

Minutes of Meeting
Prosecutor FY21 Budget Review
May 4, 2020
2:00 p.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 Prosecutor Barry McHugh, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Art Verharen, Administrative Supervisor Carissa Cox, Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud, Clerk Jim Brannon, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Deputy Finance Director Keith Taylor, Staff Accountant – Budget Michelle Chiaramonte and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business (Action Item):**

Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Review - Prosecutor

Prosecutor Barry McHugh stated that he needed an increase to the “B” Budget to cover the cost of expert witnesses. He explained that the estimate of \$30,000 for the civil side was primarily for the Renfro post-conviction case and the estimate of \$40,000 for the criminal side was based on the projected needs for the Isenberg case and for one other case that he expected to have some expert witness fees.

Prosecutor McHugh said that another new request was to install a door to increase security measures for the Human Resources office, at a cost of about \$2,268. He noted that he had worked to shift funds from line item to line item to stretch the 2% general “B” Budget increase from the Board as far as possible before asking for anything more.

Prosecutor McHugh reminded the Commissioners that he had asked for two attorneys and a legal secretary last year but had not gotten them. He noted he had asked for them again earlier this fiscal year but had again been unsuccessful. He said he still needed them and stated he felt it was reasonable based on the department’s estimated workloads. He predicted that the schedule would be very heavy when jury trials started up again in August.

Commissioner Leslie Duncan asked if he could spread out the start dates for the three positions. Prosecutor McHugh said he could probably manage with one attorney starting at the beginning of the new fiscal year in October, the second attorney starting three months later and the support position three months after that.

After a discussion of the professional levels required for the requested new attorneys, the Commissioners generally agreed to consider the requests further.

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 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____

Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk
