

# MINUTES



# County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

## March 1, 2022

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:40 a.m., on March 1, 2022 in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Dan Totheroh, presiding, Jeff Griffiths, Rick Pucci, Matt Kingsley, and Jennifer Roeser. Also present: County Administrator Leslie Chapman, Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis, Office Technician Hayley Carter, and County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo.

### *Closed Session Public Comment*

The Chairperson asked for public comment related to Closed Session items.

The Assistant Clerk of the Board has not received additional written comment. Wes French asked to speak and was advised this was time for comment on Closed Session items only.

### *Closed Session*

Chairperson Totheroh recessed open session at 8:41 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): No. 2 **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9** – *The City of Los Angeles, acting by and through its Department of Water and Power v. County of Inyo*, Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-18-101513-KCT, CA Court of Appeal (5th Dist.) Case No. F081389, CA Supreme Court Case No. S271309; *Inyo County v. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power*, Kern County Superior Court Case Nos. BCV-18-101260-TSC, BCV-18-101261-TSC, and BCV-18-101262-TSC.

### *Open Session*

Chairperson Totheroh recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10 a.m. with all Board members present.

### *Pledge of Allegiance*

Supervisor Kingsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### *Report on Closed Session*

County Counsel Vallejo reported that no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported.

### *Introductions*

New HHS employees Selena Gonzalez Jimenez, Office Clerk, and Mark Kalin, Psychotherapist, were introduced to the Board. A third introduction was postponed momentarily so that the department head could be there.

### *Public Comment*

Chairperson Totheroh asked for public comment on items not calendared on the agenda and gave clarification on masking in the Board room.

The Assistant Clerk of the Board read aloud a letter from Christina Arnal in opposition of COVID-19 mandates. Comments were heard from Wes French, who said a prayer, spoke in opposition to COVID-19 mandates, and questioned why the public is not made privy to more details about Closed Session discussions; from Linda Chaplin regarding concerns with traffic dangers to pedestrians in Independence; and from Wayne Croasdale welcoming the Board back to in-person meetings.

County Counsel Vallejo responded to Mr. French, explaining Closed Session allows the County to protect its interests in accordance with the Brown Act.

Public Comment was momentarily interrupted to accommodate another new employee introduction.

<i>Introductions</i>	New Probation employee Kayla Pendleton, Rehabilitation Specialist, was introduced to the Board.
<i>Public Comment</i>	The Board resumed the Public Comment period. Cari Arnal spoke via Zoom to ask whether the Board would be willing to take furloughs and express her concerns with secure voting.
<i>County Department Reports</i>	HHS Director Marilyn Mann provided an update on COVID-19 in Inyo County, reported on new information from the Inspector General in regard to repayment of reimbursement funds for HHS services, and the outcome of the recent HHS "All Staff" day. She also distributed to the Board copies of a document titled, "Stories of Success from Inyo County Health and Human Services."
<i>Personnel – Valic Retirement Services Plan Resolution</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve Resolution No. 2022-07, titled, "A Resolution of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo Authorizing Amendment and Restatement of Retirement Plan via Adoption of Valic Retirement Services Company Retirement Plan for Governmental Employers," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS – Human Potential of Sudbury Agreements</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to ratify and approve the Subcontract Agreement and HIPAA Privacy Compliance Agreement between the County of Inyo and Advocates for Human Potential of Sudbury, MA in the amount of \$200,000 for the period of September 15, 2021 through February 14, 2023, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize Marilyn Mann, HHS Director/Interim Behavioral Health Director, to sign the Subcontractor Agreement, Certificate Regarding Lobbying, Subcontractor Certification, and HIPAA Privacy Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS – Southern Inyo Hospital Payment</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve the payment of \$6,956.95 to Southern Inyo Hospital for medical services provided to an Inyo County Jail inmate in January 2022. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-Behavioral Health – Local Mental Health Director Appointment</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to appoint HHS Deputy Director-Behavioral Health Kimball Pier as the Local Mental Health Director and the authorized LPS (Lanterman-Petris-Short) Conservator and authorize the County Administrator to sign a Local Mental Health Director Appointment Letter. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-Behavioral Health – Drug Program Administrator</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve the appointment of HHS Deputy Director, consistent with California Health and Safety Code Section 11800 to Behavioral Health Kimball Pier as the Inyo County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrator. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Probation – American Security Group Sole-Source Contract</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to: A) declare American Security Group a sole-source provider; B) approve the contract between the County of Inyo and American Security Group for the maintenance of the security system between County of Inyo and American Security Group for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$23,490.00 with an option to renew a second and third year, contingent on the adoption of future fiscal year budgets and; C) authorize the Chairperson to sign the contract. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Works – FedEx Corporation Lease Agreement Amendment 1</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to ratify and approve Amendment No. 1 to the lease agreement between the County of Inyo and Federal Express Corporation of Memphis, TN for a portion of the real property described as 703 Airport Road, extending the term end date from October 31, 2021 to October 31, 2025, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works – LP Solid Waste Solar Project Plans & Specs* Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve the plans and specifications for the Lone Pine Solid Waste Solar Project and authorize the Public Works Director to advertise the project. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works- Recycling & Waste – Shred Pro Contract Amendment 1* Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to ratify and approve Amendment No. 1 to the lease agreement between the County of Inyo and Federal Express Corporation of Memphis, TN for a portion of the real property described as 703 Airport Road, extending the term end date from October 31, 2021 to October 31, 2025, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

*Water Department – Water Commission Appointment* Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to reappoint Mr. Randy Keller to a four-year term on the Water Commission ending December 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

*Water Department – Sierra Nevada Alliance Letter of Intent* Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to authorize the Water Director to sign a Letter of Intent between the County of Inyo and Sierra Nevada Alliance for the provision of two (2) Field Assistants from the Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Membership in an amount not to exceed \$19,000 for the period of April 15, 2022 through September 30, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

*Probation – Proclamation Commending Deputy Probation Officer Lisa Vetter* Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson presented a proclamation honoring Deputy Probation Officer Lisa Vetter for being named the Employee of the Year by CPOC, and praised her for her commitment and dedication to excellence. DPO Vetter thanked late Deputy Chief Probation Officer Jake Morgan and Chief Thomson for their support; her husband and daughters for their constant support and sacrifice; and colleagues Maria Miranda and Chad Stark, without whom she said the domestic violence program would not be nearly as successful. Board members thanked, congratulated, and commended DPO Vetter for her award. Chief Thomson read the proclamation aloud.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) approve a proclamation titled, “A Proclamation of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Commending Deputy Probation Officer Lisa Vetter for her Outstanding Contributions to the Inyo County Probation Department and Service to the Citizens of Inyo County and for Being Awarded the Employee of the Year by the Chief Probation Officers of California;” and B) present the proclamation to Deputy Probation Officer Vetter. Motion carried unanimously.

*Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes* Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meetings of February 8 and February 22, 2022 and the special meeting of February 15, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Comment* The Chairperson asked for public comment on items not calendared on the agenda.

Comment was heard from Linda Chaplin, who voiced her concerns about traffic safety in Independence; Wayne Croasdale, who wished to thank the Probation Department for their work; and Wes French, who had concerns about the volume of the meetings for those who are hearing impaired.

*Board Member and Staff Reports* Supervisor Kingsley gave information about the “Meet and Greet” event he would be hosting at the American Legion Hall in Independence on March 3 and the RCRC meeting of March 9 where he will be reading a resolution honoring late Inyo County Supervisor Linda Arcularius.

Supervisor Roeser reported on the landscaping preparations for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Inyo County Courthouse and the Caltrans meeting she attended the previous week.

Supervisor Pucci noted he would have to leave next week’s Board meeting by noon.

Supervisor Griffiths said he will be attending CSAC Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings in Sacramento next week, as well as the RCRC resolution reading, and noted that he participated in last week’s Point in Time homelessness count.

Assistant Clerk of the Board Ellis reported on the CPSP Competitive Grant program and the various entities that were selected to receive monies.

CAO Chapman said IMACA's request for County funding and assistance will come before the Board on March 8. To ensure Supervisor Pucci can participate in the conversation, she said she would look into pushing the discussion to March 15.

Chairperson Totheroh reported that he has been on calls and in meetings regarding IMACA and the Continuum of Care. He added that a free Bishop community concert will be offered on March 6.

*Adjournment*

Chairperson Totheroh adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m., to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 8, 2022 in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

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Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: LESLIE L. CHAPMAN  
Clerk of the Board*

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