

**Minutes of Meeting
Commissioners' Status Update
February 10, 2020
10:15 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, Parks & Waterways (P&W)/Noxious Weeds/Snowgroomer Director Nick Snyder, Airport Director Steven Kjergaard, Deputy Finance Director Keith Taylor, Staff Accountant – Budget Michelle Chiamonte, Staff Accountant – Fixed Assets Isaac Ohm, BOCC Communications Manager Nancy Jones, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe, BOCC Administrative Supervisor Leighanna Keiser and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business (Discussion Item):**

IAC Legislative Conference Update – Proposed Legislation

Commissioner Leslie Duncan reported on the IAC (Idaho Association of Counties) Conference she attended. She remarked that she had some serious concerns about a Waterways Bill drafted by Jim Addis because it required some serious consequences for infractions that were not easily enforced.

Parks & Waterways (P&W)/Noxious Weeds/Snowgroomers Director Nick Snyder agreed. He said that some of the wording of the proposed bill had been lifted from a previous suggestion made by KCSO to the Commissioners regarding with excessive wakes produced by watercraft.

Mr. Snyder noted that one penalty proposed was for the offending boater be “refused the privilege of operating any vessel on any water in the State of Idaho for a period not to exceed two years.” He pointed out that boating violations were not tracked the same way as other offences; this would be unenforceable from one part of the State to another.

KCSO Undersheriff Dan Mattos responded that the information was available to other areas, but the officers needed to know exactly where to look and on-the-spot enforcement would be difficult.

Both Undersheriff Mattos and Mr. Snyder agreed that wake enforcement presented unique problems.

Commissioner Duncan said the next issues of concern from the IAC were the proposed bills that would limit collection of property taxes. She commented that the IAC was working on a counter-proposal that would allow a county to budget new construction plus a base amount indexed to the inflation rate. She added that URD (Urban Renewal

District) increments and tax relief measures such as the Circuit Breaker Program, Home Owner's Exemptions and property tax caps were discussed.

Commissioner Duncan reported that the State was considering paying for the Medicare Expansion with liquor and tobacco funds. She commented this would solve one problem for the County but create another because that money had been being used to cover other expenses. She said that other revenue sources, such as impact fees and resort taxes were discussed. She stated that many people seemed to favor raising the cigarette tax, but the legislature had proved reluctant to do this in the past.

She said she was told the Legislature hoped to end its session March 20, 2020, so the Board should know how the Budget process would be impacted soon.

Commissioner Duncan also reported that one of the ethics breakout sessions she attended had dealt with written information submitted during a public hearing. She expressed her concern that the way it had been handled previously might not have given the appellant due process for rebuttal. She said she would review possible improvements to the process with Legal.

Contractor Shawn Riley entered the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

Commissioner Duncan also displayed the new "I Voted" sticker that celebrated the 100th anniversary of Women's Suffrage.

HARSB Wastewater Unit Change

Commissioner Duncan stated that J-U-B Engineers, Inc. had evaluated the volume of wastewater entering the HARSB (Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board) plant. She said they suggested the unit used be changed from 200 gallons per day to 172.5 gallons per day. She commented that this would free up more wastewater units that could be sold and allow more sewer connections to be made.

Airport Advisory Board Resignation

Commissioner Bill Brooks stated that Sholeh Patrick had resigned from the Airport Advisory Board and needed to be replaced. He suggested they appoint someone who had already submitted an application.

BOCC Communications Manager Nancy Jones confirmed that Ms. Patrick's resignation would be effective as of April 2020. She noted that the Airport Advisory Board did have an alternate member and asked if the Commissioners wanted to appoint that person to the vacancy.

In response to a question from Chairman Fillios, Airport Director Steven Kjergaard stated he would not object to either option.

There was general agreement that the alternate member would be appointed to the vacancy. Chairman Fillios asked that the appointment be placed on a Business Meeting agenda.

Detective Evidence Processing Building

Contractor Shawn Riley reminded that Board that the small building used by KCSO to process vehicles for evidence had been eliminated during the Jail Expansion Project. He said the work had been being done at the ISP (Idaho State Police) facility, but replacement of the building had always been planned.

Mr. Riley also reminded the Commissioners that \$50,000 had been set aside in Fund Balance for the project. He said they had considered remodeling the building where the Bearcat was stored. He added that the building would require special treatment since it would be used for evidence collection. He suggested that he ask Cory Trapp, of Longwell Trapp Architects, to examine the ISP building and develop an estimate.

The Commissioners agreed that Mr. Riley should discuss the funding for the project with Finance Director Dena Darrow.

Undersheriff Mattos exited the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

4C Natural Resources Plan

Chairman Fillios explained that Sandy Emerson had started the 4C group, which held monthly meetings and invited different speakers to talk about natural resources issues. He added that he attended their meetings whenever possible. He said the most recent topic had been the Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan and reminded those present that the Coeur d'Alene Tribe had just withdrawn from participation.

Chairman Fillios said that Governor Brad Little had decided to bring a third party in to evaluate the health of the Lake, possibly someone from the National Academy of Sciences. He added that the study might take two or three years to complete and had an estimated cost of about \$1 million.

Commissioner Duncan commented that she would find out more about the proposal at the March 2020 Basin Commission Meeting.

Pending Items Status Review (list attached)

Chairman Fillios remarked that BOCC Communications Manager Nancy Jones and BOCC Administrative Supervisor Leighanna Keiser had suggested that the weekly Commissioners' Status Update include a list of ongoing projects. He called attention to the spreadsheet they had provided and said they would begin reviewing each item starting the next Status Update meeting.

- D. 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.

Mr. Riley said that he and Mr. Trapp had inspected the Romer Building with representatives of the Conservatory of Music. He commented that there were complications with their planned use of some of the space. He said that the group intended to discuss their findings further and report to the Commissioners. He predicted that the cost to renovate the building would probably be closer to \$300,000 than the originally estimated \$200,000.

- E. Adjournment (Action):** Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk
