




# County of Inyo

## Board of Supervisors

**April 25, 2023**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:30 a.m., on April 25, 2023, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Jennifer Roeser, presiding, Trina Orrill, Scott Marcellin, Matt Kingsley, and Jeff Griffiths. Also present: County Administrator Nate Greenberg, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis, and Office Technician Hayley Carter.

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| <i>Closed Session</i>   | The Chairperson asked for public comment related Closed Session items and there was nobody wishing to speak.   |
| <i>Public Comment</i>   |  |
| <i>Closed Session</i>   | Chairperson Roeser recessed open session at 8:31 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): No. 2 <b>Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation</b> - Initiation of litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(d)(4): two potential cases. Facts and circumstances of Case 2: Coso Geothermal failure to pay documentary transfer tax; No. 3 <b>Conference with County's Labor Negotiators – Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6</b> – 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 Nate Greenberg, Assistant County Administrators Sue Dishion and Meaghan McCamman, Deputy Personnel Director Keri Oney, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Senior Budget Analyst Denelle Carrington, Health and Human Services Director Marilyn Mann, and Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson. |
| <i>Open Session</i>   | Chairperson Roeser recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:00 a.m. with all Board members present.  |
| <i>Pledge of Allegiance</i>   | Supervisor Griffiths led the Pledge of Allegiance.   |
| <i>Report on Closed Session</i>   | County Counsel Vallejo reported that no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported.  |
| <i>Public Comment</i>   | The Chairperson asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda. Public comment was made by Lauralynn Hundley.<br><br>Supervisor Kingsley reported on the status of a fire that occurred the day before in Darwin.  |
| <i>County Department Reports</i>  | HHS Director Marilyn Mann reminded the public about the Children's Memorial Day flag raising on Friday and said that HHS will be observing Mental Health Awareness Month in May by wearing green. Mann provided updates on the transfer of operations from Symons Ambulance Service to the new Emergency Medical Service provider Coast to Coast and said that Judd Symons was recently awarded the title of EMS Provider of the Year.   |
| <i>CAO-Emergency Services – SWCA Environmental Consultant Agreement Amendment No. 1</i> | Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the County of Inyo and SWCA Environmental Consultants, changing Paragraph 3B – Consideration, Travel and Per Diem to read: "Contractor will be paid or reimbursed for travel expenses or per diem which Contractor incurs in providing services and work under this Agreement pursuant to Attachment B – Schedule of Fees." Motion carried unanimously.   |

*Environmental Health – Ordinance 1295 (Well Permits)* Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve Ordinance 1295, titled, "An Ordinance of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Adding Sections 14.24.051 and 14.24.052 to the Inyo County Code to Revise and Clarify Procedures for the Processing of Applications for Groundwater Wells." Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Health & Prevention – CA Mutual Aid Cooperative Agreement/Region I and VI* Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Inyo (Mutual Aid Region VI) and Mutual Aid Region I for the provision of Mutual Aid, for the period of 5 years, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works – Preferred Septic Disposal Inc. Sole-Source Contract* Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Preferred Septic and Disposal, Inc. of Bishop, CA, as a sole-source provider of Trash Disposal and Recycling Services for County facilities, in an amount not to exceed \$233,000 for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026, 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.

*Public Works – United Rentals Sole-Source Contract* This item was pulled for discussion, and it was brought to the Board's attention that corrections were needed on the agreement under the contract amount as well as a necessary correction to wordage under the "Alternatives and Consequences" section.

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to make these corrections and: A) declare United Rentals of Ridgecrest, California a sole-source provider of equipment rentals; and B) authorize the issuance of a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$55,222.63, payable to United Rentals of Ridgecrest, California for equipment rentals. Motion carried unanimously.

*Water Department – LADWP Annual Operations Plan 2023-2024* Water Director Dr. Holly Alpert reviewed the draft 2023-2024 LADWP Annual Operations Plan.

Alpert said staff recommends that LADWP stay within the lower groundwater pumping proposal of 40,130 acre-feet which would allow for maximized groundwater and vegetation recovery, provide ample surface water for in-valley uses, and prepare for future drought conditions. She said staff also suggested that there be no groundwater export from the valley during this period of time. Inyo County Hydrologist Tim Moore answered Board questions.

Chairperson Roeser asked if there were any public comments, and no one wished to speak.

*Water Department – Inyo County Water Commission Workshop* The following Water Commissioners introduced themselves: Terry Red Owl, Randy Keller, Paul Huette, and Nate Gratz. (Commissioner Dan Berry was not in attendance.)

Water Commission Chairperson Terry Red Owl reported that Commission members are in agreement with the Water Department's recommendations.

Commission members shared concerns about water banking, the current 10-day turnaround deadline for responses to the operations plan, holding LADWP accountable for mitigation projects, and the accuracy of LADWP water export reporting.

Chairperson Roeser asked if there was anyone wishing to speak and public comments were given by Lynn Holton, Linda Chaplin, and Sally Manning.

Board members shared similar concerns to the Water Commission members about water banking and the need to keep the water in-valley for re-charge, as well as concerns about the accuracy of water export numbers.

The Board directed that the Water Department look further into why the proposed groundwater pumping in the Big Pine area is coming in lower than normal. Alpert said she would also reach out to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for more information

regarding whether the usage of water has changed for fish production at Fish Springs Fish Hatchery.

*CAO –  
Spring Runoff Planning  
and Response Efforts*

CAO Greenberg provided a summary of the spring runoff planning and response efforts and reminded attendees that there will be a multi-agency meeting at the Bishop fairgrounds on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. to discuss some of the more advanced preparations underway.

Deputy Public Works Director-Roads Shannon Platt and Sheriff's Lt. Nate Derr provided more details on those preparation efforts, including monitoring culverts and bridges, making repairs to flood-affected areas, and hauling sand for stockpiles, as well as spreading safety and awareness messages via social media.

*CAO-Personnel –  
Chief Information  
Officer Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) Approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Noam Shendar for the provision of professional services as the Chief Information Officer at Range 160, Step E, \$13,503 per month, effective April 27, 2023, and authorize the County Administrator to sign; and B) Approve the job description for Chief Information Officer. Motion carried unanimously.

*Recess/Reconvene*

The Chairperson recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:32 p.m. with all Board members present.

*HHS-Health &  
Prevention –  
Division Overview*

Health & Human Services Director Marilyn Mann and the following staff members provided the Board with an overview of the HHS-Public Health & Prevention division: Deputy HHS Director-Public Health and Prevention Stephanie Tanksley, Public Health Nurse Marissa Whitney, First 5 Program Manager Katelyn Lent, and Prevention Program Manager Sarah Downard.

*Public Comment*

Chairperson Roeser asked if there was any public comment pending for items not calendared on the agenda and there was no one wishing to speak.

*Board Member & Staff  
Reports*

CAO Greenberg said that he had attended the annual Board of Supervisors meeting in Southeast Inyo, an Eastern Sierra Council of Governments meeting, a Mono Inyo Air Service Working Group meeting, and a Substance Use Disorder Workshop. Greenberg also highlighted a new leadership development program and podcast club for Inyo County employees and expressed enthusiasm for an upcoming meeting with the new Chief Information Officer.

Supervisor Griffiths said that he attended the Health and Human Services Volunteer Appreciation dinner, was a guest lecturer at Cerro Coso, attended an Eastern Sierra Council of Governments meeting, an Earth Club Event, the Arts Council "Art Day", and a Substance Use Disorder Workshop.

Supervisor Orrill said that she attended a Mono Inyo Air Service Working Group meeting, an Eastern Sierra Council of Governments meeting, the California Association of Counties Legislative Conference, spoke at the Caltrans District 9 Memorial Ceremony, and toured the Shoshone-Tecopa area during her stay in Southeast Inyo for the annual Board meeting. Orrill added she will be attending the Children's Memorial Day flag raising ceremony.

Supervisor Marcellin thanked community members for their hospitality during the Board's annual Southeast Inyo meeting. Marcellin said that he attended the Health and Human Services Volunteer Appreciation dinner, a Local Transportation Commission meeting, a Local Agency Formation Commission meeting, Earth Day at Bishop City Park, and the Water Commission meeting.

Supervisor Kingsley said that he will be travelling to Darwin Saturday for constituent meetings on broadband services and the potential for spring runoff to affect road access. Kingsley said he attended constituent meetings to hear concerns about spring runoff and the possible effects it will have on the accessibility of Mt. Whitney Portal Road and Horseshoe

Meadow Road.

Supervisor Roeser said that she attended the Towns to Trails program kick-off meeting, the annual Southeast Inyo Board meeting, and the Emergency Medical Care Committee meeting.

*Adjournment*

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m. to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 2, 2023, in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

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Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: NATE GREENBERG  
Clerk of the Board*

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