MINUTES

County of Inyo
Board of Supervisors

September 10, 2024

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 September 10, 2024, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Matt Kingsley, presiding, Scott Marcellin, Jeff Griffiths, Jennifer Roeser and Trina Orrill. Also present: County Administrator Nate Greenberg, Assistant County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, and Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis.

Closed Session Public Comment

The Chairperson asked for public comment related to closed session items and there was no one wishing to speak.

Closed Session

Chairperson Kingsley 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 **Conference with Real Property Negotiators** – **Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Government Code §54956.8 –** Property: Bishop, Independence, and Lone Pine Landfills. Agency Negotiators: Nate Greenberg, John-Carl Vallejo, Greg James. Negotiating parties: Inyo County and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Under negotiation: price and terms of payment; No. 3 **Conference with County's Labor Negotiators – Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6 –** Regarding employee organizations: Deputy Sheriff's Association (DSA); 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, Deputy Personnel Director Keri Oney, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Assistant County Counsel Christy Milovich, Auditor-Controller Amy Shepherd, and Assistant CAO Denelle Carrington; and No. 4 **Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Pursuant to Government Code §54957 –** Title: County Administrator.

Open Session

Chairperson Kingsley recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 9:07 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Kingsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report on Closed Session

County Counsel Vallejo reported that the Board met under Item Nos. 2 and 3 and said that no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported. Vallejo said the Board would reconvene later in the meeting for further discussion.

Public Comment

The Chairperson asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and public comment was received from Jen Roeser, Joe Lattrell, Jose Garcia (who presented an event flier), and Courtnee Johansen and her students from Big Pine Elementary School.

Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of September 3, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Emergency Services – Amended FEMA-Funded Unmanned Aircraft System Policy

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the proposed amendment to the County's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-Funded Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Policy and Protocol for Inyo County, covering additional requirements necessary for acquiring and operating UAS equipment. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Emergency Services – Community Navigator Program Grant Sub-Award Agreement

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the sub-award grant agreement with Coalitions and Collaboratives, Inc. for $149,996 to be used for capacity-building, and authorize the County Administrative Officer to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works-Parks & Rec. – Diaz Lake Clean CA Grant Bid Package

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the plans and specifications for the Diaz Lake Welcoming and Beautification Project and authorize the Parks and Recreation Manager to advertise the project. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – Runway 12-30 Surface Treatment Project

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to

A) Award the contract for the Runway 12-30 Surface Treatment Project to American Road Maintenance of Tuscon, AZ as the successful bidder;
B) Approve the construction contract between the County of Inyo and American Road Maintenance of Tuscon, AZ in the amount of $722,250, contingent upon the Board's approval of the 2024-2025 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign;
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; and
D) Approve the revised Plan & Specifications for the project with modifications that arose during bidding.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – Snow Plow Purchase

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

A) Ratify and approve Amendment No. 3 to the agreement between the County of Inyo and Armstrong Consultants, whose name has changed to Lochner, of Grand Junction, CO, increasing the contract to an amount not to exceed $222,372, contingent upon the Board's approval of the 2024-2025 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign;
B) Declare Wausau Equipment of New Berlin, WI the successful bidder for the procurement of an airport snow plow vehicle per the bids received on July 17, 2024; and
C) Authorize the purchase of one airport snow removal vehicle from Wausau Equipment of New Berlin, WI, at an amount not to exceed $396,775.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – CA Indian Day Road Closures

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve road closures on North See Vee, Diaz, and North Barlow Lanes with detours between the hours 7 a.m. and 12 p.m. on Friday, September 27, 2024, for the purpose of the annual Bishop Paiute Tribe and Toiyabe Indian Health Project California Indian Day Parade/Run. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – Big Pine Animal Shelter Project N.O.C./ Reso. No. 2024-27

The agenda item was moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda for further discussion. Supervisor Roeser asked for and received confirmation that certain issues with the project have been remedied to the satisfaction of Building & Safety and the Sheriff's Office.

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve Resolution No. 2024-27, 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 Big Pine Animal Shelter Project," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO – FY 24-25 CAO Recommended Budget Public Hearing

Chairperson Kingsley opened the public hearing at 9:33 a.m.

CAO Greenberg introduced the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget and recognized the following Budget Team members and contributors: Assistant CAO Denelle Carrington, Auditor-Controller Amy Shepherd, Assistant Personnel Director Keri Oney, Deputy CAO Meaghan McCamman, and Administrative Analyst Miquela Beall.

Assistant CAO Carrington provided a detailed overview of the budget, which highlighted County revenues and expenses and presented visual comparisons of General Fund versus non-General Fund monies. CAO Greenberg followed-up with information on employee costs and personnel actions expected to affect the budget as well as Funded Deferred Maintenance and Parks Capital Improvement projects.

Auditor-Controller Shepherd provided information on Reserves, Contingencies, and Fund Balance monies and the Budget Team collectively provided recommendations and answered Board member questions. Auditor-Controller Shepherd certified the Fund Balance at $5,173,633 – $973,633 in excess of the amount used to balance the budget.

Recess/Reconvene

Chairperson Kingsley recessed the hearing at 10:37 a.m. and reconvened the hearing at 10:51 a.m. with all Board members present.

CAO – FY 24-25 CAO Recommended Budget Public Hearing (Continued)

Chairperson Kingsley asked if there were any departments wishing to provide feedback and/or Board members with questions on the proposed individual budgets. Additional information was provided to the Board by the following department heads: District Attorney Tom Hardy, Environmental Health Director Jerry Oser, Health and Human Services Director Anna Scott, Planning Director Cathreen Richards, Public Works Director Mike Errante, Sheriff Stephanie Rennie, and Probation Chief Jeff Thomson.

Chairperson Kingsley asked that it be on record that he feels money from Contingencies should be used to start abatement proceedings out of the Code Enforcement Office (in Planning) to demonstrate that the County is serious about property owners fixing code violations.

Board members requested that the following topics be agendized at a future date for additional discussion: Emergency Management Services Systems, Commercial Air Service Subsidy, a comprehensive assessment of the County Parks facilities, and the future of the Juvenile Hall Facility and its potential uses.

Chairperson Kingsley asked if there was anyone from the public who would like to provide comment and there was no one wishing to speak.

The Board continued discussion with staff on the best use of the excess Fund Balance and ultimately decided to allocate the monies in the following manner: $400,000 to Accumulated Capital Outlay for facility projects; $500,000 to Contingencies; and $73,633 to Parks Improvements.

Supervisor Griffiths recommended the Board make a concerted effort to spend money from Contingencies when needed, noting that most years it goes untouched.

The Chairperson closed the public hearing at 12:08 p.m.

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

A) Adopt the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget as recommended by the County Administrator;
B) Prescribe the following allocation for use of the Excess Fund Balance: $400,000 to Accumulated Capital Outlay, $500,000 to Contingencies, with the remaining balance of $73,633 going to the Parks Fund; and
C) Set adoption of the Final Budget for September 24, 2024.

Motion carried unanimously.

Recess/Reconvene

The Chairperson recessed the regular meeting for a break at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 1:08 p.m. with all Board members present.

Board of Supervisors – Response to 23-24 Grand Jury Report

CAO Greenberg introduced the item and Chairperson Kingsley asked if there was anyone who would like to provide input on the Grand Jury Report.

Discussion ensued between Board members, the CAO, and Treasurer Tax-Collector Alisha McMurtrie regarding the jury's report on "Problematic Implementation of the New Property Tax Management System" between the County and contractor Aumentum, which currently provides a program utilized by the Assessor, the Tax Collector, and the Auditor's offices.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve the response to the 2023-2024 Grand Jury Final Report and accompanying transmittal letter and authorize the County Administrator to sign the letter. Motion carried unanimously.

Personnel – CCOA Side Letter

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the Side Letter between the Inyo County Correctional Officers Association and the County of Inyo, to be implemented starting in the pay period beginning November 21, 2024, with benefit changes effective January 1, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Department Reports

HHS Director Anna Scott said that Public Health will offer roaming flu clinics during the month of October throughout the County and provided a handout with additional information. Scott also gave a status report on the recent implementation of the Mobile Crisis Unit and thanked local law enforcement agencies for their support.

Public Works Director Mike Errante said the department would be hosting the State of California Local Transportation Commission meeting September 25-26.

Treasurer Tax-Collector Alisha McMurtrie announced her retirement, thanked Board members and constituents, and said her final day will be on September 30. Board members expressed gratitude for her 26 years of dedicated service to the County of Inyo.

Public Comment

Chairperson Kingsley asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and comment was received from Linda Chaplin and Chelsea Benbrook.

Board Member & Staff Reports

Supervisor Roeser said she attended the Emergency Medical Care Committee meeting and thanked Public Works Director Mike Errante for hosting the upcoming CTC meeting.

Supervisor Marcellin said he had been working with the Bishop Tribal Council regarding traffic safety issues on the Bishop Reservation and thanked CAO Greenberg, Deputy Public Works Director Shannon Platt, and Road Maintenance Supervisor Dale Renfro for assistance in working to set up road safety features to slow down traffic through that area.

Supervisor Orrill said she attended a Drug Court graduation.

Recess/Reconvene

The Chairperson recessed the regular meeting to return to closed session at 2:09 p.m. and reconvened the meeting in open session at 2:13 p.m. with all Board members present.

Report on Closed Session

No action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported.

Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 2:14 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, September 24, 2024, in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: *NATE GREENBERG*
Clerk of the Board

by: _____
Darcy Ellis, Assistant