

Minutes of Meeting
Office of Emergency Management
March 17, 2020
10:00 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 Treasurer Steve Matheson, Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Director Sandy Von Behren, OEM Preparedness Coordinator Tiffany Westbrook, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Deputy Finance Director Keith Taylor, Accounting Manager Grace Blomgren, Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Jamila Holmes, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present were Panhandle Health District Division Administrator Joe Righello and Kootenai County Resident Larry Spencer. Commissioner Bill Brooks was present via teleconference.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business:**

Kootenai County State of Emergency Declaration Resolution (Action)

Chairman Fillios reminded those present that he had, with the approval of the other Commissioners, signed a State of Emergency Declaration for Kootenai County on Sunday, March 15, 2020. He stated that an official resolution needed to be addressed by the entire Board today, to extend the declaration beyond seven days. He said that Christopher Way, the Chief Officer at the Kootenai County EMS (Emergency Medical Services) System had recommended this be done.

Commissioner Leslie Duncan moved that the Board sign Resolution 2020-31 declaring the disaster emergency state for the County, which continues Resolution 2020-29, which was signed by Chairman Fillios declaring a disaster emergency on behalf of the County on March 15, 2020. Commissioner Bill 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.

Commissioner Brooks confirmed that staff had permission to use his signature stamp on the Resolution.

- 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.

Kootenai County Resident Larry Spencer provided a presentation illustrating his concerns and suggestions for the Covid-19 pandemic. He requested the Commissioners' support in facilitating additional testing for the public and assuring schools remained closed for the duration of the emergency.

Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Jamila Holmes noted that some of the requests Mr. Spencer made were beyond the scope of authority possessed by the BOCC to put in place or enforce.

Treasurer Steve Matheson expressed his concern regarding counter traffic in his own and other departments.

Panhandle Health District Division Administrator Joe Righello encouraged deep cleaning of County facilities and regular application of EPA approved disinfectant to counters and other surfaces throughout the day.

Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Director Sandy Von Behren praised the people who were rising to the demands of the emergency. She urged members of the public to look out for neighbors and not to stockpile goods unnecessarily.

Mr. Righello explained the protocol for receiving a test for Covid-19 at this time. He said, if a person experienced symptoms such as fever, cough or difficulty breathing s/he should call the Panhandle Health Hotline. Hotline staff would then ask several questions and, based on the person's responses, would recommend that s/he call a primary care physician or Urgent Care Clinic. Based on the evaluation of the medical professional, a lab test could be ordered. He stressed that the protocol had to be followed in order to receive a test and that people who did not have a physician's order would be turned away from the testing labs.

Finance Director Dena Darrow announced that the Auditor's Office had created appropriate coding to allow separate tracking of administrative leave, as opposed to sick or vacation time, and other expenses related to the emergency. She suggested that department heads review the information and contact her with any questions. She reminded everyone that properly tracked expenses could be reimbursed by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency).

E. Adjournment (Action): Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk
