

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

August 6, 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 August 6, 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.

Item Pulled

County Counsel Vallejo explained that the following item would be pulled from Closed Session for discussion at a later date: Item No. 2 **Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation - Significant exposure to potential litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) Government Code §54956.9: one potential case.**

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. 3 **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, Auditor-Controller Amy Shepherd, and Assistant Director of Budgets and General Services Denelle Carrington; No. 4 **Conference with Real Property Negotiators – Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Government Code §54956.8** – Property: Bishop, Independence, and Lone Pine Landfills. Agency Negotiators: Nate Greenberg, John-Carl Vallejo, Greg James. Negotiating parties: Inyo County and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Under negotiation: price and terms of payment; No. 5 **Public Employment – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: Assistant County Administrator; and No. 6 **Conference with Legal Counsel – Initiation of Litigation - Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9.** Name of case: Southern California Edison Company v. California State Board of Equalization, et al. Case number: 30-2024-01403215-CU-MC-CXC.

Open Session

Chairperson Kingsley recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:05 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 No. 2 and said that no action was taken that is required to be reported but the Board would continue closed deliberations for the same item later in the meeting.

*Update on Eastern
Sierra Tri-County
Fairgrounds*

Members of the Inyo County Tri-County Fairgrounds Board of Directors Joanne Parsons, Julie Waggoner, and Jaque Hickman provided a report and distributed a hand-out on the operational status of the fairgrounds given the recent audit and the resignation of CEO Jen McGuire.

Board members thanked volunteers for their dedication and acknowledged the contributions

of Jen McGuire during her time serving the community.

*Employee Service
Recognition*

The Board recognized the following employees who reached service milestones during the Second Quarter of 2024, many of whom were in attendance to receive their commemorative pins:

- Lars Erickson, 25 years, and Guadalupe Orozco, 5 years – Probation Department
- Jeff Roberts, 10 years – Information Services
- Alisha Hanson, 5 years – Assessor
- Danyel Dondero, 5 years, Greg Waters, 5 years, and John Kinney, 5 years – Public Works
- Fabiola Isidro, 5 years, Maria Martinez, 5 years, Jennifer Sargent, 5 years, Andrew Wilkinson, 5 years, and Sheila Turner, 5 years -- Health & Human Services
- Lidia Schultz, 5 years – District Attorney

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 Joseph Beaton.

*County Department
Reports*

Public Works Director Mike Errante provided updates on the road and bridge repairs, and the Lone Pine sidewalk and Courthouse HVAC projects.

Clerk-Recorder Danielle Sexton provided information on election deadlines.

*Clerk of the Board –
Approval of Minutes*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Supervisors meeting of July 9, 2024, and special meeting of July 23, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO-Emergency
Services –
Meeting Owl MOU*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Inyo County and the Independence Fire Safe Council for custody and maintenance of the Meeting Owl 3. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO-Personnel –
Atkinson, Loya, Ruud,
& Romo Legal Services
Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to ratify and approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Atkinson, Loya, Ruud & Romo for the provision of Legal Services - General Labor and Employment Advice, for an amount not to exceed \$420,000 for the term July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, contingent upon the Board's adoption of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget, and authorize the Chairperson to sign the contract and HIPAA Business Associate Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Behavioral
Health –
North American Mental
Health Services
Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to ratify and approve the contract between the County of Inyo and North American Mental Health Services of Redding, CA for the provision of mental health tele-psychiatry services in an amount not to exceed \$190,800 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-Behavioral
Health –
Advocates for Human
Potential Contract*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve the contract between the County of Inyo and Advocates for Human Potential of Sudbury, MA for the provision of Behavioral Health Bridge Housing program services in an amount not to exceed \$1,488,504.00 for the period of January 11, 2024, to June 30, 2027, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the HHS Director to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*HHS-Health &
Prevention –
California Department
of Public Health Grant
Award*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to ratify and approve the California HIV Surveillance Program Grant Agreement between the County of Inyo and the California Department of Public Health for the provision of local HIV surveillance activities with funding amount up to \$21,935 for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029, contingent upon the Board's approval of future budgets, and authorize the Health and Human Services Director to sign the agreement, Contractor Certification Clause, and California Civil Rights Laws Attachment. Motion carried unanimously.

*Public Works –
Laws Avenue Street
Closure*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to approve a road closure on Laws Avenue in Keeler on August 17, 2024, between noon and midnight for a private celebration. Motion carried unanimously.

*Assistant Clerk of the
Board –
California Fish &
Wildlife Follow-Up
Correspondence*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to authorize the Inyo County Fish & Wildlife Commission to send a follow-up letter to the State Fish & Game Commission regarding mountain lion predation of mule deer and endangered Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep, and possibly send a similar letter from the Board of Supervisors. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO-Emergency
Services –
Community Wildfire
Protection Plan/
Reso. No. 2024-23*

Inyo County Wildfire Preparedness Coordinator Kristen Pfeiler presented the final Community Wildfire Protection Plan for Inyo County, which she explained was developed with widespread collaboration and community input. She also described specific efforts to implement some of the measures highlighted in the plan. Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to approve Resolution No. 2024-23, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Adopting the Community Wildfire Protection Plan," and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO –
Aspendell Parcel
Divestment/
Reso. No. 2024-24*

Deputy CAO Meaghan McCamman brought forth a request to divest a sliver of County-owned property adjacent to property of the Aspendell Mutual Water Company so that the latter can expand its work area. Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to:

- A) Approve Resolution No. 2024-24, titled, "A Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, Declaring Certain County Owned Property Exempt Surplus Land Pursuant to the California Surplus Land Act," and authorize the Chairperson to sign;
- B) Direct staff to complete the Surplus Land Act exemption process by submitting the resolution to the California Department of Housing and Community Development, and offering the land to the adjacent property owner, the Aspendell Mutual Water Company; and
- C) Consistent with Government Code section 25526.5, find that the requirement of the County's Real Property Management Policy to offer the parcel to other public agencies will not further the purpose of the policy, waive the policy, and direct the CAO to enter directly into negotiations with the Aspendell Mutual Water Company for the sale of said property and return to the Board with a purchase and sale agreement accordingly.

Motion carried unanimously.

Aspendell Mutual Water Company representative Dave Tanksley thanked the Board and staff.

*Clerk-Recorder-
Elections –
Owens Valley Unified
School
District/Resolution
#2324-003*

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Orrill to:

- A) Order consolidation of the election for the Measure provided within Resolution #2324-003 from the Owens Valley Unified School District with the November 5, 2024 General Election, including the canvass of the election results, in accordance with Elections Code Division 10, Part 3. (EC 10400-10418); and
- B) Direct the County Auditor to review the measure and determine if the substance of the County ballot measure, if adopted, would affect the revenues or expenditures of the County (EC 9160(c)).

Motion carried unanimously.

*Clerk-Recorder-
Elections –
Lone Pine School
District/Resolution
#2023-24-10*

Moved by Supervisor Kingsley and seconded by Supervisor Roeser to:

- A) Order consolidation of the election for the Measure provided within Resolution 2023-24-10 from the Lone Pine Unified School District with the November 5, 2024 General Election, including the canvass of the election results, in accordance with Elections Code Division 10, Part 3. (EC 10400-10418); and
- B) Direct the County Auditor to review the measure and determine if the substance of the County ballot measure, if adopted, would affect the revenues or expenditures of the County (EC 9160(c)).

*Clerk-Recorder-
Elections –
Bishop Unified School
District/Resolution
#24-25-03*

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Supervisor Orrill and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to:

- A) Order consolidation of the election for the Measure provided within Resolution 24-25-03 from the Bishop Unified School District with the November 5, 2024 General Election, including the canvass of the election results, in accordance with Elections Code Division 10, Part 3. (EC 10400-10418); and
- B) Direct the County Auditor to review the measure and determine if the substance of the County ballot measure, if adopted, would affect the revenues or expenditures of the County (EC 9160(c)).

Motion carried unanimously.

*Clerk-Recorder-
Elections –
Bishop Unified School
Facilities Improvement
District/ Resolution
#24-25-02*

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to:

- A) Order consolidation of the election for the Measure provided within Resolution 24-25-02 from the Bishop Unified School District with the November 5 2024 General Election, including the canvass of the election results, in accordance with Elections Code Division 10, Part 3. (EC 10400-10418); and
- B) Direct the County Auditor to review the measure and determine if the substance of the County ballot measure, if adopted, would affect the revenues or expenditures of the County (EC 9160(c)).

Motion carried unanimously.

*CAO –
Inyo County Telework
Policy*

Assistant Personnel Director Keri Oney and CAO Greenberg provided a brief overview of the Inyo County Telework Policy and answered several questions from Board members, County employees, and constituents. Greenberg explained that fewer than one-fourth of the County's workforce will be eligible for telework and they still have to receive approval from their supervisors – so a sweeping implementation is not being proposed. Oney also noted the methodical, careful approach staff took in preparing the policy to meet the concerns of the Board and department heads, some of whom were concerned about inequity with the program. The Board expressed concern about maintaining service delivery. Supervisor Griffiths noted that if the policy proves problematic, the Board will not want to continue it.

Public comment was received from Treasurer-Tax Collector Alisha McMurtrie, Lauralyn Hundley, Auditor-Controller Amy Shepherd, and Will Wadelton.

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve the Inyo County Telework Policy, with staff directed to publicly encourage constituents to report concerns with service delivery, and to provide a status report in six months. Motion carried 4-1 with Supervisor Orrill voting no.

Recess/Reconvene

The Chairperson recessed the regular Board meeting to return to closed session at 1:58 p.m. and reconvened the meeting in open session at 5:02 p.m. with all Board members present.

*Report on Closed
Session*

County Counsel Vallejo reported that there was no subsequent action taken that is required to be reported by law.

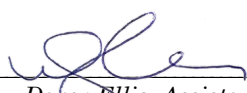
Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 7, 2024, in the County Administrative Center in Independence.

Attest: *NATE GREENBERG*
Clerk of the Board



Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

by: 

Darcy Ellis, Assistant