

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

July 12, 2022

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 July 12, 2022 in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present per California Assembly Bill 361: Chairperson Dan Totheroh, presiding, Jeff Griffiths, Rick Pucci, Matt Kingsley, and Jennifer Roeser. Also present: County Administrator Leslie Chapman, Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis, Office Clerk Hayley Carter, and County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo.

- Closed Session* The Chairperson asked for public comment related to Closed Session items and no one requested to speak.
- Public Comment*
- Closed Session* Chairperson Totheroh recessed open session at 8:31 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members in attendance to discuss the following item(s): 2. **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 Leslie Chapman, Assistant County Administrators Sue Dishion and Meaghan McCamman, Deputy Personnel Director Keri Oney, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Health and Human Services Director Marilyn Mann, and Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson.
- Open Session* Chairperson Totheroh recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:01 a.m. with all Board members present.
- Pledge of Allegiance* Chairperson Totheroh led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Report on Closed Session* County Counsel Vallejo reported that no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported.
- Emergency Declaration Ratification* Emergency Services Manager Mikaela Torres briefed the Board on the Fairview Fire from Friday, July 8. She also distributed Final Updates from CalFire. Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve Resolution No. 2022-24, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors for the County of Inyo, State of California, Ratifying the Existence of a Local Emergency," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
- Public Comment* Chairperson Totheroh asked if there was any public comment pending for items not calendared on the agenda.
- Public comment was made by Lauralynn Hundley.
- County Department Reports* Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters Danielle Sexton announced the completion of the canvass of votes from the June primary and gave an update on deadlines for the November General Election.
- Employee Service Recognition – 2Q 2022* The Board recognized the following employees who reached service milestones during the Second Quarter of 2022:
- Joey Peterson, 15 years; Tim Villanueva, 10 years; and Jamie Shannon, 5 years, HHS
 - Brandon Nelson, 10 years; Cap Aubrey 10, years; and John Pinckney, 5 years, Public Works
 - David Miller, 15 years, Agricultural Commissioner's Office

- Scott Armstrong, 5 years, Administration

Introductions

The following new employees were introduced to the Board: Grae Biggs, Office Technician I, Auditor-Controller's Office; and Nolan Ferguson, Assistant Engineer, Public Works.

Clerk-Recorder – Statement of All Votes Cast

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to declare elected those persons for each election under the County's jurisdiction, and declare the results of each election under its jurisdiction as to each measure voted on at the election, based on the certified results as required by law and as specified in the Statement of All Votes Cast. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel – AIG Plan Adoption Agreement

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the AIG Nonstandardized Governmental Profit Sharing/401(k) Plan Adoption Agreement #001 and authorize the County Administrator or designee to sign all future plan documents. Motion carried unanimously.

County Counsel – Fennemore Wendell Assignment of Agreement & Amendment 1

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to: A) approve Assignment of the Agreement between the County of Inyo and Wendel Rosen LLP to Fennemore Wendel LLP, and authorize the Chairperson to sign the transition letter; and B) approve Amendment No. 1 to the agreement to extend the term to cover future litigation of the same nature. Motion carried unanimously.

County Counsel – AB 361 Findings

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to adopt findings pursuant to AB 361 that: A) the Board reconsidered the circumstances of the existing State of Emergency issued on March 4, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and B) local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing, and/or the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person. Motion carried unanimously.

District Attorney – Grant Signature Authorization

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to authorize the District Attorney to sign any documentation to accept and utilize the Inyo County Victim/Witness Assistance Program Grant (VW21 30 0140) on behalf of the County, including any extensions or amendments thereto. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS- Health/Prevention – LICN Agreement

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve the agreement between the County of Inyo and the County Medical Services Program (CMSP) Governing Board for the provision of the Local Indigent Care Needs Implementation Grant Program (LICN), in an amount not to exceed \$649,538.00 for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025, 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.

HHS-Social Services – Symmetric Solutions Sole-Source Contract

Moved by Supervisor Pucci and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to declare Symmetric Solutions, Inc. of Redding, CA a sole-source provider of Homeless Information Management System (HMIS) and Coordinated Entry (CE) consultation services; B) approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Symmetric Solutions, Inc. of Redding, CA for the provision of HMIS and CE consulting services in an amount not to exceed \$33,600.00 for the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget; and C) authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.

County Administrator – Letter of Support for CERF Proposal

The agenda item was moved from the Consent Agenda to Departmental for further explanation. Assistant CAO Meaghan McCamman provided background information and explained the benefits of supporting the Sierra Business Council's CERF proposal. Sierra Business Council President Allan Pietrasanta discussed the organization's hope to help build a robust and vibrant economy. Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the Collective Partnership Agreement Letter supporting the Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) proposal for the Eastern Sierra region developed by the Sierra Business Council, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Recess/Reconvene

The Chairperson recessed the meeting at 10:49 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 10:53 a.m. with all Board members present.

*County Administrator
– Mendenhall Park
Options*

Supervisor Roeser discussed a desire by members of the Big Pine community to have the County take over the LADWP lease recently vacated by the school for 24 acres of land at the corner of Main and School streets, next to the County's current lease at Mendenhall Park. She said the idea is to keep the property open for community use and install a disc golf course. The Assistant Clerk of the Board read aloud a letter from Tyler Starbard of Big Pine encouraging the County to append its lease at Mendenhall Park, noting that community support is so strong for the proposal that individuals, clubs, and businesses have pledged monetary donations and volunteer work. Copper Top BBQ owner and Big Pine Civic Club member Matthew Kerley-Otten echoed Starbard's sentiments, stressing that the community wants to contribute private funds and volunteer work to make the course a reality. He also noted widespread popularity of past disc tournaments held on the parcel.

Lengthy discussion ensued among the Board, with Supervisors Kingsley, Pucci, Griffiths, and Totheroh expressing support for the community's desire to bring wholesome outdoor activities to Big Pine, but noting their concerns about taking on the responsibility for maintenance of the extra acreage, for both budgetary and liability reasons. They said they were not in favor unless LADWP agreed to give the County a long-term possession and control of the property. Supervisor Kingsley said five or six park leases are currently in holdover status because LADWP refuses to renew them with the County, and the County is missing out on millions in grant funds. Supervisor Griffiths said LADWP, given its track record, will most likely leave the property as is if nobody else steps up. He said if LADWP is serious about working with the County and the community of Big Pine, then maybe it's worth continuing negotiations. He added, however, that over the past decade or more LADWP has not missed an opportunity to not do the right thing.

Mr. Kerley-Otten acknowledged that there were many considerations involved of which community members have been unaware. He said he would share this information with the Big Pine Civic Club and explore options with LADWP.

After additional discussion, the Board directed staff to continue working with the Big Pine Civic Club, community leaders, and LADWP to secure a long-term right to operate and maintain the park area, including the currently leased area known as Mendenhall Park and the property historically leased by Big Pine School.

Recess/Reconvene

The Chairperson recessed the meeting at 12:07 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:13 p.m. with all Board members present.

*CAO-Advertising
County Resources –
Film Commissioner
RFP*

Assistant Clerk of the Board Ellis presented to the Board a proposed Request for Proposals (RFP) for Film Commissioner services, arising out of Board members' desire to revisit the roles and responsibilities of, and expectations for, the Film Commissioner. She also distributed a sample contract with the same Scope of Fees that has been in place the last several years. She reviewed the history of the Film Commissioner position and its primary duties. She also pointed out key areas in the RFP where Administration staff made major changes or additions – the primary one being a mandated web and social media presence for the Film Commission.

Supervisor Roeser advocated for separating the location scout services from Film Commissioner services, so that the individual filling the role can focus on the two main needs of film productions: permit assistance and a portfolio of filming locations. The Board further suggested flexibility in the RFP for the respondents, as ostensible experts, to bring their own proposals, ideas, and suggestions to the table. There was also discussion as to whether the Scope of Fees included in the sample Film Commissioner contract was realistic for the Scope of Work required. CAO Chapman noted that the RFP provides respondents the opportunity to propose how much to charge the County for the various services.

Staff said they would remove location scouting from the RFP, add more flexibility, streamline the RFP, and in general create an emphasis on the need for a "one-stop shop" Film Commission.

*Clerk of the Board –
Approval of Minutes*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Pucci to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of July 5, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

*Correspondence-
Action – SIHD
Election
Consolidation*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to consolidate the Healthcare District election of directors with the Statewide General Election to be held on November 8, 2022, pursuant to SIHD Resolution No. 22-7 and Election Code section 10403. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

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

Mason Voehl, Amargosa Conservancy Executive Director, introduced himself to the Board.

*Board Member and
Staff Reports*

Supervisor Roeser said she attended the TOT public meeting last night at Cardinal Village.

Supervisor Kingsley said he has been engaging with constituents and spending time with his 4- and 7-year-old grandchildren.

Supervisor Pucci spoke about the tremendous coordination among different agencies responding to the Fairview Fire.

Supervisor Totheroh said he has an upcoming Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting and attended the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments meeting on Friday.

CAO Chapman reported that work on the FY 22-23 budget is in full swing. She also applauded the work of Meaghan McCamman, Mikaela Torres, Keri Oney, and HHS for stepping up to the plate in response to the Fairview Fire.

Adjournment

Chairperson Totheroh adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 19, 2022 in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: LESLIE L. CHAPMAN
Clerk of the Board*

by: _____
Darcy Ellis, Assistant