

Minutes of Meeting
FY2020 Budget Deliberations
June 6, 2019
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 item. Also present were Clerk Jim Brannon, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Staff Accountant – Budget Michelle Chiaramonte, Treasurer Steve Matheson, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe and Deputy Clerk Ronnie Davisson. Also present was Contractor Shawn Riley.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
- B. Introductions**
- C. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. Action Items:**

Determine Plan for Upcoming Budget Deliberations Meetings

Clerk Jim Brannon opened the meeting by explaining that they were getting close to meeting their budgetary deadline and would have to be making some hard decisions. Finance Director Dena Darrow explained a new exercise using sticky notes to assist the Board in making some further decisions. She showed a graph that depicted fund balance reliance as a percentage of the Budget and said that there was room enough for only one larger project and then the fund balance would be depleted. She acknowledged that the Board was aware of the usage, but pointed out that the fiscal cliff was looming. Ms. Darrow said the point of the sticky note exercise was to utilize a different approach; rather than making a large amount of cuts, cut everything at once and then add back one or two items until a balanced budget was achieved. She went on to explain that she had made three different scenarios based on where the funding levels were currently: a personnel approach, a facilities approach, or a vehicle approach.

Ms. Darrow suggested a few ideas: Freeze any position open over 200 days, which would provide approximately \$704,532 back into workable funds; County Assistance operations could be funded out of their Indigent Fund Balance, providing an additional \$728,000; and limiting Community Support to 2019 allocations. She explained each one of the three scenarios in depth and showed how much a normal taxpayers tax bill would increase if the Board were to take any amount of forgone to fund either of the scenarios.

Begin Capital Expenditures Deliberations and Decisions

During discussion of capital expenditures, the Board spoke in great depth on leasing the patrol vehicles. Ms. Darrow suggested that if they opted to lease rather than buy the vehicles, then there should be negotiations on the interest rate, as the current rate of 6%

was too high. There was further discussion on vehicles requests, but no decisions were made at the time of recess.

Chairman Fillios recessed the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Chairman Fillios reconvened the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Clerk Brannon requested discussion on the current budgeted number for New Growth, as the number that the Auditor had was different from that of Chairman Fillios. Chairman Fillios said the number for total property valuation was now over \$19 billion, which was a number he had received from the Assessor.

Chief Deputy Clerk Jennifer Locke entered the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Chairman Fillios asked if the Board would be willing to cut the allocation of \$6.7 million down to \$5 million for a new building, as he was hoping to free up funds in the Fund Balance. Commissioner Duncan said she believed it to be too early to make that decision.

The Board began to discuss more requests; upon conclusion of a lengthy discussion, no decisions were made. Ms. Darrow said she would bring requested analyses and updated information to the upcoming meeting.

E. 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.

F. Adjourn (Action): Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Ronnie Davisson, Deputy Clerk
