

# MINUTES



# County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

**June 29, 2021**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in special session at the hour of 8:15 a.m., on June 29, 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.

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

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

There were no letters submitted for items not calendared on the agenda, and nobody requested to speak via Zoom.

*Personnel – CAEHA Contract Amendment 1* Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Amendment #1 to the contract between the County of Inyo and the California Association of Environmental Health Administrators (CAEHA), increasing the contract amount in an amount not to exceed \$87,012, contingent upon signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

*Environmental Health – Tecopa Vending Fee Waiver/Reso # 2021-36* Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve Resolution No. 2021-36, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Approving a Waiver of Certain Environmental Health Permit Fees Related to the Tecopa Vending Machine," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Personnel – Clerk-Recorder Interviews, Appointment* CAO Quilter provided an overview of the process to recruit candidates to serve out the remainder of former Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters Kammi Foote's four-year term, as well as the suggested process for conducting today's public interviews of the final applicants. The Chairperson opened the floor to public comment but nobody requested to speak. Interviews commenced with candidates in the following order: Wils Cain, Danielle Sexton, Mikaela Torres, and Adam Dorris. Each candidate was afforded five minutes total for an opening presentation/statements, after which each of the Board members asked a single question they prepared in advance. The questions were posed to each candidate in the following order:

- Supervisor Totheroh: How would you respond to someone who tries to pressure you to alter election results?
- Chairperson Griffiths: How do you view the balance between being an independently elected official and working with the entire county team?
- Supervisor Pucci: In your opinion what do you believe will be the most pressing issue facing our Clerk Recorder's Office in the foreseeable future?
- Supervisor Roeser: What is your philosophy about the current state of elections and how would you ensure that Inyo County's election integrity is maintained?
- Supervisor Kingsley: Given the high level of interest and scrutiny given to the election in year 2020 cycle, tell us your comfort level with meeting the public's expectations for transparency and access to the elections process. Also tell us what kinds of outreach you might do to engage with the more remote communities of Keeler, Olancho, Darwin, Shoshone, and Tecopa.

After the prepared questions, the Chairperson opened the floor to any follow-up comments from the Board (there were none) and closing statements from the applicants (each accepted

the opportunity). Chairperson Griffiths also solicited public comment a final time. Tiffany Lau of District 3 in Bishop asked what steps the candidate(s) would take, if appointed, to provide voters reassurance in not just the local voting process, but nationwide as well since issues in other jurisdictions can affect voter confidence.

Chairperson Griffiths asked whether his fellow Board members were ready to deliberate and make an appointment today, or direct staff to schedule appointment for an upcoming meeting. It was the consensus of the Board that, with the Special Recall Election looming for California, it was best to not delay the appointments any further. Board members one by one gave their impressions of each candidate. Mr. Dorris was thanked for his time, and congratulated on putting himself out there. Board members encouraged him to continue seeking job opportunities with the County. Ms. Torres was complimented on her opening presentation and well thought-out answers, with Board members saying they were impressed with her intelligence and enthusiasm. Mr. Cain was commended for his work with the Clerk-Recorder's Office as one of its current staff members. Board members called his boots-on-the-ground experience invaluable and his skillset and drive assets to the department. Ms. Sexton was complimented on her research of upcoming election related legislation, with Board members noting that she seemed to have the best grasp on the legal requirements of the Clerk-Recorder position, as well as having much experience with organization, procedure, and efficiency through her job with Superior Court. Board members also commented on her temperament, which they said was ideal for instilling confidence and trust in the community. After further deliberations, the Board agreed Ms. Sexton was the top candidate. Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to appoint Danielle Sexton to the office of Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voter effective July 1, 2021, to serve out the remainder of a term expiring at noon on the first Monday of January 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Comment*

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

There were no letters submitted for items not calendared on the agenda, and nobody requested to speak via Zoom.

*Adjournment*

Chairperson Griffiths adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 6, 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*