

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

August 13, 2019

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:31 a.m., on August 13, 2019, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Rick Pucci, presiding, Dan Totheroh, Jeff Griffiths, Mark Tillemans, and Matt Kingsley.

Public Comment Chairperson Pucci announced the first public comment period and there was no-one wishing to address the Board.

Closed Session Chairperson Pucci recessed open session at 8:32 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following items: No. 2 **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION** – Significant exposure to potential litigation pursuant to (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9 (two cases); and No. 3 **CONFERENCE WITH COUNTY'S LABOR NEGOTIATORS** – 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 Pucci recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:07 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge Supervisor Griffiths 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 by law.

Public Comment Chairperson Pucci announced the second public comment period.

Earl Wilson of Lone Pine said he hoped the new automated agenda format would at some point include the entire agenda packet as a single document like the County used to produce, because he did not like having to click on each individual agenda item. The Board Clerk explained that the new system currently allowed him to download a pdf of the entire agenda packet, and offered to show him how after the meeting.

Deena Davenport-Conway reported that she had started a petition to encourage Caltrans to install flashing lights in the crosswalks of Independence, and was informed of efforts already underway by the agency to address pedestrian safety in the communities along U.S. 395. She distributed an informational sheet to the Board detailing some of those projects.

County Department Reports Ag Commissioner Nate Reade provided an update on mosquito activity and abatement efforts, including West Nile Virus detection in surrounding counties. He also gave an update on the commercial cannabis licensing period, noting that the application window closed on Friday, August 9 for zones 5E, 5G, and 5A.

Child Support Services Director Susanne Rizo reported on two upcoming events for Child Support Awareness Month.

Museum Services Director Jon Klusmire reported that the museum is helping to sell new books

about the restoration of the Slim Princess, written by the leader of the restoration project, Randy Babcock, and is preparing to debut a new exhibit featuring the mammoth tusk discovered on LADWP property in Southern Inyo several years ago.

Introductions

Assessor David Stottlemyre introduced to the Board new Auditor-Appraiser Laura Fluegeman and HHS Director Marilyn Mann introduced new Office Clerk III Kristy Johnson.

*Public Works –
Building and
Maintenance Water
Supervisor*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to: A) approve the job descriptions for the Building and Maintenance Water Supervisor I/II, Range 71 (\$4,768 - \$5,797) to Range 73 (\$4,998 - \$6,079); and B) reclassify the Building and Maintenance Lead position, Range 66 (\$4,231 - \$5,151), to the Building and Maintenance/Water Supervisor, Range 71 (\$4,768 - \$5,797). Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO-Advertising
County Resources –
Inverted Life Blanket
P.O.*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve a blanket purchase order in the amount of \$15,000 payable to Inverted Life LLC for videography services, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

*Information Services
– Pitney Bowes
Blanket P.O.*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to authorize issuance of a blanket purchase order for postage in an amount not to exceed \$67,000, payable to Pitney Bowes Purchase Power of Pittsburgh, PA contingent upon the Board's approval of Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

*Purchasing – Office
Depot Blanket P.O.*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to authorize issuance of a blanket purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$130,000 annually, payable to Office Depot through the OMNIA Partners, Public Sector for office supplies and consumable computer/printer supplies for the 2019-2020 fiscal year from Purchasing Revolving Budget, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-EMCC –
Committee
Appointments*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to appoint Andrew Stevens, Le Roy Kritz, and Carl Bursell, each to two-year terms on the Emergency Medical Care Committee ending December 31, 2020, representing Northern Inyo Hospital, Member At-Large, and Lone Pine Fire Department, respectively. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS – CBHDA
19-20 Dues*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to authorize payment of County Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA) dues for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 in an amount not to exceed \$13,403.17, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS – Thomas and
Flatow Sole-Source
Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve the sole-source contract between the County of Inyo and Thomas and Flatow Medical Corporation, PC for tele- and in-person psychiatry services in a total amount not to exceed \$165,000 for the period of August 15, 2019 to June 30, 2020, contingent upon all departmental signatures being obtained and the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget, and authorize the HHS Deputy Director of Behavioral Health to sign the contract and the HHS Assistant Director to sign the HIPPA Business Association Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

*Sheriff-Veterans
Service Office –
Annual Subvention
Forms*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to authorize the Chairperson to sign the Medi-Cal Certificate of Compliance FY 19/20 and Certificate of Compliance for Subvention FY 19/20. Motion carried unanimously.

*Treasurer-Tax
Collector – SIFPD
Interim Loan/Reso #
2019-33*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to adopt Resolution No. 2019-33 pursuant to the provisions of Article XVI, Section 6 of the California Constitution, thereby approving an interim loan from the county treasury to the Southern Inyo Fire Protection District (District) in the aggregate amount of \$20,000 for the purpose of financing the District's operational costs during the 2019-20 fiscal year prior to receipt of their annual property tax apportionment. Motion carried unanimously.

*Proclamation – Child
Support Awareness*

Supervisor Griffiths asked that this agenda item be moved to the Departmental portion of the agenda so that Child Support Services Director Susanne Rizo could provide additional

<i>Month</i>	comment and information. Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve a proclamation declaring August 2019 as Child Support Awareness Month in Inyo County. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Ag Commissioner – Lahontan Integrated Report Comment Letter</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve a comment letter to the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (LRWQCB) with regard to the LRWQCB's Surface Water Quality Assessment Report (Integrated Report). Motion carried unanimously.
<i>CAO-Museum – Advisory Committee Formation</i>	Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to authorize creation of a volunteer Museum Advisory Committee in accordance with County Code Section 2.52.030, and direct staff to advertise, recruit members and return to Board with recommendations for final approval of the committee members. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Road Department – Request to Remove Tree from County Property</i>	The Board engaged in lengthy discussion with staff and amongst itself, also soliciting public comment. Comments in favor of saving the tree at 135 S. Jackson St., Independence, were received from Annette Wood, Mary Roper, Earl Wilson, and Nancy Masters. Comments in favor of removing the tree were received from Randy Piper. The Board reached consensus to defer this item until such time as staff could return with a comprehensive tree removal policy for Board consideration and approval, while taking steps to prevent any public safety hazards that might result from the tree in the interim.
<i>Road Department – Request to Trim and Remove Trees from Private Property</i>	The Board reiterated its stance from the previous agenda item that it wished for staff to develop a comprehensive tree removal policy with public input. Comments were received from the homeowner at 300 N. Webster St., Denise Manger-Kellum, who said she was actually not in favor of removing any of the trees, and from the following who opposed their removal and/or advocated proper tree care across the community of Independence: Deena Davenport-Conway, Barbara Leachman, Dave Wagner, and Earl Wilson. Deputy County Counsel Grace Chuchla addressed the issue of property owner rights with regard to tree removal, clarifying that County permission is not needed for a property owner to trim or remove a tree on their property. Staff noted that an informal policy developed by the Road Department and inconsistently applied over the last few decades carries no legal force or effect. Chuchla suggested that property owners still consult with the Road Department regarding whether encroachment permits are needed during tree removal or trimming that they initiate on their own property. The Board declined to take action on this item in light of the pending tree policy and the clarification provided by Deputy County Counsel.
<i>Public Comment</i>	Chairperson Pucci announced the final public comment period and there was no-one wishing to address the Board.
<i>Board Member and Staff Reports</i>	Supervisor Kingsley reported hosting a town hall meeting Tecopa last week that was attended by about 50 constituents. He also reported attending a meeting with the Ridgcrest BLM last Wednesday, and a wedding in Alaska over the weekend. Supervisor Totheroh reported attending a Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting Monday, an Eastern Sierra Transit Authority and Eastern Sierra Council of Governments meeting last Friday and a meeting of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority last Thursday. Supervisor Griffiths reported attending the National Night Out in Bishop last week, an Inyo Council for the Arts Board meeting, the OVGA, ESTA, and ESCOG meetings, a Laws Railroad Museum board meeting, and the Bishop City Council meeting. CAO Quilter said he attended the Back to School event in Lone Pine where the presence and participation of the Probation, HHS, and Child Support Service departments was much appreciated. Chairperson Pucci reminded his colleagues and staff that he will be absent from the September 10 and September 17 Board meetings.
<i>Adjournment</i>	Chairperson Pucci adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 20, 2019 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