

# MINUTES



## County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

**July 9, 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 July 9, 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, 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 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, and Assistant Director of Budgets and General Services Denelle Carrington; No. 3 **Conference with Real Property Negotiators – Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Government Code §54956.8** – Property Description: County lands and rights-of-way containing Digital 395 node sites, community service cabinet sites, anchor sites, and underground fiber optic transmission lines as shown on the maps attached to this agenda item. Agency Negotiators: Scott Armstrong, Nate Greenberg, John-Carl Vallejo. Negotiating parties: Inyo County and California Broadband Cooperative, Inc. Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment.

*Open Session*

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

*Pledge of Allegiance*

Supervisor Griffiths led the Pledge of Allegiance.

*Report on Closed  
Session*

County Counsel Vallejo reported that no action was taken in closed session that is required to be reported by law.

*Whitney Portal Rd.  
Repair Update*

Public Works Director Mike Errante provided the following update on the Whitney Portal Road Repair Project:

- The Federal Highway Administration Central Federal Lands (CFL) Highway Division selected a contractor, Steelhead Constructors of Redding, CA.
- A pre-construction meeting was held Monday, July 8 with the contractor, CFL, and stakeholders such as LADWP, USFS, BLM, Caltrans, and Inyo County.
- Surveyors were expected to begin staking the construction area yesterday, Tuesday, July 9. This will last for approximately two weeks. In the meantime, the contractor is mobilizing equipment to begin construction work once the staking is complete.
- Steelhead Constructors will take over the electronic message boards around the project area and its detours, relieving the County of having to rent additional boards and freeing up the County's inventory for use elsewhere in Inyo.
- CFL will begin providing biweekly project updates, which the County will disseminate to the public.
- The preliminary project schedule has paving starting around October, with the end of

project construction by December 31.

- The Badwater Ultramarathon, a 135-mile trip from Badwater in Death Valley to the trailhead at Whitney Portal, will occur as planned July 22-24. The contractor has been made aware that participants will be running adjacent to the project area and should not impede construction. A plan for routing escort vehicles is in the works.

<i>Public Comment</i>	The Chairperson asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and comment was received from Lauralyn Hundley, Karen Palley (who provided a hand-out to the Board), Scott Armstrong, and Sherri Newman.
<i>County Department Reports</i>	<p>Lt. Mike Atkins reported that the Animal Shelter is currently at full capacity – with 30 dogs and 23 cats, and another 20 or so kittens in foster care. He said the Sheriff's Office will be holding three adoption events and encouraged the public to stop by and adopt a new companion animal.</p> <p>HHS Director Anna Scott reported that a written policy on the utilization of heating and cooling centers in Inyo County is in the works.</p>
<i>Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of June 18, 2024 and special meeting of June 25, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Ag Commissioner – Committee Reappointments</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to reappoint the following individuals to the Agriculture Advisory Committee, for three-year terms ending August 22, 2027: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power lessee Tom Talbot and Inyo-Mono Cattleman's Association President Scott Kemp. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Clerk of the Board – Bishop Fire District Reappointment</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to reappoint Dr. Aaron Steinwand to a four-year term on the Bishop Rural Fire Protection District Board of Commissioners ending July 1, 2028. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Clerk of the Board – Fish &amp; Game Reappointments</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to reappoint Mr. Doug Brown and Mr. Steve Ivey each to unexpired four-year terms on the Inyo County Fish & Wildlife Commission ending October 6, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>CAO – VSO Delegation Letter</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve and authorize the Chairperson to sign a letter temporarily delegating the authority and duties of the Inyo County Veterans Service Officer to the Kern County Veterans Service Officer. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>CAO – LP Paiute-Shoshone Reservation Mosquito Abatement MOU</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation and Inyo County for the purpose of mosquito abatement services on the Reservation, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Risk Management – County Facility Animal Policy</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the "County Facility Animal Policy." Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS – Dr. Richardson Health Officer Contract</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and James Richardson, MD of Bishop, CA for the provision of Health Officer services in an amount not to exceed \$205,000 for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-ESAAA – Mon Ami Contract</i>	<p>Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A) Declare Mon Ami of Palo Alto, CA a sole-source provider of the customized Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging operating system for aging and disability services reporting; and</li><li>B) Ratify and approve the agreement between the County of Inyo and Mon Ami of Palo Alto, CA for the provision of customized Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging</li></ol>

operating system for aging and disability services reporting in an amount not to exceed \$39,000 per year and a total of \$117,000.00 for the period of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027, and a one-time implementation fee of \$1,500; contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign.

Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-ESAAA –  
Advisory Council  
Reappointment*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to reappoint Ms. Rebecca Manross to a two-year term on the Eastern Sierra Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council, ending December 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Behavioral Health  
– Anberry Rehab  
Center Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve the contract between the County of Inyo and GHC of Anberry, LLC dba Anberry Rehabilitation Center of Atwater, California for the provision of hospital inpatient psychiatric and other professional medical services in an amount not to exceed \$118,625 for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign the contract and Business Associate Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Health &  
Prevention – MCAH  
Reimbursement  
Agreement*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve the Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Agreement No. 202414 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, 2024 through June 30, 2025, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget, and authorize the MCAH Director and the Board Chairperson to sign the Agreement Funding Application (AFA) Policy Compliance and Certification. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS – AHP  
Subcontract  
Modification 4*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve Modification No. 4 to the agreement between the County of Inyo and Advocates for Human Potential, Inc. (AHP) of Pasadena, CA, increasing the contract to an amount not to exceed \$1,235,684.00, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the HHS Director to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS – MCAH Home  
Visiting Agreement*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve the Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Agreement No. CHVP SGF EBHV 24-14 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, 2024 through June 30, 2025, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget, and authorize the HHS Director to sign the Agreement Funding Application. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –  
CRAFCO  
Amendment 1*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the County of Inyo and CRAFCO of Chandler, AZ, increasing the contract to an amount not to exceed \$83,243.65, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*PW-Parks & Rec –  
Preferred Septic  
Amendment 1*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the County of Inyo and Preferred Septic and Disposal increasing the contract to an amount not to exceed \$101,000.00 for the waste hauling of the South County Campgrounds, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works – Quincy  
Engineering  
Amendment 2*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve Amendment No. 2 to the agreement between the County of Inyo and Quincy Engineering, now Consor North America, Inc. of Chicago, IL, extending the term end date from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2026, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –  
Runway 12-30  
Grooving Project Plans  
& Specs*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the plans and specifications for the Bishop Airport Runway 12-30 Grooving Project and authorize the Public Works Director to advertise the project. Motion carried unanimously.

*Update from Western*

Western Counties Alliance Executive Director Ken Brown provided the Board an update on

*Counties Alliance*

legislation and advocacy efforts affecting member cities and counties, including Inyo.

*Sheriff – 23-24 Military Equipment Report/Community Meeting*

The Board received the Inyo County Sheriff's Office 2023-2024 Military Equipment Annual Report and held community engagement meeting, during which no public comment was received.

*Public Works – SIAAC Appointments*

The item was pulled from the Consent Agenda and moved to the Regular Agenda so that the Assistant Clerk of the Board could clarify the term lengths of the appointees. She reported that the agenda mistakenly has all terms ending in 2028, when in fact they are staggered and noted the specific ones that end in 2027. Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to:

- A) Approve Resolution No. 2024-22, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Amending Resolution No. 1977-116," and authorize the Chairperson to sign; and
- B) Make the following appointments to the Southern Inyo Airport Advisory Committee with terms as corrected:
  - 1. Neil Woodruff, Joe Cappello, and Travis Powell each to an unexpired 4-year term ending June 1, 2028; and
  - 2. Don Bright and Paul Lamos each to an unexpired 4-year term ending June 1, 2027.

Motion carried unanimously.

*Planning – ZTA 2023-01 & STA 2023-02 (Ordinances 1306 & 1307)*

Associate Planner Danielle Visuano presented to the Board proposed Zone Text Amendment 2023-01-SB9 Two-Unit Development and Subdivision Text Amendment 2023-02-SB9 Urban Lot Split, as well as proposed ordinances to make corresponding changes to County Code. During the ZTA 2023-01 presentation, Visuano explained that the ordinance will update Title 18 of the Inyo County Code to reflect the requirements of Senate Bill 9, a state mandate, with regard to Two-Unit Development, and add Chapter 18.84 to the County Code with the adoption of a SB9 District – SB9 Two-Unit Development ordinance. She noted that part of the bill is the requirement that proposed housing development containing two primary residential units within certain identified single-family residential zones to be considered ministerially, without discretionary review or a hearing, if the proposed Two-Unit Development meets certain criteria. The ordinance will also incorporate additional recommended provisions for local implementation, which she reviewed.

During the STA 2023-02 presentation, Visuano explained that the ordinance will update Title 16 of the Inyo County Code to reflect the requirements of SB 9 with regard to Urban Lot Split projects and add Chapter 16.25 of the County Code with the adoption of a SB9 District – SB9 Urban Lot Split ordinance. She noted that part of the bill requires that proposed urban lot splits within certain identified single-family residential zones be considered ministerially, without discretionary review or a hearing, if the proposed Urban Lot Split meets certain criteria. The ordinance will also incorporate the requirements of Senate Bill 9 and will provide additional recommended provisions for local implementation, which she reviewed.

The Chairperson opened the public hearings for both proposed ordinances at 11:50 a.m. After some additional questions from the Board and clarification from staff, the Chairperson closed both public hearings at 11:55 a.m.

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

- A) After conducting a public hearing, waive the first reading of a proposed ordinance titled, "An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Adding Chapter 18.84 to the Inyo County Code Implementing Regulations for the California Home Act (State Senate Bill 9) as it Relates to Two-Unit Development;"
- B) Find the adoption of the ordinance is not considered a project under CEQA pursuant to Government Code section 65852.21(j) and under section 2100 et Seq. of the Public Resources Code, and is Categorically Exempt from CEQA according to section 15303 of the CEQA Guidelines 15303 (Class 3); and
- C) Approve said ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to:

- A) After conducting a public hearing, waive the first reading of a proposed ordinance titled, "An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Adding Chapter 16.25 to the Inyo County Code Implementing Regulations for the California Home Act (State Senate Bill 9) as it Relates to Urban Lot Splits;"
- B) Find the adoption of the ordinance is not considered a project under CEQA pursuant to Government Code section 66411.7 (n) and under section 2100 et Seq. of the Public Resources Code, and is Categorically Exempt from CEQA according to section 15303 of the CEQA Guidelines 15303 (Class 3); and
- C) Approve said ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO – Assistant  
Director of Risk &  
Assistant Personnel  
Director Job  
Descriptions and  
Contract Amendments*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

- A) Approve Job Descriptions for the Assistant Director of Risk Management and the Assistant Personnel Director;
- B) Approve the change to the Authorized Strength in the County Administrative Officer Department by deleting one (1) Risk Manager at Range 92 (\$9,442 - \$11,477) and adding one (1) Assistant Director - Risk Management at Range 92 (\$9,442 - \$11,477);
- C) Approve and ratify Contract Amendment No. 1 between the County of Inyo and Aaron Holmberg for provision of personal services as Assistant Director of Risk Management at Range 92, Step E, \$11,477 per month, and increasing the notice requirement for contract termination, effective October 13, 2022, and authorize the County Administrator to sign;
- D) Approve and ratify Contract Amendment No. 1 between the County of Inyo and Keri Oney for the provision of personal services as Assistant Personnel Director at Range 92, Step E, \$11,477 per month, effective October 13, 2022, and authorize the County Administrator to sign; and
- E) Direct staff to update the publicly available pay schedule accordingly.

Motion carried unanimously.

*Recess/Reconvene*

The Chairperson recessed the meeting at 12:01 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:39 p.m. with all Board members present.

*CAO-Emergency  
Services – Grant  
Discussion*

CAO Greenberg reported that there were developments after the publication of the agenda that have rendered the original agenda request unnecessary (to authorize the Office of Emergency Management to apply for a National Forest Foundation [NFF] Capacity grant to fund staff who can assist with collaborative fuel reduction projects). He and Wildfire Prevention Coordinator Kristen Pfeiler explained that the County had received a grant to fund her position from the Coalitions and Collaboratives (COCO) non-profit, which offers grants twice a year to communities to build capacity and reduce wildfire risk. Greenberg noted that the NFF grant application had proposed using the funds to build staffing capacity at the Inyo-Mono Rural Conservation District (IMRCD) which is being re-established after a long hiatus and can coordinate wildfire prevention programs. Both he and Auditor Amy Shephard explained that the IMRCD is not in a legal position to accept County funding yet.

Discussion ensued between the Board and staff regarding the funding of Pfeiler's position and the role the IMRCD can play in the future in fuels reductions projects and the like.

*CAO-Emergency  
Services – Unified  
Command Update*

Emergency Services Manager Mikaela Torres gave the Board an update on the recent Unified Command meeting, noting the next will be held in Independence on September 5.

*Library – Department  
Workshop*

Library Director Nancy Masters provided the Board with a presentation on the mission of the Inyo County Free Library as well as current service offerings and ongoing projects.

Discussion turned to the recent Grand Jury report ("Safety Issues at Independence Library" pg. 9). Board members expressed concerns about the unstable shelving and areas crowded with stacks of books and boxes of books, including in the courthouse basement hallway. Masters attributed the stacks and boxes to a fundamental lack of space at the Central Library, suggested more storage space is needed, and noted that the courthouse HVAC project has caused some displacement. Chairperson Kingsley said the first priority in

responding to the Grand Jury's recommendations is Public Works securing the shelving into the floor. Supervisor Griffiths said he agreed there is a need to expeditiously get the Central Library as safe as possible for staff and the public. He added that there will always be a finite amount of space available for the library collection and doesn't think more storage is the answer. Ms. Masters reiterated that the clutter is not because she doesn't weed the collection, but rather a lack of space.

The Board ultimately directed that the shelving safety issue be immediately remedied and that Ms. Masters, CAO Greenberg, and Public Works work over the next month on ideas and solutions for addressing the crowding concerns in the Grand Jury report – including using the services of a third-party consultant if needed to address downsizing the collection.

*Attendance Change*

Supervisor Roeser left the meeting at 1:48 p.m. due to travel needs.

*Clerk-Recorder-  
Elections – City of  
Bishop Election  
Consolidation*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to consolidate the General Municipal Election for City Council and City Treasurer with the Statewide General Election to be held on November 5, 2024. Motion carried unanimously 4-0 with Supervisor Roeser absent.

*Clerk-Recorder-  
Elections – Hospital  
Districts Election  
Consolidation*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to consolidate the Northern and Southern Healthcare Districts Board positions with the Statewide General Election to be held on November 5, 2024. Motion carried unanimously 4-0 with Supervisor Roeser absent.

*Clerk-Recorder-  
Elections – IMRCD  
Appointments in Lieu of  
Elections*

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to, pursuant to Public Resources Code section 9314:

- A) Accept the Inyo Mono Resource Conservation District Standing Resolution to appoint directors to its board in lieu of election, effective for all future election cycles, beginning with 2024 General Election cycle; and
- B) Direct the County Administrative Officer to take appropriate action to timely consult with the Mono County Board of Supervisors on Inyo County's appointment decision(s).

Motion carried unanimously 4-0 with Supervisor Roeser absent.

*Clerk-Recorder-  
Elections – ICOE  
Election Consolidation*

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to consolidate the County Office of Education Board with the Statewide General Election to be held on November 5, 2024. Motion carried unanimously 4-0 with Supervisor Roeser absent.

*Public Comment*

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

*Board Member & Staff  
Reports*

Supervisor Orrill reported she is heading to the annual National Association of Counties (NACo) conference in Florida tomorrow.

Supervisor Kingsley said he will be attending a Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District board meeting in Markleeville tomorrow.

Supervisor Griffiths said he will also be headed to the NACo conference and reported that many people are working diligently to find solutions to the situation at the Tri-County Fairgrounds.

CAO Greenberg said he was proud to be part of the June 28 ribbon-cutting for an accessible kayak boat launch at Buckley Ponds as part of a pilot project involving LADWP, the County, Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra, and the Wounded Warrior Project.

*Adjournment*

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 2:19 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 23, 2024, at the County Administrative Center in Independence.



Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: NATE GREENBERG  
Clerk of the Board*

by:   
Darcy Ellis, Assistant