

# MINUTES



# County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

**November 26, 2019**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 9:02 a.m., on November 26, 2019, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Rick Pucci, presiding, Dan Totheroh, Jeff Griffiths. Absent: Mark Tillemans and Matt Kingsley.

*Pledge*

CAO Clint Quilter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

*Memorial  
Adjournment*

Chairperson Pucci announced the passing of longtime local resident and member of various committees, Mr. Earl Wilson of Lone Pine. He said Wilson was always very passionate and dedicated to the Owens Valley and was the most frequent meeting attendee and provider of public comment in the time the Chairperson has been serving on the Board. He said the County will miss Earl and today's meeting will be closed in his honor.

*Public Comment*

Chairperson Pucci opened the first public comment period.

Supervisor Griffiths, representing the Inyo Council for the Arts, presented Sheriff Hollowell with a \$750 donation for the Eastern Sierra Peace Officers Association's Shop with a Cop program.

Linda Chaplin of Independence said she first met Earl Wilson a few years ago and has been very inspired by his grassroots activism.

*County Department  
Reports*

Public Works Director Mike Errante reported that the biplane abandoned on the side of Poleta Road has been removed from the right-of-way by a company contracted by the owner's insurance company. He also said Road Department crews are prepared for the severe winter storm expected this week.

Planning Director Cathreen Richards distributed a flyer announcing BLM is seeking comments on the Alabama Hills Stewardship Plan. She also said IMACA has applied for a grant for a safe parking project being done in conjunction with Church of the Nazarene in Bishop to allow 10-12 vehicles to park overnight, with access to the church's bathrooms and supportive programs. She said the project will require a Conditional Use Permit approved by the Planning Commission.

Sheriff Hollowell reported that one of his new deputies and former Ridgecrest peace officer, Daniel Armogida, was honored November 21 during Kern County's annual awards ceremony for rescuing two individuals – including one who was strapped into a wheelchair – from a burning residence. Sheriff Hollowell said he is honored to have someone of Deputy Armogida's caliber working for the department.

*Clerk of the Board –  
Pioneer Cemetery  
District Appointment*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to reappoint Ms. Diane Corsaro to a four-year term on the Pioneer Cemetery District Board of Trustees ending December 27, 2019. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, with Supervisors Kingsley and Tillemans absent.

*Road Dept. –  
Rudnick Fence Co.  
Bid Award and  
Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to: A) award the contract for the Mazourka Shop Fencing Project to Rudnick Fence Co. of Bakersfield, CA as the successful bidder; B) approve the construction contract between the County of Inyo and Rudnick Fence Co. of Bakersfield, CA in the amount of \$55,380.00, 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 3-0, with Supervisors Kingsley and Tillemans absent.

*Road Dept. – Bishop Ford Bid Award and Purchase*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to declare Bishop Ford of Bishop, CA the successful bidder for one (1) new 2020 Ford Super Duty F-350 truck per Bid No. OCT-2019-TRUCK; and B) authorize the purchase of one (1) 2020 Ford Super Duty F-350 truck from Bishop Ford of Bishop, CA in an amount not to exceed \$38,738.40. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, with Supervisors Kingsley and Tillemans absent.

*Planning – Dark Skies Workshop*

Associate Planner Tom Schaniel presented a workshop to the Board regarding issues related to night-time light pollution and potential regulation of exterior lighting. He noted that the recently passed Earl Wilson of Lone Pine helped bring the issue to the County's attention and was instrumental in the push for a solution to light pollution. He explained that following Planning's workshop in June of 2018, staff has held a series of public workshops throughout the County and in front of the Planning Commission, and been meeting with a Dark Skies working group to get a better understanding of the elements that are currently regulated by the California Building Standards and the issues the County may consider regulating beyond current State regulation, and has continued to examine ways the County can take the lead in non-code related Dark Skies policies. Schaniel went through a detailed PowerPoint presentation, which included recommendations for adding proposed elements to County Code, such as making the whole county an LZ2 Area (per State regulations), and defining and prohibiting lighting nuisance and trespass, which would allow for code enforcement against light nuisances. He said staff recommended public outreach in the Bishop area and a presentation to the Planning Commission with input from the public meeting, and development of a Zoning Code Text Amendment to bring for Board approval. Supervisor Totheroh said he agreed with the code suggestions and Supervisor Griffiths said he was comfortable with the next steps as suggested. Chairperson Pucci said he supported public education and making sure they had access to the proper lighting before enforcement and penalties. He also cautioned that a lot of residents use outdoor lighting for safety purposes and encouraged the exploration of dark skies tourism as a separate issue. The discussion was opened to public comment. Linda Chaplin of Independence encouraged the Board and Planning Department to continue moving toward regulating light pollution as it's an issue she believes is important to and affects a lot of people who aren't always comfortable confronting their neighbors. She said the Planning Department came up with some really good ideas, and noted that this issue was near and dear to Earl Wilson's heart and he was definitely looking forward to seeing a resolution. After additional discussion, the Board directed the Planning Department to move forward as recommended by staff, being careful to take safety issues into account.

*Planning – BLM Ivanpah MOU*

Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Inyo and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to be a cooperating agency for the purpose of preparing the environmental document for the Southern California Edison Ivanpah-Control Project, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, with Supervisors Kingsley and Tillemans absent.

*HHS – Admin Analyst I-II*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of Health, Social Services and Mental Health funding (no General Funds) for the position of Administrative Analyst I or II exists, as certified by the Health and Human Services Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) where internal candidates meet the qualifications for the position, the vacancy could possibly be filled through an internal recruitment, but an external recruitment would be more appropriate to ensure qualified applicants apply; and C) approve the hiring of either an Administrative Analyst I at Range 68 (\$4,444-\$5,400) or II at Range 70 (\$4,660-\$5,668), depending upon qualifications. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, with Supervisors Kingsley and Tillemans absent.

*HHS-ESAAA – BPAR PSA I-II*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for one (1) B-PAR Program Services Assistant I-III exists in a non-General Fund budget, as certified by the Health and Human Services Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) where due to the part-time nature of this position it is unlikely that the position could be filled by internal candidates meeting the qualifications for the position, an open recruitment would be appropriate to ensure qualified applicants apply; and C) approve the hiring of one (1) B-PAR Program Services Assistant,

either a I at Range 39 PT (\$11.93 - \$14.48/hr.), a II at Range 42PT (\$12.75 to \$15.52/hr.), or a III at Range 50PT (\$15.35 to \$18.63/hr.), depending upon qualifications. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, with Supervisors Kingsley and Tillemans absent.

*Taboose Fire  
Emergency*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to terminate the local emergency that was proclaimed as the result of Taboose Fire. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, with Supervisors Kingsley and Tillemans absent.

*Here it Comes  
Emergency*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths 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 3-0, with Supervisors Kingsley and Tillemans absent.

*Rocky Road  
Emergency*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to continue the local emergency known as the "Rocky Road Emergency" that was proclaimed as the result of flooding, mud, and rock landslides and deep snow drifts over portions of Inyo County caused by an atmospheric river weather phenomena that began January 3, 2017 and continued throughout February. Motion carried unanimously 3-0, with Supervisors Kingsley and Tillemans absent.

*Public Comment*

Chairperson Pucci asked for public comment during the final public comment period.

HHS Director Marilyn Mann notified the Board that HHS is preparing for next year's Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging Area Planning process and will begin distributing needs surveys next week.

*Board Member and  
Staff Reports*

Supervisor Griffiths reported he attended last night's City Council meeting, where the Council approved the ESCOG Joint Powers Authority by a 3-2 vote; Caltrans will be installing a special pedestrian light crossing on West Line Street; Pioneer Home Health Care is hosting its annual open house for Hospice next Wednesday; and he will be attending the Annual CSAC Conference in San Francisco next week.

CAO Quilter wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Chairperson Pucci also wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving, and noted he will not be at the December 10 Board meeting.

*Adjournment*

Chairperson Pucci adjourned the meeting in memory of Earl Wilson at 10:13 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, December 10, 2019 in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

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Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: CLINT G. QUILTER  
Clerk of the Board*

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