

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

February 4, 2020

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 9:00 a.m., on February 4, 2020, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Matt Kingsley, presiding, Dan Tothoroh, Jeff Griffiths, Rick Pucci, and Mark Tillemans.

- Public Comment* Chairperson Kingsley asked for public comment during the first public comment period and there was no-one wishing to address the Board.
- Closed Session* Chairperson Kingsley recessed open session at 9:00 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following items: No. 2 **CONFERENCE WITH COUNTY'S LABOR NEGOTIATORS [Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6]** – Regarding employee organizations: Deputy Sheriff's Association (DSA); Elected Officials Assistant Association (EOAA); Inyo County Correctional Officers Association (ICCOA); Inyo County Employees Association (ICEA); Inyo County Probation Peace Officers Association (ICPPOA); IHSS Workers; Law Enforcement Administrators' Association (LEAA). Unrepresented employees: all. County designated representatives – Administrative Officer Clint Quilter, Assistant County Administrator Leslie Chapman, Deputy Personnel Director Sue Dishion, County Counsel Marshall Rudolph, Health and Human Services Director Marilyn Mann, and Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson.
- Open Session* Chairperson Kingsley recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:00 a.m. with all Board members present.
- Pledge* Supervisor Tothoroh led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Report on Closed Session* County Counsel Rudolph reported that no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported.
- Public Comment* Chairperson Kingsley asked for public comment during the second public comment period and there was no-one wishing to address the Board.
- County Department Reports* Chairperson Kingsley opened up the floor to County Department Reports and there was no-one wishing to address the Board.
- Introduction* Public Works Director Mike Errante introduced new Maintenance Worker Sergio Cruz Hernandez.
- Recycling & Waste Management – Gate Attendant* Moved by Supervisor Tillemans 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 one (1) Gate Attendant exists, as certified by the Assistant County Administrator and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; and B) authorize the hiring of one (1) Gate Attendant, Range 48 (\$2,795-\$3,386), from the recently established eligibility list. Motion carried unanimously.
- Parks & Recreation – VenTek Bill Acceptor P.O.* Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Tothoroh to authorize a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 payable to VenTek International of Petaluma, CA for the purchase of two (2) Bill Acceptors for the two new pay stations purchased for Tinnemaha Campground and Portagee Joe Campground. Motion carried unanimously.
- Public Works – Inyo* The Public Works Department presented to the Board an update on Inyo County airports.

*County Airports
Update*

Public Works Director Mike Errante gave a report on the latest meeting with FAA representatives, and reviewed the airport grants Inyo County has received since 2012. He also gave an overview of projects either in the works or in the queue for both the Lone Pine-Death Valley and Bishop airports. Associate Engineer and Project Manager Ashley Helms reviewed the status of the project to bring commercial air service to Bishop Airport. CAO Quilter described the initial plan for using subsidies from Mammoth Lakes Tourism. Helms updated the Board on where the current NEPA and CEQA reviews are at in the scoping process and the different elements being reviewed in both documents, including transportation options for incoming passengers and potential impacts from increased traffic. She said Enterprise Rent-A-Car and private transportation companies in Mammoth are both interested in expanding their services. She said the County hoped to circulate the draft NEPA and CEQA reviews for public input in early to mid-September and would be holding additional public workshops at that time. Regarding the Part 139 Certification process, Helms reported that the County hopes to submit its Final Airport Certification Manual by the end of the month, with the airport scheduled for follow-up inspections in the summer and fall. CAO Quilter reviewed the timeline for beginning commercial air service at Bishop Airport, noting that it has a lot of moving parts but both the FAA and Caltrans Aeronautics are on board with the schedule. He added that he has never worked with a government agency as helpful as the FAA has been in supporting this project.

*HHS-Behavioral
Health – CoC
Housing Assistance
Allocation MOU*

HHS Director Marilyn Mann presented a request to redirect homelessness funding to the Eastern Sierra Continuum of Care (CoC) for a variety of projects that are being discussed by the CoC as part of an overall regional, multi-pronged approach to dealing with homelessness in the Eastern Sierra. She said some ideas include rental assistance, incentives for landlords to rent to those struggling with homelessness, safe parking areas in Mono County, and a navigation center to direct individuals to services. Chairperson Kingsley suggested a possible mobile navigation center, and Mann said she would bring the idea to the CoC, but also noted that individuals in outlying communities can also be served by the other “prongs” being discussed. Chairperson Kingsley asked whether there are standard, uniform requirements for safe parking projects. Mann said each project and the conditions placed on it are community-driven. She said she knows safe parking lot projects can come with community concerns, but at the end of the day, the individuals facing homelessness are our brothers, sisters, mothers, and fathers, and veterans who served their country. She said just because they are homeless it does not mean these individuals come to a community with criminal intent, and thinks sometimes society loses sight of the humanity behind the story of someone who finds themselves having to live in their car and needing a safe place to sleep. Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve a Memorandum of Understanding redirecting Inyo County’s allocation from the Homeless Housing Assistance Program to the Eastern Sierra Continuum of Care in order to combine funding and maximize coordination on homeless housing issues, and authorize the HHS Director to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Social Services
– CDSS Resource
Family Approval
Program Contract
Ratification*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to ratify and approve the contract between the County of Inyo and the State of California Department of Social Services for the provision of legal consultation and representation in administrative action appeals associated with the Resource Family Approval program, for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021, and authorize the HHS Director to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Recess/Reconvene

Chairperson Kingsley recessed the meeting at 10:59 a.m. for a break, at which time Supervisor Tillemans recused himself from the next agenda item, and reconvened the meeting at 11:07 a.m. with all Board members present except Supervisor Tillemans.

*Ag Comm.-Cannabis
– Proposed
Ordinance Amending
Title 5*

Ag Commissioner Nate Reade brought forth a housekeeping item to make changes to County Code that were approved last spring but then inadvertently left out of a later ordinance in November when even more changes were approved by the Board. Reade said the changes needed to be approved before the Board can consider approving the latest round of license applications. Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to read title and waive further reading of a proposed ordinance titled, "An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Amending Subsections 5.40.070A.2, 5.40.070A.5A, 5.40.070A.5C, 5.40.070A.5F, and 5.40.070A.5G of the Inyo County Code," in order to make previously omitted changes to County Code with respect to the number of available commercial cannabis licenses; and B) schedule enactment for 11:00 a.m. on February 11, 2020 in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, County Administrative Center,

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

HHS – Workshop – State Medi-Cal Program

Assistant HHS Director Meaghan McCamman and Behavioral Health Director Dr. Gail Zwier presented a workshop on "State Changes to the Medi-Cal Program and Potential Impacts to Inyo County." They gave an overview of the current Medi-Cal structure and reviewed potential changes in the Medi-Cal "Healthier California for All" waiver and how they might impact Behavioral Health programs and how HHS might incorporate the various changes. They also discussed potential impacts on housing and homelessness programs. Chairperson Kingsley said as the proposal progresses at the State level, hopefully there will be a focus on simplifying the changes and giving local entities flexibility in their implementation. He reminded HHS that he serves on RCRC and Supervisor Griffiths serves on CSAC and encouraged HHS to reach out with any concerns it wants communicated at the state level. McCamman similarly encouraged the Board to communicate issues with HHS, as staff does participate in a lot of workshops at that level. It was agreed all would keep the lines of communication open with regard to State impacts on local services.

Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Tothoroh to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meetings of January, 14, 2020, January 21, 2020, and January 28, 2020. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Tillemans absent.

Board Member and Staff Reports

Supervisor Tothoroh said he attended an Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation meeting yesterday and a Northern Inyo County Airport Advisory Commission meeting last night, and will be part of a subcommittee reviewing the proposed Owens Valley Groundwater Authority communications plan on Wednesday and Thursday.

Supervisor Griffiths said he attended a series of CSAC and homelessness task force meetings last week in Sacramento, noting the State is looking at creating "reasonably enforceable mandates" for jurisdictions to reduce their homelessness rates. He said he tried to make it loud and clear that rural counties will have a difficult if not impossible time meeting those mandates.

County Counsel Rudolph inquired whether the Board would be interested in agendizing an item related to his office possibly serving as legal counsel for the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Joint Powers Authority. It was decided the item would be agendized for discussion at a future meeting.

Chairperson Kingsley said he attended a meeting of Recreational Access Leaders and Public Land Managers and Agencies last Friday. He said he proposed a better way of gathering hard data on complaints related to Adventure Trails and both the BLM and USFS are interested in exploring how to capture that data. He said he also would like to see a standardized message (including route info and where OHV activity is permitted) at all campgrounds – whether owned by the County, Forest Service or BLM.

Adjournment

Chairperson Kingsley adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 11, 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