

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**Final Balanced Budget Presentation**  
**August 2, 2019**  
**9:00 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 Clerk Jim Brannon, Chief Deputy Clerk Jennifer Locke, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Staff Accountant – Budget Michelle Chiaramonte, Coroner Dr. Warren Keene, Sheriff Ben Wolfinger, Undersheriff Dan Mattos, Chief Deputy Treasurer Laurie Thomas, Solid Waste Director Cathy Mayer, Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe, and Deputy Clerk Ronnie Davisson. Also present were University of Idaho Extension Office Representative Sharla Wilson and citizens Rick Whitehead and Joe Whipple.

- A. **Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.
- B. **Introductions**
- C. **Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. **Business:**

**Auditor Presentation of Tentative Balanced Budget for BOCC Review (Discussion)**

Clerk Jim Brannon presented the Board with a balanced budget for their review and pointed out that any decisions they had made so far were tentative. Finance Director Dena Darrow presented an Executive Summary to the Board to help them visualize the highlights of the budget. She showed them their property tax number of \$49,939,200 and explained that number consisted of their base taxing authority, a 3% tax increase, new construction and property tax replacement. She then explained that there was a large personnel increase of \$3,295,475, which included new positions, other personnel increases, the wage study, a benefits increase, and a PERSI increase. Ms. Darrow also outlined major capital projects of \$8,204,798, which included \$4.5 million for a new building, IT projects, an elections system upgrade and several other projects.

Citizen Bob Bingham entered the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

Chairman Fillios asked Ms. Darrow to briefly explain how property tax was calculated.

Undersheriff Dan Mattos exited the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

**Tentative Budget Approval for Publication (Action)**

Ms. Darrow presented the Board with a draft of the balanced budget that would need to be published in the Coeur d’Alene press twice and said that if there were no questions, it would be sent to the Press the following Monday.

Undersheriff Mattos entered the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

Commissioner Leslie Duncan said she would like to see \$87,000 be added to the prescription drug program and asked Sheriff Ben Wolfinger if the Sheriff's Office had wiggle room in their Personnel budget to help. Sheriff Wolfinger said that it could likely come from Salary Salvage; however, he said he would need assurance from the Board that if positions were to be filled, they would help fund those positions if needed. Commissioner Duncan explained that the \$87,000 would cover the cost of moving back to the standard prescription benefits before the increase took place.

Ms. Darrow said that the minor changes made during the meeting would cause a zero net effect, so the budget remained balanced and if the Board wished to do so, they could make a tentative motion to accept the budget as presented. Commissioner Duncan said she would not motion to tentatively approve and appreciated everyone's hard work, but was uncomfortable with instituting the entire wage study in FY20. She said she wanted to be up front and honest so as not to surprise anyone by not voting for the budget during the public hearing and said she wanted to institute a policy surrounding On-Call Pay, felt as though the other cuts could have been made rather than increasing dental, and some community partners could have been cut back.

Chairman Fillios said he was happy with the budget and that the process was faster, smoother and the least contentious of the three he had been through. He said Commissioner Duncan raised some valid points and appreciated the fact that she brought up her objections, even though she disagreed rather than waiting until the Public Hearing. As for the wage study, he said he made his points known and that he did not think they were anywhere near a fiscal cliff.

Chairman Fillios moved to tentatively accept the FY20 Budget as presented for a total budget number of \$101,635,717. Commissioner Bill Brooks seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Davisson called the roll:

Commissioner Brooks: Aye

Commissioner Duncan: Nay

Chairman Fillios: Aye

The motion carried.

**E. Public Comment (Discussion):** 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.

**F. Adjournment:** Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ronnie Davisson, Deputy Clerk

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