

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

February 23, 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 23, 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. Nobody requested to speak via Zoom.

Closed Session Chairperson Griffiths recessed open session at 8:31 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): No. 2 **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: Director of Child Support Services; and No. 3 **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.

Open Session Chairperson Griffiths recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:02 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 with regard to Item 2, the Board took action by unanimous vote with all members present to select Amy Weurdig as the new director of Child Support Services. He noted that the terms and conditions of her employment will be memorialized in a contract to come before the Board for approval at a future meeting.

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. Nobody requested to speak via Zoom.

County Department Reports Assessor David Stottlemire read a letter to the Board about Prop 19 and its potential impacts on property taxes.

Environmental Health Director Jerry Oser noted that the Board-approved contractors started in his department two weeks ago and are helping to put a dent in the backlog of work.

Planning Director Cathreen Richards gave the Board an update on the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan, as well as the Alabama Hills Management Plan, which has been

appealed by an environmental group.

COVID-19 Staff Update

The Board heard staff's weekly update on the status of COVID-19 cases locally, as well as state and national trends. Staff also updated the Board on the distribution on vaccines and ongoing testing. Assistant HHS Director Meaghan McCamman reported that 1,013 doses of Pfizer COVID vaccine were given out over the weekend during the County's mass vaccination clinic, with help from staff from Northern Inyo Hospital, Dwayne's Friendly Pharmacy, and Toiyabe Indian Health Clinic. She said the clinic was focused on front-line and/or emergency responders who are currently eligible, as well as residents over the age of 65. She added that the County expects to see an additional 900 Moderna vaccines delivered this week.

Deputy HHS Director-Public Health Anna Scott echoed thanks given by Ms. McCamman to Public Health's community partners. She said it was wonderful to see so many community members getting vaccinated, and added that the clinic went very smoothly.

Public Health Officer Dr. James Richardson said he was impressed with the clinic, and astounded by how much effort and planning went into it. He said he is proud to work with the Public Health team and we should all thank them for their efforts.

Linda Chaplin of Independence and Debborah Morales of Bishop offered their thanks and congratulations to everyone involved in planning and executing the vaccine clinic. Kim Mitchell suggested that more time is needed in the MyTurn app for people – particularly the elderly – to register for the vaccine before it times out and you have to start all over again. Ms. Morales also asked what kind of outreach is being done to the Latinx community. Ms. Scott noted that all ads and public service announces are translated into Spanish and staff is working on expanding a communications plan.

Parks & Recreation – 3 Seasonal Park & Campground Maintenance Helpers

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley for the Board to find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy: A) the availability of funding for the requested position comes from the General Fund, as certified by the Assistant County Administrator and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor Controller; where due to the seasonal nature of the position it is unlikely that the position could be filled by internal candidates meeting the qualifications for the position, an open recruitment is appropriate to ensure qualified applicants apply; and C) approve the hiring of three (3) seasonal Park and Campground Maintenance Helpers, Range PT50 (\$15.97-\$19.35), contingent upon Board approval of future budgets. Motion carried unanimously.

Parks & Recreation – Change in Authorized Strength

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

- A) Change the Authorized Strength in the Parks and Recreation Department by adding one (1) full-time Parks Specialist at Range 50 (\$2,975 - \$3,619), and deleting two (2) Parks Seasonal positions at Range PT50 (\$15.66/hour); and
- B) Find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy:
 - 1. the availability of funding for one (1) Parks and Recreation Specialist exists in the Parks and Recreation budgets, as certified by the Assistant County Administrator and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller;
 - 2. 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;
 - 3. approve the hiring of one (1) Parks Specialist at Range 50 (\$2,975 - \$3,619); and
 - 4. change the authorized strength from five (5) seasonal Parks helpers to three (3) seasonal Parks helpers.

Motion carried unanimously.

HHS – APAR Correctional Nurse

Moved by Supervisor Totheroh 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 one (1) APAR Correctional Nurse exists in the non-General Fund Public Health budget, as certified by the HHS 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) APAR Correctional Nurse at Range 78 (\$30.75 - \$37.40 per hour) if filled with a Registered Nurse, or at a Range 80 (\$32.24- \$39.23 per hour) if filled with a Public Health Nurse. Motion carried unanimously.

PW/Road – Change in Authorized Strength

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to change the Authorized Strength in the Public Works/Road Department by reclassifying two (2) Road Maintenance Worker I, Range 50 (\$2,975 - \$3,619) or Road Maintenance Worker II, Range 52 (\$3,118 - \$3,788) positions, depending on current range and step, as a Heavy Equipment Operator I at Range 58 (\$3,583 - \$4,359). Motion carried unanimously.

PW/Road – Change in Authorized Strength & Equipment Operator Lead

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to:

- A) change the Authorized Strength in the Public Works/Road Department by adding one (1) Equipment Operator Lead at Range 66 (\$4,316 - \$5,254) and deleting one (1) Heavy Equipment Mechanic at Range 58 (\$3,583 - \$4,359); and
- B) find that, consistent with the adopted Authorized Position Review Policy:
 - 1. the availability of funding for one (1) Equipment Operator Lead exists in the Road Department budget, as certified by the Public Works Director and concurred with by the County Administrator and Auditor-Controller;
 - 2. the vacancies can be filled by internal candidates meeting the qualifications for the positions;
 - 3. approve the internal recruitment and hiring of one (1) Equipment Operator Lead at Range 66 (\$4,316 - \$5,254); and authorize Public Works/Road Department to backfill the resulting vacancy.

Motion carried unanimously.

Recycling & Waste Management – OR Clean-up Waiver/Reso# 2021-18

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve Resolution No. 2021-18, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Waiving Solid Waste Disposal and Gate Fees for Trash and Litter Removal during the Owens River Clean-up," annually between February 1 and May 31, until changed by Board consensus, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-First 5 – Triple P Blanket P.O.

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to authorize issuance of a blanket purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$30,000, payable to Triple P America of Columbia, SC for training registration and supplies. Motion carried unanimously.

Recycling & Waste Management – Used Gate Attendant/Operator Truck

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to waive the Purchasing Policy requirements to obtain three bids and instead choose a vendor before seeking Board approval for purchase of a vehicle over \$10,000 and authorized the purchase of a used gate attendant/operator truck from a vendor to be determined by the Assistant County Administrator for use within the Recycling Waste Management Program in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 including tax and delivery. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – Design-Build Procurement/Reso# 2021-19

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley: A) approve Resolution No. 2021-19, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Adopting the Inyo County Conflict-of-Interest Policy for Design-Build Projects," and authorize the Chairperson to sign; and B) authorize the use of a Design-Build procurement process for the Multipurpose Terminal Expansion Project at the Bishop Airport.

Public Works – Bohl Purchase Agreement/Hogan Easement Deed/Reso# 2021-20

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley:

- A) approve the Purchase Agreement between the County of Inyo and Mr. Jeffery Bohl for the purchase of a Highway Easement Deed in an amount not to exceed \$2,500, and associated escrow fees in an amount not to exceed \$600, and authorize the Public Works Director to sign;
- B) approve Resolution No. 2021-20, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo Accepting a Highway Easement Deed Across APN 033-510-05 for the Realignment of a Portion of Walker Creek Road" and authorize the Chairperson to sign; and
- C) approve the Possession and Use Agreement with Mr. Michael Robin Hogan, authorizing an interim payment in an amount not to exceed \$1,000 and a future payment of an additional \$1,400 upon acceptance of the Highway Easement Deed, and authorize the Public Works Director to sign.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – Generator Project &

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to:

- A) award the contract for the Election Emergency Standby Generators Installation Project to

Trailer Purchase

- Eldridge Electric & Sons, Inc. of Bishop, CA as the successful bidder;
- B) approve the construction contract between the County of Inyo and Eldridge Electric & Sons, Inc. of Bishop, CA in the amount of \$178,604.97, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained;
 - C) authorize the Public Works Director to execute all other project contract documents, including contract change orders, to the extent permitted by Public Contract Code Section 20142 and other applicable laws;
 - D) authorize an increase of the previously authorized purchase order to Energy Systems from the not-to-exceed value of \$125,000 to \$135,888.73; and
 - E) authorize the purchase of a flatbed trailer in an amount not-to-exceed \$4,000 to mount the generator to be shared by the Tri-County Fairgrounds (on Election Days) and the Bishop Senior Center.

Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –
Mission Janitorial
Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to award the contract for the provision of janitorial supplies to Mission Janitorial & Abrasive Supplies as the lowest successful bidder; and B) approve contract between the County of Inyo and Mission Janitorial in an amount not to exceed \$85,000 for the period of February 23, 2021 through February 22, 2024, 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.

*Public Works –
TEAM Engineering
Amendment 4*

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve Amendment No. 4 to the agreement between the County of Inyo and TEAM Engineering and Management of Bishop, CA, extending the term end date from February 28, 2021 to February 28, 2022, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

*BOS – Letter
Supporting SB 74*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve a letter expressing support for SB 74 (Borgeas-Cabarello), also known as the Keep California Working Act. Motion carried unanimously.

*BOS – Letters
Supporting FY 21
Budget Bill
Financial Support*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve letters supporting provisions in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget reconciliation bill that provide direct financial support to state and local agencies. Motion carried unanimously.

*ESTA – Annual
Report for FY 19-20*

Phil Moores, executive director of Eastern Sierra Transit Authority, presented to the Board the annual ESTA report for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

*Water Department –
Standing Committee
Rep Direction*

Water Director Dr. Aaron Steinwand sought direction for the County's Standing Committee representatives in advance of the meeting of the Inyo County/Los Angeles Standing Committee scheduled for March 1, 2021. Dr. Steinwand reviewed the agenda. Sally Manning asked which Board members are assigned to the Standing Committee (Supervisors Pucci and Kingsley) and drew attention to the city's Draft Urban Water Management Plan. She said she wonders why Inyo County is not at the table and said, by 2040, LADWP will no longer need Owens Valley water and suggested there is an opportunity for the County to start planning for that considering LADWP will not voluntarily stop extraction.

Supervisor Roeser asked whether it would be warranted to schedule a future hosted tour of the Owens Valley with members of the commission. Dr. Steinwand said it would be considered once COVID restrictions are relaxed. Supervisor Pucci and Kingsley concurred with the need for a tour, as well as staff working to develop relationships with the new commission members from Los Angeles.

Recess/Reconvene

Supervisor Pucci left the meeting for an out-of-town medical appointment at 12:10 p.m. The Chairperson recessed the meeting at 12:11 p.m. for a break and reconvened the meeting at 12:26 p.m. with all Board members present except Supervisor Pucci.

*CAO – Metabolic
Studio Matching
Grant*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to approve grant support provided by Metabolic Studio in the amount of \$100,000 to match County funds appropriated for the Community Resiliency Grant for Non-profit Agencies and authorize Assistant CAO Leslie Chapman to sign the contract; and B) extend the Community Resiliency Grant

application period until March 9, 2021 to allow applicants to compete for additional funds. *(All other requirements of the grant will remain the same.)* Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Pucci absent.

*CAO – GBUAPCD
Grant Administration
Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Totheroh to approve the contract between Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District and the County of Inyo for the provision of Grant Administration Services in the amount of \$140,000 for the period of March 11, 2021 to March 11, 2026, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Pucci absent.

*Sheriff – Adamson
Industries P.O.
Increase*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve an increase of the Sheriff's purchasing authority with Adamson Industries of Los Alamitos, CA by \$28,275.00, to a total not-to-exceed amount of \$45,002.00, for the purchase of law enforcement equipment; and B) authorize the issuance of purchase orders for less lethal, pepperball, breaching tool, ballistic vests and carriers, OHV replacement and miscellaneous equipment. Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Pucci absent.

*Planning – Public
Hearing & Ordinance
1264*

The Chairperson opened a public hearing at 12:57 p.m. and closed the hearing at 1:01 p.m. Nobody from the public asked to speak. Moved by Supervisor Totheroh and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to waive further reading of and enact an ordinance titled, "An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Amending Inyo County Code Section 18.78.340." Motion carried unanimously 4-0, with Supervisor Pucci absent.

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 Totheroh said he attended a Zoom meeting Friday between Forest Service staff and permittees.

Supervisor Kingsley said he did a lot of public engagement last week and received a lot of comments on COVID and related restrictions, especially from restaurant owners desperate to save their livelihoods.

Supervisor Roeser said she took a tour of the Fish Springs Fish Hatchery with Big Pine Tribal members and also toured Manzanar.

Adjournment

Chairperson Griffiths adjourned the meeting at 1:04 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 2, 2021 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

