

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

May 12, 2020

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:32 a.m., on May 12, 2020, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present via videoconferencing per California Governor Executive Order N-25-20: Chairperson Matt Kingsley, presiding, Dan Totheroh, Jeff Griffiths, Rick Pucci, and Mark Tillemans.

Public Comment

Chairperson Kingsley asked the Assistant Clerk of the Board whether there was any public comment emailed for today's meeting for items not calendared on the agenda.

The Assistant Clerk of the Board said nothing had been submitted so far for items not calendared on the agenda.

Closed Session

Chairperson Kingsley recessed open session at 8:32 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members to discuss the following item(s): No. 2 **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION** – Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9: one potential case; 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 Kingsley recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:02 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Kingsley 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 the Assistant Clerk of the Board whether there was any public comment emailed for today's meeting for items not calendared on the agenda.

The Assistant Clerk of the Board said nothing had been submitted in writing. It was noted that as of today, the Board would also be taking comments and questions from the Board live during the meeting via the "hand-waving" feature on Zoom.

Jodi Schultz, recruiting assistant for the U.S. Census out of Bakersfield, was called on for comment. She said the Census is currently on hold but when given the go-ahead, the Bureau will proceed with training its volunteers. She noted a great response from volunteers in Inyo County in general, but said the Independence area still needed people to go door-to-door. She also said that since volunteers signed up months ago, not everyone will still be interested when the time comes to start training. She urged the Board to pass the message on to anyone who might be interested in signing up now, and said more than \$650 billion will be dispersed over the next 10 years based on the data collected in the 2020 Census.

County Department

HHS Director Marilyn Mann announced that Public Health and Prevention has teamed with Toiyabe to co-sponsor a walk- /run-a-thon for Mental Health Awareness Month. Participants

Reports

are asked to keep track of their mileage and those with the highest numbers win prizes.

Public Works Director Mike Errante reported on the status of the Bishop Library, Jay Street, Bishop Airport, and South Lake Road projects. Engineering Assistant Jacob Trauscht announced the County has been awarded a USDA grant to repair the Independence Water Main.

COVID-19 Staff Update

Public Health Officer Dr. James Richardson reported on the current status of COVID-19 in Inyo County, noting that today is the 25th day without a positive lab-confirmed case. He said Mono County unfortunately had 6 new cases over the weekend and he hoped it wouldn't impact Inyo County.

HHS Director Marilyn Mann said HHS is working on the Phase 2 variance plan in order to bring forward the attestation for Board approval on May 19. She also reviewed the metrics that Inyo County must meet in order to be approved for the variance and where Inyo County meets the criteria.

Assistant CAO Leslie Chapman reported that the Reopening Inyo Businesses webpage is up under the COVID-19 section of the County website. She also said she would be hosting another webinar for businesses on Wednesday.

Sheriff Hollowell said his office has received complaints from the community about businesses ignoring or intentionally disobeying Dr. Richardson's universal masking order. He said staff has been contacting those businesses and providing them with a copy of the order and information on what is expected of them. He said he hoped citizens abide by the masking order so that Inyo County can progress quickly through Stage 2 of the statewide reopening and return to some semblance of normalcy.

The Chairperson asked the Assistant Clerk of the Board whether anyone had emailed public comment pertaining to this discussion. The Assistant Clerk of the Board read aloud letters from Nel Hecht, who is in support of the masking order, and Tamara Cohn, who expressed concern about the need for a regional approach to reopening, so that Mono County residents don't overwhelm Inyo County businesses. Public comment continued, with Ms. Cohn asking via Zoom whether Inyo County Public Health has confirmed with Mono County Public Health that none of Mono's six new cases have had contact in Inyo County. Dr. Richardson responded that he is in constant contact with his Mono County counterpart and there is no indication they made contact in Inyo County and that all new six cases are community-spread as part of a cluster.

Ag Commissioner-ESWMA – ATV Bid Award & Purchase

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to: A) award a bid in the amount of \$10,199.10 to Chaparral Motorsports of San Bernardino, CA for the purchase of one (1) 2020 Yamaha Kodiak 700 ATV; and B) approve the purchase of one (1) 2020 Yamaha Kodiak 700 ATV from Chaparral Motorsports by the Eastern Sierra Weed Management Area in an amount not to exceed \$10,199.10. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Economic Development – ROI Contract Amendment 2

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve Amendment 2 to the contract between the County of Inyo and ROI Research on Development, extending the term of the contract to November 13, 2020, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Recycling & Waste Management – Tire Amnesty Event Waivers

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to waive all gate and disposal fees associated with the Tire Amnesty Events to be conducted in Inyo County in late May and November 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

County Counsel/CAO – CSAC Excess Insurance Authority JPA Amendment (Reso # 2020-20)

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to adopt proposed Resolution No. 2020-20, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Approving Certain Amendments to the CSAC Excess Insurance Authority Joint Powers Agreement," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

<i>Probation – Healthy Communities Contract</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Healthy Communities of Southern Inyo County for a Delinquency Prevention Program for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$31,840.00, contingent upon receipts from the California State Controller's Office, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Probation – ICOE Contract</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Inyo County Office of Education for an Extended Day Program for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$21,227.00, contingent upon receipts from the California State Controller's Office, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Works – Revised Standard Specs & Details</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve the revised "Inyo County Standard Specifications and Standard Details" used for County-administered construction projects, County-performed construction projects, and non-County projects within County property or Right-of-Way. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Works – Inyo- Mono Title Lease</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve the lease with Inyo-Mono Title Company, A California Corporation, for office space at 873 North Main Street in Bishop, effective June 15, 2020, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>BOS – Letters of Support for CA Fairs</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve letters to Senator Andreas Borgeas and Assemblyman Devon Mathis requesting emergency funding support for California's fairs and fairgrounds in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 State Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Planning – Review of and Comment on Caltrans Project</i>	Planning Director Cathreen Richards presented a review of Caltrans' Meadow Farms American with Disabilities Act project and its alternatives. She also reviewed draft comments on the project prepared by staff, who pointed out in the letter that the lighting should be consistent with the Inyo County General Plan and that Caltrans should have evaluated the project's impacts on local businesses and prepared a mitigation strategy. Richards also noted that the County might want to encourage Caltrans to hold public meetings to gather input. Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve the comments on the project, authorize the Chairperson to sign, and provide direction to staff to send.
<i>Water Department – Standing Committee Direction</i>	Water Director Dr. Aaron Steinwand sought direction from the Board of Supervisors to the County's Standing Committee representatives in advance of the Inyo County/Los Angeles Standing Committee meeting scheduled for May 15, 2020. Steinwand reviewed the agenda, as well as the Water Department's recommended level of pumping for LADWP's Annual Operations Plan. The Chairperson asked for public comment. The Assistant Clerk of the Board read aloud public comment emailed by residents Sophia Borgias, Ben Ditto, and Sally Manning (on behalf of the Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley). All three commenters expressed concern about the amounts of pumping being proposed, and urged Inyo County's representatives to push for fewer acre-feet of water.
<i>Water Department – OVGA Direction</i>	Water Director Dr. Aaron Steinwand sought direction to the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority representatives in advance of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting scheduled for May 14, 2020 in Bishop, CA. The Board engaged in considerable discussion about what financial contributions Associate-status and Independent Party-status members should make, if the statuses are approved. The Board reiterated its position that the Meadowcreek Mutual Water Company should contribute the minimum required for two votes, and approximately \$22,000 to be spread around evenly if it wanted to gain additional votes.
<i>Public Works – Wadell Amendment 4 Ratification</i>	Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to ratify and approve Amendment 4 to the agreement between the County of Inyo and Wadell Engineering Corporation of Burlingame, CA increasing the contract to an amount not to exceed \$755,350, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Here It Comes Emergency</i>	Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to continue the local emergency known as the "Here It Comes Emergency" that was proclaimed in anticipation of

run-off conditions from near-record snowpack posing extreme peril to the safety of property and persons in Inyo County. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of April 28, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works- Building & Safety – Title 14 Changes (Ordinance 1255)

Building Inspector Tyson Sparrow presented for approval a proposed ordinance updating County Code, the first reading of which the Board waived at its May 5 meeting. Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve an ordinance titled, "An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Repealing and Replacing Title 14 of the Inyo County Code Related to Building and Safety Standards." Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Chairperson Kingsley asked the Assistant Clerk of the Board whether any additional public comment had been emailed during the meeting.

The Assistant Clerk of the Board said no written comments have been received for items not calendared on the agenda.

Via Zoom, National Forest Recreation Association Vice President Jen Roeser commented on a letter from NFRA expressing concessionaires' need to access their facilities on Inyo National Forest land in order to do required preparatory work so they can accept guests when they are allowed to reopen. County Counsel Rudolph said he didn't necessarily see anything in Inyo County's health orders prohibiting concessionaires from preparing for an eventual opening. Roeser asked that the County clarify the situation with the Forest Service because it is telling concessionaires they can't get into their facilities until the County says it's OK.

Board Member and Staff Reports

Supervisor Pucci said he wanted to see the County continue with reopening efforts, and thanked staff for working so hard and doing a great job.

Supervisor Griffiths said he participated in numerous CSAC and NACo calls over the past week, as well as a call with the state testing task force, and attended meetings of the Eastern Sierra Foundation, Laws Museum Board of Directors, and Bishop City Council.

Supervisor Totheroh said he had an Owens Valley Groundwater Authority coming up Thursday and an Eastern Sierra Council of Governments meeting on Friday.

CAO Quilter informed the Board he had a 45-minute conversation yesterday with the Interim Mono County CAO on issues of mutual concern.

Chairperson Kingsley said he met last Wednesday with six or seven people in Death Valley, and also attended an Air Pollution Control District Board meeting on Thursday.

Adjournment

Chairperson Kingsley adjourned the meeting at 12:40 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 19, 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

