

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

March 12, 2024

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 3:03 p.m., on March 12, 2024, in the Hurlbut-Rook Community Center, Tecopa, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Matt Kingsley, presiding, Scott Marcellin, Matt Kingsley, 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.

- Pledge of Allegiance* Supervisor Kingsley led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Presentation* Risk Manager Aaron Holmberg presented the Annual Safety Award for “Most Improved in Safety” to Facility Operations Supervisor Shane Riley and the Shoshone Road Shop.
- Public Comment* Chairperson Kingsley asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and public comment was received from Regional Broadband Coordinator Scott Armstrong, Death Valley Unified School District Superintendent Jim Copeland, Dan Zellhoefer, Michael Sumter, Public Works Director Mike Errante, Paul Barnes, Bob Florence, Christopher Sellers, Linda of Charleston View, and CAO Greenberg.
- Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes* Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the minutes from the special Board of Supervisors meeting of February 22, 2024 and the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of March 5, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.
- HHS- Behavioral Health – DHCS Intergovernmental Agreements* Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to ratify and approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Inyo and Department of Health Care Services to transfer public funds for the county nonfederal share of Medi-Cal payments for specialty mental health and drug Medi-Cal services for the period of July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026, contingent upon the Board’s approval of future budgets, and authorize the HHS Director to sign both agreements. Motion carried unanimously.
- Public Works – Tecopa Community Connectivity Grant Proposal* The Board received a presentation from Transportation Planner Justine Kokx on the Active Transportation Grant Program, Tecopa Community Connectivity Project. Kokx pointed out that, in addition to speeding vehicles and vehicles failing to stop at signed intersections, Tecopa lacks road shoulders, sidewalks, and pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly facilities, and has gaps in connectivity. Proposed improvements include adding a shoulder and striping on Old Spanish Trail to connect residential areas to the post office, church, and restaurants downtown as well as bike lanes; adding bike lanes or a multi-use path on Tecopa Hot Springs Road; and installing traffic calming measures like LED-lighted stop signs, high-visibility crosswalks, and vehicle speed feedback signage.
- Public comment was received from numerous individuals on the efficacy of various traffic calming measures. Kokx urged community members to weigh in on the proposals – especially the traffic calming measures – by taking online surveys being offered by Public Works.
- Board members requested staff set up a community meeting for public input on the project.
- HHS- Behavioral Health – Prop. 1 Presentation* Health and Human Services Director Anna Scott provided an update on Proposition 1 and summarized the possible shifts to funding and reallocations should the ballot measure pass.

Presentations/Updates The following individuals addressed the Board on items of interest to Southeast Inyo County and the County as a whole:

- Matthew Paruolo, Southern California Edison Government Relations Manager;
- Robin Flinchum, Board Chairperson, Southern Inyo Fire Protection District;
- Cameron Mayer with Friends of the Amargosa Basin; and
- Paul Barnes of Tecopa Hot Springs Conservancy, the concessionaire of Tecopa Hot Springs Campground.

Public Comment Chairperson Kingsley asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and public comment was received from Patrick Donnelly, Great Basin director of the Center for Biological Diversity, Daniel Martinez, a teacher at Death Valley Academy, and Chairperson Kingsley.

Adjournment The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4:48 p.m. to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 13, 2024, in the Furnace Creek Visitors Center.



Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: NATE GREENBERG
Clerk of the Board

by: 

Darcy Ellis Assistant