

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

July 8, 2025

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 July 8, 2025, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Scott Marcellin, presiding, Will Wadelton, 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 Israel.

***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 Marcellin recessed open session at 8:33 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, Assistant Administrative Officer Denelle Carrington, Assistant Personnel Director Keri Oney, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, and Assistant County Counsel Christy Milovich; No. 3 **Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation** - Initiation of litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(d)(4): 1 case; and No. 4 **Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9** – Name of case: *Christy Arsenith, etc., et al. v J-M Manufacturing, Inc., etc., et al.* Case No.: 24CV089313.

Open Session

Chairperson Marcellin recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:06 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Wadelton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report on Closed Session

County Counsel Vallejo reported that the Board met under Item Nos. 2 through 4 and said that no action was taken during Closed Session that is required to be reported. Vallejo said the Board would reconvene in Closed Session later in the meeting.

Employee Service Milestones –

The Board of Supervisors recognized the following employees who reached service milestones during the second quarter of 2025, many of whom were in attendance to receive their commemorative pins:

- Penni Brown, 15 years – Probation
- Alejandro Quezada, 10 years – Probation
- Jill Patton, 15 years – Sheriff
- Shayla Brown, 15 years – Sheriff
- Ryan Reuther, 10 years – Sheriff
- Robin Henry, 5 years – Sheriff
- Skye Milos, 15 years – Health & Human Services
- Colleen Wilson, 5 years – Health & Human Services
- Denver Billing, 5 years – Information Services.

Public Comment

The Chairperson asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and public comment was received from Lauralyn Hundley, Oscar Maciel, and Warren Allsup.

Supervisor Roeser took a moment to introduce Regional CHP Commander Cameron Broyles, who was in attendance and shared a little about himself.

County Department Reports

Public Works Director Mike Errante provided updates on current road improvement efforts and highlighted the recent award of a \$197,000 Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant.

Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of June 24, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO – The Ferguson Group Contract Amendment No. 5

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve Amendment No. 5 to the contract between The Ferguson Group, LLC and the County of Inyo for provision of Federal Advocacy Services, extending the term from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027 in an amount not to exceed \$123,000, contingent upon Board approval of future budgets, and authorize the County Administrator to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

CAO-Risk – Angelo, Kilday & Kilduff, LLP Contract

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Angelo, Kilday & Kilduff, LLP, of Sacramento, CA for the provision of legal services in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for the period of June 11, 2025 through June 30, 2027, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets or Fiscal Years 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS-Behavioral Health – MHSA Plan Update

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) 2025-2026 Annual Update in order to access funds under the approved MHSA Agreement, and authorize the HHS Director, as the County's Mental Health Director, to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works – Hunt Propane Contract

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to ratify and approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Hunt Propane of Bishop, CA for the provision of liquified propane gas in an amount not to exceed \$600,000 for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works-Road Department – LSC Transportation Planning Consultants, Inc. Contract Amendment No. 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 LSC Transportation Planning Consultants, Inc. of Tahoe City, CA, for the provision of on-call transportation planning services in an amount of \$53,270, with a contract not-to-exceed amount of \$81,270 for the period of July 30, 2024 through June 30, 2026, contingent upon the Board's approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Item Pulled: Planning Department – Big Pine Petroleum Zone Reclass/Ord. 1321 & General Plan Redesignation/Reso. # 2025-26

The following agenda item was pulled from the agenda to be discussed at a future meeting:

10 A.M. 16) Public Hearing on Proposed Ordinance Adopting Zone Reclassification 2024-03/Big Pine Petroleum and Proposed Resolution General Plan Amendment 2024-03/Big Pine Petroleum

Planning Department | Danielle Visuano
20 minutes (10min. Presentation / 10min. Discussion)

Recommended Action:

- A) Receive presentation from staff on Zone Reclassification (ZR) 2024-03/Big Pine Petroleum and General Plan Amendment (GPA) 2024-03/Big Pine Petroleum ("Projects");
- B) Conduct a public hearing for the 8,957 square-foot parcel as depicted on Tentative Parcel Map 431 as Parcel 1, located at 190 N. Main Street, Big Pine (APN: 004-032-01), on the following actions:
 - A proposed ordinance titled, "An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Approving Zone Reclassification No. 2024-03/Big Pine

Petroleum and Amending the Zoning Map of the County of Inyo to Reflect This Reclassification," and enact said ordinance; and

- A proposed resolution titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Certifying that the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Have Been Met and Making Certain Findings with Respect to and Approving General Plan Amendment No. 2024-03/Big Pine Petroleum" changing the General Plan designation from Central Business District (CBD) to Residential Medium High (RMH) to best match the requested zoning and current land uses on the property; and

- C) Make all required findings pertaining to both Projects as listed in the staff report; and
- D) Certify the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act as to both Projects have been met.

*Item Pulled:
County Counsel –
Inyo County
Groundwater Transfer
Ordinance Modification*

The following agenda item was pulled from the agenda to be discussed at a future meeting:

17) Modification of the Inyo County Groundwater Transfer Ordinance

County Counsel | John Vallejo
10 minutes (5min. Presentation / 5min. Discussion)

Recommended Action:

- A) Waive further reading of Ordinance 1320 titled, "An Ordinance of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Adding Chapter 7.02 of the Inyo County Code to Regulate the Transfer or Transport of Water from Groundwater Basins Located Wholly or Partially Within Inyo County, and Suspending Inyo County Ordinance No. 1004 (Chapter 18.77 of the Inyo County Code);"
- B) Set enactment for July 22, 2025 in the County Administrative Center, 224 N. Edwards, Independence;
- C) Approve Resolution No. 2025-27 titled, "A Resolution of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Modifying Resolution 99-43 to Expand the Water Commission's Duties and Authority to Include Reviewing and Deciding Upon Applications For A Water Transfer or Transport Permit Pursuant to Ordinance 1320," and authorize the Chairperson to sign; and
- D) Determine that these actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to 14 Cal. Code Regs., §§ 15061(b)(3), 15307, and 15308.

*CAO-Emergency
Services –
40 Acres Community
Wildfire Protection Plan
Workshop & Reso
#2025-28*

County Wildfire Preparedness Coordinator Kristen Pfeiler provided a presentation on the 40 Acres Community Wildfire Protection Plan and answered Board member questions.

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Wadelton to approve Resolution No. 2025-28 titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo Supporting the 40 Acres Community Wildfire Protection Plan," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*Board of Supervisors –
2025-2026 Board
Budget Narrative*

Assistant Clerk of the Board Israel introduced the item, outlined the purpose of the Board narrative, and invited feedback on a draft highlighting departmental accomplishments from the past fiscal year and outlining goals for the year ahead.

The Board discussed the narrative and requested staff make the following changes to the goals section: include mention of all departments in bullet point #2 and add a third bullet point regarding continued meetings with and support of constituents.

*Board of Supervisors –
NACo Voting Delegate
Appointment*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Wadelton to appoint Supervisor Orrill as a voting delegate for the 2024 Annual Business Meeting and Election to be held during the National Association of Counties' 90th Annual Conference in Philadelphia, PA on

Monday, July 14, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Chairperson Marcellin asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and comment was received from Warren Allsup.

Recess/Reconvene

The Chairperson recessed the meeting to return to closed session at 11:30 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 1:31 p.m. with all Board members present.

***Ag. Commissioner –
Wildlife Services
Workshop***

Agricultural Commissioner Nate Reade introduced State Director Jeff Flores and District Supervisor Barry Lowery, both representing the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and conducted a workshop on the USDA Wildlife Services program.

Reade provided an overview of USDA-supported services currently implemented statewide and Flores explained more about the typically nonlethal methods utilized when managing human-wildlife conflicts. Reade outlined benefits for Inyo and Mono counties - such as reducing potential wolf-agriculture tensions, supporting Sage Grouse conservation, addressing nuisance wildlife, expanding public outreach, and improving disease monitoring, all in collaboration with Fish and Wildlife. He added that a cooperative agreement with the USDA could enable both counties to share costs while tailoring services to meet their specific needs. Reade, Flores, and Lowery then responded to questions from the Board.

Public comment was received from Warren Allsup.

The Board collectively agreed to move forward with drafting a cost-sharing agreement with Mono County and instructed staff to initiate public outreach efforts and collaborate with USDA staff to develop a tailored scope of work for Inyo County.

Public Comment

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

***Report on Closed
Session***

County Counsel Vallejo reported that no action was taken during Closed Session that is required by law to be reported.

***Board Member & Staff
Reports***

Supervisor Roeser said that she attended Board meetings of the Rural County Representatives of California and the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District (GBUAPCD), along with a tour of the Devils Garden Wild Horse Corrals. She requested staff arrange a municipal services review workshop, as well as the exploration of a possible consolidated countywide dispatch center and expressed appreciation to CAO Greenberg and Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Israel for preparing a letter in support of protecting public lands.

Supervisors voiced unified support for a municipal services review workshop.

Supervisor Wadelton reported attending meetings with local community service districts, the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (OVGA), and the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District. Wadelton said he attended the 4th of July celebration in Independence and noted that the Badwater Marathon is currently underway. He will be traveling next week to Death Valley then to Sacramento for Module III of the California State Association of Counties New Supervisors Institute.

Supervisor Orrill said she attended meetings of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG), the OVGA, and Sheriff Rennie's POST Executive certification ceremony. Orrill said she will be traveling to Philadelphia next week for the National Association of Counties Annual Conference.

Supervisor Griffiths said he attended the ESCOG meeting and a meeting of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority Board of Directors and celebrated 4th of July in Bishop. Griffiths said he will attend the NACo Conference in Philadelphia then travel to Sacramento to teach at the CSAC Institute.

CAO Greenberg reported ongoing collaboration with the Budget team in preparation for the August 6 Budget Workshop, said he intends to reach out to Planning Director Cathreen Richards to bring a municipal services review workshop back to the Board, and recently met with Supervisor Roeser to address concerns about the Bishop Creek Wastewater Plant. In addition, Greenberg noted upcoming meetings with Stacy Corless and Laura Beardsley, ESCOG, the review committee for a new Recreation Coordinator, and his planned participation in Health & Human Services' All Staff Day this Friday.

Supervisor Marcellin said he attended Sheriff Rennie's certification ceremony, highlighting it as a first for an Inyo Sheriff and commending her focus on training and leadership. He shared updates from the OVGA and GBUAPCD meetings and encouraged the Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe to rejoin groundwater discussions. He also thanked the Junior Livestock Show and Auction instructors and participants for their dedication.

Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 22, 2025, in the County Administrative Center in Independence.



Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: NATE GREENBERG
Clerk of the Board*



by: _____
Darcy Israel, Assistant