

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

July 27, 2021

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:38 a.m., on July 27, 2021, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present in person and broadcasting over webinar per California Governor Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-08-21: Chairperson Jeff Griffiths, presiding, Dan Tothoroh, Rick Pucci, Jennifer Roeser, and Matt Kingsley. Also present: Assistant County Administrative Officer Leslie Chapman, 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.

Several individuals addressed the Board to express their outrage and demand transparency, accountability, and justice in the aftermath of the use-of-force incident involving Inyo County Sheriff deputies and Bishop resident George Barlow III, who is hospitalized with serious injuries. Jolie Varela submitted a comment letter, which she also read aloud.

Chairperson Griffiths noted that, per the Brown Act, the Board cannot engage in conversation during the Public Comment period.

Closed Session

Chairperson Griffiths recessed open session at 8:39 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): No. 2. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION** – Significant exposure to potential litigation pursuant to (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9: one potential case; No. 3. **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: County Administrator; No. 4. **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: County Counsel; and No. 5 **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 – Acting 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.

Open Session

Chairperson Griffiths recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:22 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance

County Counsel Rudolph led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report on Closed Session

County Counsel Rudolph reported that by unanimous vote of all Board members present, with all members in attendance, the Board appointed Assistant CAO Leslie Chapman to the position of CAO, effective immediately. He noted that the terms of the appointment would be included in a contract to be brought forth for Board approval at a future meeting.

Public Comment

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

Several individuals, including Monica Sigala, George Barlow Jr., Ramon Rodriguez, Sage Romero, and Shawn Louth spoke via Zoom to express their outrage and demand

transparency, accountability, and justice in the aftermath of the use-of-force incident involving Inyo County Sheriff deputies and Bishop resident George Barlow III, who is hospitalized serious injuries. Mr. Romero also spoke out against the Sheriff's Department "flying" Blue Lives Matter flags, which he noted is disrespectful to the flag and in violating of U.S. flag code.

Chairperson Griffiths said he understands everyone's passion, frustration, and shock, and asked for patience while the investigative process runs its course.

A few additional public comment letters were received over the course of the meeting and are included in the record.

County Department Reports

Sheriff Hollowell reported that, in an act of transparency, his office released body cam footage of the July 24 use of force incident. He said this is an active investigation, with the D.A. conducting his own independent investigation, and a press release will be sent out this afternoon.

HHS Director Marilyn Mann provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic, including an uptick in cases at the state and national levels due to the Delta variant, and said there has been a slight increase in cases locally but nowhere near the spike being seen statewide. She added that Public Health is stocked with PPE and has a good supply chain.

Recycling & Waste Management – Gate Attendant

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Roeser for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for one (1) Gate Attendant exists in Recycling and Waste Management, as certified by the Department Head 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; and C) approve the hiring of one (1) Gate Attendant at Range 50 (\$3,094 - \$3,764). Motion carried unanimously.

Planning – Senior Planner

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for one (1) Senior Planner exists in the Planning Department budget, as certified by the Planning 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; and C) approve the hiring of one (1) Senior Planner at Range 78 (\$5,971 - \$7,255). Motion carried unanimously.

CAO – Kristine Eisler Contract

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve the agreement between the County of Inyo and Kristine L. Eisler for the Provision of Professional Services As A Public Defender for the period of August 16, 2021 through June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$431,452, contingent upon the adoption of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS – Fiscal Experts Blanket P.O.

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to authorize the issuance of a blanket purchase order payable to Fiscal Experts, Inc. (Time Study Buddy) in the amount of \$19,000 for the automated time study and time card system in all Health & Human Services Programs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022, contingent upon the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-Behavioral Health – DHCS DMC Amendment 1

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve Amendment No. 20-10178 A01 to the three-year contract between the County of Inyo and the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) services for substance use treatment, increasing the contract to an annual amount of \$224,500, and a total contract amount not to exceed \$673,500, for the period beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023, contingent upon the Board's adoption of future budgets, and authorize the Health and Human Services Director to sign the Standard Agreement (STD Form 213), and one (1) California Civil Rights Laws Certification. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-Behavioral Health – Interim

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to appoint Marilyn Mann, HHS Director, as the Interim Local Mental Health Director and the authorized LPS (Lanterman-Petris-Short) Conservator, and authorize the Acting County Administrator to sign an Interim

<i>Local Mental Health Director</i>	Local Mental Health Director Appointment Letter. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-Social Services – Pitney Bowes Blanket P.O.</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to authorize the issuance of a blanket purchase order payable to Pitney Bowes in the amount of \$15,000 for postage in the Social Services Programs for Fiscal Year 2021-2022, contingent upon adoption of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Works – Quincy Engineering Amendment 1</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the County of Inyo and Quincy Engineering Inc. of Rancho Cordova, CA, extending the term end date from July 31, 2021 to June 30, 2023, contingent upon the adoption of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Works – Labor Day Parade Detour/Reso # 2021-40</i>	Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve Resolution No. 2021-40, titled, "A Resolution of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Designating a Standardized Detour for an Annual Labor Day Parade in Bishop; and Authorizing the Road Commissioner or his Designee to Execute Documents Related to this Closure," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-Behavioral Health – ICOE North Star Contract</i>	Supervisor Roeser requested that the item be pulled from the Consent Agenda and moved to Departmental for discussion and clarification. Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Inyo County Office of Education for the implementation of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Prevention Early Intervention (PEI) North Star Counseling Program Services in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 for the period of August 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Child Support – Child Support Awareness Month</i>	Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve a proclamation declaring August 2021 as Child Support Awareness Month in Inyo County. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Ag Commissioner-OVMAP – FY 21-22 Assessments/ Reso # 2021-41</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to adopt Resolution No. 2021-41 approving the Engineer's Report and confirming the diagram and assessments for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 for the "Owens Valley Mosquito Abatement Program Assessment" and the "Mosquito Control and Disease Prevention Assessment." Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS – Second Quarter DHCS Payment</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to ratify and approve the 2nd Quarter Payment to Department of Health Care Services, in the amount of \$17,381.00, for the County's share of the expenditures for the CCS treatment program, pursuant to Sections 123800-123955 of the Health and Safety code and Budget Act. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-Behavioral Health – DHCS MAT MOU</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to ratify and approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for continued implementation of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) expansion in the Inyo County Jail from July 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022 and authorize the HHS Director to sign the MOU. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Parks & Recreation – Tecopa Hot Springs Concessionaire Agreement</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to ratify and approve the concessionaire's agreement between the County of Inyo and Tecopa Hot Springs Conservancy, LLC of Las Vegas, NV for the operation and maintenance of the Tecopa Hot Springs Campground and Pools in Tecopa, CA for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2031, with two options to extend through June 30, 2041, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meetings of July 6, 2021 and July 20, 2021, and the special Board of Supervisors meeting of July 20, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Correspondence-</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to: A) authorize the Commission to send a letter to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife concurring with

Action – Fish & Wildlife Commission Letter

CDFW's policy to request local staff attending monthly Commission meetings and provide department updates; and B) approve a similar letter from the Board of Supervisors. 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-raising” feature on Zoom.

Board Member and Staff Reports

Supervisor Roeser gave kudos to Recycling & Waste Management Superintendent Cap Aubrey and his staff for attending to a litter issue near the Bishop Landfill, and said she attended a recent meeting of the Local Transportation Commission.

Supervisor Pucci said he also attended the LTC meeting and has been inundated with phone calls about the use-of-force incident and dispersed camping issues.

Supervisor Kingsley said he wanted to thank staff for their efforts the past couple of weeks during a sad and stressful time following the death of CAO Clint Quilter. He said he appreciated the level of support given by Leslie Chapman, Sue Dishion, Darcy Ellis, and all staff, and that it's important the County family continues to support each other and keep moving ahead during this time.

CAO Chapman said if she didn't seem grateful for the appointment to her post, it is only because she still mourns the loss of Clint. She said she is honored to be able to help provide some stability during this time and has big shoes to fill, but do the absolute best she can.

Supervisor Totheroh said he attended a meeting of the Owens Valley Groundwater Association last week.

Chairperson Griffiths said he dealt with housing and IMACA issues last week, and noted that Tuesday's veterans housing meeting was canceled due to Clint's passing.

Adjournment

Chairperson Griffiths adjourned the meeting at 11:46 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 3, 2021 in the County Administrative Center in Independence.



Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: *LESLIE CHAPMAN*
Clerk of the Board

by: _____
Darcy Ellis, Assistant