

MINUTES

County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

May 10, 2016

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:40 a.m., on Tuesday, May 10, 2016, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Jeff Griffiths, presiding, Dan Totheroh, Rick Pucci, Mark Tillemans and Matt Kingsley.

- PUBLIC COMMENT** The Chairperson announced public comment period and there was no one wishing to address the Board.
- CLOSED SESSION** The Chairperson recessed open session at 8:40 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss and take action as appropriate on Agenda Items No. 2 **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**. *Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9.* (Three cases); No. 3 **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS** – *(Government Code Section 54957.6).* Agency designated representatives: 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); Law Enforcement Administrators' Association (LEAA). Unrepresented employees: all. Agency designated representatives - County Administrative Officer, Kevin Carunchio, Assistant County Administrator, Rick Benson, Deputy Personnel Director, Sue Dishion, Information Services Director, Brandon Shults, County Counsel Marshall Rudolph, and Assistant County Counsel John Vallejo; No. 4 **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION** – *(Government Code Section 54957) Title: County Administrator*; No. 5 **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION** – *(Government Code Section 54957) Title: Environmental Health Director.*
- OPEN SESSION** The Chairperson recessed closed session at 10:05 a.m. to reconvene in open session at 10:15 a.m. with all Board Members present.
- PLEDGE** Supervisor Matt Kingsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION** County Counsel reported that with regard to closed session, no action was taken. In addition he reported that the Board had not concluded closed session and further discussion will continue later in the meeting.
- PUBLIC COMMENT** The Chairperson announced the public comment period and there was no one wishing to address the Board.
- COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS** Child Support Services Director, Susanne Rizo, reported on a cross training opportunity between the child support case workers and social service case workers. Staff attended the Child Support Directors Association Annual Conference. Shared services are likely to be the future model on how child support will be provided to families. Forms can now be provided to families electronically. Public Works Director, Clint Quilter, advised the Board that the County and LADWP have come to an agreement on the 4 routes of the Adventure Trails that leave from LADWP facilities. LADWP will be sending a letter of permission to the County this week. Once the letter has been received and the details have been reviewed and finalized and are as discussed, and the liability and indemnification issues have been addressed, the County is hoping the signs will go up in July. Planning Director Josh Hart reported that he had connected with the Bureau of Land Management on the response to the County's protest letter on the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan. The BLM was anticipating that the record of decision and the response to the County's protest would occur concurrently at the end of the summer. Supervisor Pucci wanted to bring attention to the bright green ties some of the Board members area wearing to bring attention to Mental Health Awareness Month.

POST AGENDA ITEM

The County Administrator announced that there was an urgency item that is being brought before the Board for consideration. The County received a draft letter from the Baseload Coalition, a coalition of California Counties that host either geothermal or biomass power plants. The draft letter is addressed to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to promote biomass and geothermal development in California. Inyo County can generally agree to this, but there has been background whisperings that part of doing that would be to issue property tax carve outs to geothermal power plants. Any legislative changes granting property tax exemptions to geothermal plants or plant improvements would be devastating to Inyo County. Administrator Carunchio continued by stating that from the very first CSAC meeting in December when the coalition was first developed, he has made the County's concerns known. Supervisor Griffiths and Auditor Controller Amy Shepherd have been monitoring calls and discussions on the subject and last week sent a letter to the Baseload Coalition reiterating these concerns on the property tax carve outs. The urgency item brought before the Board for consideration today is the draft letter that was received from the Baseload Coalition to the CPUC, which was received after the agenda was published and is asking counties to sign off on by this Wednesday, which will require action by your Board before the next regular meeting occurs. Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Tothoroh to add item 24A to the Agenda and make the determination that there is a need for immediate action and the need for immediate action came to the County's attention after the May 10, 2016 Agenda was posted. Motion carried unanimously. (See additional action taken later in the meeting.)

*PRESENTATION
EASTERN SIERRA
TRANSIT AUTHORITY*

Eastern Sierra Transit Authority Executive Director, John Helm, gave a presentation on the Short Range Transit Plan. The goal of the plan is to provide a 5 year road map for the Transit Authority to help guide the public transportation services. The plan also justifies federal and state funding and serves as justification for future grant applications for funds to be used for operating and capital improvement projects. The existing services are extensive and have an expansive and diverse service area that operates 430 linear miles from Lancaster and Los Angeles to Reno, Nevada and as far east as Tecopa and Pahrump, Nevada. 54% of the service hours are fixed service routes in the Mammoth area, 31% are Dial-A-Ride throughout the service areas, the 395 routes that go to Lancaster and Reno account for 12% and all others are 3%. Mr. Helm talked about some of the service plan recommendations that were proposed. A grant application was submitted for federal funding to possibly implement the recommended 5 day/week service to Reno and Lancaster as well as a summer Saturday service to Reno and Lancaster. ESTA should know by the end of the month whether the grant was approved or not. The plan also recommends a mid-day route from Lone Pine to Bishop. Currently there is a gap from the morning to late afternoon routes. The service recommendation also suggests adding an evening service to the Meridian corridor in Mammoth and expanding the Bishop Dial-A-Ride hours during the academic year. The plan also mentioned pursuing an outdoor recreation pilot program that would go up Bishop Creek drainage in the summer months and potential service to Whitney Portal. If grant funding becomes available, they also plan on doing some capital improvements at the bus stops in Mammoth, the transit center hub in Mammoth and at the Bishop operations facility. The Board thanked Mr. Helm for the presentation.

*CAO
MOTOR POOL
SPEEDWAY AUTO
DISMANTLING*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to: A) declare a 2004 Ford F250 as surplus; and B) retroactively approve the sale of the vehicle for scrap to Speedway Auto Dismantling in Ridgecrest; and C) approve the payment to American Towing in Ridgecrest in an amount not to exceed \$2,000. Motion carried unanimously.

*COUNTY COUNSEL
GREGORY L. JAMES
CONTRACT-
ENVIRONMENTAL*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Gregory L. James, Attorney at Law, for the provision of Environmental Attorney services, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, for the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, contingent upon the Boards approval of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget; and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*COUNTY COUNSEL
GREENAN, PEFFER,
SALLANDER & LALLY
CONTRACT*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Greenan, Peffer, Sallander & Lally, LLP for the provision of legal services, in an amount not to exceed \$175,000, for the term of May 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, contingent upon appropriate signatures being obtained and contingent upon the Boards approval of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget; and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY
COUNSEL/PLANNING
GREGORY L. JAMES
CONTRACT-YUCCA

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Gregory L. James, Attorney at Law, for the provision of legal services to the County related to the Yucca Mountain Repository Licensing Proceedings before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and related Court actions, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, for the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, contingent upon the Boards approval of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget; and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY
COUNSEL/WATER
GREGORY L. JAMES
CONTRACT-WATER

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Gregory L. James, Attorney at Law, for the provision of Water Attorney services to the Water Department, in an amount not to exceed \$60,000, for the period of July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, contingent upon the Boards approval of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget; and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS
RESO 2016-22
NOC
JAIL-HVAC PROJECT

On a motion by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans, Resolution 2016-22 entitled "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Authorizing the Recording of a Notice of Completion for the Inyo County Jail HVAC Replacement Project" was approved. Motion unanimously passed and adopted and authorized the recording of a Notice of Completion for the Inyo County Jail HVAC Replacement Project, and authorized the Chairperson to sign.

ROAD
PO BRITTS DIESEL

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve a blanket purchase order to Britt's Diesel and Automotive in the amount of \$5,000 for vehicle and equipment repair parts and tires for the Public Works and Road Departments, contingent upon adoption of the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 3rd Quarter Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

ROAD
NIH REMOVAL OF
TREE IN RIGHT OF
WAY BIRCH STREET

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve the request from property owner, Northern Inyo Hospital, to remove one (1) tree in the road right of way at 2957 Birch Street, Bishop, California. All tree removal costs will be borne by the requesting party, Northern Inyo Hospital. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS
LETTER OF
OPPOSITION AB 2395

Supervisor Kingsley stated that he wanted to engage the Board with this issue because the bill has provisions in it that would not be beneficial for the rural and isolated communities that are throughout Inyo County. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve a letter to Assemblyman Evan Low opposing AB 2395, which attempts to establish a framework for telecommunication providers to relinquish traditional landline services; and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO
THIRD QUARTER
FISCAL YEAR 2015-
2016 BUDGET
REPORT AND
ACTIONS

The County Administrator provided an overview of the third quarter budget review, stating that the report is generally positive. Only one budget needed to present a corrective action plan. With the third quarter adjustments, if implemented by the Board, it will put the County over the century mark for the first time in the County's history. These are really due to good things, such as investment in road and airport projects. General Fund expenses haven't gone up much, and again, the increase is due to good things and exciting projects. The Administrator continued by stating that staff and the departments are already starting on the FY 2016-2017 budget process. Department requested budgets were due at noon yesterday. Looking ahead, State and Federal budgets are always a concern and the labor negotiations with four bargaining units are occurring so any negotiated increase or decrease will need to be reflected in next year's budget and we don't know what those are yet. Retiree health benefit costs are increasing and we are now in the position to pay 100% of the health care cost premiums for most of our retirees. That overall cost is expected to increase \$100,000 in next year's budget. Health benefit increases are unknown at this time, but for budgeting purposes, it is being calculated at 8%. The PERS Safety Plan costs are continuing to go up to cover unfunded liabilities. Inyo has very low locally generated revenue. Property tax revenue will increase, mobile home valuation will go down, unsecured taxes will be going down. Hotel tax revenue will probably be status quo but may be negatively impacted next year due to fifth district hotel renovations which could take rooms out of circulation. To continue, the Administrator stated that costs beyond the County's control continue to creep up. Next year's requested budget is starting at a \$6.2 million dollar deficit. This is normal, usually in the \$5 - \$8 million dollar deficit range. These are preliminary numbers and departments will continue to make adjustments to their departmental requests. Moved by

Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Tothoroh to : A) accept the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 County Third Quarter Financial Report as presented; and B) approve the specific budget action items and recommendations discussed in the report and represented in Attachment A & B, and authorize the Auditor-Controller to make the budget adjustments as listed in Attachment A & B (*4/5's vote required*); and C) authorize the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller to make any additional year-end adjustments, as may be necessary within each fund (*4/5's vote required*); and D) approve the preliminary Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget Calendar (Attachment C) with regard to the proposed dates for the Budget Hearings and adoption of the Final Budget; and E) direct the County Administrator and Auditor Controller to prepare a modified rollover budget for the start of Fiscal Year 2016-2017 and present it for approval on June 21, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
KINGS VIEW
CONTRACT*

Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Tothoroh to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Kings View Corporation for the provision of health record management information services and support, in a total amount not to exceed \$530,000 for the term of May 10, 2016 through June 30, 2019 (estimated to be \$156,808 in Fiscal Year 2015-2016, \$129,775 in Fiscal Year 2016-2017, in \$117,516 in Fiscal Year 2017-2018, and \$125,901 in Fiscal Year 2018-2019), pending the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 3rd Quarter Budget and the Boards adoption of future years' Budgets, and authorize the HHS Director and the Chairperson to sign the contract and the HIPPA Business Association Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

*PUBLIC WORKS
ATP PROJECT
PRIORITIZATION*

Inyo County Public Works Department Senior Transportation Planner Courtney Smith spoke to the Board on the process for the call for Active Transportation Program (ATP) projects. This is the third cycle of ATP funding. The first cycle the County submitted 3 applications. #1 Town to Tract-bicycle lane project connecting Rolling Green/Knight Manor to Big Pine, #2 South Lone Pine-sidewalk project, and #3 Meadow Farms-sidewalk project. All 3 of the project grant applications were denied, but the Meadow Farms-sidewalk project caught the attention of Caltrans and they have found a different source of funding to move forward with that project. The County will be the lead applicant and Caltrans will be the implementing agency. In the second cycle of ATP funding, the LTC hired a consultant to complete the Town to Tract Bicycle Lane Project applications for the County and also for the City of Bishop. The City of Bishop's Spruce/Yaney/Hanby-sidewalk project was successful, but the County's projects were not. In this (the third) cycle of funding, staff developed an ATP Program Project Plan that ranks the priority of projects. In reviewing the list it was determined that the previously ranked top priority Town to Tract-bicycle lane project on Reynolds and County Roads could be completed in a much less expensive way by applying for LTC administered Pedestrian and Bicycle funds to paint the bicycle lanes. Supervisor Tillemans asked how the priority list was determined. Public Works Director Clint Quilter explained that staff did not make any determination on the priority of the list, they are just making recommendations for the Board to consider. The Reynolds/County road project has been submitted twice and it has been rejected both times because it did not score high enough in the rankings. If the Board would like to re-submit this project again, or re-prioritize the project list, it is their prerogative. Because the Big Pine project application had been rejected for ATP funding two times before, staff began to look at other options for funding. The Pedestrian and Bicycle funds may not make the Big Pine project as robust, but it will be an assigned bike lane going from town to tract. If the Board approves moving forward with the application for the Lone Pine-sidewalk project, staff has encouraged Caltrans to partner with the County to also submit an application, with Inyo County as the lead applicant. Supervisor Griffiths advocated for the Red Hill-bicycle lane project, stating this was an extremely popular route with bicyclists, visitors and travelers. Mr. Smith stated that if this project application was approved, a consultant would be hired to look at the different options on how it would be engineered. Moved by Supervisor Tothoroh and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve: A) the prioritization of the Active Transportation Program (ATP) projects as recommended and direct staff to submit application(s) on the top two ranked projects; and B) Authorize the submittal of a cover letter agreeing to partner and enter into an agreement with Caltrans District 9 and be the primary applicant for the South Lone Pine sidewalk project if the project is selected for funding; and C) Authorize the Public Works Department and Office of County Counsel to enter into any agreements necessary to implement the two proposed projects. Motion carried unanimously.

*PUBLIC WORKS
TAHOE FENCE CO,
INC. CONTRACT FOR
ANIMAL SHELTER
PROJECT*

Moved by Supervisor Tillemans and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: A) Award the bid for the Animal Shelter fencing project to Tahoe Fence Co. Inc. of Mound House, Nevada, in the amount of \$23,340; and B) approve a contract between the County of Inyo and Tahoe Fence Co. Inc. of Mound House, Nevada in the amount of \$23,340; and C) authorize the Chairperson to execute and sign the contract contingent upon obtaining appropriate signatures; and D) authorize the Public Works Director to execute all other contract documents including contract change orders, to the extent permitted by Public Contract Code Section 20142 and other applicable law. Motion carried unanimously.

*PLANNING
INYO NATIONAL
FOREST PLAN
UPDATE*

Planning Director Josh Hart reported to the Board that the Draft Inyo National Forest Plan Update/Revision is still on track to be released towards the end of May. Inyo National Forest Supervisor Ed Armenta indicated he would be available to come and speak to the Board and answer questions on either June 7th or July 19th. The 90 day comment period would end in late August. If the release date of the plan is delayed again, the June 7th meeting would not work so Mr. Hart suggested the July 19th date. The USFS will be having public meetings. Tentatively one is scheduled for June 13th in Mammoth and June 14th in Bishop. Supervisor Kingsley would like to suggest they have more meetings in Inyo County, one that would include the southern portion of Inyo. Supervisor Griffiths suggested the Board attend the USFS public meetings and then staff can schedule a Board meeting in late June to discuss information and or concerns that have been identified in the draft plan or discussed at the public meetings. In the meantime, Mr. Hart will invite Mr. Armenta to come to the July 19th Board meeting and any of the concerns can be brought before Mr. Armenta before anything is submitted and before the 90 day comment period expires. Supervisor Kingsley mentioned that even though Mr. Armenta indicated he would only be available on the June 7th or July 19th dates, if staff do bring this item to Board for discussion in late June, the USFS should still be invited. They may send other staff members.

*CLERK OF THE
BOARD
APPROVAL OF
MINUTES*

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve the minutes of the Board of Supervisors meeting of: A) Regular Meeting of April 12, 2016. Motion carried unanimously. Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans to approve the minutes of the Board of Supervisors meeting of: B) Regular Meeting of April 19, 2016. Motion carried unanimously with Supervisor Kingsley and Chairperson Griffiths abstaining.

*POST AGENDA ITEM
OFFICIAL SIGNATORY
OF THE BASELOAD
COALITION*

The Chairperson provided additional background information from this morning's discussion on the establishment of the Baseload Coalition and the draft letter proposed by them to be sent to the CPUC. After further discussion, the Chairperson stated that although biomass will not likely be something Inyo County could benefit from, and it is unknown if future geothermal projects are out there to be developed in Inyo County, by becoming an official signatory of the Baseload Coalition, it will at least keep Inyo County in the discussions. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve the County becoming an official signatory of the Baseload Coalition and authorize the signatory be included on the Baseload Coalition letter to the CPUC. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chairperson announced public comment period and there was no one wishing to address the Board.

*BOARD MEMBER AND
STAFF REPORTS*

Supervisor Tillemans reported that Congressman Cook will be in town over the Mule Days Celebration and the Congressman will be the featured speaker at the American Legion Annual Memorial Ceremony that will be held in Big Pine at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, May 30th. Supervisor Kingsley attended the public meeting in Pearsonville regarding the SGMA. The alfalfa growers were there and the nut growers sent a representative with a letter stating that they are not coming into Inyo County. Olancho has an arson dog. State Farm is buying these dogs and placing them around the state. There is an arson investigator that lives in Olancho so the dog was placed with him. He also attended the "Momma Majig" a Mother's Day celebration in Darwin. He also attended the Wild West Marathon. Supervisor Pucci reminded everyone of the Mule Days celebration coming up. The largest crowd expected since 2008. Supervisor Totheroh attended the Mental Health/Behavioral Health Awareness Committee meeting. They will have a kite flying day. Supervisor Griffiths attended the Choo Choo Swap Meet, The Home Show and Taste of the Sierra. These were all held the same weekend at the Fairgrounds and were all well attended. The S.O. had their vehicles on display and the kids loved the "Badger" vehicle. The Rotary Club purchased a flag pole for Smokey's Cabin at the Tri-County Fairgrounds.

*RECESS/
RECONVENE*

The Chairperson recessed the regular meeting at 12:00 p.m. to reconvene into closed session at 12:40 with all Board members present.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board members met in closed session to continue discussions and take action as appropriate on previously noted closed session items. The Chairperson recessed closed session at 1:40 p.m. to reconvene in open session with all Board Members present.

*WATER DEPARTMENT
TALKING WATER
WORKSHOP*

Water Department Director Bob Harrington conducted a workshop to provide information and solicit ideas and solutions concerning the water available for usage in the Owens Valley. Dr. Harrington stated that although this year's run-off forecast is markedly better than last year, it is still projected to be 71% of "normal", which is low, but still the best run-off since 2011. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) has indicated in their recent 2016-2017 Proposed Annual Operations Plan that they plan to provide 45,000 acre-feet of water for Owens Valley irrigation purposes, but also plan to pursue a reduction in the allotted 45,000 acre-feet for irrigation, pursuant to the terms of the Long Term Water Agreement. Dr. Harrington recapped events by stating that LADWP was seeking to have the Inyo-Los Angeles Standing Committee pre-approve undefined reductions in irrigation at the Standing Committee meeting in February and then in March the Standing Committee gave direction to the Technical Group to meet and develop a program or programs providing for reasonable reductions in irrigation water supply of Los Angeles owned lands in Owens Valley and for enhancement and mitigation (EM) projects, and submit the program for consideration and possible approval by the Inyo County Board of Supervisors and the Department acting through the Standing Committee. The Water Department has received and distributed today to the Board, the LADWP Proposed Program for Reasonable Reduction (PFRR). The Water Department staff have identified the following issues with the PFRR. #1 - Looking at the Water Agreement process and the framework in the Water Agreement, the EIR and the Green Book, it appears that this process is really intended to be a year by year annual consideration of whether or not there would be a reduction in irrigation and EM projects, not a multi-year plan or program. #2 – Putting the LADWP Proposed irrigation reduction table in the form of a perennial automatic reduction in irrigation under these certain conditions takes away the Boards discretion to make these decisions on a year by year basis. #3 – A simple percentage reduction is less clear than reductions to specific areas and projects. #4 – The size of the reduction would be a serious hardship on lessees. #5 – To implement this plan or program LADWP needs to identify what the basis of the reduction is. #6 "Normal" changes over time so it needs to be specified if you were basing the reduction on the run-off or the % of "Normal". It needs to be made clear. Jim Yannotta, the LADWP Aqueduct Manager stated that LADWP was misinterpreted and they were not trying to take the jurisdictional authority away from the County. He continued by stating he felt the PFRR was fair and equitable, but it is also just a starting point. Eric Tillemans of LADWP came forward and gave more details on the PFRR and discussed how it was developed. Many ranchers, tribal members, residents and various members of the public came forward and expressed their concerns. Chairperson Griffiths concluded the "Talking Water" workshop to reconvene to discuss the Water Department-Standing Committee item.

*WATER DEPARTMENT
STANDING
COMMITTEE*

Water Department Director Bob Harrington presented the April 12, 2016 Standing Committee meeting agenda to the Board for review. The Chairperson asked if the Board members had any input or direction on the action items, or the agenda in general. To reiterate the discussion from the previous workshop, Supervisor Tothoroh and Supervisor Griffiths both stated that with regards to action item #4 and item #5, the County wants flexibility in an annual plan, not a cook book/cookie cutter plan, not a long term plan. Mr. Yannotta again indicated that LADWP was not proposing a program that will circumvent the authority of the Standing Committee. He also stated that he would take the items discussed today back to his staff so that they can bring back a variation of what was proposed today. The County Administrator stated that it would be a challenge to bring the revised plan or plans back on Thursday, without any time for the Board or County Counsel to discuss or review, or giving the public time to provide input. Supervisor Tillemans stated that he doesn't believe LADWP should be allowed to implement a reduction when they still have unmet mitigation projects. Dr. Harrington stated that item #6, with regards to setting seasonal habitat flow and establishment of Blackrock Waterfowl Management area flood acreage, this is something that should be discussed every May. Supervisor Griffiths stated he would like the Standing Committee representative to show support of the adaptive management ideas that have been advocated for many years now by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, both on the LORP and the Black Rock Waterfowl Management area. Continuing by stating there has been some solid work done by the biologists at Fish and Wildlife, with water neutral ideas being proposed, and these ideas are going to have a much greater habitat value.

Dr. Harrington stated that item #7 is an updated list of exempt wells in the valley. The Technical Group discussed this at their meeting last week. It is good to keep the list updated so that both parties know which wells are exempt. Again many members of the public and community came forward and spoke to the Board. Many giving the Board praise for the great amount of work they do on behalf of Inyo County. The Chairperson expressed thanks on behalf of the Board to all of those that have attended today's meeting and thanked them for providing input and admired their continuance to stay involved and participate in these water meetings.

CLOSED SESSION

The Chairperson recessed the regular meeting at 4:25 p.m. to reconvene into closed session at 4:30 p.m. with all Board members present. The Chairperson recessed closed session at 4:59 p.m. to reconvene in open session to receive a report on closed session.

REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

County Counsel reported that no action was taken or items were discussed that are required by law to be reported in open session.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairperson adjourned the regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 a.m., on Tuesday, May 17, 2016, in the Board of Supervisors Room, at the County Administrative Center in Independence.