



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

August 1, 2023

AMENDED BY BOARD ORDER 08.15.23

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 August 1, 2023, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Jennifer Roeser, presiding, Trina Orrill, Scott Marcellin, Matt Kingsley, and Jeff Griffiths, who was participating remotely from 5385 Road 110, Hopland, CA, pursuant to California Government Code 54953(b)(1). Also present: County Administrator Nate Greenberg, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, and Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis.

Closed Session The Chairperson asked for public comment related to closed session items and there was nobody wishing to speak.
Public Comment

Closed Session Chairperson Roeser recessed open session at 8:32 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): No. 2 **Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Pursuant to Government Code §54957 – Title: County Administrator**; 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 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.

Open Session Chairperson Roeser recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:09 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance Film Commissioner Jesse Steele 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.

Intros The following new employees were introduced to the Board: Hazardous Materials Program Manager Richard Medina, Environmental Health; Aracely Mendoza, Social Services Aide, and Luz Nunez, Program Services Assistant, HHS; and Dispatcher Nina Potter, Sheriff's Office.

Public Comment II. Chairperson Roeser asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and there was no one wishing to speak.

County Department Reports Public Works Director Mike Errante provided updates on damages to various County roads from this year's storm and runoff events – including Whitney Portal Road – and discussed reimbursement from state and federal agencies.

Samantha Rottner, Program Manager for Child Support Services, announced on behalf of Child Support Services Director Amy Weurdig that August is National Child Support Awareness Month.

<i>Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the minutes of the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of July 18, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>CAO-Risk Management – Emergency Water Mitigation Payment</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to declare Belfor USA Group, Inc. a sole-source provider for the Emergency Mitigation Water services provided at the Commander's House in the previous fiscal year and approve the payment of Invoice #1790754 in the amount of \$86,357.06 to Belfor USA Group, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-First 5 – First 5 Children and Families Commission Alternate Appointment</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to appoint Mr. Alex Burciaga to an unexpired three-year term on the First 5 Commission for an alternate ending December 5, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-Health & Prevention – MCAH Agreement</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to ratify and approve the Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Agreement No. 202314 between the County of Inyo and California Department of Public Health in the amount of \$129,402.93 in State and Federal reimbursement for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget, and authorize Marissa Whitney, MCAH Director, and the Board Chairperson to sign the Agreement Funding Application (AFA) Policy Compliance and Certification, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-First 5 – MCAH/CA Home Visiting Program Agreement</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to ratify and approve the Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Agreement No. CHVP SGF EBHV 23-14 between the County of Inyo and California Department of Public Health in the amount of \$412,058 in State funding for the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget, and authorize Marissa Whitney, MCAH Director, and the Board Chairperson to sign the Agreement Funding Application (AFA) Policy Compliance and Certification, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-Social Services – eXemplar Human Services Contract Amendment No. 1</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to ratify and approve Contract Amendment No. 1 between the County of Inyo and eXemplar Human Services for the provision of Independent Contractor Services, revising the Term of Agreement and Limit on Amount Payable Under Agreement to include one additional month of services for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Works – Emergency South Lake Culvert Installation Project</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) As authorized by Public Contract Code section 20395(c), find that a threat of flood and/or storm damage to South Lake Road necessitated immediate action to safeguard life, health, or property such that the Department of Public Works had to take immediate action to perform work on a county road without soliciting bids; and B) Approve the payment of an invoice from Spiess Construction in the amount of \$43,400, covering the performance of emergency work on South Lake Road. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Works – Bishop, Indy Airport USFS Helitack Agreements</i>	Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Approve the lease agreement between the County of Inyo and the United States of America for the real property, located at the Bishop Airport, described as 700 Wye Rd., in an amount not to exceed \$29,716.63 per year for the five-year firm term of August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2028, and an amount not to exceed \$30,608.13 per year for a five-year soft term of August 1, 2028 through July 31, 2033, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained; and B) Approve the lease agreement between the County of Inyo and the United States of America for the real property, located at the Independence Airport, described as 800 N. Edwards St., in an initial amount not to exceed \$14,035.03 per year for the 10-year firm term of August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2033, and a 10-year soft term of August 1, 2033 through July 31, 2043, with rate escalations of 3% every five years, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures

being obtained.
Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works – United Rentals
Sole-Source Purchase Order*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to:
A) Declare United Rentals of Ridgecrest, CA a sole-source provider of equipment rentals; and
B) Ratify and approve the additional amount of \$65,000 for United Rentals of Ridgecrest, CA and authorize the issuance of a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$120,222.63, payable to United Rentals of Ridgecrest, CA for equipment rentals in the event the agreement needs to be extended for the continued runoff.
Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Advertising County Resources – Film Commissioner Written Report

Inyo County Film Commissioner Jesse Steele presented a written report to the Board on Film Commission activities.

CAO - Emergency Response Multi-Agency Cost Share Agreement

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Cost Share Agreement for Multi-Agency Response to 2023 Winter Storms. Motion carried unanimously.

Recess/Reconvene

Chairperson Roeser recessed open session for a break at 10:48 a.m. and reconvened the meeting in open session at 11:23 a.m. with all Board members present.

CAO – Bishop EMS Status Update

CAO Greenberg updated the Board on the status of EMS service in the greater Bishop area, referencing the August 18 meeting where previous interim EMS provider Coast 2 Coast announced it could no longer provide services without the assistance of a subsidy.

Greenberg explained that the 90-day agreement with Coast 2 Coast was terminated on August 21st. and an informal bid advertised for a 30-day emergency contract, not to exceed \$25,000 which would extend through August 22, 2023. The County received two bids, one from Coast 2 Coast and the other from REACH Air Medical Services. At the last minute, Coast 2 Coast withdrew its bid and the contract was awarded to REACH.

Greenberg said the County has simultaneously continued to move forward with issuing a new Request for Proposals that will cover interim EMS service from August 22, 2023 through December 31, 2024. This RFP closes on August 7th.

Greenberg said the new RFP specifically requires interested parties to disclose whether a subsidy would be needed in order to maintain consistent services to the greater Bishop area and that the intention is to bring bids and information back to the table at the August 8, 2023 Board meeting for review. He said the Board will then be asked to select a respondent at the August 15 Board meeting.

Public comment was given by Big Pine Fire Chief Damon Carrington, Mike Patterson with REACH/Sierra Life Flight, and Olancho Cartago Fire Department Chief Chelsea Benbrook.

Discussion between the Board and staff ensued, with the Board acknowledging that tackling the Bishop EMS issue – and countywide EMS shortage affecting volunteer fire departments – requires simultaneously addressing immediate, long-term, and permanent solutions. Board members cited the countywide EMS study as one way to reach a permanent solution. Discussion turned to local volunteer ambulance services.

The Board acknowledged that the County simply does not have the funding capacity to subsidize EMS services offered countywide. Supervisor Kingsley suggested appointing a liaison between the County and local volunteer fire departments while the EMS study is underway. He was subsequently nominated to be that liaison and accepted with the request that a staff member assist him.

Chairperson Roeser said she wanted the consultant preparing the EMS study to provide a public update to the Board at a later date. She also said she is not willing to sign or vote for a contract that proposes a subsidy from the General Fund unless the local volunteer fire departments are similarly subsidized. She proposed a one-time payment of \$25,000 to the county's six volunteer fire departments. The rest of the Board was supportive of the idea.

The Board directed staff to identify a funding source with which to pay the one-time \$25,000 volunteer EMS subsidies.

**Correspondence-
Action –
Millpond Closure**

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to close Millpond Recreation Area to the public from 2 p.m. Thursday, September 14 through noon on Monday, September 18 to accommodate the 31st Annual Millpond Music Festival. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment III.

Chairperson Roeser asked if there was any public comment and there was no one wishing to speak.

**Board Member & Staff
Reports**

CAO Greenberg reported being busy with budget meetings, EMS issues and attending a stakeholder meeting on the status of the County's public safety radio system.

County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo reported that the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority issued a Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for a water pipeline project and will be seeking public comment through August 31, including at two public forums.

Supervisor Orrill said she attended the NACo Annual Conference in Austin, TX as well as the final session of CSAC's New Supervisor Institute in Sacramento.

Supervisor Marcellin said he attended the Local Transportation Commission meeting last Wednesday, the Emergency Medical Care Committee meeting last Monday, and the the final session of CSAC's New Supervisor Institute in Sacramento.

Supervisor Kingsley said he was traveling in the Midwest last week but still had lots of interaction with constituents concerned about Whitney Portal Road and the EMS issue.

Supervisor Griffiths reported attending the NACo Annual Conference in Austin, TX.

Chairperson Roeser said she participated in a Reimagine Recreation roundtable, attended the NACo Annual Conference in Austin, TX, and had several follow-up meetings with parties to the Local Transportation Commission Memorandum of Understanding.

Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m. to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, August 2, 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