

**Minutes of Meeting
Buildings & Grounds
June 13, 2018
3:00 p.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Marc Eberlein, Commissioner Chris Fillios, and Commissioner Bob Bingham met to discuss the following agenda item. Also present were Finance Director Dena Darrow, Financial Performance & Compliance Senior Manager Kimberli Riley, Buildings & Grounds (B&G) Director Shawn Riley and Deputy Clerk Ronnie Davisson. Also present were citizens Leslie Duncan and Ruben Miranda.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Marc Eberlein called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m.
- B. Introductions:** There were no introductions.
- C. Changes to the Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. Action Items:**

Long-Term Facilities Planning

B&G Director Shawn Riley said the purpose of the meeting was to start discussing ideas for growth and said it would be good to begin prioritizing what exactly the Board's wants and needs were. He said the Public Defender was continuing to grow, as was the Prosecutor, and neither division had room to accommodate. Further, if the State of Idaho were to mandate an additional judge, there would barely be enough space.

Commissioner Chris Fillios said that University of Idaho had approached the County in hopes to purchase the County owned Federal building on Fourth and Lakeside, so they could expand their Engineering program within the confines of Coeur d'Alene. He said he spoken with Charles Buck, the Senior VP of University of Idaho, and Mr. Buck said they were looking to begin expansion in September 2020.

Mr. Riley asked the Board what project they wished to begin with, explaining he could only oversee two projects at a time. Chairman Eberlein inquired about relocating the Fairgrounds and/or selling the Fairgrounds and how much it would cost to rebuild. Mr. Riley said it would not be feasible to move everything all at once and said they could potentially build a 30,000-40,000 square foot building at the Fairgrounds and make that a type of justice building. Further, it would cut into the Fairgrounds available real estate, which could only be sustainable for so long before the Fairgrounds would have be moved in its entirety. Mr. Riley agreed with Chairman Eberlein's point that roughly 80% of what the County does was Justice-driven and the space to accommodate Justice Facilities was imperative.

Commissioner Bob Bingham pointed out there were eight acres located at the Fairgrounds that would be spacious enough to put the Justice Facilities, which would make it so the Fairgrounds would not have to be relocated. He suggested maybe instead

of spending millions of fund balance dollars for a new building at the current County building location, to spend it on the eight acres at the Fairgrounds constructing a new building. Further, it would then empty out a Courthouse, which in turn could net the County \$6 - \$8 million to replenish the Fund Balance, by way of selling the Courthouse and its property. The process would continue until all Justice Facilities were in the same location. Commissioner Bingham said with the directions in which the County was growing was to a more centralized location. Further, if the wings on the Administration Building were to be completed, it could allow the Prosecutor's Office and Information Technology to expand.

Chairman Eberlein said his idea was to construct a 10-story building on the Fairgrounds, with 30,000 square feet dedicated to each floor, making it spacious enough to house all County affairs.

Finance Director Dena Darrow pointed out that they could not build up the County Fund Balance as quickly as before; Mr. Riley said the County might not get as much as expected for the Juvenile Justice Building because of the amount of renovations it would require. Mr. Riley agreed with Ms. Darrow, stating it was a worry that there would not be enough money in Fund Balance to fund further projects.

Commissioner Fillios said he would speak with Mr. Buck and Mr. Riley confirmed they would meet again in a few weeks to discuss further options.

- E. 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.

Chairman Eberlein adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

MARC EBERLEIN, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Ronnie Davisson, Deputy Clerk
