

# MINUTES



# County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

## February 9, 2021

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:31 a.m., on February 2, 2021, 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 Jeff Griffiths, presiding, Dan Totheroh, Rick Pucci, Jennifer Roeser, and Matt Kingsley. Also present: County Administrative Officer Clint Quilter, Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis, and County Counsel Marshall Rudolph.

### *Public Comment*

Chairperson Griffiths asked if there was any public comment pending for items not calendared on the agenda.

The Assistant Clerk of the Board said she had received none as of right then. Via Zoom, Allen Berrey referenced the Sheriff's \$20 million claim against the County alleging emotional distress. He said the claim should be taken as an admission that the Sheriff is unfit for duty as a sworn officer and that he should resign. He said he didn't think now was a good time, during a pandemic and with the responsibility of enforcing public health orders, for the Sheriff to be so addled. He said that, as a citizen, it is distressing to see a sworn officer in that much distress, and urged the Board to show leadership by making a finding that the Sheriff is unfit for office.

### *Closed Session*

Chairperson Griffiths recessed open session at 8:34 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 – 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; and No. 3. **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: Veterans Service Officer.

### *Open Session*

Chairperson Griffiths recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:05 a.m. with all Board members present.

### *Pledge of Allegiance*

Supervisor Griffiths 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 Griffiths asked if there was any public comment pending for items not calendared on the agenda.

Via Zoom, Joshua Nicholson asked for a brief update on the recruitment of a full-time Veteran Service Officer. CAO Quilter said the Board will be interviewing candidates this afternoon.

### *County Department Reports*

Public Works Director Mike Errante provided updates on the Consolidated Office Building and North Round Valley Bridge project.

### *COVID-19 Staff*

The Board heard staff's weekly update on the status of COVID-19 cases locally, as well as

*Update*

state and national trends. Staff also updated the Board on the distribution on vaccines and ongoing testing. HHS Director Marilyn Mann said, despite two additional deaths, the county continues to see a downward trend in positive COVID-19 cases. Deputy HHS Director-Public Health Anna Scott said staff is continuing to work with the State to identify data disconnects and noted that the State is transitioning to vaccine distribution based on population. Public Health Officer Dr. James Richardson said he is encouraged that the more vaccines that are given out, the more case rates are declining. He noted that all of the county's Skilled Nursing Facilities have been vaccinated. Assistant CAO Leslie Chapman said her team is busy reviewing applications received for the Community Resiliency Grant, and added that she was able to apply for a grant to match the \$100,000 to be distributed by the County.

*HHS – Administrative Analyst I-II*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and Supervisor Pucci for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for one (1) Administrative Analyst exists in non-General Fund budgets, as certified by the Health & Human Services Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) where internal candidates may meet the qualifications for the position, the vacancy could possibly be filled through an internal recruitment, but an open recruitment is more appropriate to ensure qualified applicants apply; C) approve the hiring of one (1) Administrative Analyst I at Range 68 (\$4,533- \$5,508) or Administrative Analyst II at Range 70 (\$4,753 - \$5,781); and D) if an internal candidate is hired as a result of the open recruitment, authorize HHS to backfill resulting vacancy. Motion carried unanimously.

*Water Department – 5 Seasonal Field Assistants*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for the requested positions exists, as certified by the Water Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller; B) where internal candidates meet the qualifications for the positions, the vacancies could possibly be filled through internal recruitment, but an open recruitment would be more appropriate; and C) approve the hiring of five (5) seasonal Field Assistant I's at Range 050PT (\$15.97 - \$19.39 per hour), from June 1, 2021 through August 27, 2021, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget. Motion carried unanimously.

*Motor Pool – Four Police Utility Vehicles*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to award a contract to Bishop Ford for the purchase of (4) four 2021 Ford Explorer Police Utility Units and (1) one 2021 Ford Expedition SSV and approve a purchase order in the amount of \$231,536.76. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works – Progress House Generator Project Plans & Specs*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the bid package for the Progress House Generator Project and authorize the Public Works Director to advertise and bid the project. Motion carried unanimously.

*BOS – ESSRP Project Prioritization*

The Board heard a presentation from the Eastern Sierra Sustainable Recreation Partnership on its Sustainable Recreation and Tourism Initiative. Discussion ensued about general priorities and values, and the Board agreed to do its homework on specific projects and priorities in order to discuss specifics next week.

*Planning – REAP Grant/Reso# 2021-16*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve Resolution No. 2021-16, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California Authorizing Application for, and Receipt of, the State of California Regional Planning Action Planning (REAP) Grant Program Funds," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS – Medi-Cal Managed Care Services Presentation*

The Board received a presentation from Jarrod McNaughton and Thomas Pham of Inland Empire Health Plan on the possibility of partnering with Inyo County to provide Medi-Cal Managed Care Services for Inyo County Medi-Cal beneficiaries. HHS staff said they will return with the Board at a future date with a letter of intent.

*Water Department – Direction for OVGA Reps*

Water Director Dr. Aaron Steinwand sought direction from the Board to the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority representatives in advance of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting scheduled for February 11, 2021. Dr. Steinwand reviewed the agenda with the Board, calling the items fairly routine and noting they included a presentation from the Groundwater

Sustainability Plan consultant that is wrapping up the technical analysis. He said they're getting close to preparing an administrative draft for the OVGA.

*CAO – Wolverine Lease Agreement Amendment 2*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve Amendment No. 2 to the Build to Suit Lease Agreement between the County of Inyo and Wolverine/Inyo LLC, a Texas limited liability company, for the real property described as the Inyo County Consolidated Office Building, 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.

*Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of January 26, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Comment*

The Chairperson solicited public comment for the final public comment period.

The Assistant Clerk of the Board did not receive any emailed comments and nobody requested to speak to the Board via the "hand-waving" feature on Zoom.

*Board Member and Staff Reports*

Supervisor Kingsley reported having several constituent meetings and phone conversations with constituents.

Supervisor Roeser reported also having many constituent meetings and said she will be touring the Fish Springs hatchery with the Big Pine Tribe's water director.

Chairperson Griffiths reported having a busy week as well, including attending a CSAC Rural Caucus meeting and meeting with Kristi More of The Ferguson Group. He said he will attend a summit on dispersed camping on Thursday and meetings of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority and Eastern Sierra Council of Governments on Friday.

*Closed Session*

Chairperson Griffiths recessed open session at 12:27 p.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present at 1:30 p.m. to continue discussion and possible action as appropriate on previously noted closed session items.

*Open Session*

Chairperson Griffiths recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 4:15 p.m. with all Board members present.

*Report on Closed Session*

County Counsel Rudolph reported that no action was taken that is required to be reported.

*Adjournment*

Chairperson Griffiths adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 16, 2021 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*

