

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

March 5, 2024

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:33 a.m., on March 5, 2024, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Vice Chairperson Scott Marcellin, presiding, Jeff Griffiths, Jennifer Roeser and Trina Orrill. Also present: County Administrator Nate Greenberg, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, and Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis. Absent: Chairperson Kingsley.

Closed Session Public Comment

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

Closed Session

Vice Chairperson Marcellin recessed open session at 8:36 a.m. to convene in closed session 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 Administrator Sue Dishion, Deputy Personnel Director Keri Oney, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Assistant County Counsel Christy Milovich, and Assistant Director of Budgets and General Services Denelle Carrington; and No. 2B **Public Employment – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: Public Defender.

Open Session

Vice Chairperson Marcellin recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:10 a.m. with all Board members present except Supervisor Kingsley.

Pledge of Allegiance

Assistant Clerk of the Board/Public Relations Liaison Darcy Ellis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report on Closed Session

County Counsel Vallejo reported that the Board met under Item Nos. 2 and 2B and that no action was taken during closed session required to be reported.

Risk – Annual Safety Awards

Risk Manager Aaron Holmberg and Safety Coordinator Tehauna Tiffany presented the Annual Safety Award for "Most Improved in Safety" to the Bishop Wellness, with Wellness Center Supervisor Vanessa Ruggio and HHS Specialist Vivian DeLaRiva accepting, and the Agriculture Department, with Agricultural Commissioner Nate Reade and Program Supervisor Rob Miller accepting.

Introductions

The following new employees were introduced to the Board: Assistant Chief Information Officer Abhilash Itharaju; Probation Rehabilitation Specialist Lora Terrasas and Probation Rehabilitation Specialist Jesus Garcia Martinez; and from HHS, Office Technician Malissa Creekmore, Prevention Specialist Caroline Hagopian, Office Clerk Sandra Garcia Hernandez, Program Services Assistant Barbara Southey, Residential Caregiver Adam Veenker, and Office Clerk Emma Williams.

Public Comment

Vice Chairperson Marcellin asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and public comment was received from Lauralyn Hundley, Susan Nottingham, Pam Wines, Duane Rossi, and Christie Patterson.

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| <i>County Department Reports</i> | <p>Assessor Dave Stottlemire provided information and a handout to the Board on the new "571 Annual Statement Assistance" outreach program that his office is offering to taxpayers.</p> <p>Agricultural Commissioner Nate Reade informed attendees about a recent press release on mosquito abatement activity and explained why the department does not fog during the cold season.</p> <p>Risk Manager Aaron Holmberg said he attended the quarterly PRISM board meeting and shared updates on changes to insurance premiums.</p> <p>Public Works Director Mike Errante recognized Road Department staff for their recent efforts and provided a status on the Mt. Whitney Portal Road repair project.</p> |
| <i>Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes</i> | <p>Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Supervisors meetings of February 6, 2024, and February 20, 2024. Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.</p> |
| <i>Risk - Employee Medical Services and First Aid Policies and Procedures</i> | <p>Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the "Employee Medical Services and First Aid Policies and Procedures." Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.</p> |
| <i>Sheriff – OHV Grant Application/ Reso. No. 2024-07</i> | <p>Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve Resolution No. 2024-07, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Authorizing the submittal of the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Application," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.</p> |
| <i>HHS-First 5 – First 5 Children and Families Commission Appointment</i> | <p>Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to appoint Ms. Josie Rogers to a new three-year term on the First 5 Children and Families Commission ending December 5, 2026. Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.</p> |
| <i>HHS-Fiscal – HHAP 1 Funding Amendment No. 2</i> | <p>Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve Amendment No. 2 to the agreement between the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) of the State of California Department of General Services, Inyo County Health and Human Services (HHS) and Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action, Inc. (IMACA) for the administration of Homeless, Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 1 funding in an amount not to exceed \$733,546.24, increasing HHS's responsibility and liability limited to the unspent amount of \$494,267.18, with the term of this agreement commencing upon BCSH approval of the agreement through June 30, 2025, and authorize the HHS Director to sign the standard agreement amendment (STD213). Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.</p> |
| <i>HHS-Fiscal – HHAP 2 Funding Amendment No. 2</i> | <p>Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve Amendment No. 2 to the agreement between the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) of the State of California Department of General Services, Inyo County Health and Human Services (HHS) and Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action, Inc. (IMACA) for the administration of Homeless, Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 2 funding in an amount not to exceed \$356,764, reducing HHS's responsibility and liability limited to the unspent amount from \$355,200.68 to \$324,093.03, with the term of this agreement commencing upon BCSH approval of the agreement through June 30, 2026, and authorize the HHS Director to sign the standard agreement amendment (STD213). Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.</p> |
| <i>Public Works- Recycling & Waste Management – Landfill Fee Waiver</i> | <p>Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve waiver of solid waste disposal and gate fees for the Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation Environmental & Air Quality Department event, Saturday, April 27, 2024. Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.</p> |

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| <i>Child Support Services – Mono County/Tioga Room Lease Agreement</i> | Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the Lease Agreement between the County of Mono and County of Inyo, for the real property described as the "Tioga Room," located at 1290 Tavern Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546 for a term of three years in an amount not to exceed \$250 per month for the period of March 1, 2024 to March 1, 2027, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$9,000, contingent upon future budget approval, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained. Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent. |
| <i>Agricultural Commissioner – Commercial Cannabis License Ownership Change Request</i> | Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve a change of ownership request for commercial cannabis business license 000140, operating under the name Nanofarms, LLC. Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent. |
| <i>Planning Department – 2023 General Plan Progress Report</i> | <p>The Board received a presentation from Planning Director Cathreen Richards on the Inyo County General Plan and 2023 Annual Progress Report (GPAPR) and the Housing Element Implementation Report.</p> <p>Vice Chairperson Marcellin asked if there was anyone wishing to speak, and public comment was received from Lauralynn Hundley.</p> <p>Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to approve the GPAPR as written and direct staff to send to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and the State Office of Planning and Research (OPR). Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.</p> |
| <i>Water Department – Owens Valley Groundwater Authority Meeting Preparation</i> | Water Director Dr. Holly Alpert provided an oral report to the Board on the upcoming Groundwater Authority meeting being held on March 14 and highlighted some of the main agenda items. |
| <i>Recess/Reconvene</i> | Vice Chairperson Marcellin recessed the regular Board meeting for a break at 12:07 p.m. and reconvened at 12:24 p.m. with all Board members present except Supervisor Kingsley. |
| <i>County Counsel – Proposed Inyo County Mobile Vending Program Workshop</i> | <p>Deputy County Counsel Grace Weitz provided a presentation on the proposed Inyo County Mobile Vending Program, outlining current problems and explaining how the possible solution would allow mobile vendors the opportunity to sell their goods on County property.</p> <p>Weitz described the potential application process, Planning Director Cathreen Richards discussed the proposed zoning changes that would need to be made to accommodate mobile vendors, and Environmental Health Director Jerry Oser provided clarification on the permitting process involved.</p> <p>Public comment was received from Linda Chaplin.</p> <p>Board members directed staff to proceed with a request to the Planning Commission for review of proposed zoning changes, put together a prototype application, and work on a proposed ordinance to bring back to Board at a future meeting.</p> |
| <i>Public Comment</i> | <p>Vice Chairperson Marcellin asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and there was nobody wishing to speak.</p> <p>Supervisor Marcellin took the time to thank the following agencies for working collaboratively to take suspects into custody in the Dorothy McQueen and David Miller murder cases: Inyo County Sheriff, Inyo County District Attorney, Bishop Police Department, CHP, and Mono County Sheriff.</p> |
| <i>Board Member & Staff Reports</i> | CAO Greenberg said he attended a Financial Advisory Committee meeting and will be traveling to Shoshone next week for the joint meeting with Inyo County Office of Education and the Annual Southeast Inyo Board meeting. |

Supervisor Griffiths said he visited the Bishop fairgrounds voting precinct, attended meetings of the Bishop City Council and the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments and has upcoming meetings with the California Counties Board, California State Association of Counties, the Eastern Sierra Conservancy Board, and Board meetings in Shoshone.

Supervisor Orrill said she attended meetings of the Financial Advisory Committee, the Northern Inyo Hospital Board, and Eastern Sierra Council of Governments, met with local non-profit Friends of the Inyo's Desert Lands Organizer Jaime Lopez Wolters, attended a "Meet the Candidates" forum, and will be traveling to Sacramento for a California State Association of Counties meeting.

Supervisor Roeser said she attended a remote conference on national public lands policy and, a "California Jobs First" meeting, and hosted a wildfire preparedness meeting for her district.

Supervisor Marcellin said he attended the Northern Inyo Hospital Rehabilitation Clinic relocation grand reopening and meetings for the Local Transportation Commission, the Financial Advisory Committee and Supervisor Roeser's wildfire preparedness meeting, and listened to the Rural County Representatives of California end of the month call-in. Marcellin encouraged attendees to get out and vote.

Adjournment

The Vice Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 1:14 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at the Flower Building, 118 N. State Highway 127 in Shoshone, CA.



Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: *NATE GREENBERG*
Clerk of the Board

by: 

Darcy Ellis, Assistant