Approve the prioritization of the five projects in the following order:
 - 1. Diaz Lake and Laws Railroad Museum water systems
 - 2. Vault toilets at Diaz Lake
 - 3. Re-roofing buildings at Laws Railroad Museum
 - 4. Repair and restoration of historic Laws Railroad Museum buildings; and
- C) Authorize the expenditure of up to \$100,000 from the Parks Rehabilitation and Development Trust for the Diaz Lake vault toilet and Laws Museum roofing/building restoration and repairs projects, plus the \$50,000 allocated specifically for Laws Museum in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget.

Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

*HHS-Behavioral
Health – NPLH
Allocation Reso #
2020-07 & Silver
Peaks MOU*

HHS Director Marilyn Mann presented for approval a request to put the County's \$500,000 No Place Like Home allocation toward the Silver Peaks project affordable housing project, and to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Silver Peaks, LLC to provide \$50,000 in NPLH technical assistance funding to Silver Peaks, LLC so it can close escrow on the land. Board members asked questions about the funding and the project, including the five units reserved for Inyo County HHS clients, and whether the LLC will be ready to start building once it receives the funding. Supervisor Griffiths said he understood Silver Peaks to be putting together a development package right now and that getting the money together for the land acquisition has been the most difficult part of the project. Supervisor Pucci asked whether the housing is for veterans as well, and was informed there is a separate project being developed right across the street from Silver Peaks for veterans, although Silver Peaks will be open to all qualifying low-income residents. Mann added that because it is a challenge to find affordable housing in Inyo County, the units at Silver Peaks will fill up quickly. Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve and authorize the Chairperson to sign Resolution No. 2020-07, declaring the County's intent to use the \$500,000 No Place Like Home (NPLH) non-competitive allocation to fund the "Silver Peaks" 72-unit affordable housing complex; and B) approve and authorize the HHS Director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between Inyo County HHS and Silver Peaks, LLC to provide \$50,000 in NPLH technical assistance funding to Silver Peaks, LLC to close escrow on the land for Silver Peaks. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

*HHS – Bakersfield
Behavioral
Healthcare Hospital
Contract Ratification*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to ratify and approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Bakersfield Behavioral Healthcare Hospital, LLC for acute psychiatric inpatient services in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 and authorize Chairperson to sign the contract and the HHS Director or designee to sign the HIPAA Business Associate Agreement. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

Public Comment

Chairperson Kingsley asked for public comment during the final public comment period.

Linda Chaplin of Independence brought to the Board's attention an incident over the recent holiday that occurred in Washington in which motorists were trapped under tumbleweeds blown about by a winter storm. She said tumbleweeds are an ongoing problem worthy of the County's continued attention.

Board Member and Staff Reports

Supervisor Pucci said he attended last week's Planning Commission meeting and the annual Death Valley Inyo Associates Meeting over the weekend, and offered his congratulations that ground is being broken on the Consolidated Office Building 12 years after it was proposed.

Supervisor Totheroh said he attended a USFS meeting last week on roads, as well as the Bishop Airport scoping meeting and a Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting, and has an Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council meeting on Wednesday.

Supervisor Griffiths reported that the Eastern Sierra Foundation is covering the full tuition and book costs for 29 of the students enrolled in the current EMT course. He also said he attended a First 5 meeting, attended the District 4 candidates' forum in Big Pine, went to the airport scoping meeting, attended the first part of the annual Death Valley Inyo Associates meeting and then judged the local Pinewood Derby and watched the Missoula Children's Theatre production, and attended last night's City Council meeting.

CAO Quilter said he attended the airport scoping meeting in Mammoth last night, noting work on the environmental document can now begin. He also clarified that ground has not been broken on the Consolidated Office Building; rather, the lot is being cleared in anticipation of the groundbreaking, for which the County will hold an official ceremony.

Chairperson Kingsley said he attended Inyo Associates in Death Valley as well as some of the other meetings and events mentioned, and also met with LADWP and USFS staff last Friday about watershed protection.

Adjournment

Chairperson Kingsley adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 4, 2020 in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: CLINT G. QUILTER
Clerk of the Board*

by: _____
Darcy Ellis, Assistant