

**Minutes of Meeting
Special Meeting
Buildings & Grounds
January 23, 2019
10:00 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Chris Fillios, Commissioner Bill Brooks and Commissioner Leslie Duncan met to discuss the following agenda item. Also present were Buildings & Grounds (B&G) Director Shawn Riley, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Resource Management Office (RMO) Director Jody Bieze, RMO Program Manager Kimberli Riley and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. 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 was no public comment.
- D. Business:**

Strategic Planning (Action)

Buildings & Grounds (B&G) Director Shawn Riley requested the Commissioners prioritize possible construction projects. He commented that most of the County's buildings were experiencing space shortages.

Mr. Riley asked the Commissioners' input on the Romer Building and on the potential build-out of wings at the Administrative Building. He said there had been about 1.2 million dollars set aside to allow a build-out of the wings. He added that just over six million dollars had also been set aside in Fund Balance for a Justice Facility.

Chairman Fillios remarked that the University of Idaho had expressed interest in buying the Juvenile Justice Building. He said that representatives of the University had indicated they were planning to expand their engineering and computer science programs into Coeur d'Alene and thought the Juvenile Justice Building would suit their needs. After some discussion, Commissioner Leslie Duncan offered her opinion that the University could not offer enough money to make this plan worthwhile for the County. Commissioner Bill Brooks and Finance Director Dena Darrow voiced agreement.

Chairman Fillios asked the Board to consider the cost of the space occupied by the Public Defender's Office. He said the rent was \$7,000 per month, but he and Mr. Riley had computed the actual expense to be about \$10,000 per month, after adding in peripheral expenses such as lost tax revenue from the space.

Mr. Riley said the build out of the Administrative Building's wings would have a cost per square foot much higher than normal, in part due to the safety precautions that would be needed. He added that other complications, such as there being no space to lay down construction materials, would also increase costs.

Chairman Fillios added that Mr. Riley had suggested placing a second building between the Administrative Building and the new Courthouse. Mr. Riley speculated that they could put one 30,000 square foot structure where the Romer Building now stood. He said that a second, roughly equivalent structure could be placed where the parking lot now sat.

Commissioner Leslie Duncan said that her goal was to settle the County's space problems for about the next fifteen to twenty years. She stated she was not interested in moving Juvenile Justice to accommodate the University. Resource Management Office (RMO) Program Manager Kimberli Riley agreed, pointing out that the County had spent a great deal on that building to meet all the specialized requirements of that program.

Chairman Fillios received general support for his suggestions that the Board not proceed with the wings at the Administrative Building and, instead, explore disposing of the Romer Building. Mr. Riley said he would discuss the project with Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Pat Braden and return to the Board with any insights or information. He suggested that part of the \$200,000 that had been set aside for planning alterations to the Administrative Building could be shifted to another fund and used to pay architects and engineers for long range planning and analysis of the two buildings proposed.

Resource Management Office (RMO) Director Jody Bieze pointed out that the Historic Preservation Committee had flagged the Romer Building as being worth preservation. Chairman Fillios said he would keep them informed of the Board's intentions and see if they had any input.

Commissioner Duncan moved that the Board ask B&G Director Shawn Riley to contact entities on the pre-approved list of architects to learn the cost of an analysis of adding two buildings to the campus as described and that he contact Legal about removing the Romer Building. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Ginorio called the roll:

Commissioner Brooks: Aye

Commissioner Duncan: Aye

Chairman Fillios: Aye

The motion carried.

E. Public Comment (Discussion): There were no additional public comments.

F. Adjournment (Action): Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk
