

# MINUTES



# County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

**April 12, 2022**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:37 a.m., on April 12, 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 had not received written comment and nobody requested to speak.

*Closed Session*

Chairperson Totheroh recessed open session at 8:37 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): 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 – County Administrator Leslie Chapman, Assistant County Administrator Sue Dishion, Deputy Personnel Director Keri Oney, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Health and Human Services Director Marilyn Mann, and Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson; and No. 3 **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9** – Names of cases: *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; *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 10:01 a.m. with all Board members present.

*Pledge of Allegiance*

County Counsel Vallejo 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.

*Adding Urgency Items*

Based on the finding that two urgency items need to be addressed before the next Board meeting on April 19, and that the events creating the urgency occurred after publication of today's agenda, it was moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to add the following two urgency items to the agenda: A) "A Declaration by the Director of Emergency Services for the County of Inyo, State of California, Proclaiming the Existence of a Local Emergency;" and B) waiver of County landfill fees for disposal of debris from the massive wind storm on Monday, April 11, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

*Urgency Item –  
Declaration of Local  
Emergency*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve and authorize the Chairperson to sign "A Declaration by the Director of Emergency Services for the County of Inyo, State of California, Proclaiming the Existence of a Local Emergency." Motion carried unanimously.

<i>Urgency Item – Landfill Fee Waiver</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to waive the disposal fees at all County landfills windstorm related debris from Tuesday, April 12 through Tuesday, April 19. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Proclamations – Child Abuse Prevention &amp; Sexual Assault Awareness</i>	<p>Rochelle Miller, Family Services Coordinator with Wild Iris, was introduced to the Board and Supervisor Griffiths read aloud both proclamations.</p> <p>Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to declare April 2022 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the Inyo County. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to declare April 2022 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Inyo County. Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>Supervisor Griffiths reminded everyone that there would be a Children’s memorial ceremony at the Clint G. Quilter Consolidated Office Building on April 22, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.</p>
<i>Public Comment</i>	<p>Chairperson Totheroh asked for public comment on items not calendared on the agenda.</p> <p>Public comment was heard from Jane Askins, Wes French, Supervisor Kingsley, Sheriff Pritchard, Supervisor Griffiths, and Supervisor Roeser.</p>
<i>County Department Reports</i>	Public Works Director Mike Errante gave a report on the damage sustained at county facilities by the wind event and praised his Road and Maintenance crews for working hard to keep everyone safe.
<i>Introductions</i>	The following new HHS employees were introduced to the Board: new HHS employees will be introduced to the Board: Kristiana Kliks, Office Clerk; Castoria "Cassie" Navarro, Social Worker I; and Stephanie Rubio, Prevention Specialist. Susan Lutze, Program Services Assistant-Friendly Visitor, was unable to attend her introduction.
<i>Employee Service Recognition – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2022</i>	<p>The Board recognizing the following employees who reached service milestones during the First Quarter of 2022, many of whom were in attendance to receive their commemorative pins:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sara Jones, 10 years – Child Support Services</li> <li>• Melissa Yeager, 5 years – Farm Advisor’s Office</li> <li>• Buna Felton, 15 years; Tim Noonan, 5 years; Jacob Guido, 5 years; Mark Gutierrez, 5 years; Christian Hernandez Santana, 5 years; Julie Richardson, 15 years; and Shayla Brown, 11 years – Sheriff’s Department</li> <li>• Julie Weier, 25 years; and Tabitha Warner, 10 years – Probation Department</li> <li>• Stephanie Huston, 20 years, Holly DeVincent, 15 years; Darcy Miller, 10 years; Kelly Nugent, 5 years; Katie Hawkins, 5 years; Wendy Fogelstrom, 5 years; Marissa Toppass, 5 years; and Lisa Trunnell, 15 years – Health &amp; Human Services</li> <li>• Teresa Elliott, 15 years; Chris Cox, 15 years; Mike Luffman, 10 years; and Guillermo Luque Gutierrez, 5 years – Public Works</li> <li>• Mike Baffrey, 15 years – Information Services</li> <li>• Heather Todd, 10 years – Museum</li> <li>• Sue Dishion, 30 years – Personnel</li> </ul>
<i>Information Services – Amending Board Order</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve an amendment to the August 4, 2020 Board Order to eliminate the annual payment limit for the contract between Inyo County and Microsoft of Redmond, WA. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-Fiscal – CDA Contract #AP-2122- 16 Amendment 3</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve Amendment No. 3 to the Standard Agreement for Contract Number AP-2122-16 between the County of Inyo and the California Department of Aging, increasing the amount by \$182,275; extending the contract term for an additional two years, to June 30, 2023 for only the American Rescue Plan funding, State general funded Nutrition Augmentation Program and the State general funding for quarterly visits for the Ombudsman Program; revising Exhibits D (Special Terms) and E (Additional Provisions); and adding Exhibit G American Rescue Plan Funding, contingent upon the Board’s approval of the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget, and authorize the HHS Director to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Planning – Roux Associates Amendment 1* Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve Amendment No. 1 to the contract between County of Inyo and Roux Associates, amending the term of the agreement to be July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 and the contract limit to a new not-to-exceed limit of \$60,000, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works – Hi Desert Truck Driving School Sole-Source P.O.* Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to declare Hi Desert Truck Driving School of Lancaster, CA a sole-source provider; and B) authorize a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$15,300, including expenses already incurred this fiscal year, payable to Hi Desert Truck Driving School of Lancaster, CA, for current training services to obtain commercial vehicle licensing as well as obtaining the Tanker Endorsement. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works- Recycling & Waste – YouVee Solar Contract* Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to: A) award the contract for the Lone Pine Solid Waste Solar Project to YouVee Solar LLC of Ridgecrest, CA as the successful bidder; B) approve the construction contract between the County of Inyo and YouVee Solar of Ridgecrest, CA in the amount of \$54,600, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained; and C) authorize the Public Works Director to execute all other project contract documents, including contract change orders, to the extent permitted by Public Contract Code Section 20142 and other applicable laws. Motion carried unanimously.

*Water Department – Sierra Nevada Alliance MOU* Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Inyo and Sierra Nevada Alliance for the provision of two AmeriCorps members in an amount not to exceed \$9,500 per member for the period of April 16, 2022 through September 30, 2022, and authorize the Water Director to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Planning – Architectural Design Board Appointments* The agenda item was pulled from the Consent Agenda and moved to Departmental for discussion. Linda Chaplin of Independence inquired about the role and origin of the Lone Pine Architectural Design Review Board. Planning Director Cathreen Richards and Supervisor Kingsley both provided background, noting that the board was created approximately 20 years ago at the request of Lone Pine residents to help ensure the town of Lone Pine retains its “Western” character. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to reappoint Kathi Hall and appoint Sheyanne Quilter and Matthew Royce to the Lone Pine Architectural Design Review Board, to serve two-year terms in the "Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce," "Public," and "Qualified Licensed Architect" categories, respectively, pursuant to Section 18.69.020(B) (1), (4) & (5) of the Inyo County Code. Motion carried unanimously.

*County Counsel – Open Meeting Laws* County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo gave a presentation on open meeting laws applicable to the Board of Supervisors.

*Museum – Deaccession of Butterfly Collection* Museum Services Director Shawn Lum presented a request to remove a large moth and butterfly collection from the Eastern Sierra California Museum’s permanent collection, and to permanently gift it to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, which has been loaning the exhibit from Inyo County since 1989. She explained that the collection includes more than 11,000 specimens that Eastern California Museum is not equipped to store or properly care for.

Linda Chaplin of Independence inquired about the benefactor, whom she said likely had a good reason for choosing the Eastern California Museum as the collection recipient. She said the museum should keep some of them on display. Ms. Lum explained that only a small fraction of the collection includes local species, the collection contains only a minor amount of species from Inyo County, and the benefactor’s relatives were more interested in dispersing the estate than the science of it.

Supervisor Kingsley added that the exhibit can be viewed online.

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to: A) approve the deaccession of the “George E. Malcolm Jr. Lepidoptera Collection” from the Eastern California Museum permanent collections; and B) approve the transfer and permanent gift of the

“George E. Malcolm Jr. Lepidoptera Collection” to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County from the Eastern California Museum. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO – MOU for Jobs Accelerator Partnership*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve a Memorandum of Understanding forming the Eastern Sierra Rural Jobs Accelerator Partnership for the purpose of organizing key community and regional stakeholders into a working group that focuses on the shared goals and needs of the emerging Climate Innovations Industry Cluster, contingent upon the award of a Rural Innovations Stronger Economy (RISE) grant through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and authorize the County Administrative Officer to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Behavioral Health – Deleting and Adding Residential Caregivers*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to amend the Authorized Strength in Behavioral Health by deleting two (2) A-Par Residential Caregiver I-III positions and adding one (1) B-Par Residential Caregiver I-III position. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Pucci out of the room at the time of the vote.

*Water Department – OVGA Rep Direction*

Dr. Aaron Steinwand sought direction from the Board for the County’s Owens Valley Groundwater Authority representatives in advance of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting scheduled for April 14, 2022. He cited two major items of importance: approval of the FY 2022-23 Budget and consideration of modifying the OVGA boundaries to exclude Mono County. He added with regard to the former, member contributions are not included in the draft budget per staff recommendation. Supervisor Totheroh, the Board’s representative on OVGA, said he would vote with staff’s recommendation unless any other Board members had objections. They did not.

Lynn Martin commented that too many acronyms are being used that are probably obscure to most of the public and said an online guide would be helpful.

*Information Services – Broadband Task Force Update*

The Board heard an update from Information Services Director Scott Armstrong on Inyo County’s Broadband Task Force activities to date. Lynn Martin renewed her comment about obscure acronyms.

*Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of April 5, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Comment*

Chairperson Totheroh asked for public comment on items not calendared on the agenda.

Public comment was made by Wes French and Cari Arnal.

*Board Member and Staff Reports*

Supervisor Kingsley reported attending a meeting of the board for the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District, having a consultation with tribal members, and touring the Haiwee Dam and Olancha bypass projects on Monday with CAO Chapman. He also praised the successful celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Courthouse.

Supervisor Roeser spoke about her appreciation of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Courthouse celebration and requested a press release be issued regarding the April 19 Board meeting in Death Valley.

Supervisor Totheroh reported attending ESCOG and ESTA meetings last week and noted he would be attending meetings for Behavioral Health and OVGA this week.

*Adjournment*

Chairperson Totheroh adjourned the meeting at 1:47 p.m., to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 19, 2022 in the courtyard of the Ranch at the Oasis in Furnace Creek, Death Valley National Park.

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Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

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

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