

County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

March 14, 2023

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:32 a.m., on March 14, 2023, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present via webinar per the State of Emergency Declaration declared by the State of California: Chairperson Jennifer Roeser, presiding, Trina Orrill, Scott Marcellin, Matt Kingsley, and Jeff Griffiths. Also present: County Administrator Nate Greenberg, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis, and Office Technician Hayley Carter.

Public Comment	The Chairperson asked for public comment related to Closed Session items, and no one requested to speak.
Remote Meeting/Addendum	Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Kingsley to: Determine that (1) a state of emergency exists and (2) that as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. Motion carried unanimously.
Emergency Declaration Ratification/Reso. #2023-08	Emergency Services Manager Mikaela Torres presented Resolution 2023-08, noting that a correction would need to be made to reflect that Board members must review the emergency status every 60 days, instead of the 30 days written.
	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve Resolution No. 2023-08, titled, "Proclaiming the Existence of a Local Emergency Resulting from 2023 Storms and Projected Spring Runoff Conditions," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
Public Works – Emergency Contract Approval	County Counsel Vallejo introduced the emergency item and explained the timeline of events leading to the need for it.
	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths, as authorized by Government Code section 54954.2(b)(1), to determine by a majority vote that an emergency situation exists requiring your Board to add this item to the agenda in order to take emergency action. In the alternative, as authorized by Government Code section 54954.2(b)(2), determine by a 2/3 vote (4 supervisors) that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda being posted. Motion carried unanimously.
	Public Works Assistant Director John Pinckney gave updates on damages and repairs that were done to various County roads effected by flooding.
	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to authorize the County Administrative Officer to enter into an agreement with Spiess Construction in an amount greater than \$25,000 for emergency repairs on Whitney Portal Road and Lower Rock Creek Road, on a contract approved by County Counsel; and ratify the performance of any emergency work on these roads performed since the CAOs declaration of emergency on March 7, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.
Closed Session	Chairperson Roeser recessed open session at 9:01 a.m. to convene in closed session at 9:20 a.m. with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): No. 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 Nate Greenberg, Assistant County Administrators Sue Dishion and Meaghan McCamman, Deputy Personnel Director Keri Oney, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Senior Budget Analyst Denelle Carrington, Health and Human Services Director Marilyn Mann, and Chief Probation Officer Jeff Thomson; and No. 3 Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation -Initiation of litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(d)(4): 1 potential case. Facts and circumstances: Coso Geothermal refusal to pay documentary transfer tax.

- Chairperson Roeser recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at Open Session 9:58 a.m. with all Board members present.
- Pledge of Allegiance Chairperson Roeser led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report on Closed County Counsel Vallejo reported that no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported. Session

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

Public comment was made by Lauralynn Hundley.

Sheriff Stephanie Rennie gave a brief update on the state of emergency and explained that County Department the Sheriff's Office is currently embedded with the Emergency Operating Center, with Reports Sergeant Nate Derr working with Mono County, CalFire, the Office of Emergency Services, Caltrans, and the National Weather Service out of Reno and Las Vegas, as well as providing support to the Incident Management Team.

> Inyo County Sheriff Public Information Officer Carma Roper, who has been working with the Joint Operating Center (JIC), provided information on various issues being addressed including widespread flooding, road damages and closures, agueduct breaches, evacuation warnings, and avalanche threats, and provided the public with resources available including the new "Ready Inyo" website.

> Regional Broadband Coordinator Scott Armstrong gave a short demonstration of a new feature on the FCC website and encouraged members of the public to access it via the broadband link on the County website to verify the accuracy of location of services.

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve the minutes Clerk of the Board – of the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of March 7, 2023. Motion carried unanimously. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to authorize the E Step District Attorney – for newly hired Chief Investigator from Chief Investigator, Range 81SD Step D (\$9,290) to Chief Investigator Range 81SD Step E (\$9,751), retroactive to hire date in Chief Investigator position. Motion Step E Authorization carried 4-0-1, with Supervisor Orrill abstaining.

HHS-Health/Prevention -Medi-Cal Inmate Program (MCIP) Participation Agreement

abstaining.

Public Works -Building & Maintenance Water Supervisor Step E

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to authorize the filling of the vacant Building & Maintenance/Water Supervisor at a Step E. Motion carried 4-0-1, with Supervisor Orrill abstaining.

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve Health and Human Services' participation in the Medi-Cal Inmate Program and authorize the HHS

Director to sign the participation agreement effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026,

contingent upon approval of future budgets. Motion carried 4-0-1, with Supervisor Orrill

T&T Truck & Crane Service Encroachment Permit E22-54 Road Closure

Highland Drive in Bishop, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, for the purpose of Southern California Edison's use of a crane to replace utility poles. Motion carried 4-0-1, with Supervisor Orrill abstaining.

CAO – Congressional Directed Spending Requests/Approval of Letters of Support

Public Works – U.S. Cycling Events, LLC Whiskey Tango Fondo Event Kristi More, with Inyo County's federal legislative advocate firm The Ferguson Group, provided a report on federal earmark requests. Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve County letters of support to Senator Padilla, Senator Feinstein, and Representative Kiley requesting assistance in securing funding for County priority projects in the 2024 appropriations process. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works John Pinkney introduced the proposed event and Ryan Moore of U.S. Cycling Events, LLC Whiskey Tango Fondo.

Chairperson Roeser asked if there was any public comment for this item and comment was given by Lauralyn Hundley.

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve the use of the Independence Inyo County Courthouse grounds, on Saturday, April 29, 2023, for U.S. Cycling Events, LLC Whiskey Tango Fondo, non-competitive, rules-of-the-road, gravel cycling event festivities. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO – State of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Update CAO Greenberg updated the Board on the current status of emergency medical services, with emphasis on the greater Bishop area, and noted that Health and Human Services, Bishop City Council and the Rural Fire District are working together to find short- and long-term solutions.

Greenberg said HHS Director Marilyn Mann and Assistant Director Anna Scott worked hard to get a Request for Proposal released last week and the County is seeking parties to provide short-term services and avoid a gap in EMS coverage.

Although hopeful that there will not be a gap, Greenberg mentioned that mutual aid support through Southern California could be an option if things are not resolved by April 23, when Symons Ambulance ceases operations. Greenberg said that it could take 18 months to offer the contract in concert with Inland Counties Emergency Management Agency and state regulations.

Greenberg said that the long-term goal is to obtain an effective Countywide EMS and is hoping that the awarded interim provider will become the permanent provider later.

Public comment was given by Emily Simms.

Recess/Reconvene Chairperson Roeser recessed the meeting for a break at 11:40 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:56 a.m. with all Board members present.

CAO – Spring Weather Event Response Efforts CAO Greenberg gave a briefing on the spring weather event timeline. The following County staff members provided the public with updates and additional information: Emergency Services Manager Mikaela Torres, Sergeant Nate Derr with the Inyo County Sheriff's Office, Public Works Director Mike Errante, Public Works Deputy Director-Roads Shannon Platt, and HHS Director Marilyn Mann.

CAO-Emergency 7 Services – Avalanche 8 Weather Forecasting Presentation

The Board received a presentation from the County's contracted avalanche forecaster, Sue Burak.

Public Comment

Chairperson Roeser asked if there was any public comment pending for items not calendared on the agenda and there was no one wishing to speak. Board Member & Staff Supervisor Marcellin said he attended a virtual California State Association of Counties training, met with the Tribal Assistant Administrator, and toured potential flood areas in his district.

Supervisor Orrill said she heard constituent concerns and attended the virtual California State Association of Counties training.

Supervisor Kingsley said he attended the Amargosa Summit meeting in Shoshone, the Rural County Representatives of California board meeting, met with Parks Service employees, and spoke with constituents about problems with storms.

Supervisor Griffiths reported attending the Bishop City Council meeting.

CAO Greenberg said that he and Representative Kiley met with Public Works Director Mike Errante and Public Works Deputy Director-Airports Ashley Helms at the Bishop airport and had him join a briefing with the Incident Management Team. He also reported meeting with representatives from the Fort Independence tribe.

Supervisor Roeser attended the meetings with Representative Kiley at the airport as well as the Emergency Operations Center, met with local agriculture producers, faith leaders, and constituents at the Kiley Town Hall meeting, a California Advisory Committee meeting, and met with representatives from the Fort Independence tribe.

County Counsel Vallejo said he will be checking with Personnel on road crews' working restrictions during a declared emergency and thanked employees who have been responding to the impacts of the recent storms.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 1:34 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 21, 2023, in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: NATE GREENBERG Clerk of the Board

by:

Darcy Ellis, Assistant