

# MINUTES



# County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

**May 19, 2020**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 10:04 a.m., on May 19, 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 Tothoroh, Jeff Griffiths, Rick Pucci, and Mark Tillemans.

*Pledge of Allegiance* Chairperson Kingsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

*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. Nobody requested to speak to the Board via the "hand-waving" feature on Zoom.

*County Department Reports* HHS Director Marilyn Mann updated the Board on potential impacts from the Governor's Revised Budget.

Assessor Dave Stottlemyre reported on special interest groups lobbying the State Board of Equalization for changes in the property tax system.

Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson updated the Board on the Governor's Revised Budget.

*COVID-19 Staff Update* HHS Director Marilyn Mann reported that the County's Stage 2 waiver was approved on Friday, allowing more businesses to open. She said other businesses still remain in Stage 3, which she hopes the County can transition to sooner rather than later. She also reported that the State announced the potential for some Stage 3 reopenings in June.

Public Health Officer Dr. James Richardson said it has been 32 days without a new COVID-19 case, adding that with the County in almost a pre-COVID state, it is important to continue the universal masking and other public health measures to avoid a resurgence. He said the local risk level will never be at zero, so residents should remain vigilant.

Assistant County Administrator Leslie Chapman reported a flurry of activity on the Reopening Businesses section of the County website. She said more than 20 businesses have submitted their attestation forms and been approved to reopen. She noted that the County is also accepting attestations in advance of Stage 3, although they won't be approved until the County moves to that stage.

Sheriff Hollowell reported an uptick in dispersed camping, and quite a few visitors moving back into the Alabama Hills. He said his department assisted the BLM in getting those visitors out of the Hills, the reopening of which he will be discussing with the BLM soon.

Chairperson Kingsley said it is important that the various agencies keep their messaging consistent as they move forward to reopening the county. Supervisor Griffiths said the misinformation being put out to the public is frustrating, citing an incident over the weekend when a Facebook post with incorrect information caused an uproar and Ms. Chapman took abuse for it – which he said is not right and not fair. He thanked the County's COVID team for working hard 7 days a week to keep the county safe and help businesses reopen. Supervisor Pucci said he knows everyone from the Board to staff is taking a lot of flak from the public but part of the reason the County was approved for its variance so quickly is because of the measures it has been taking.

Deputy County Counsel Grace Chuchla provided an update on the County's anti-eviction ordinance which sunsets May 31. She said the Judicial Council of California recently approved eviction regulations that go beyond the County's moratorium and she recommended the County hold off on any action until more is known about the impacts on tenants and landlords.

CAO Quilter reported that, from a public health perspective, the County is trying to get clarification on opening fishing season while the Governor's non-essential travel order is in effect. He said staff would then determine whether to bring a letter forward for Board approval requesting fishing season be opened.

*CAO-Advertising  
County Resources –  
Final FY 19-20 Film  
Commissioner  
Report*

Inyo Film Commissioner Chris Langley presented to the Board his final written report of Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

*HHS –  
Correctional Nurse*

Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of Non-General Funds for a Correctional Nurse exists in the non-General Fund Public Health budget, as certified by the Health and Human Services Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and the Auditor-Controller; B) whereas it is unlikely that the Correctional Nurse position could be filled by internal candidates meeting the qualifications of the position, an open recruitment would be appropriate to ensure qualified applicants apply for that specialized position; and C) approve the hiring of one (1) Correctional Nurse at Range 78 (\$5,628 - \$6,839) if filled with a Registered Nurse, or at Range 80 (\$5,900 - \$7,176) if filled with a Public Health Nurse. Motion carried unanimously.

*Clerk-Recorder –  
Cash Difference  
Fund/Reso # 2020-  
21*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Resolution No. 2020-21, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Authorizing the Creation of a Cash Difference Fund for the Inyo County Clerk-Recorder," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Fiscal – FY 18-  
19 IHSS MOE  
Payments*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to authorize the expenditure of \$134,212 for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 In-Home Support Services Maintenance of Effort payments. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –  
CARES Act Airport  
Grants*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to authorize the Public Works Director to sign the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act grants for the Bishop Airport, Lone Pine Airport and Independence Airport and the forthcoming FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants. Motion carried unanimously.

*Road Department –  
Traffic Paint Bid  
Award and Purchase*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to: A) declare Interstate Sales of Auburn, CA the successful bidder for 70 drums (55 gallon capacity) of Traffic Paint per Bid No. RD2020-03; and B) authorize the purchase of 70 drums of traffic paint from Interstate Sales of Auburn, CA in an amount not to exceed \$42,123.79. Motion carried unanimously.

*Road Department –  
Asphalt Bid Award  
and Purchase*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to: A) declare Granite Construction Company of Bakersfield, CA the successful bidder for 9,000 Tons of Plant (Cold) Mix Asphalt per Bid No. RD2020-02; and B) authorize the purchase of 9,000 tons of cold mix asphalt from Granite Construction Company of Bakersfield, CA in an amount not to exceed \$780,648.75. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO/Auditor-  
Controller/Treasurer-  
Tax Collector –  
Annual OPEB Trust  
Update*

Representatives from PARS presented to the Board the annual Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust update. Treasurer-Tax Collector Alisha McMurtrie discussed the recent volatility of the stock market and thanked PARS for being so responsive during this time. Auditor-Controller Amy Shepherd said the Financial Advisory Committee wanted to consider moving from a pool account to an individual account, which would give the County more personalized investment strategies at no additional cost. She said the switch can be authorized by the plan administrators and wouldn't require Board approval. Supervisors Griffiths and Pucci noted that none of the FAC members could not see a downside when it was discussed at the

last FAC meeting. The Board was agreeable to the move.

*Clerk-Recorder –  
Governor’s Election  
Executive Order*

Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters Kammi Foote conducted a workshop regarding the Governor’s Executive Order N-64-20, which calls for the November 3, 2020 General Election to be conducted as an all vote-by-mail ballot election. She explained it requires that ballots be mailed to all voters in advance of the election, and also requires in-person voting opportunities be made available. Foote noted these requirements will come with logistical, budgetary, and public health challenges (most of her election volunteers are older residents). She described the order in more detail, as well as several items not included in the Executive Order that will require urgent action and advanced planning. Foote also reported on two related pieces of legislation. She said while most of the county already votes by mail, there are voters who do prefer to cast their ballots in person and she planned to accommodate that. Foote said when the various regulations are put in place, she will let the Board of Supervisors and public know more.

*Board Member and  
Staff Reports*

Supervisor Pucci encouraged his fellow Board members to read the report put out by RCRC on the Governor’s Revised Budget.

Supervisor Griffiths reported he was busy over the weekend speaking with residents who are excited, scared, or curious about the County moving into Phase 2.

Supervisor Totheroh thanked all those who worked so hard to get the County in a position to be able to safely move forward through Phase 2.

Chairperson Kingsley reported attending a webinar meeting of the Inyo-L.A. Standing Committee last Friday, and noted that RCRC is trying to identify the best way to advocate for all rural counties during the COVID-19 pandemic despite them being at different phases and in different situations.

*Recess/Reconvene*

The Chairperson recessed the meeting for a break at 12:43 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 1 p.m. with all Board members present.

*Recess/Reconvene –  
Board of Equalization*

Chairperson Kingsley recessed the Board of Supervisors meeting at 1 p.m. and reconvened as the Board of Equalization (separate minutes to be approved at next Board of Equalization meeting) with all members present. The Chairperson recessed the Board of Equalization meeting at 2:24 p.m. and reconvened as the Board of Supervisors with all members present.

*Adjournment*

Chairperson Kingsley adjourned the meeting at 2:24 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 26, 2020 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*