

**Minutes of Meeting  
Commissioners' Status Update  
July 20, 2020  
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 items. Also present were Finance Director Dena Darrow, Staff Accountant – Budget Michelle Chiaramonte, Information Technology (IT) Network Administrator Grant Kinsey, BOCC Communications Manager Nancy Jones and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present were Contractor Shawn Riley and University of Idaho Extension Office 4-H Educator Sharla Wilson.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business:**

**Compton Sewer Project Complete/Compliance with City (Action)**

Contractor Shawn Riley announced that the Compton Sewer Project had been completed. He said the County would receive a monthly sewer bill. He noted that the project had been completed about \$2,200 under budget.

**Panhandle Health District Board Member (Discussion)**

Commissioner Leslie Duncan remarked that the Kootenai County representatives to Panhandle Health District had no clear requirements for communication with the Board. She said she felt it was important that the Commissioners got regular updates. She remarked that their representative was supposed to be acting in accordance with the Board's wishes.

Commissioner Bill Brooks acknowledged Commissioner Duncan's request and stated he would contact the representative.

Chairman Fillios confirmed that the representative was supposed to act in accordance with the Board's instructions, but there was no mechanism in place to enforce it.

Commissioner Duncan commented that the person served at the pleasure of the Board and could be removed from the post if they were not complying with the Board's requests.

**Capital Crimes Defense Fund Nomination (Discussion)**

Commissioner Duncan reported that the at large position in this group was open and she hoped to receive the nomination. She added that District 1 Representative Mike Fitzgerald also held a position in the group and he had told her he would offer her his seat

if she did not get the at large position. She stated she would bring the Board more information next week.

### **Pending Items Status Review (List Attached)**

#### **Romer Building**

Mr. Riley reported that he had received an email from Deborah Mitchell and the group working to convert the building into a music conservatory had objected to paying for liability insurance for the donor tours. He stated he did not feel the taxpayers should be responsible for the expense if one of the people received some injury during the tour.

Mr. Riley remarked that the original plan had been for him to take a maximum of twelve people at a time through the building in a supervised tour. He said Ms. Dance now wanted a more traditional open house format, with people able to come and go as desired from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the date selected.

Mr. Riley pointed out that the County had always required individuals or groups to provide proof of liability insurance before any event to be held on County property.

Commissioner Duncan said she would contact Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Pat Braden and ask for his guidance.

Commissioner Brooks expressed his agreement that the group should be required to provide their own liability insurance.

Information Technology (IT) Network Administrator Grant Kinsey suggested that people could be asked to sign a waiver before entering the building.

#### **Citizen Advisory Committee**

Commissioner Brooks stated he would address this project beginning around the end of August, after the public hearing for the Budget.

#### **Fire Station at the Fairgrounds**

Chairman Fillios reported that Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney R. David Ferguson had told him they were still waiting to hear from Kootenai Fire & Rescue.

#### **University of Idaho Extension New Home**

University of Idaho Extension Office 4-H Educator Sharla Wilson said that her investigation showed that renting the space they would need would be three or four times more expensive than the County's current in-kind coverage.

Mr. Riley commented that the only solution appeared to be giving them access to one of the buildings at the Fairgrounds.

Mr. Kinsey noted that the EOC (Emergency Operation Center) had been moved out of Building 3, which was now empty.

It was generally agreed to continue to pursue this project, but that more information was needed.

#### **Body Scanner**

Commissioner Duncan stated that they were still working on funding this purchase and more should be known in August.

#### **Facilities Expansion**

Mr. Riley said he was waiting to hear from Mr. Ferguson about the RFQ (Request for Qualifications) for the design phase.

#### **PAC Airport Lease**

Commissioner Duncan stated this would be addressed in August, after the Budget was settled.

#### **State of the County**

It was confirmed that the State of the County address would take place on August 25, 2020, at a breakfast meeting.

- 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.

Coeur d'Alene Resident Cristina Ginorio expressed her concern about Ms. Dance's proposed open house format. She said that, under that arrangement, children and people with potentially unrevealed severe allergies would be able to enter the building, which is known to contain asbestos and toxic black mold. She stated she felt Mr. Riley's supervised tours reduced the County's potential liability.

Mr. Kinsey expressed his concern regarding timely sharing of information related to possible positive COVID cases in different departments. He pointed out that potential exposures could be reduced if IT, Reprographics and Buildings & Grounds staff were notified quickly, so they could avoid entering a possibly contaminated area.

**E. Adjournment (Action):** Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 11:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk

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