

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

December 3, 2024

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:32 a.m., on December 3, 2024, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Matt Kingsley, presiding, Scott Marcellin, Jennifer Roeser and Trina Orrill. Also present: County Administrator Nate Greenberg, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, and Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Ellis. Attending remotely from 5385 Rd 110, Hopland, CA pursuant to California Government Code 54953(b)(1): Jeff Griffiths.

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 8:32 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, Assistant County Counsel Grace Weitz, Auditor-Controller Amy Shepherd, and Assistant CAO Denelle Carrington; No. 3 **Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: Planning Director; No. 4 **Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: Public Works Director; and No. 5 **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 10:06 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance

CAO Greenberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report on Closed Session

County Counsel Vallejo reported that the Board met under Item Nos. 2 and 5 and said that no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported. Vallejo reported that the Board would meet later in the meeting to discuss the remaining closed session items.

Public Comment

The Chairperson asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and public comment was received from Lauralyn Hundley and Nate Reade.

Introductions

The following new employees were introduced to the Board:

- Public Works: Salvador Duran, Building & Maintenance Worker; and KC Eugene Ray, Building & Maintenance Worker.

Recognition

Chairperson Kingsley introduced an item to recognize retiring Treasurer-Tax Collector Alisha McMurtrie for 25 years of service, nearly 18 of which were served in her current elected

position.

Board members took the opportunity to offer their farewells and gratitude.

Supervisor Kingsley: "When I got elected, I wasn't so sure about Alisha. She can be, you know, pretty direct. But as I worked with her, I realized I could also be direct with her and that Alisha always responds. When I had constituents who had issues, I could refer them to her and 99% of the time, those issues were resolved."

Supervisor Orrill: "I've always been so appreciative of your integrity and your openness and your love of our County. It is important that as elected officials, we hold the trust of people who elect us, and you exemplify being able to do that."

Supervisor Marcellin: "You've given me information I've needed at the drop of a hat to take care of things, and I really appreciate you being open and honest, and as Matt said, you tell it how it is."

Supervisor Roeser: "You answered me with responses such as, 'We always uphold the rights of our taxpayers and our citizens and their constitutional rights.' That means a lot to me, and it means a lot to our citizens, and I appreciate that." Roeser went on to further explain her belief that this deep-seeded pride and conviction is attributed to McMurtrie's previous years of service in the United States Army as a Sergeant in Tactical Communications, and briefly shared the related history.

Supervisor Griffiths: "It's been really great working with you for 12 years. With Alisha, what you see is what you get. She has integrity, she's a straight shooter, and she's always been great to work with."

Staff members, colleagues, and other individuals also commented.

CAO Greenberg: "The stable position that we are in financially and the general direction that we are headed, are as a result of your leadership."

Auditor-Controller Amy Shepherd: "I've had the honor of working with Alisha for over 20 years and today is a little bittersweet. While she enters into a well-deserved retirement, the County is losing a dedicated public servant, a fierce advocate of the taxpayer and expert financial advisor."

Assistant Clerk of the Board/Public Relations Liaison Darcy Ellis: "I want to thank you for your service and your vigilance in protecting our resources and in providing wisdom that helps this County financially. In just the past couple of years, you've brought forward some major recommendations that have put us on better financial footing and as an employee and a taxpayer, I appreciate that."

Chairperson Kingsley asked if anyone from the audience wanted to comment.

Former Inyo County Assistant CAO (and long-time Deputy Personnel Director) Sue Dishion shared how McMurtrie had been very active in the unions and a great advocate for employees and wished her a happy retirement.

In true "McMurtrie fashion", she wrapped up her own recognition ceremony and said, "This has been an enjoyable ride. I owe a lot to the County of Inyo and to all of its citizens for sending me back to this current position five times. I started under John Tracy, who was my mentor, and I really appreciate everything he did for me, and I want to thank my family, my husband Garrett, and my in-laws, because you cannot do an elected job without the support of your family."

Presentation

Risk Manager Aaron Holmberg presented the "Annual Most Improved in Safety" Award to Inyo County Parks & Recreation. Park Manager Daniel Briceno, accompanied by Park Specialist Leads Chuck Baker and Justin Drew, accepted the award and thanked his staff for improvements made to parks and campgrounds throughout the County.

Board members expressed gratitude and excitement for upcoming plans to improve County

facilities.

*Clerk of the Board –
Approval of Minutes*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of November 12, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO –
Board of Supervisors
Meeting Schedule/
Ordinance 1312 &
Resolution #2024-38*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to:

- A) Approve proposed Ordinance 1312, titled, "An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Amending Sections 2.04.010 and 2.04.020 of the Inyo County Code;"
- B) Approve Resolution No. 2024-38, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Establishing the Board of Supervisors Meeting Schedule for the 2025 Calendar Year," and authorize the Chairperson to sign; and
- C) Approve amendment to the Board Governance and Rules of Procedure Section III Rule 3 to conform with Ordinance 1312.

Motion carried unanimously.

*District Attorney –
Victim/Witness
Assistance Program
Grant Acceptance*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to:

- A) Authorize acceptance of the Inyo County Victim/Witness Assistance Program (VW24029001) Grant from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services for Fiscal Year 2024-2025; and
- B) Authorize the District Attorney and the Administrative Assistant to the District Attorney to submit, accept, approve, and sign all grant applications, agreements and/or other documents, as needed, on behalf of the Inyo County District Attorney's Office.

Motion carried unanimously.

*Planning Department –
Yucca Mountain 2023-
2024 Fund Certification*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to:

- A) Certify that \$40,136.00 in funds provided to Inyo County as an Affected Unit of Local Government (AULG) under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, as amended, have been expended in accordance with the provisions of that Act, Public Law 97-425; and the 2010 Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (Public Law 111-85);
- B) Authorize the Chairperson to sign the certification; and
- C) Direct Staff to submit the certification to the U.S. Department of Energy.

Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –
Lily Alley Road Closure*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the temporary closure of Lily Alley between East Center Street and East Main Street in Independence to accommodate the Annual Tour of Christmas Lights and Community Gathering on December 21, 2024, from 2-11 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –
Carroll Creek Road
Bridge Replacement
Project Right of Entry*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the Right of Entry between the County of Inyo and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power for construction of the Carroll Creek Road Bridge Replacement Project and authorize the Director of Public Works to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –
Northern Inyo Airport
Advisory Committee
Appointment*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to appoint Tyler Core to a four-year term as an alternate voting member on the Northern Inyo Airport Advisory Committee, ending October 31, 2028. Motion carried unanimously.

*Sheriff –
2025 Pet Lover's Spay
and Neuter Grant
Application*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to authorize the Sheriff's Office to apply to the California Department of Food and Agriculture 2025 Pet Lover's Spay and Neuter Grant Program. Motion carried unanimously.

*Treasurer-Tax
Collector –
Repealing Subsection*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve Ordinance 1313 titled, "An Ordinance of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Repealing Subsection 16.32.330(D) of the Inyo County Code Pertaining to Taxes and Assessments for

16.32.330(D)/
Ordinance 1313

Subdivisions." Motion carried unanimously.

CAO –
PAWS License
Agreement

The agenda item was moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda for further discussion. Deputy CAO Meaghan McCamman introduced the item, provided a brief overview of the agreement, and introduced PAWS President Nate Reade and former Post Commander for the Independence American Legion Jim Connaughton, who answered Board member questions.

Public comment was received from Don Bright.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve the license agreement between the County of Inyo and PAWS of Independence, CA, for the non-exclusive use of a portion of the real property described as Independence Legion Hall, in an amount not to exceed \$25 per year for the period of December 3, 2024, through June 30, 2029, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works-
Recycling & Waste
Management –
Caterpillar Wheel
Loader Purchase

The agenda item was moved from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda for further discussion.

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to:

- A) Declare Quinn Company of Lancaster, CA a sole-source provider of a 2025 Caterpillar Wheel Load; and
- B) Authorize the issuance of a purchase order in an amount not to exceed \$311,273.13, payable to Quinn Company of Lancaster, CA.

Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Recorder-
Elections –
Statement of All Votes
Cast

Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters Danielle Sexton provided a summary of the 2024 Election results and audit. Board members congratulated the winning candidates thanked Sexton and her staff for their hard work and integrity.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to declare elected those persons for each election under the County's jurisdiction and declare the results of each election under its jurisdiction as to each measure voted on at the election, based on the certified results as required by law and as specified in the Statement of All Votes Cast for the Statewide General Election held on November 5, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

BOS –
Film Commissioner
Oral Report

Inyo County Film Commissioner Jesse Steele provided an oral report on recent filming activity.

CAO-Personnel –
ICEA MOU/Resolution
#2024-40

CAO Greenberg provided a report on the Class and Compensation Study, discussed the negotiations process which began in August of 2023, and answered Board member questions with the assistance of Assistant Personnel Director Keri Oney.

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve the July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027, Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Inyo and Inyo County Employees Association (ICEA) and approve Resolution No. 2024-40, titled, "Adopting and Approving an Memorandum of Understanding with the Inyo County Employees Association," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Personnel –
ICPPOA
MOU/Resolution
#2024-41

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to ratify and approve the April 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027, Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Inyo and the Inyo County Probation Peace Officers Association (ICPPOA) and approve Resolution No. 2024-41, titled, "Adopting and Approving an Memorandum of Understanding with the Inyo County Probation Peace Officers Association," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Personnel –
Non-Represented
Employee Resolution

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve Resolution No. 2024-39 titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Setting Certain Salary and/or Terms and Conditions of Employment for Non-Represented

#2024-39	Employees Employed in the Several Offices or Institutions of the County of Inyo, Which Shall Supersede any Prior Resolution Pertaining to that Subject to the Extent They are Inconsistent," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.
Recess/Reconvene	The Chairperson recessed the meeting for a break and to return to closed session at 12:20 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 1:49 p.m. with all Board members present.
Report on Closed Session	County Counsel Vallejo reported that the Board completed Closed Session discussions and that no action was taken that is required to be reported.
Planning Department – Bonanza Peak Solar Presentation	<p>The Board received a presentation from Director of Permitting for the Bonanza Peak Project Stephanie Lauer and Project Manager Larry Greene on a proposed 500MW solar photovoltaic energy generation project in the Charleston View area.</p> <p>Board members requested that extra attention be given to concerns about fire suppression and provided suggestions on ways that Bonanza Peak Solar could give back to the local community.</p>
CAO – EMS Cost-Share, Equity Funds, Budget Amendment	<p>CAO Greenberg brought forth an agreement between the County, Bishop Tribe, and the City of Bishop to share the costs of ensuring continuity of 911 emergency services in the Bishop area, through REACH. He explained that the contribution amounts are based on population.</p> <p>Greenberg said efforts are still underway to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) from entities interested in providing 911 ambulance service under an exclusive operation agreement, but noted it will take time for the state to review and approve the RFP before the County can move forward.</p> <p>Greenberg also presented a staff recommendation to distribute funds to volunteer fire departments for delivering 911 emergency medical services in other areas of the County. The dollar amount discussed and proposed for the County's contribution for the 24-25 Fiscal Year was \$82,000.</p> <p>The Board asked questions and collectively agreed that more should be contributed to the volunteer fire departments. CAO Greenberg and Assistant CAO Denelle Carrington assisted the Board with crunching numbers and the Board agreed it would be beneficial to set a \$15,000 floor and \$35,000 cap on those contributions.</p> <p>Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Approve agreement between County of Inyo, City of Bishop, and Bishop Paiute Tribe for purpose of cost sharing of the financial support for continuity of 911 Emergency Medical Services in the Bishop Operating Area for the period between January 1, 2025, and June 30, 2025; B) Approve staff recommendation for equity distribution of funds on a per-call to each of the other volunteer fire departments for the purpose of delivering 911 Emergency Medical Services in other areas of the County (info about base rate); and C) Amend the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 County Budget as follows: increase appropriation in the Emergency Services Budget #011404 as follows: Professional Services (5265) by \$127,424, Other Agency Contributions (5539) by \$115,000, and increase the revenue object code Other Agencies (4599) by \$56,424; and reduce the Contingencies - General Budget (087100), Contingencies Object Code (5901) by \$186,000. <p>Motion carried unanimously.</p>
County Counsel – Proposed Ordinance to Modify Enforcement of Building Code	<p>Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to waive further reading of the proposed ordinance titled, "An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Modifying Section 14.08.090 of the Inyo County Code Related to the Enforcement of the California Building Code," and schedule enactment for December 10, 2024 in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, County Administrative Center, Independence. Motion carried unanimously.</p>

*County Counsel –
Budget Amendment*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to amend the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 County Counsel Budget (010700) as follows: increase estimated revenue in Other Agencies (4599) by \$30,000; and increase appropriation in Professional Services (5265) by \$30,000. Motion carried unanimously.

*County Counsel –
Budget Amendment/
Contingencies*

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

- A) Amend the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 County Counsel Budget (010700) as follows: increase appropriation in Professional Services (5265) by \$40,000 (*4/5ths vote required*); and
- B) Amend the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Contingencies Budget (087100) as follows: decrease appropriation in Contingencies (5901) by \$40,000 (*4/5ths vote required*).

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

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

*Board Member & Staff
Reports*

Assistant Clerk of the Board/Public Relations Liaison Darcy Ellis said she attended a conference for the California Clerk of the Board Association in Pasadena and congratulated Supervisor Griffiths for his recent appointment as President of the California State Association of Counties.

CAO Greenberg offered congratulations to incoming 5th District Supervisor Will Waddleton and Supervisor Griffiths, 2025 CSAC President. Greenberg said he attended the CSAC Conference in Pasadena and will be helping with the 2024 Inyo County CSAC Leadership Cohort Presentations tomorrow and attending the Horseshoe Fire debrief meeting tonight.

Supervisor Kingsley said he attended the CSAC Conference and Supervisor Griffiths' swearing-in ceremony.

Supervisor Orrill said she attended the CSAC Conference and congratulated Supervisor Griffiths and said she also had the opportunity to tour NASA's jet propulsion laboratory.

Supervisor Marcellin said he attended the CSAC conference and said he is proud of Supervisor Griffiths for being elected CSAC President. Marcellin said he attended the Northern Inyo Airport Advisory Committee meeting and the Bishop Creek Water Association Appreciation Dinner and will attend a Local Transportation Commission meeting tomorrow.

Supervisor Roeser congratulated Supervisor Griffiths for the honor of being elected CSAC President and said she was unable to attend because she was celebrating her 36th wedding anniversary out of the area. Roeser said she recently attended meetings for the Northern Inyo Airport Advisory Committee, the Standing Committee meeting, and a meeting with local ranch leaseholders.

Supervisor Griffiths spoke about the swearing-in ceremony at CSAC and thanked the Inyo County supervisors and staff members who attended to show their support.

Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 3:28 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, December 10, 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