

Minutes of Meeting
Commissioners' Status Update
April 25, 2023
10:00 a.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chair Leslie Duncan, Commissioner Bruce Mattare and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Clerk Jennifer Locke, Chief Deputy Clerk Grace Blomgren, Finance Director Brandi Falcon, KCSO Sheriff Robert Norris, KCSO Undersheriff Brett Nelson, Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio.

- A. Call to Order:** Chair Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business:**

LATCF (Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Funds) Funds (Discussion)

Chair Duncan explained that the LATCF (Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Funds) included \$782,000 which Kootenai County had agreed to accept. She said the program was similar to ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) but with fewer restrictions on the use of the money. She suggested the amount be put toward the Justice Center Expansion. She noted this would reduce the amount that they would have to take from General Fund Balance.

Commissioner Bruce Mattare said he would support putting the money aside for the Jail and the Justice Center Expansion. He remarked that, if the projects came in substantially under the estimates, they could consider using the money elsewhere.

Commissioner Bill Brooks said he would agree with that suggestion.

Finance Director Brandi Falcon said the funds could be placed in the Master Plan account. She confirmed that a Business Meeting item was not required to do that.

It was generally agreed that this would be done.

Potential Locations for PMR Onsite Clinic (Discussion)

Chair Duncan announced that the first Working Group meeting had been held last Friday and three possible locations for the PMR Onsite Clinic had been identified, with two being the most desirable. She said that, if KCSO moved to Kootenai North and other shifts followed as planned, the basement of the Administrative Building and the Compton Building would be available. She pointed out that the Compton Building was already ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant and the top floor would have enough room for the clinic, with a separate entrance off Dalton Avenue. She said they could move the fence back to create more parking.

Chair Duncan stated that space on the bottom floor of the Administrative Building would also be ADA compliant and offer enough space for the clinic.

Treasurer Steve Matheson entered the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Commissioner Mattare commented that he felt the Compton Building would be a better choice since it offered more privacy for clinic patrons.

Commissioner Brooks indicated he agreed with that reasoning.

Chair Duncan suggested that Alliant Representative Scott Burkhardt, Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud and Ms. Falcon get together to go over the building.

Ms. Proud asked what requirements would need to be met for a retro-fit of an existing building.

Chair Duncan stated that, if the cost was under 200,000, all they would need to do would be to receive three bids for the project.

It was generally agreed that they would proceed as suggested.

Patrol Staffing and Overtime (Discussion)

KCSO Undersheriff Brett Nelson reviewed the staffing challenges they were facing in Patrol. He explained that there were 63 shifts which needed to be filled on a weekly basis but, at this time, there were only 38 available people. As a consequence, those people had to put in overtime to fill the empty shifts. He said that they had five people out due to injuries, eight new people in training and twelve empty positions in Patrol. He added that there were a total of 43 vacancies throughout all KCSO departments.

Commissioner Mattare commented that there would be a presentation to the BOCC soon regarding hiring practices. He said he hoped they might find some way to help meet KCSO's needs.

KCSO Sheriff Robert Norris reviewed the staffing challenges at the Jail. He provided details on the staffing needs and the inmate volume. He called attention to the fact that 80% of the inmates were now felons, many of whom required special handling.

There followed substantial discussion of KCSO's needs, in all its departments, and circumstances in the community which made it even more important to be fully staffed.

- 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.

E. Adjournment (Action): Chair Duncan adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JENNIFER LOCKE, CLERK

BOCC SIGNATURE

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk