



**Inyo Local Agency Formation Commission**  
168 North Edwards Street  
Post Office Drawer L  
Independence, California 93526

Phone: (760) 878-0263  
FAX: (760) 878-0382  
E-Mail: [inyolafco@inyocounty.us](mailto:inyolafco@inyocounty.us)

---

**Commissioners:**

Rick Pucci (Inyo County)  
Jeff Griffiths (Inyo County)  
Jim Ellis (City of Bishop)  
Pat Gardner (City of Bishop)  
Dave Patterson (Public)

**Alternates:**

Vacant (Inyo County)  
Laura Smith (City of Bishop)  
Doug Thompson (Public)

**LAFCO Staff:**

Joshua Hart, AICP (Executive Officer)  
Dana Crom (Counsel)  
Nolan Bobroff (Clerk/Analyst)

---

## Minutes for Monday January 21, 2013

A quorum of the Commission present was not available to approve these minutes.

The Inyo Local Agency Formation Commission met on Monday January 21, 2013, at the Bishop City Council Chambers located at 301 West Line Street, Bishop, CA. Chair Patterson opened the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

---

**ITEM 1: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

**ITEM 2: ROLL CALL**

Commissioners present: Rick Pucci, Jeff Griffiths, Dave Patterson, and alternate Doug Thompson

Commissioners absent: Jim Ellis, Pat Gardner, and alternate Laura Smith

Staff present: Joshua Hart, Nolan Bobroff and Dana Crom

Staff absent: None

**ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There was no one from the public wishing to comment.

**ITEM 4: ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON (ACTION ITEM)**

Commissioner Griffiths nominated Commissioner Patterson for Chair for 2013.

**MOTION:** Moved by Commissioner Griffiths to elect Commissioner Patterson as Chairperson for 2013. Commissioner Pucci seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

**ITEM 5: ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON (ACTION ITEM)**

Commissioner Griffiths nominated Commissioner Pucci for Vice-Chairperson for 2013.

**MOTION:** Moved by Commissioner Griffiths to elect Commissioner Pucci as Vice-Chairperson for 2013. Chair Patterson seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

**ITEM 6: ITEMS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED FROM THE AGENDA**

There were none.

**ITEM 7: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 11, 2012 INYO LAFCO MEETING (Action Item)**

Dana Crom, County Counsel noted one typo in the minutes.

**MOTION:** Moved by Commissioner Griffiths to approve the June 11, 2012 Inyo LAFCO Minutes with Ms. Crom's corrections. Commissioner Pucci seconded the motion.

The Motion passed 3-0.

**ITEM 8: FIRE PROTECTION FOR BRIGHTSOURCE SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT (Action Item)**

Chair Patterson opened the public hearing. Josh Hart, Executive Officer, presented a letter from William D. Ross who represents the Southern Inyo Fire Protection District.

Dana Crom, County Counsel added that the Warren-Alquist Act has given the California Energy Commission (CEC) authority to cite large scale solar projects. The issue before the Commission is to determine whether the CEC can override LAFCO and give fire protection authority to another jurisdiction. California Government Code 56100 states that only LAFCO can amend the services of a district. The districts concerns are that during peak construction the site will have up to 2,300 employees driving to and from the site each day via Old Spanish Trails Highway which in the past has had very little traffic on it. Pahrump has provided mutual aid in the past, but has not been the primary emergency responder and there are potential issues of whether an EMT from Nevada can operate in California.

Chair Patterson feels that Pahrump could provide better services to the site. He also asked if whether the Fire District could contract with an outside agency. Ms. Crom

noted that they could contract for fire services, but it is unclear whether an out-of-state agency could provide medical services. Ms. Crom also added that if it was County boundaries that they were dealing with then it would not be as much of an issue, but because it's a state boundary, it become more complicated.

Commissioner Pucci commented that LAFCO has an obligation to act since the district is within their jurisdiction. He also noted that any future buyer of the project might be weary if they need to provide funding for the Fire District.

Commissioner Griffiths commented that if this project were to be taxed as any other project would, then the County would be poised to receive 7-9 million in tax revenue. The issue is that the applicant is ignoring the County and is hoping that the CEC will push the project through.

Ms. Crom added that if the Commission didn't direct the Executive Officer to affirm that the District has the authority over fire and medical services then the CEC could potentially come and re-organize the District.

**MOTION:** Moved by Commissioner Griffiths to authorize Josh Hart as Executive Officer to write a letter stating that LAFCO has sole authority over jurisdictional lines for Districts. Commissioner Pucci seconded.

The Motion passed 3-0.

It was noted that the hearing for the Hidden Hills project will begin March 12, 2013 in Shoshone, CA and will be available to watch over web-ex.

**ITEM 9: BUDGET REVIEW**

Mr. Hart commented that they had not budgeted for this meeting and had a few options for paying for the meeting. One was to use the contingencies to pay for the meeting and the other option would be to not send the Planning Coordinator to the Staff Workshop in April and use those funds to cover this meeting. Ms. Hart noted that they would not decide at that meeting as it would need to be placed on the agenda.

Chair Patterson commented that the budget is minimum and recommends increasing the budget to accommodate additional needs.

**ITEM 10: EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S AND COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**

Commissioner Griffiths introduced Jim Ellis as the new City of Bishop representative for LAFCO.

Mr. Hart reported that the water quality issues that the Mustang-Mesa district was set-up to monitor have been resolved and the district would like to dissolve. Before they are able to dissolve, they need to form a Board and pay outstanding bills and then come

before the Commission to dissolve. Mr. Hart also informed the Commission about new regulations for subdivisions from CalFire and that because of those regulations there might be more interest in forming fire districts.

**ITEM 11: DETERMINE TIME AND LOCATION FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF INYO LAFCO**

The Commission suggested determining a date at a later time.

**ITEM 12: ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Patterson adjourned the meeting at 11:17 a.m.

Prepared by:

---

Nolan Bobroff  
Inyo LAFCO Clerk/Analyst