

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

January 16, 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 January 16, 2024, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, 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.

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 Roeser 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); Elected Officials Assistant Association (EOAA); 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 County Administrator Sue Dishion, Deputy Personnel Director Keri Oney, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, Assistant County Counsel Christy Milovich, and Senior Budget Analyst Denelle Carrington; and No. 3 **Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation - Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9** – *County of Inyo v. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power*, Inyo County Superior Court Case No. SICVCV 18-62064 (Eminent Domain-Independence); Case No. SICVCV 18-62065 (Eminent Domain-Lone Pine); and Case No. 18-62067 (Eminent Domain-Bishop).

Open Session

Chairperson Kingsley recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:02 a.m. with all Board members present.

Report on Closed Session

County Counsel Vallejo reported that the Board met under Item Nos. 2 and 3 and that no action was taken during closed session required to be reported.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Griffiths led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Employee Service Recognition

The Board recognized the following employees who reached service milestones during the Fourth Quarter of 2023, many of whom were in attendance to receive their commemorative pins:

- Shane Scott, 20 years; Brian Howard, 20 years; Jessica Royal-Dews, 5 years; and Mike Atkins, 5 years – Sheriff's Department
- Mike Durbin, 15 years – District Attorney
- Eryn Clark, 10 years; Laura Coretz Barrientos, 10 years; Natalia Luque, 10 years; and Christina Bonanno, 5 years – Health & Human Services
- Chuck Baker, 5 years; Kody Nelson, 5 years; and Marjorie Chapman, 5 years – Public Works

Public Comment

Chairperson Kingsley asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and public comment was received from Lauralyn Hundley, an individual identified as "Joe," and Linda Chaplin.

<i>County Department Reports</i>	Public Works Director Mike Errante provided a brief update on the status of Mt. Whitney Portal Road repairs, noting the lower culverts are almost complete. Health & Human Services Director Anna Scott provided an update on the recently vacant Behavioral Health Director position and said the department is working to recruit an interim person for the position. Scott mentioned that Assistant HHS Director Gina Ellis will be working out of the Behavioral Health office to provide reception assistance to the public until the position is filled.
<i>Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of January 9, 2024, and the special Board of Supervisors meeting of January 10, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Clerk of the Board – Cancellation of Special Meeting</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to cancel the special meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 7, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>County Administrator- Personnel – Social Worker IV Minimum Qualifications Change</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve the change to the minimum qualifications of the Social Worker IV position, consistent with the attached Job Description. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>HHS-First 5 – First 5 Children and Families Commission Appointments</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to: A) Appoint Mr. Alex Burciaga to an unexpired three-year term on the First 5 Commission ending December 5, 2024, and B) Appoint Mrs. Heather Carr to a new three-year term on the First 5 Commission ending December 5, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Works – Clean California Local Grant Program Acceptance/ Reso. #2024-03</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve Resolution No. 2024-03, to: A) accept a Clean California Local Grant Program award in the amount of \$1,475,000; and B) authorize the Inyo County Public Works Director to execute agreements with the California Department of Transportation for the Inyo County Diaz Lake Welcoming & Beautification Project. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Public Works- Recycling & Waste Management – Waste Hauler Maximum Rate Adjustments</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to: A) Ratify and approve the Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment of 6.5% to the portion of the Service Fee Maximum rates not associated with the tipping fees, effective January 1, 2024, in accordance with Franchise Agreements between the County of Inyo and contract waste haulers; and B) Adopt the new schedule of Maximum Charges for Waste Hauling Services for Areas A & B in Inyo County as presented in Exhibit A. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>Water Department – Water Commission Appointments</i>	Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to consider the Letters of Interest received and appoint two Water Commissioners each to four-year terms ending December 31, 2027. Motion carried unanimously.
<i>CAO – The Ferguson Group Contract Amendment No. 4/CSAC Grants Contract</i>	The agenda item was moved from the Consent Calendar to the Regular Agenda for further discussion and Assistant CAO Meghan McCamman explained that bringing the California State Association of Counties Grants Initiative into the fold will allow the County to plan and act on future grant opportunities more efficiently. Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to: A) Ratify Amendment No. 4 to the contract between the County of Inyo and The Ferguson Group (TFG), removing the Grant Services portion of the Scope of Work, reducing the monthly compensation from \$8,000 per month to \$5,000 per month effective January 1, 2024, removing travel reimbursement expenses, and extending the term end date from June 30, 2024 to June 30, 2025, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon

- all appropriate signatures being obtained; and
- B) Approve the three-way agreement between the County of Inyo and California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and The Ferguson Group (TFG) for the provision of Grant Services in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the period of February 1, 2024 - January 31, 2025, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent upon all appropriate signatures being obtained.

Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO-Personnel –
Code Compliance
Inspector/Approval of
Job Description*

The agenda item was moved from the Consent Calendar to the Regular Agenda for discussion. Assistant Personnel Director Keri Oney provided additional information on the proposed changes being made. CAO Greenberg and Assistant Personnel Director Oney responded to Board questions regarding where and how to contact the new Code Compliance Inspector once hired.

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

- A) Change the Authorized Strength in Administration by deleting one (1) Code Enforcement Officer at Range 68 (\$5,099 - \$6,195);
- B) Change the Authorized Strength in the Planning Department by adding one (1) Code Compliance Inspector at Range 68 (\$5,099 - \$6,195);
- C) Approve the Code Compliance Inspector job description; and
- D) Approve the removal of the Code Enforcement Officer from Resolution No. 2023-41 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 Management and Non-represented Employees Employed in the Several Offices or Institutions of the County of Inyo," and recognize the Code Compliance Inspector as an Inyo County Employees Association represented position.

Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works-Parks &
Recreation –
Portuguese Joe
Campground
Reservation*

The agenda item was moved from the Consent Calendar to the Regular Agenda. Assistant Public Works Director John Pinkney said on-call emergency medical services was not an issue the previous year at the same event and he does not anticipate problems arising this time.

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve a request from Allan Johnson to reserve all campsites at Portuguese Campground, Thursday, October 10, 2024, through Sunday, October 13, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –
Jail Administration
Remodel Project*

The agenda item was moved from the Consent Calendar to the Regular Agenda. Supervisor Orrill asked for clarification on the parapet cap and brought it to the attention of Public Works Director Mike Errante that the dollar amount on the Change Order needed correction and should be \$68,951.90. Errante said he would get this fixed and thanked her for bringing it to his attention.

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to authorize the Public Works Director to sign Change Order No. 2 for \$68,951.90 to Pagenkopp Construction, Inc. for additional scope-of-work on the Jail Administration Remodel Project. Motion carried unanimously.

*Board of Supervisors –
Committee
Appointments*

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve the 2024 Board of Supervisors committee assignments as recommended by the Chairperson, including the addition of an alternate position on the Inyo-L.A. Standing Committee and on the City of Bishop-County of Inyo Liaison Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

*Board of Supervisors –
Amargosa Basin
Presentation*

Friends of the Amargosa Basin Executive Director Cameron Mayer provided a presentation to the Board on efforts being made to create the Amargosa Basin National Monument. Friends President Susan Sorrells introduced retired University of Washington professor Daryl Allen, who spoke about the Shoshone Education and Research Center field station and highlighted the geological uniqueness of the Amargosa Basin.

*CAO-Advertising
County Resources –
Film Commissioner
Written Report*

Film Commissioner Jesse Steele provided the Board with a written report and summary on local filming activity.

Chairperson Kingsley requested that the next report include more information on the permitting process for film activity then asked if there was anyone from the public wishing to speak. Public comment was given by an individual identified as “Joe.”

*Board of Supervisors –
Inyo National Forest
Report on 2024 Rose
Parade Participation*

Supervisor Roeser introduced the following Inyo National Forest crew members to the Board: Mt. Whitney District Ranger Taro Pusina, Wilderness and Trails Supervisor for the Mammoth Ranger District and Co-Director of the Region 5 Pack Stock Center of Excellence Michael Morse, and Fire Prevention Specialist Levi Ray.

Morse shared a video put together highlighting the Pack Stock Center of Excellence’s participation in the Tournament of Roses Parade in honor of Smokey Bear’s 80th birthday. Ray, who has also helped establish the Hot Shot Crew for the Inyo National Forest, was put in charge of building the float for the parade and shared more about the float crew and their preparations.

Board members thanked the Inyo National Forest employees for their hard work and said that it was truly an honor and privilege having Inyo represented in the Tournament of Roses Parade.

Attendance Change

Vice Chairperson Marcellin stepped in to run the meeting for Chairperson Kingsley at 12:02 p.m. so he could travel to a Rural County Representatives of California meeting.

*CAO –
Administration
Department
Restructure*

CAO Greenberg provided background information and explained the purpose of a proposed restructuring of the Administrative Department.

Supervisor Orrill asked for clarification and brought it to Board attention that the approval list for the item had not been routed through the Auditor-Controller.

In response, Auditor-Controller Amy Shepherd said that a brief review of this item would have prompted her request for additional information identifying the specific savings created by the restructuring and said she would have asked that the current Senior Budget Analyst Denelle Darrington be removed from the approval list as the changes will directly affect her salary.

Board members decided to delay the approval of the item presented so the Auditor-Controller could fully review it and requested that it be brought back to Board at the next meeting on February 6.

*CAO-Personnel –
Undersheriff/Personal
Services Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to:

- A) Ratify and approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Juan Martinez for the provision of personal services as the Undersheriff at Range 85SE, Step F, \$12,693 per month effective December 12, 2023, and authorize the Chairperson to sign, contingent on all appropriate signatures being obtained; and
- B) Direct staff to update the publicly available pay schedule accordingly.

Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.

*CAO-Personnel –
Assistant Chief
Information Officer/
Personal Services
Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

- A) Approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Abhilash Itharaju for the provision of personal services as the Assistant Chief Information Officer at Range 92, Step E, \$11,036 per month effective February 15, 2024, and authorize the Chairperson to sign;
- B) Approve the Job Description for the Assistant Chief Information Officer; and
- C) Direct staff to update the publicly available pay schedule accordingly.

Motion carried 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.

Recess/Reconvene

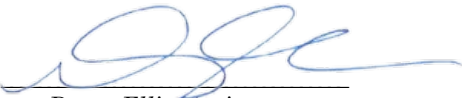
Vice Chairperson Marcellin recessed the regular Board meeting for a break at 12:11 p.m. and reconvened at 12:26 p.m. with all Board members present except Supervisor Kingsley.

<i>CAO-Personnel – Management and Non- Represented/ Reso. #2024-04</i>	Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve Resolution No. 2024-04 titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors, County of Inyo, State of California, Setting Certain Salary and/or Terms of Conditions of Employment for Management and Non-represented 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 4-0 with Supervisor Kingsley absent.
<i>CAO – ESCOG Update</i>	The Board received a presentation on the current projects and initiatives of the Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) from Executive Director of Regional Coordination Elaine Kabala.
<i>Attendance Change</i>	Supervisor Griffiths left the Board meeting at 1:18 p.m. to attend a scholarship presentation in Bishop.
<i>CAO – Regional Broadband Activities Update</i>	The Board received a presentation and update on Regional Broadband Activities from Regional Broadband Coordinator Scott Armstrong.
<i>Public Comment</i>	Vice Chairperson Marcellin asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and comment was received from Lauralyn Hundley.
<i>Board Member & Staff Reports</i>	CAO Greenberg said he has been working on Strategic Planning and attended the Search and Rescue Appreciation dinner. Supervisor Orrill said she attended an Eastern Sierra Transportation Authority meeting. Supervisor Marcellin said he attended the SAR dinner and mentioned that he was recently given the exciting news that he has a new grandchild on the way.
<i>Adjournment</i>	The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 1:56 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 6, 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