

Good afternoon,

The Kern County Board of Supervisors met today as scheduled for Tuesday's June 29, 2021 Board Meeting. Chairman Phillip Peters (District 1), Supervisor Zack Scrivner (District 2), Supervisor Mike Maggard (District 3), Supervisor David Couch (District 4) and Supervisor Leticia Perez (District 5) were present. Board meetings have resumed in-person attendance at full capacity seating inside the Board Chamber. For more information on how to address the Board on a specific agenda item or provide general public comment, please click [here](#).

Meeting Highlights:

- **Item No. 1 AM session:**
 - The Board proclaimed July 2021 as Purple Ribbon Month, in acknowledgement of Kaitlyn's Law in memory of Kaitlyn Marie Russell. Kaitlyn's Law makes it a citable offense to leave children under the age of six unattended in a motor vehicle without the supervision of someone at least 12 years of age or older.
- **Item No. 5 AM session:**
 - Supervisor Mike Maggard recognized Standard Middle School for their academic achievements in 2020 by being the only school in the state placed on this year's list of [California Schools to Watch](#).
- **Item No. 8 AM session:**
 - The Board approved \$750,000 in adult residential treatment services for Behavioral Health and Recovery Services clients throughout the next fiscal year.
- **Item No. 13 AM session:**
 - The Board voted 5-0 to adopt the Preliminary Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22.
 - The Kern County Administrative Office presented details of this preliminary budget, which prioritizes public safety and library services, mitigates homelessness, increases funding for spay/neuter programs, invests in parks and infrastructure, and will incorporate the County's American Rescue Plan Act funding in the finalized budget which will dedicate \$27 million in ARPA funds to reward County workers for performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 - Watch the entire presentation [here](#).
 - Today's Board meeting was the first of four public meetings to discuss the Preliminary Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22. An evening public budget discussion will be held Monday, July 26, 2021 followed by another public budget discussion Tuesday, July 27, 2021. A final public budget hearing and adoption of the finalized budget will be held Tuesday, August 31, 2021.
- **Item No. 23 AM session:**
 - In the Board's commitment to prioritizing library services, the Board approved the allocation of more than \$175,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to restructure library staffing including the addition of three Library Associate positions and one Office Services Technician.
- **Item No. 35 AM (CLOSED) session:**
 - The Board voted unanimously on a 5-0 vote to appoint Mr. Aaron Duncan as the next Kern County Fire Chief, effective Monday, July 19, 2021.

- Mr. Duncan has 20 years of experience with the Kern County Fire Department, currently serving as Deputy Fire Chief, and previously as Battalion Chief and Chief Investigator, providing key management over activities of all department personnel and special programs.
- Mr. Duncan also has years of experience serving as a dedicated manager and lead within the Emergency Operations Center. Most recently, bringing his qualified leadership to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Mass Vaccination Clinic.
- The County is extremely fortunate to have Mr. Duncan's outstanding knowledge, skills, and leadership experience in this critical role. We are confident he will greatly serve and protect the residents and communities of Kern County.
- Watch the announcement [here](#).
- **Item No. 7 PM session:**
 - The Board allocated \$527,500 in CARES funding to Behavioral Health and Recovery Services to combat homelessness through rapid rehousing, street outreach, and the Homeless Management Information System.
- **Item No. 16, Item No. 18, and Item No. 19 PM session:**
 - The Board approved a series of Kern County infrastructure improvements including road maintenance in Oildale and the refurbishment of two pedestrian overcrossings in Lost Hills.
- **Item No. 21 PM session:**
 - The Board approved the continuation of a local drought emergency due to current weather conditions.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.