

Minutes of Meeting
Commissioners' Status Update
March 9, 2020
11:00 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 KCSO Undersheriff Dan Mattos, Office of Emergency Management Director Sandy Von Behren, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Staff Accountant – Budget Michelle Chiaramonte, Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud, Civil Deputy Prosecutor R. David Ferguson, BOCC Communications Manager Nancy Jones, Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe, and Deputy Clerk Ronnie Davisson. Also present were Coeur d'Alene Press Staff Writer Jennifer Passaro and Citizens John Grimm, Bob Norris, and Penelope Morris.

- A. **Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.
- B. **Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. **Business (Discussion Items):**

Non-Disclosure Agreement – Loss Runs

Commissioner Leslie Duncan explained that the County had been approached by an insurance company seeking to give the County a quote; in order to provide the quote, they need to have loss runs. Further, loss runs were confidential, so in order to provide the loss runs, the County was requesting the insurance company sign a non-disclosure agreement. Commissioner Duncan suggested she would create the agreement and have Legal review it, if the other Commissioners were amenable. Commissioner Bill Brooks and Chairman Fillios were both amenable to having Legal review the agreement upon its completion.

Corona Virus – BOCC Responsibility/Next Steps

Commissioner Duncan said she had been in contact with several constituents and wanted to find out what the Board thought their role was during the pandemic. She said she was paying attention to CDC and Panhandle Health, and if it were to become local, then action may need to be taken; however, as it was not currently local, she felt no action needed to be taken right now.

Chairman Fillios invited BOCC Communications Manager Nancy Jones to speak to the interactions the County has had with the public thus far. Ms. Jones said that there had been communication with the County employees and had done outreach on Facebook to inform the public that Panhandle Health was the primary source of information. Office of Emergency Management Director Sandy Von Behren said that she had spoken to the incident commander at Kootenai Health and had activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to a monitoring state.

Citizen John Grimm provided the Board with two graphs and said he felt there was a tremendous amount of misinformation surrounding COVID-19. He explained that one chart depicted the number of deaths and the other was the amount of infections; he said that based on the graphs provided that COVID-19 was much more infectious compared to H1N1 and SARS.

Mr. Grimm and the Board discussed COVID-19 at length; no decisions were made.

County Wide Advisory Vote on Prison Release Center

Commissioner Brooks said he felt that, as they had recently pursued ballot language for the URD Advisory Vote, it had been a good idea and suggested the Board consider adding ballot language to the May 19 ballot. He said it would give the citizens an opportunity to express their opinion on something that would make a difference. Commissioner Brooks added that if the Board were amenable, they should hastily add it to the May 19 ballot.

Commissioner Duncan said that the deadline to get ballot language to the County Clerk would be March 20; she also added that on March 19 there would be a meeting with the Elections Office to discuss the ballot order for the May 19 Primary. She said that during that meeting, it would be determined whether the ballot would be two pages and if not, it would quite an expense to the taxpayer to add a second page to the ballot for the Advisory Vote. Commissioner Brooks said it would be difficult for him to justify to the taxpayers that the Board did not ask their opinion on the Prison Release Center because of the cost of adding a second ballot page. Commissioner Duncan then suggested that the November General Election would be an equally good time for the Advisory Vote as the ballot would be much shorter. Commissioner Brooks said that by November, there could already be property purchased and plans drawn for the Release Center and that the people should be able to express their opinions before it happened, not after it happened.

Mr. Grimm said that he was the first one to come out against the Prison Release Center and said that they did not have the money to adequately educate the public on the dangers of the Prison Release Center; they did, however, have the time and energy to educate the Board in hopes of the Board making the decision for them.

Commissioner Duncan said she was not opposed to adding the question to the ballot, she was just concerned about the length of the ballot and the cost of adding it. Chairman Fillios suggested at the following Status Update they partake in a formal vote on whether or not to add it to the ballot.

Pending Items Status Review List – Attached

Romer House – Commissioner Duncan said that they were awaiting a Legal Opinion, while Julianne Dance was busy organizing fundraisers.

Herd District Creation – Commissioner Brooks said there had been no response from the requesting party.

Fire Station at Fairgrounds – Chairman Fillios said that Legal was still working on it and there was no further information to report.

Campus Auction MOU – Chairman Fillios said he needed to speak with Contractor Shawn Riley regarding the topic.

3rd Street Meeting Room Use – Chairman Fillios said he would be in touch with Building & Grounds Operations Manager Greg Manley regarding the usage.

Pending Legislation – Commissioner Duncan said that HB409 had made it out of the Senate Floor yet and mentioned that there had been a new bill distributed related to Medicaid Expansion. She also pointed out that the bill would keep the State from funding Panhandle Health, leaving it to the Counties to fund.

Body Scanner – Commissioner Brooks said there had been no further update on the process.

KCSO Wellness App Request – Commissioner Brooks said he had attended the webinar for the Wellness App and had not been impressed with the app, plus it cost \$35,000. He said that he was not in support of purchasing the app. The Board agreed to remove the topic from the status updates.

Spokane River Wake Concerns – Commissioner Duncan said on March 19 they would have language to review, where the Board would then decide what they would move forward to a public hearing.

Wage Project – HR Director Sylvia Proud said that the Compensation Team was creating a presentation that would be given at the upcoming Elected Officials meeting, which would consist of cost estimates, COLA indexes, and several scenarios.

Facilities Expansion – There was no information available for an update.

Elmore County Support Request – Chairman Fillios asked to have this item removed from the list.

PAC Airport Lease – Commissioner Duncan said they had received information back from the appraiser and would be discussed during the Budget season.

IT Start ICRMP Cyber Program – Commissioner Brooks said he had no information to update.

- 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.

Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Ronnie Davisson, Deputy Clerk
