

Minutes of Meeting
FY2020 Budget Review - Kootenai County Fair
May 1, 2019
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 Budget Accountant Michelle Chiaramonte, Contractor Shawn Riley, and Deputy Clerk Ronnie Davisson. Also present were Kootenai County Fair General Manager Alexcia Jordan and Fair Board Members Dave Fair, Linda Rider, Ken Renner and Jerry Johnson.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business:**

Review of FY2020 Kootenai County Fair Budget Request with General Manager Alexcia Jordan (Action)

Fairgrounds General Manager Alexcia Jordan opened the meeting by providing a brief history of the North Idaho Fairgrounds and then discussed the possibility of adding an event center in the future and listed several capital improvements that had been made in the prior year. Ms. Jordan presented the Board with a list of priorities for her budget requests; she said the top three priorities were replacing the wooden steps of the grandstand, parking lots, and ADA seating in the grandstand. After, Ms. Jordan presented the Board with her FY2020 Budget request of \$200,000, saying it would give the Fairgrounds the opportunity to truly invest in their facility.

Commissioner Leslie Duncan explained to the attendees that personnel costs have increased roughly \$1 million and rising health care costs were ranging from \$800,000 to \$1.6 million. Further, if the health care costs were to reach the \$1.6 million, combined with other estimated increases, their 3% taxing authority and New Growth would already be depleted. She said with all those facts, she would have to leave the amount at \$75,000 rather than \$200,000. Fair Board Chair Jerry Johnson pointed out the Fair had the same issue with health insurance and personnel costs and had utilized funds from the County to go towards ADA and utilities. Commissioner Duncan said they were facing forgone taxes or countywide layoffs and were trying to address space concerns.

After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Bill Brooks said he felt as though the Fairgrounds had been shortchanged for many years and that the Fair had done very well with what they had been given. He said the \$200,000 would be an investment that would absolutely show returns. Chairman Fillios suggested they make a projection for \$75,000 and one for \$200,000. Ms. Jordan said she could achieve a great deal with whatever amount the BOCC opted to provide, but said what she was trying to do was get the Fairgrounds to a place where they could invest in their future and would ask for the \$200,000.

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 were no public comments.

E. Adjourn: Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Ronnie Davisson, Deputy Clerk
