

Board Members

Joe Neves, District 1
Richard Valle, District 2 - Chairman
Doug Verboon, District 3 – Vice-Chairman
Rusty Robinson, District 4
Richard Fagundes, District 5



Staff

Edward Hill, County Administrative Officer
Diane Freeman, County Counsel
Catherine Venturella, Clerk of the Board

Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Action Summary

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2023
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Board of Supervisors Chambers, Kings County Government Center
1400 W. Lacey Boulevard, Hanford, California 93230

☎ (559) 852-2362 ❖ bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us ❖ website: <https://www.countyofkings.com>

The meeting can be attended telephonically, on the Internet by clicking this link:

<https://countyofkings.webex.com/countyofkings/j.php?MTID=mf034fd92b0b19914b1856d5f13fd0dbc>

or by sending an email to bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us on the morning of the meeting for an automated email response with the WebEx meeting link information. Members of the public attending via WebEx will have the opportunity to provide public comment during the meeting.

WebEx will be available for access at 8:50 a.m.

Members of the public who wish to view/observe the meeting virtually can do so via the worldwide web at: www.countyofkings.com and click on the “Join Meeting” button or by clicking this link:

<https://youtu.be/slBjmrNypCo>

Members of the public viewing the meeting through YouTube will not have the ability to provide public comment.

Members of the public who wish to comment may submit written comments on any matter within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction, regardless of whether it is on the agenda for the Board’s consideration or action, and those comments will become part of the administrative record of the meeting. Comments will not be read into the record, only the names of who have submitted comments will be read into the record. Written comments received by the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors no later than 8:30 a.m. on the morning of the noticed meeting will be included in the record, those comments received after 8:30 a.m. will become part of the record of the next meeting. Email is not monitored during the meeting. To submit written comments by email, please forward them to bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us or by U.S. Mail, please forward them to: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Kings, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, CA 93230.

I. 9:00 AM CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL – Clerk of the Board

INVOCATION – Pastor Andrew Cromwell – Koinonia Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEMBERS PRESENT: JOE NEVES, DOUG VERBOON, RUSTY ROBINSON, RICHARD FAGUNDES

MEMBERS ABSENT: RICHARD VALLE



**II. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Edward Hill/Marie Waite
Presentation to the Employee of the 4th Quarter of 2022.**

Kimberlee Eggert, Assistant Director of Child Support Services was the recipient of the Employee of the 4th Quarter of 2022.

III. UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES

Any person may directly address the Board at this time on any item on the agenda, or on any other items of interest to the public, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Two (2) minutes are allowed for each item.

Scott Garrison, Kings County Firefighters Association introduced the Fire Departments service dog, Oreo to help fire personnel with mental health issues and for outreach to the community.

Kelly Vernon, Kings County Chief Probation Officer stated that this is her last meeting as she has accepted the position of Tulare County Chief Probation Officer effective March 13, 2023. She thanked public, staff and the Board for their support during her 30 years of service to the County.

Evan Jones, Kings County Purchasing Manager introduced the Board to Ligeia Tunnicliffe, Kings County Purchasing Assistant.

Bill Lynch, Kings County Fire Chief stated that there was a hazardous material incident at the 7900 block of Lacey Boulevard this morning and to maintain safety the California Highway Patrol rerouted traffic on westbound Highway 198.

Catherine Kemp, Kings County resident stated her concerns with changes to policies at Kings River Cemetery affecting what can be placed on gravesites and how it affects those with loved ones buried in the cemetery and hopes the Board of Supervisors can work with the Cemetery District Board on these issues.

Jessica Kemp, Kings County resident stated that the changes proposed by the Kings River Cemetery District Board to what can be placed on the sacred ground gravesites will negatively affect families with loved ones buried in the cemetery.

Supervisor Verboon inquired what authority, if any, the Board of Supervisors has over the cemetery districts. Diane Freeman, Kings County Counsel stated that the Board of Supervisors do not have authority over the actions of the Hanford Cemetery District Board as they are an independent special district, this Board only has appointing authority of their Board members.

Soledad Mendez, Kings County resident stated that her son was murdered in 2016 and is buried in Hanford Cemetery and the proposed changes to what can be placed on the gravesites by the families will greatly affect everyone who wishes to honor their loved ones buried in the cemeteries.

Karen Covarrubias, Kings County resident asked to have the Hanford Cemetery District Board to allow those who purchased plots for their loved ones to continue to decorate their graves as they have been allowed to.

Tom Doyel, Kings County resident stated that he is a lifelong resident and even though he has been a statistic through addiction, homelessness and through his six years of recovery he has great concerns for the proposed homeless shelter facility in Armona and the problems it will bring to the area. He thanked Supervisor Robinson for walking the area and discussing the proposed project with constituents.



Isaias Gonzalez, Kings County resident stated that he is a 20-year resident and requested the Board to not approve the homeless shelter project in Armona as it will bring problems to the area.

Ines Gonzalez, Kings County resident stated that the homeless shelter is a commendable project and the neighborhood where it is proposed will bring safety issues to the residents in the area.

Luz Mercado, Kings County resident asked the Board to not approve the proposed homeless shelter in the Armona area, or near schools or homes, look for property away from those areas for the safety of the residents.

Sarah Hacker, Kings County District Attorney introduced Jacob Sanchez, from her office who was recognized by the Hanford Chamber of Commerce as Volunteer of the Year for his service to the community through commitments on committees.

Lisa Shaw, Corcoran Chamber representative thanked the Board of Supervisors for approving the Small Business grants through the American Rescue Plan Act funding and for extending the program from December 2022 through today to allow an additional 23 applications for businesses to receive funding. She thanked the Board for looking out for small business owners in Kings County.

IV.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Report out of Closed Session from the special meeting for February 6, 2023.

REPORT OUT: Diane Freeman, County Counsel stated that at the Special Meeting for February 6, 2023 the Board voted (JN, DV, RR, RF-Aye, RV-Absent) to offer a conditional offer of employment to Erik Gonzalez, he accepted and his appointment and compensation will be confirmed in open session today.

B. Report out of Closed Session from the regular meeting for February 7, 2023.

REPORT OUT: Diane Freeman, County Counsel stated the Board took no reportable action in closed session today.

C. Approval of the minutes from the special meeting for February 6, 2023.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (RF, JN, RR, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

D. Approval of the minutes from the regular meeting for February 7, 2023.

ACTION: APPROVED AS AMENDED TO REFLECT THE CORRECT INFORMATION AS TO SUPERVISOR ROBINSONS ANNOUNCEMENT AND REPORT (RF, JN, RR, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

V.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Behavioral Health Department:

1. a. Consider approving an Agreement with California Health and Human Services Agency for the Statewide Data Sharing Agreement effective March 1, 2023, until terminated;
- b. Authorize the Director of Behavioral Health to sign the Agreement with California Health and Human Services. **[AGMT 23-016]**

B. Community Development Agency:

1. Consider authorizing a three-week extension of time to the Water Commission so that they may present their report concerning the Water Resources Oversight Commission Formation Ordinance at the April 4, 2023 Board of Supervisors meeting.

C. District Attorney's Office:

1. Consider authorizing the advance step hire for applicant Jin Lee for a Deputy District Attorney I Step 5 position at Salary Range 230.5 (\$41.95/hour).
2. Consider authorizing the advance step hire for applicant Lamis Chandler for a Deputy District Attorney III Step 5 position at Salary Range 265.5 (\$59.43/hour).



3. a. Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing the District Attorney's Office to submit Fiscal Year 2023-2024 application for the Automobile Insurance Fraud Program; **[RESO 23-006]**
- b. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the District Attorney's Office to submit Fiscal Year 2023-2024 application for the Workers Compensation Insurance Fraud Program. **[RESO 23-007]**

D. Public Health Department:

1. a. Consider authorizing the Director of Public Health to accept the \$5,000 sponsorship from CalViva; **[AGMT 23-017]**
- b. Adopt the budget change. **(4/5 vote required)**
2. Consider approving an amended Agreement for the California Health Collaborative Contract effective upon execution. **[AGMT 21-165.1]**

E. Public Works Department:

1. Consider approving a Notice of Completion for The Branch Air Handlers project to provide notice to interested parties that the work has been completed.

F. Sheriff's Office:

1. a. Consider authorizing the Sheriff's Office to allow the Deputy Sheriffs' Association to purchase the two service handguns;
- b. Approve the purchase of two Glock handguns as replacements;
- c. Adopt the budget change. **(4/5 vote required)**

G. Administration:

1. Consider denying the Claim for Damages filed by Lisa Despres.
2. Consider appointing two new members to the Kings Early Education Planning Council.
3. a. Consider approving an Agreement with Sound Contracting, Inc. for professional services to perform audio visual upgrades to the Administration Building Multi-purpose room retroactively to November 29, 2022; **[AGMT 23-018]**
- b. Approve an Agreement with Sound Contracting, Inc. for professional services to perform audio visual upgrades to the Board Chambers as part of the ARPA approved capital project retroactively to November 29, 2022. **[AGMT 23-019]**

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (JN, RR, RF, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

VI.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

A. Community Development Agency – Chuck Kinney/Alex Hernandez

1. Consider authorizing the Community Development Agency Director to withdraw Community Development Block Grant Agreement No. 20-CDBG-CV2-3-00155.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (RF, RR, JN, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

B. Fire Department – William Lynch

1. a. Consider approving the acceptance of the pass-through funding from California Office of Emergency Services; **[AGMT 23-020]**
- b. Authorize the Fire Chief to sign required documentation related to the funding award;
- c. Adopt the budget change. **(4/5 vote required)**

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (RR, RF, JN, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

C. Public Works Department – Dominic Tyburski/Mitchel Cabrera

1. Consider authorizing the Public Works Director to sign the Consultant Services Agreement with Mark Thomas & Company, Inc., to prepare Plans, Specifications, and Estimate package for the Kettleman City Pedestrian Bridge Project. **[AGMT 23-021]**

ITEM WAS PULLED AND WILL BE BROUGHT BACK ON THE MARCH 7, 2023 AGENDA



D. Public Health Department – Rose Mary Rahn/Heather Silva

1. Consider adopting a Resolution proclaiming the month of February 2023 as National Children’s Dental Health Month in Kings County. **[RESO 23-008]**

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (JN, RF, RR, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

2. Receive an update on the local emergency in Kings County due to the imminent and proximate threat of exposure of COVID-19 on the residents of the County of Kings and take action as deemed necessary.

THE BOARD RECEIVED AN UPDATE AND NO REPORTABLE ACTION WAS TAKEN.

E. Administration – Edward Hill/Kyria Martinez/Matthew Boyett

1. a. Consider authorizing staff to submit two Federal Fiscal Year 2024 Federal Earmark Project Funding submission;
b. Authorize staff to submit two State Budget Earmark Project Funding request through the State budget;
c. Authorize the Chairman to sign the letters of support for the projects submitted to Senator Alex Padilla, Senator Dianne Feinstein, and Representative David Valadao.

ACTION: APPROVED AS AMENDED ON LOCATION, TO BE DETERMINED (JN, DV, RR, RF-Aye, RV-Absent)

2. Consider directing staff regarding the County’s response to the notification seeking comment regarding any potential impacts to County operations under the proposed trust land acquisition.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (JN, RR, RF, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

3. Consider confirming the appointment of Erik Gonzalez to the position of Director of Finance effective March 13, 2023 and set the compensation.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (JN, RF, RR, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

4. Consider receiving an update on the Kings County American Rescue Plan Act Small Business Assistance program.

THE BOARD RECEIVED AN UPDATE AND NO OFFICIAL ACITON WAS TAKEN.

5. a. Consider adopting a Resolution approving the execution of an Agreement to join the Golden State Connect Authority for the purpose of Expanding Broadband Access and Quality in Rural Counties; **[RESO 23-009] [AGMT 23-022]**
b. Appoint a delegate and alternative Supervisor to the Golden State Connect Authority Board of Directors.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED AND APPOINTED SUPERVISOR VERBOON AS DELEGATE AND SUPERVISOR ROBINSON AS ALTERNATIVE (JN, RF, RR, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

6. a. Consider adopting a Resolution to join the Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority for environmental and regulatory issues related to the planning, management and operation of solid waste programs; **[RESO 23-010] [AGMT 23-023]**
b. Appoint a delegate and alternative Supervisor to the Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED AND APPOINTED SUPERVISOR VERBOON AS DELEGATE AND SUPERVISOR ROBINSON AS ALTERNATIVE (JN, RF, RR, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

7. a. Consider adopting a Resolution approving the execution of an agreement to join the Golden State Finance Authority joint power authority; **[RESO 23-011] [AGMT 23-024]**
b. Appoint a delegate and alternative Supervisor to the Golden State Finance Joint Powers Authority.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED AND APPOINTED SUPERVISOR VERBOON AS DELEGATE AND SUPERVISOR ROBINSON AS ALTERNATIVE (JN, RF, RR, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)



VII. STUDY SESSION

A. Public Works Department – Dominic Tyburski

1. Receive an overview of the Kings County Government Center Solar Project.

THE BOARD RECEIVED INFORMATION AND DISCUSSED POSSIBLE ADDITIONS TO THE PROJECT AND DIRECTED STAFF TO BRING THE ITEM BACK ON A FUTURE AGENDA.

VIII. 10:00 AM PUBLIC HEARING

**A. County Counsel Department – Diane Freeman
Agriculture Department – Jimmy Hook**

1. a. Conduct a public hearing on a proposed Ordinance amending regulations for industrial hemp cultivation in the unincorporated areas of Kings County;
b. Introduce and waive the first reading of the proposed Ordinance amending regulations for industrial hemp cultivation in the unincorporated areas of Kings County
c. Find that the adoption of the proposed ordinance would be exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act.

SUPERVISOR VERBOON OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING, NO TESTIMONY WAS RECEIVED AND THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED. ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (JN, RR, RF, DV-Aye, RV-Absent)

IX. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS

On their own initiative, Board Members may make a brief announcement or a brief report on their own activities. They may ask questions for clarification, make a referral to staff or take action to have staff place a matter of business on a future agenda (Gov. Code Section 54954.2a).

Supervisor Robinson stated that he attended the National Association of Counties conference in Washington, D.C., attended the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Board meeting and attended the California State Association of Counties New Supervisors Institute in Sacramento.

Supervisor Fagundes stated that he has been grateful for the rain that the region has received which is helpful for the local farmers.

Supervisor Neves stated that he attend the Kings County First 5 Children & Families Commission meeting, attended the Kings County Library Mobile Library ribbon cutting, attended the City County Coordinating Conference in Corcoran, attended the West Hills College rebranding meeting, attended the Avenal Rotary Club trip to Parkfield for Valentine’s Day lunch, attended the Young Ladies grand Institute luncheon, attended the CalViva meeting, announced his 19th season softball opening game, announced the West Hills College basketball game, attended the Kings County Area Public Transit Agency meeting, attended the Kings County Association of Governments meeting, attended the Hanford Chamber of Commerce annual citizens recognition dinner, attended the Cabrillo Club meeting, attending the Behavioral Health community meeting and discussed the recent rain events and flood water releases to the region.



- ◆ Board Correspondence, Upcoming Events and Information on Future Agenda Items: **Edward Hill stated that he would provide a written copy of this regular report which is included below:**

Board Correspondence: The Board received a copy of the Audit Engagement Letter regarding the regular audit of the District Attorney's Insurance Fraud Grant Programs by the California Department of Insurance. He stated that on February 13, 2023 the Board received a notice from the Dudley Ridge Water District regarding their sum required to discharge all obligations and the amount of assessments to be raised to cover those obligations. He stated that on February 10, 2023 the Board received notice from the US Department of the Interior regarding a Notice of Non-Gaming Land Acquisition Application which was discussed today during our regular meeting. He stated that on February 16, 2023 the Board received notice from the US Department of Agriculture regarding announcing the availability of the Farm Service Agency Emergency Loan Program to primary counties and contiguous counties affected by the recent winter storms. The notice included information on who can apply, how to apply, how to access additional information and important deadlines and staff has shared this information with the Agricultural Commissioner and asked that he also share with the Kings County Farm Bureau. He stated that Supervisor Valle shared an email announcing the save the date for the Veterans Memorial Statue unveiling in Corcoran scheduled for Saturday, April 29, 2023.

Upcoming Events: On March 17, 2023 there will be a St. Patrick's Day Bash in Downtown Hanford, from 9:00 p.m. until midnight, the event is open to all. The Chalk it Up, Chalk Art Festival will be held on March 25, 2023, between 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Kings Art Center at 605 N. Dooty Street in Hanford. The cost is \$25/square with Chalk included. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd the event is open to all ages. There will be a Music in Park/Baked Potato fundraiser in Avenal on Saturday, March 25, 2023 at Floyd Rice Park, at this time that is all the details we have and will update them as they become available. The Mary Immaculate Queen Parents Association will be holding their 14th annual golf tournament on Monday, March 13, 2023 at the Kings County Country Club. The cost is \$800 for teams of four and there will be a shotgun start at 10:30. They are also looking for sponsors for the event. The American Legion Post 100 Lemoore will be holding their Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner on Friday, March 17, 2023 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 per person. Kings County will be hosting Youth in County Government Day on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. invitations have been extended to all high schools within Kings County to send students who will be able to job shadow a Board Member, Department Head, or designee throughout the day. Students will be able to attend a special luncheon with a guest speaker sponsored by Hanford Rotary. Kings County looks forward to bringing back this event and inspiring our youth to a future in government careers.

Information on Future Agenda Items: The following items will be on a future agenda: Assessor/Clerk-Recorder - Software agreement with Tyler Technologies, County Counsel & Agricultural Commissioner – second reading of the Hemp Ordinance; Information Technology – Memorandum of Understanding with the Golden State Connect Authority and renewal for technical support services with Oracle for our Peoplesoft system; Human Resources – Deferred compensation investment policy updates; Human Services Agency – Social Worker appreciation month proclamation, amendment with Kings Community Action Organization for childcare resources and referral services and purchase of replacement laptops; Public Health - Carry forward funds from the public health emergency preparedness grant.



- X. CLOSED SESSION**
- ◆ **Personnel Matter: [Govt Code Section 54957]
Public Employee Appointment: Chief Probation Officer**
 - ◆ **Conference with Labor Negotiator: [Govt. Code Section 54957.6]
Negotiator: Edward Hill**
 - Unrepresented Management

XI. ADJOURNMENT
The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

<i>FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS</i>		
March 14	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting – Youth in County Government Day
March 21	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting
March 21	2:00 PM	Board of Equalization - Regular Meeting
March 28	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting
April 4	9:00 AM	Regular Meeting

Agenda backup information and any public records provided to the Board after the posting of the agenda will be available for the public to review at the Board of Supervisors office, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd, Hanford, for the meeting date listed on this agenda.