

Minutes of Meeting
FY23 Budget Deliberations
July 22, 2022
11:30 am.

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 KCSO Sheriff Robert Norris, KCSO Undersheriff Brett Nelson, KCSO Captains Stuart Miller, Andy Deak and Kevin Smart, KCSO Sergeant Zachary Sifford, KCSO Chief Budget Officer Stephanie Drobny, KCSO Jail Maintenance Supervisor Tom Reed, Clerk Jim Brannon, Chief Deputy Clerk Jennifer Locke, Deputy Finance Director Keith Taylor, Court Services Director Marissa Garza, Elections Manager Asa Gray, 1st Judicial District Trial Court Administrator Karlene Behringer, Staff Accountant – Budget Brandi Falcon, Prosecutor Barry McHugh, Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney R. David Ferguson, Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud, HR Generalist – Employee Relations Dorothy Cross, Juvenile Probation Director Bryan Alexander, Parks & Waterways (P&W)/Noxious Weeds/Snowgroomers Director Nick Snyder, Adult Misdemeanor Probation (AMP) Director Keith Hutcheson, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe, BOCC Communications Coordinator Jonathan Gillham, and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present were Fair Board Chair Jerry Johnson, Coeur d’Alene Press Reporter Kaye Thornbrugh and Kootenai County Resident Ralph Ginorio. Commissioner Bill Brooks was present via teleconference.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business:**

FY23 Budget Deliberations to Include “A” Budget (Personnel) with Staff Accountant Brandi Falcon

Chairman Fillios remarked that the Board wanted to address three specific personnel issues during this meeting.

Auditor’s Office Staff Accountant – Budget Brandi Falcon reported that the Prosecutor’s Office had reduced personnel requests from six to three. She noted the total cost had been reduced from about \$60,000 to about \$21,000. She explained this represented two Grade changes and one Step change.

Commissioner Leslie Duncan remarked that she was reviewing how these changes would impact the Public Defender’s Office. She said she had not yet had a chance to talk to Public Defender Anne C. Taylor, but she was confident that there would be no issues created. She added that she was comfortable with the three requests being made by the Prosecutor and felt they were appropriate at this time.

Chairman Fillios and Commissioner Bill Brooks both indicated that they agreed.

Ms. Falcon asked if there were any other cuts to the proposed FY23 Budget that the Commissioners wanted to make today.

Commissioner Duncan said she had minor adjustments she would like to propose for a couple of line items, but she was not yet prepared to present them. She stated that she still would prefer to cut the amount allotted to Heritage Health and Coeur d'Alene Economic Development Corp. by 50%.

Ms. Falcon announced that, at the moment, the Budget was balanced, unless there were further cuts to be made. She reviewed the Budget Summary Sheet as it stood. She stated that the whole wage pool would be used by the planned adjustments for the matrices and the 6% COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment).

KCSO Lieutenant William Klinkefus entered the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Deputy Finance Director Keith Taylor said that the Auditor's Office would keep the Board apprised of the changes between the old matrices and the new ones.

- 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.

KCSO Sheriff Robert Norris reviewed the challenges his departments were facing with hiring and retention. He indicated he was not satisfied with the results provided from the Wage Study and said that he felt the data on which it was based was inadequate.

Chairman Fillios remarked on the different increases that had been provided to KCSO staff in the prior 18 months and called attention to the ones which would come in FY23. He stated that there was an upcoming meeting regarding implementation of impact fees, which would also provide KCSO with additional funding. He said they had also discussed the proposal for an override levy specifically for KCSO to go on the ballot for the November Election. He added that there were also grants being considered from which the Sheriff's Department would benefit.

Prosecutor Barry McHugh exited the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

Sheriff Norris said that he did not believe that an override levy would pass in November. He stated that he had been discussing his department's issues with the Governor's staff, in the hopes of locating other revenue streams.

Chairman Fillios recommended that the override levy be included on the November ballot.

First Judicial District Trial Court Administrator Karlene Behringer and Parks & Waterways (P&W)/Noxious Weeds/Snowgroomers Director Nick Snyder exited the meeting at 12:11 p.m.

Substantial discussion of the issue followed. Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud assured those present that the concerns expressed would be reviewed.

E. Adjournment (Action): Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 12:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

BOCC SIGNATURE

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk