



Inyo Local Agency Formation Commission
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Commissioners:

Rick Pucci (Inyo County) Vice-Chair
Jeff Griffiths (Inyo County)
Pat Gardner (City of Bishop)
Laura Smith (City of Bishop)
Dave Patterson (Public) Chair

Alternates:

Mark Tillemans (Inyo County)
Joe Peci (City of Bishop)

LAFCO Staff:

Joshua Hart, AICP (Executive Officer)
Clint Quilter (Inyo County Public Works Director)
Marge Kemp-Williams (Counsel)
Diane Fortney (Clerk/Analyst)

Minutes for Monday April 20, 2015

These Minutes are to be considered for approval by Inyo LAFCO at its next meeting.

The Inyo Local Agency Formation Commission met on Monday April 20th, 2015, at the Bishop City Council Chambers located at 301 West Line Street, Bishop, CA. Chair Patterson opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

ITEM 1: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

ITEM 2: ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Jeff Griffiths, Rick Pucci, Laura Smith, Pat Gardner and Dave Patterson.

Commissioners absent: alternates Mark Tillemans and Joe Peci.

Staff present: Clint Quilter, Marge Kemp-Williams and Diane Fortney.

Staff absent: Joshua Hart, AICP.

ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no one from the public wishing to comment.

ITEM 4: ELECTION OF THE CHAIR (Action Item)

The Commission entertained nominations and conducted an election for the Chair

MOTION: Moved by Commissioner Pucci to appoint Commissioner Patterson Chair. Supervisor Griffiths seconded the motion.

The Motion passed 4-0-1, with Commissioner Patterson abstaining.

ITEM 5: ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIR (Action Item)

The Commission entertained nominations and conducted an election for the Vice-Chair

MOTION: Moved by Commissioner Griffiths to appoint Commissioner Smith Vice-Chair. Supervisor Pucci seconded the motion.

The Motion passed 4-0-1, with Commissioner Smith abstaining.

ITEM 6: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 16, 2014 (Action Item)

MOTION: Moved by Commissioner Pucci to approve the minutes of June 16, 2014. Commissioner Smith seconded.

The Motion passed 4-0-1, which Commissioner Gardner abstaining.

ITEM 7: Southern Mono Health Care District's Bishop Operations (Action Item) – the Commission will receive a presentation from staff regarding Southern Mono Health Care District's operations in Bishop and will consider authorizing the Chair to sign correspondence to the District in regards thereto.

Commissioner Gardner disqualified herself due to a working relationship with SMHCD and left the room.

Diane Fortney, Staff Analyst/Clerk presented the staff report to the Commission.

Public Comment was opened at 10:08 a.m.

Mr. Pete Watercrott, Northern Inyo Hospital Board, Treasurer, discussed the complexity of hospital finances and requirements to see patients regardless of ability to pay. The facility is partially supported by Inyo property taxes. Orthopedic surgery produces revenue for both Hospitals. Southern Mono Health Care District is opening a new Clinic outside its boundaries and questions whether this clinic is beneficial or damaging to Northern Inyo Hospital.

Mr. Gary Myers, CEO, Mammoth Hospital, did not receive notice of today's LAFCO meeting timely enough to bring before the Hospital Board. Orthopedic services have been provided in Inyo County for twelve years. Services were requested by Northern Inyo Hospital in 2003 and were provided on the Northern Inyo Hospital Campus. Services have been requested and provided to Southern Inyo Hospital at their facility over the last 18 months. The request for services was brought before the Southern Mono Health Care District Board in open meetings under the Brown Act prior to providing services. Mr. Myers feels there is a conflict between Health Care District Law and LAFCO Law.

Dr. Mark Robinson M.D., Northern Inyo Hospital, Services were provided by agreement between Northern Inyo Hospital and Mammoth Hospital. The agreement was not approved by Southern Mono Health Care District. We have two public defined groups competing for revenue. Services need to be rebalanced to provide services to the public. Feels there is an excess of doctors providing same services. There are only about 1200 case per year divided between five physicians.

Ms. Victoria Alexander-Lane, CEO, Northern Inyo Hospital, Mostly trauma patients are being seen at Northern Inyo Hospital. These are higher risk patients. Elective surgeries are going to Mammoth Hospital. This is causing Northern Inyo Hospital to experience higher costs and causing financial damage. This is a complex issue. Original contract for services provided in Bishop was with Dr. Perry, not Mammoth Hospital or Southern Mono Health Care District.

Ms. Kemp-Williams, County Counsel, Southern Mono Health Care District is violating the provisions of LAFCO by operating outside of their district and sphere. LAFCO is the correct agency to decide this issue. First step would be to provide notice to Southern Mono Health Care District. The agenda item before the commission today is to take action to decide whether to authorize the Chair to sign correspondence to the district in regards to District operations in Bishop. A hearing on the matter would take place in a more formal setting.

Commissioner Pucci, with two LAFCO districts involved in this issue, which LAFCO decided the solution? His hope is that the hospitals can work together for a positive solution in this issue. All staff should be involved. He has never been involved with LAFCO as an enforcement agency. The issue is very complicated legally. He agrees with writing a letter.

Commissioner Smith, This is an important issue that has high ramifications to both facilities. Need to have all parties together and include the public. Agrees letter is what is needed now.

Commissioner Patterson, This is a LAFCO jurisdiction responsibility more than a financial concern. Need to limit duplication of services.

Clint Quilter, Public Works Director, letter would be written to identify LAFCO rules and advise of procedures. Southern Mono Health Care District would need to submit an application. Public hearings would follow.

MOTION: To draft a letter to Southern Mono Health Care District with notification of LAFCO violation, provide application for out of area service agreement and request response by June 1, 2015, Moved by Commissioner Griffiths. Commissioner Patterson seconded.

The Motion passed 4-0-1, Commissioner Gardner was disqualified.

ITEM 8: APPROVAL OF 2015-2016 PRELIMINARY BUDGET (Public Hearing & Action Item – Requires 3/5 vote)

The Inyo LAFCO Executive Officer's FY 2015-2016 Preliminary Budget was presented to the Commission for approval. Diane Fortney, Staff Analyst/Clerk, presented the Staff Report to the Commission.

Chair Patterson opened the Public Hearing at 10:57 a.m. There was no one from the public wishing to comment on this item, and the Public Hearing was closed at 10:57 a.m.

MOTION: Moved by Commissioner Gardner to approve the Inyo LAFCO Executive Officers FY 2015/2016 Final Budget. Commissioner Pucci seconded.

The Motion passed 5-0.

ITEM 9: EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S AND COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

There were none.

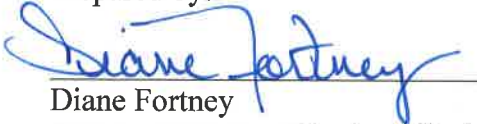
ITEM 10: DETERMINE TIME AND LOCATION FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF INYO LAFCO

The Commission scheduled the next meeting for June 1, 2015.

ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT

Chair Patterson adjourned the meeting at 10:59 a.m.

Prepared by:



Diane Fortney

Inyo LAFCO Staff Analyst/Clerk