

**Minutes of Meeting  
Advisory Board Interview  
February 15, 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 item. Also present were Community Development Administrative Manager Sandi Gilbertson and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present were Planning & Zoning Commission Chair Dave Levine and Kootenai Resident John Renning. Commissioner Bill Brooks was present via teleconference.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. New Business (Discussion):**

**Planning & Zoning Commission Applicant Interviews: John Renning**

Commissioner Leslie Duncan showed the applicant, John Renning, a map that showed where each Planning & Zoning Commissioner lived and asked him to mark his own home location on it. He complied.

Mr. Renning cited his previous experience working at the City of Woodinville, Washington's public works department for about 14 years. During this time, he said he attended County council meetings and spent considerable time working directly with the public. He stated he also had a background in engineering: about twenty years of experience as a civil engineer and another twelve years as a transportation engineer. He added that he had done both small site development work and worked with larger developers on multi-phase subdivisions.

Mr. Renning said, if he were chosen to fill the position, his first priority would be to review all the available information on the Comprehensive Plan. He stressed his desire to work with the public, listen to people's complaints and suggestions and use those to guide his decisions.

In response to a question by Chairman Fillios, Mr. Renning shared that he had attended City of Hayden meetings but had not begun attending County meetings. He offered his list of the most important challenges he saw facing Kootenai County, including updating and maintaining infrastructure, creation of transportation corridors and protection of the aquifer.

In response to a question by Commissioner Duncan, he said he has often been told he has a talent for helping people feel comfortable discussing issues and is able to keep to an agenda while still considering people's views.

Chairman Fillios inquired about his attitude toward zoning. Mr. Renning said he was wary of overdevelopment and felt money should not be allowed to override natural character. He added that he felt the County should seek balance between development and preservation of open spaces.

Mr. Renner stated he did not object to impact fees for development, but they should be reasonable, assessed fairly and spent wisely. He also said he believed that property rights were fundamentally important.

Commissioner Brooks asked his view on the opt out on building codes. Chairman Fillios expressed his reluctance to allow the conversation to go in that direction because there was a hearing coming up on the issue. Planning and Zoning Board Chair Dave Levine and Community Development Administrative Manager Sandi Gilbertson assured those present that the Planning Commission did not have any direct impact on the building codes.

Chairman Fillios contacted Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney R. David Ferguson and asked if it was permissible to talk about the opt out on building codes in this meeting. Mr. Ferguson said he saw no problem with it.

Mr. Renning declared himself to be somewhat neutral on the topic of building codes. He said, if a homeowner asked him, he would recommend the homeowner never cut corners on codes, for reasons of safety. He added that the codes should not be so strict as to become burdensome.

Mr. Renning asked what would happen next, if he were selected to fill the position. Mr. Levine assured him that they would start orientation right away to familiarize him with their procedures and the Commission's history over the last eight or nine months.

**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. There was no public comment.

**E. Adjournment (Action):** Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk

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