

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

September 23, 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 September 23, 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.

- Pledge of Allegiance*** Supervisor Griffiths led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Presentation – Caltrans*** The Public Information Office Chief for Caltrans District 9, Christopher Andriessen, provided updates on current and upcoming highway projects throughout Inyo County.
- Public Comment I*** The Chairperson asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and public comment was received from Lauralyn Hundley and Linda Chaplin.
- County Department Reports*** Public Works Director Mike Errante informed the Board that the department has identified the need to replace the bridge on Brockman Lane and will be initiating plans to address the necessary repairs.
- Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes*** Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Wadelton to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of September 9, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.
- HHS-Health & Prevention – Health Net Community Solutions Inc. Data Sharing Agreement*** Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Wadelton to approve the Data Sharing Agreement between the County of Inyo Health and Human Services and Health Net Community Solutions, Inc. for the provision of data sharing between the County and Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan (MCP), and authorize the Health and Human Services Director to sign, contingent upon all appropriate approvals being obtained. Motion carried unanimously.
- Public Works- Recycling & Waste Management – Waiver of Solid Waste Disposal Fees*** Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Wadelton to approve a waiver of solid waste disposal and gate fees up to \$100 for trash and litter removed at the Lower Owens River Clean-Up event, November 1, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.
- Public Works – Temporary Road Closure*** Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Wadelton to approve the temporary closure of Luring Lane adjacent to Ranch Road in Bishop to allow Roadway Construction Service to replace a deteriorated power pole on September 24, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.
- Public Works – Four Point Engineering Contract*** Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Wadelton to:
- A) Award the contract for the Laws, Independence, and Lone Pine Water Meter Replacement Project to Four Point Engineering of Wellington, NV as the successful bidder;
 - B) Approve the construction contract between the County of Inyo and Four Point Engineering of Wellington, NV in the amount of \$358,342.00, and authorize the Chairperson to sign; and
 - C) Authorize the Public Works Director to execute all other project contract documents, including contract change orders, to the extent permitted by Public Contract Code Section 20142 and other applicable laws.

Motion carried unanimously.

***CAO-Personnel –
Inyo County Vacancies***

Chairperson Marcellin opened a public hearing at 9:35 a.m. and Assistant Personnel Director Keri Oney provided a brief overview and status report on the County's vacancies, recruitment and retention efforts pursuant to California Government Code §3502.3 - formerly known as Assembly Bill 2561.

The Chairperson asked if there was anyone wishing to speak and public comment was received from Linda Chaplin and Lauralyn Hundley. The Chairperson closed the public hearing at 10:01 a.m.

Recess/Reconvene

The Chairperson recessed the meeting for a break at 10:01 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 10:13 a.m. with all Board members present.

***CAO –
Adoption of FY 25-26
Final Board Approved
Budget & Reso. No.
2025-33***

CAO Greenberg provided a summary of the Final Approved Budget for Fiscal Year 2025–2026, highlighting the Board-directed modifications to the County Administrative Officer's Recommended Budget that were formally adopted during the September 9 Board meeting.

The Chairperson asked if there was anyone wishing to speak and public comment was received from Matt Kingsley.

Board members discussed the unfolding crisis affecting District 5 residents and county visitors – the potential bankruptcy of Southern Inyo Hospital – and whether it warranted a budget adjustment to support a possible County loan or intervention.

CAO Greenberg briefed the Board on ongoing efforts to gather information, provided information on the special emergency hospital board meeting scheduled for tonight, and recommended delaying any decisions until further details emerge. Auditor-Controller Amy Shepherd and County Counsel Vallejo answered Board member questions. The Board concurred that pausing was the most prudent course of action and acknowledged that a special meeting may need to be convened promptly thereafter.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to:

- A) Adopt the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 as recommended by the County Administrator and as amended, and as directed on September 9, 2025;
- B) Approve Resolution No. 2025-33, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Adopting a Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026," and authorize the Chairperson to sign; and
- C) Approve all associated job descriptions and direct staff to update the publicly available salary schedule.

Motion carried unanimously.

***Public Works –
Bishop Fire Well
Emergency Repair
Budget Amendment***

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

- A) Amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Bishop Airport Budget 150100 as follows: increase estimated revenue in Operating Transfers In Revenue Code 4998 by \$75,000 and increase appropriation in Construction in Progress Object Code 5700 by \$75,000 (*4/5ths vote required*);
- B) Amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 General Revenues and Expenditures Budget 011900 as follows: increase appropriation in Operating Transfers Out Code 5801 by \$75,000 and reduce the General Fund Contingencies Budget 087100 Contingencies Object Code 5901 by \$75,000 (*4/5ths vote required*); and
- C) Find that the situation constitutes an emergency project pursuant to California Public Contract Code Section 20134.

Motion carried unanimously.

***Board of Supervisors –
Seth Tait Memorial
Plaque at Spainhower
Park***

CAO Greenberg explained that a request had been made, per County Policy, to place a memorial plaque on the gazebo at Spainhower Park in Lone Pine in honor of Seth Tait, a beloved community member who recently lost his life in a tragic automobile accident. Greenberg explained that Mr. Tait was responsible for helping to construct the gazebo as

part of his Eagle Scout project.

Supervisor Wadelton noted the overwhelming outpouring of support from community members, sharing that numerous heartfelt letters had been received in support of the plaque request. He also expressed his gratitude to Ignacio "Nacho" Saldana for generously crafting the memorial plaque.

Supervisor Roeser said, "I'm just so grateful to have known him and what an incredible young man he was."

The Assistant Clerk of the Board Israel noted for the record that staff went through the checklist and policy and agree that the request meets all of the criteria for plaque placement on County property.

Supervisor Marcellin said, "It is an honor to put a plaque up on the gazebo that he built."

Moved by Supervisor Wadelton and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the request to place a memorial plaque at the Spainhower Park gazebo in Lone Pine in honor of the late Seth Tait. Motion carried unanimously.

*Agricultural
Commissioner –
2024 Crop and
Livestock Report*

Agricultural Commissioner Nathan Reade provided a presentation on the 2024 Inyo and Mono Counties Crop and Livestock Report and answered Board member questions.

*Treasurer-Tax
Collector –
Treasury Oversight
Committee
Membership & Reso.
No. 2025-34*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to:

- A) Accept the resignation of Chief Damon Carrington as a Member of the Treasury Oversight Committee;
- B) Rescind the appointment of Chief Damon Carrington to the Treasury Oversight Committee; and
- C) Adopt the attached Resolution No. 2025-34 appointing Alisha McMurtrie to the vacant seat on the Treasury Oversight Committee, titled, "Resolution Rescinding Appointment and Confirming Other Appointment to the Treasury Oversight Committee," and authorize the Chairperson to sign.

Motion carried unanimously.

*Planning Department –
ZTA 2025-02/Kennels
& Ord. 1323*

Planning Director Cathreen Richards provided the Board with a brief presentation on the proposed changes in County Code regarding the definition of kennels. County Counsel Vallejo noted a clerical error in Subsection IV of the proposed Ordinance and said it should include the following: **SECTION IV.** Subsection 18.22.040(E) of the Inyo County Code is superseded and replaced in its entirety with the following: 18.22.040 (E) Commercial Kennels.

Chairperson Marcellin opened the public hearing at 11:46 a.m. and, with nobody wishing to speak, closed the public hearing at 11:47 a.m.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Wadelton to:

- A) Approve, with corrections, Ordinance 1323 titled, "An Ordinance of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Amending Section 18.06.305 of the Inyo County Code Pertaining to the Definition and Title Kennel and Amending Subsections 18.21.040(F), 18.22.040(E), and 18.49.020(L) of the Inyo County Code Pertaining to the Title Kennel and Amending Section 18.12.020 and Subsection 18.12.040 of the Inyo County Code Pertaining to Zoning Requirements for Kennels;"
- B) Find the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the Commonsense Exemption 15061(b)(3) on the basis that it has no potential to cause a significant effect on the environment; and
- C) Waive further reading of and enact said ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously.

*Planning Department –
Zone Reclassification*

Planning Director Richards provided the Board with a presentation on Zone Reclassification 2025-04 regarding Eastside Vistas.

*No. 2025-04/Eastside
Vistas & Ord. 1324*

The Chairperson opened a public hearing at 12:01 p.m. and asked if there was anyone wishing to provide comment. With no one wishing to speak, the Chairperson closed the hearing at 12:03 p.m.

The Board expressed appreciation to Ms. Richards and the Planning Commission, and Ms. Richards tipped her hat to the applicant for paving the way for additional housing and the elimination of an eyesore.

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Wadelton to:

- A) Approve Ordinance 1324, enacting the Zone Reclassification titled, "An Ordinance of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Approving Zone Reclassification No. 2025-04/Eastside Vistas and Amending the Zoning Map of the County of Inyo by Rezoning an Approximate 1.95-Acre Parcel Located East of the Bishop Plaza (APN 010-301-28) from Multiple Residential with a 2-Acre Minimum (R3-2) to One Family Residences 3,400 Square-Foot Minimum (R1-3,400);"
- B) Make all the necessary findings as stated in the staff report and ordinance, including that ZR 2025-04 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to the Commonsense Exemption 15061(b)(3) that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential to cause a significant effect on the environment; and
- C) Waive further reading of and adopt the proposed ordinance.

Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO –
Map Checking
Fees/Ord. 1325 &
Reso. No. 2025-35*

Deputy CAO Meaghan McCamman provided an overview to the Board regarding map checking fees needing to be updated to cover actual County costs. Assistant Clerk of the Board Israel noted the resolution number provided on the published agenda should be 2025-35.

Chairperson Marcellin opened a public hearing at 12:10 p.m. and, with nobody wishing to speak, closed the hearing at 12:12 p.m.

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to:

- A) Waive further reading and adopt proposed Ordinance 1325, titled, "An Ordinance of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Adding Section 16.28.120 to the Inyo County Code Pertaining to the Establishment of Fees for Record of Survey Reviews by the County Surveyor;" and
- B) Adopt Resolution No. 2025-35, titled, "Resolution of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors Adopting and Increasing Fees for Map Checking Services Provided by and through the Inyo County Department of Public Works," and authorize the Chairperson to sign.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment II

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

*Board Member & Staff
Reports*

Supervisor Roeser reported attending the annual Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) conference and expressed appreciation to staff for assembling a gift basket showcasing Inyo County for the event's charity auction. She also participated in a Community Service District meeting, the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb at the fairgrounds, and a memorial for Charlie Kirk at Bishop City Park. Roeser thanked CAO Greenberg for his valuable technical support during a recent webinar. Supervisor Roeser thanked CAO Greenberg for an excellent panel discussion at RCRC on A.I. and said he did a great job.

Supervisor Wadelton said he attended the RCRC conference and announced the upcoming EMT course in Lone Pine, set to begin September 18. He reported on the first annual kids' chess tournament, the Olancho Days potluck, and the Pischel Memorial Golf Tournament – all held last weekend. He noted plans to attend a special Southern Inyo Hospital Board meeting and a forthcoming discussion regarding the Tecopa Hot Springs Concessionaire agreement.

Supervisor Orrill reported attending the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Board meeting in Sacramento, an Eastern Sierra Transit Authority meeting, and the RCRC

conference. Orrill said she plans to attend the Birchim Circuit Town Hall with Southern California Edison on September 5.

Supervisor Griffiths said he attended the CSAC Board meeting, the RCRC conference, and the Millpond Music Festival, will be traveling to Bridgeport for a Western Interstate Region Board meeting and attending the 25th anniversary dinner fundraiser for the Eastern Sierra Cancer Alliance. Supervisor Griffiths said he received feedback that Parks Manager Daniel Briceno and his team went above and beyond in preparing Millpond for the festival. He also noted the employee barbecue had the best turnout he's ever seen.

CAO Greenberg said he attended the RCRC Conference, participated in phone meetings with the Modoc County CAO, and joined the Millpond Music Festival. He expressed appreciation to Deputy CAO Meaghan McCamman, Rebecca Graves, Nate Reade, Jeff Thomson, and retired Ag Commissioner George Millovich for their support in organizing and cooking at the employee barbecue. CAO Greenberg also met with representatives from the High Sierra Energy Foundation, and then with Anna Scott and members of ICEMA, noting a target release date of January 1 for the final RFP. He shared that he has received multiple calls regarding the Southern Inyo Hospital District financial crisis and plans to attend a meeting on the matter tonight. Additionally, he assisted Deputy Personnel Director Oney with a full-day staff training on the new evaluation system and announced that Assistant CIO Abhilash Itharaju had launched the OpenGov permit system. During the meeting, Greenberg announced breaking news from Elaine Kabala, Director of ESCOG, that the County has been awarded a wildfire defense grant of over \$4 million.

Supervisor Marcellin reported attending the RCRC Conference, the Millpond Film Festival, and the Hispanic Heritage Celebration in Bishop. He also plans to attend the upcoming Eastern Sierra Cancer Alliance fundraiser dinner.

Closed Session

Chairperson Marcellin recessed open session at 12:36 p.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): No. 22 **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; and No. 23 **Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: County Administrator.

Open Session

Chairperson Marcellin recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 3:25 p.m. with all Board members present.

Report on Closed Session

Chairperson Marcellin said that the Board met under item Nos. 22 and 23 and said no action was taken during closed session that is required to be reported.

Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, September 26, 2025, in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

Attest: *NATE GREENBERG*

Board of Supervisors MINUTES

Clerk of the Board

by: _____
Darcy Israel, Assistant