

Minutes of Meeting
Auditor
July 9, 2020
10:00 a.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Chris Fillios, Commissioner Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were KCSO Undersheriff Dan Mattos, KCSO Captains Kevin Smart, Andy Deak and John Holecek, KCSO Administrative Assistant Tamara Exley, Chief Deputy Clerk Jennifer Locke, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Staff Accountant – Budget Michelle Chiaramonte, Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud, HR Generalist – Employee Relations Kimberley Van Slate, BOCC Communications Manager Nancy Jones, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present was Kootenai County Resident Robert Norris. Captain Smart was present via teleconference.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business (Action):**

FY21 Budget Status Update

Finance Director Dena Darrow reported that the current Budget deficit stood at \$353,486. She listed several areas in which potential cuts could be made to remove the deficit, including new personnel, frozen positions and equipment.

KCSO Undersheriff Dan Mattos voiced his objection to the Board using cuts the Sheriff's Office had offered to make in their budget for anything other than what they had intended: to fund matrix movement for their own staff.

Commissioner Leslie Duncan said that, in her opinion, the tax payers of Kootenai County had suffered from the COVID-19 shutdown in lost jobs and reduced revenues in those businesses which had survived. She said she did not think County employees should receive any COLA (Cost of Living Adjustments) or matrix movements at all.

Commissioner Bill Brooks remarked that it was important for the County to keep the employees who were doing such a good job for the taxpayers. He indicated he was in favor of COLA being offered to staff.

KCSO Sheriff Ben Wolfinger entered the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

The Board discussed potential budget cuts with participation from Undersheriff Mattos, Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud and BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nancy Plouffe.

KCSO Lieutenant Ward Crawford entered the meeting at 10:41 a.m.

Ms. Proud suggested a compromise through which KCSO staff would receive 1.8% COLA and one matrix step, while the rest of General Plan Employees would receive 2.5% COLA.

Ms. Darrow restated the adjustments: one half of budgeted overtime increase for the Jail would be cut, along with the proposed new Marine Deputy position and certain unfilled KCSO positions would be frozen.

BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe remarked that these calculations had not taken into account adjustments to Attorneys or Chief Deputies.

KCSO Captain John Holecek exited the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Public Defender Anne C. Taylor entered the meeting at 10:49 a.m.

First Judicial District Trial Court Administrator Karlene Behringer entered the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

Ms. Proud requested that the Auditor's Office provide clarification on the specific positions which would be frozen at KCSO.

Chief Bailiff Pete Barnes entered the meeting at 10:54 a.m.

There was general agreement voiced by Undersheriff Mattos and the Board for Ms. Proud's suggestion.

D. Public Comment: This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing. There were no public comments.

E. Adjournment (Action): Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk
