

Minutes of Meeting
Opioid Settlement Allocation
September 13, 2022
1:30 p.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chair Pro Tem Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda item. Also present were Prosecutor Barry McHugh, Chief Deputy Clerk Jennifer Locke, Finance Director Brandi Falcon, Staff Accountant – Grants Julina Hildreth, Resource Management Office (RMO) Director Jody Bieze, 1st Judicial District Trial Court Administrator Karlene Behringer, Deputy Trial Court Administrator Samantha Wallis, Trial Court Administrative Assistant Acacia Hildreth, Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Pat Braden, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe, BOCC Communications Coordinator Jonathan Gillham and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Chairman Chris Fillios was excused. Ms. Bieze and Mr. Braden were present via teleconference.

- A. Call to Order:** Chair Pro Tem Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business:**

Kootenai County Utilization of Opioid Settlement Funds/Voluntary Reallocation of Opioid Settlement Funds (Discussion)

Resource Management Office (RMO) Director Jody Bieze stated that Kootenai County had entered into the Idaho Opioid Settlement Allocation Agreement and would be eligible to receive about \$2,434,156.96 over a period of 18 years. She said that it was up to the Board whether the County would keep the funds or consider a voluntary allocation of them to Panhandle Health District (PHD). She added that there were restrictions on how the funds could be used, with strict compliance required if the Board should choose to keep them. She explained how the process would work if the Board decided to assign the money to PHD.

Chair Pro Tem Leslie Duncan indicated that she felt the County had several programs which would be eligible make appropriate use of the money. She said that BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe had agreed to act as the contact person for this and would work closely with RMO.

Commissioner Bill Brooks asked whether the County had to decide to keep the whole amount or if it could be split.

Ms. Bieze confirmed that it was an all or nothing situation; the yearly allocation could not be split.

Deputy Finance Director Keith Taylor entered the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

Ms. Plouffe pointed out that PHD was going to receive a separate allocation of its own which was not dependent on the County.

Ms. Bieze provided additional details on the way the allocation would need to be handled and on the restrictions under which it could be used. She confirmed that the Board did not have to make a final decision today; there was no final deadline which had to be met at this time.

Parks & Waterways (P&W)/Noxious Weeds/Snowgroomers Director Nick Snyder entered the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

There followed a discussion between Ms. Bieze, Chair Pro Tem Duncan and 1st Judicial District Trial Court Administrator Karlene Behringer regarding current County programs which might be eligible for the funds.

KCSO Sheriff Robert Norris entered the meeting at 1:42 p.m.

Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Pat Braden provided addition clarification on programs which could use the allocation.

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. There were no public comments.

E. Adjournment (Action): Chair Pro Tem Duncan adjourned the meeting at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

BOCC SIGNATURE

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk