

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

June 9, 2020

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:30 a.m., on June 9, 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.

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 one comment had been submitted in writing. The Assistant Clerk of the Board read aloud a letter from Benjamin Ditto of Bishop expressing concern about widespread police brutality in the United States, and urging the Board to implement reform measures locally.

Closed Session

Chairperson Kingsley recessed open session at 8:32 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members to discuss the following item(s): No. 2 **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION** – Title: County Administrative Officer; No. 3 **CONFERENCE WITH COUNTY'S LABOR NEGOTIATORS** – 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.

Open Session

Chairperson Kingsley recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:00 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

County Department Reports

The Chairperson opened the floor to Department Reports, and there was no one wishing to address the Board.

COVID-19 Staff Update

HHS Director Marilyn Mann reported that the California Department of Public Health last Friday issued guidelines for 12 different industries so that businesses in counties that have been granted variances can reopen depending on local metrics. She said it's important to note that additional industries opening increases the risk of outside visitors bringing coronavirus and spreading it to the local populace. She said it's important for residents to continue following social distancing and masking guidelines.

Dr. James Richardson reported a positive case last week – a local individual in a household of 6 people who is believed to have contracted COVID-19 out of the area. He said additional testing showed two additional family members had contracted the virus but are asymptomatic. He also noted another positive case yesterday from a transient individual who was traveling from Reno and ended up in the Northern Inyo Hospital Emergency Room quite ill. He said following good public health measures and increased testing is the only way the county will get a handle on COVID-19. He added that if there is another surge in Southern California, it will probably be felt locally in about a week.

HHS Deputy Director-Public Health and Prevention Anna Scott announced that the California Department of Public Health has made it possible for a company called Verily to begin testing in rural areas. She said Inyo County will have mobile testing in Bishop on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursdays in Bishop, and in Lone Pine on Fridays. Registration will be done online, she said, and Verily will be able to test a minimum of 150 people per day at the sites.

Assistant County Administrator Leslie Chapman said she has been busy contacting the businesses who will be able to open June 12, and making sure the correct guidances are in place and the businesses are preparing accordingly. She noted that people refusing to follow the masking guidelines is still a problem. She said staff will be embarking on a PR campaign and organizing teams of volunteers to distribute posters and a supply of masks to local businesses. She said with more visitors and more activity in general, it's more important than ever for people to follow public health measures and believes the county is now at the point where it will become evident how well they have been implemented and followed.

Sheriff Hollowell reported an uptick in visitor travel, with campgrounds and towns full of people. He said his department is monitoring the situation.

Supervisor Griffiths said education on masking is critical, not just from a public health standpoint but from an economic one as well. He said consumer confidence is key, and customers will be demonstrating with their wallets which establishments they feel comfortable patronizing. He added that the state HHS Director is nervous about the pace at which California is reopening, but does understand the economic impacts of staying closed.

Supervisor Pucci said he received several phones about the masking order, including from an individual who said they didn't believe masks are needed but will wear them as a courtesy to other shoppers and business owners. He said if nothing else, people should be wearing masks as a common courtesy.

Chairperson Kingsley thanked Ms. Chapman for making personal contacts with businesses, which he said was much appreciated in the Fifth District.

The Chairperson opened the discussion to public comment. Via Zoom, Robin Flinchum of Tecopa thanked staff for all its hard work, and hoped the posters and PR campaign will be extended to Southeast Inyo businesses.

Jen Roeser of Independence thanked the Board, Ms. Chapman, and the rest of the COVID team for their fantastic work. She said she wanted to especially thank Chairperson Kingsley for working with the Forest Service to reopen Lone Pine Campground. She said pack stations are losing reservations because visitors have no place to stay, and encouraged the Board to continue working with the Forest Service.

*CAO – Corpora
Public Defender
Contract Amendment
2*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Amendment No. 2 between County of Inyo and Elizabeth Corpora for the Provision of Professional Services as a Public Defender, extending the end date to June 30, 2022 and increasing the contract amount by \$227,000, pending the Board's adoption of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO – Greg James
Contract Amendment
9*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Amendment No. 9 to the contract between Gregory L. James, Water/Environmental Attorney Regarding Natural Resources, and the County of Inyo by extending the term of the contract to July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2021, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures

being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

Recycling & Waste Management – Bishop Waste Recycling Contract

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Bishop Waste of Bishop, CA, for the processing of recyclables collected at the Bishop-Sunland Landfill in an amount not to exceed \$31,296 for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023, 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.

Recycling & Waste Management – Aztec Containers P.O.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to authorize a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$13,906.00, payable to Aztec Containers of Vista, CA for a used refurbished storage container to be used as a gatehouse at the Independence Landfill. Motion carried unanimously.

County Counsel – Amended & Restated GBUAPCD Agreement

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve and authorize the Chairperson to sign the Amended and Restated Great Basin Air Pollution Control District Unification Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

County Counsel – ESCOG Legal Services Agreement

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve and authorize the Chairperson to sign the proposed Agreement Regarding Legal Services to be Provided by the Inyo County Counsel's Office to the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments Joint Powers Authority (ESCOG). Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – Bishop Library N.O.C./Reso # 2020-26

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Resolution No. 2020-26 titled, "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 Bishop Library Exterior Coating Removal Project," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning – LAFCo Contract

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and the Inyo Local Agency Formation Commission to provide staff services in the amount not to exceed \$14,464.80 for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget; authorize the Chairperson to sign; and, direct the Planning Department and County Counsel to provide services as outlined in the contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Road Department – Reflective Glass Bead Bid Award & Purchase

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to: A) declare Interstate Sales of Auburn, CA the successful bidder for 30,000 pounds of reflective glass beads (Type II) per Bid No. RD2020-04; and B) authorize the purchase of 30,000 pounds of reflective glass beads from Interstate Sales of Auburn, CA in an amount not to exceed \$13,260.25. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – TEAM Engineering Amendment 3

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Amendment No. 3 to the agreement between the County of Inyo and TEAM Engineering Inc. of Bishop, CA, increasing the contract to an amount not to exceed \$82,000 and extending the term end date from June 30, 2020 to February 28, 2021, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget; and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-EMCC – 2020 EMS Provider of the Year (Dennett)

HHS Director Marilyn Mann introduced a proclamation naming Chief Carl Dennett of Southern Inyo Fire Protection District the EMS Provider of the Year, as nominated by the Emergency Medical Care Committee. She noted that Chief Dennett previously received the honor in 2016, adding that he was scheduled to retire in April but delayed his retirement in order to ensure a stable, smooth transition. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve a proclamation titled, "Proclamation of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, Honoring Carl Dennett as the Inyo County 2020 EMS Provider of the Year;" and B) present the proclamation to Carl Dennett. Motion carried unanimously. The Assistant Clerk of the Board then read aloud an emailed comment from Chief Dennett, thanking his peers, HHS, and the Board for the honor, and for their support of his efforts at SIFPD.

BOS – Proclamation for Carl & Suzi

Chairperson Kingsley introduced a proclamation in honor of Carl and Suzi Dennett for their service to the communities of Southeast Inyo. He read the proclamation aloud and then called

Dennett

for a vote. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to: A) approve a proclamation recognizing the many years of selfless service to the communities of Southeast Inyo County by Carl and Suzi Dennett; and B) present the proclamation to the Dennetts. Motion carried unanimously. Supervisor Pucci recognized the Dennetts' supportive partnership, thanking them for their service, and – upon noting they probably drove the most miles of anyone to attend Board meetings – said he is sure their good work will continue into retirement. Chairperson Kingsley said he was always impressed by the amount of engagement by the Dennetts, and said he will miss their counsel and support. Via Zoom, Robin Flinchum of Tecopa read a prepared statement extolling the Dennetts for their contributions to the fire district, the community, and for their generosity and friendship. Supervisor Griffiths thanked the Dennetts for their efforts and said he will continue to treasure their friendship. HHS Director Marilyn Mann, on behalf of herself and HHS, thanked the Dennetts for their service and wished them a great retirement.

HHS-ESAAA – 2020-2024 Area Plan for Services

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to: A) approve the 2020-2024 Area Plan for Services for Planning and Services Area 16 (Inyo and Mono Counties); B) set the minimum percentages for the subcategory of Supportive Services as recommended by the Advisory Council (50% for access, 10% for legal services, and 5% for in-home services); and C) authorize the Chairperson to sign the required Transmittal Letter.

Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meetings of May 19, 2020, May 26, 2020 and June 2, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence-Action – Consolidating NIH Election

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Tillemans, pursuant to Resolution 20-03, adopted by the Northern Inyo Healthcare District Board of Directors on May 20, 2020, to consolidate the Healthcare District Election of Directors with the Statewide General Election to be held on November 3, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Board Member and Staff Reports

Supervisor Totheroh reported he has meetings of the Eastern Sierra Transit and Eastern Sierra Council of Governments this Friday.

Supervisor Griffiths reported attending an Inyo Council for the Arts board meeting, and will have ESTA/ESCOG meetings on Friday, and CSAC meetings next week.

Supervisor Kingsley said he did quite a bit of engagement on various issues over the past week, including some not related to COVID-19. He also confirmed with the CAO that Inyo County campgrounds will be opening this Friday.

Adjournment

Chairperson Kingsley adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, June 16, 2020 in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: CLINT G. QUILTER
Clerk of the Board*

by: _____
Darcy Ellis, Assistant