

## IAC Legislative Committee

December, 02 2020 | 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

[Zoom Meeting](#)

### MEETING MINUTES

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#### Call to Order

Chair Baldwin called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

The following committee members were present:

Chair: Justin Baldwin, Gooding Assessor  
Vice Chair: Donna Peterson, Payette Treasurer  
IACA: Brad Wills, Twin Falls Assessor  
IACC: Doug Zenner, Nez Perce Commissioner  
IACRC: Carrie Bird, Clearwater Clerk  
IACT: Annette Dygert, Owyhee Treasurer

District 1: Dan Dinning, Boundary  
Commissioner  
District 3: Phil McGrane, Ada Clerk  
District 4: Don Hall, Twin Falls Commissioner  
District 6: Brent Mendenhall, Madison  
Commissioner

The following guests were present:

Seth Grigg, IAC  
Sara Westbrook, IAC  
Kelli Brassfield, IAC  
Tracie Lloyd, Canyon Treasurer

Dotti Owens, Ada Coroner  
Angie Barkell, Owyhee Clerk  
Tom Dale, Canyon Commissioner  
Craig Rowland, Bingham Sheriff  
Lorna Jorgensen, Ada Prosecutor's Office

#### Minutes Approval (Action Item)

*Owyhee County Treasurer Annette Dygert moved to approve the November 10, 2020 meeting minutes. Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

#### Discussion Items

- [DRKMF106](#): Uniformity in Local Government Accounting, Budgeting, and Financial Procedures
  - This proposal creates an oversight committee who will create a manual for providing information to the state. There is a fiscal impact of \$1.8M to implement and \$1.3M to maintain it. It is unknown if this includes an accounting module for locals to use. The controller's office would like to phase this process. There could be changes to this proposal.
  - The legislative committee would like to see locals appointed to the oversight committee for their expertise. LSO is understaffed right now and are far behind. The committee would like to make sure someone else is in charge of the audit if the legislature goes

- down this road. This proposal adds in a level of bureaucracy and takes away the local financial responsibility.
- There is concerned about the audit process because counties see changes when the LSO staff changes and they ask for different and new information. There is also concern about how to we meld all of the systems that are being used. It is important to keep an open mind to this as there are other proposals that could be worse if counties push back on this.
  - The legislature wants to be able to drill down to all the finances of the locals. They want to be able to compare the funding coming in and going out so they can truly understand if there is an under/unfunded mandate. There is a question as to whether or not they will have small, medium, and large counties in the rollout? This will help with the disparities between counties.
  - [DRKMF117](#): Limitation on Local Government Fund Reserves
    - This proposal limits local from growing fund balances year over year. There are quite a few questions that need answered. It would allow for three months expenses and one month of rainy-day funds. If there are excess fund those would have to be used in the next year for property tax relief. It is unknown how this will affect those counties that have saved their PILT and SRS funds. This could really hurt infrastructure.
    - This would allow for counties to take forgone but that is in conflict with the next proposal so it really needs to be reviewed. Some county's outside auditor is opposed to this and said that they might be more comfortable with a six months reserve but does not like it period. It would be helpful to send some feedback and suggestions to what the counties could live with.
    - Some of the committee members are concerned with some jurisdictions that have many millions in a reserve account. The question is how much is too much?
    - It is unknown how this would affect services like solid waste because those are a fee-based service. It appears they wouldn't be affected. The language regarding user fees says, "The calculation of such expenses should not include services that are funded by user fees." The funds most at risk appear to be sales tax revenues, liquor, plus a few others. There appears to be some protection for dedicated funds.
  - [DRKMF123](#): Limitation on Government Property Tax Budget Increases
    - This proposal limits locals to grow property tax budgets and would cap budgets at 4% to include new construction, forgone, and any annexation. You would work under a CPI framework. There are problems with the way it is drafted.
    - Senator Rice alluded to having a proposal but it is known how these two things would work together but he has expressed wanting to work with the counties on a consolidation proposal. He has also mentioned that his ceiling is 5%, so counties may be able to increase from the 4% in this proposal. IAC needs to know what the ultimate threshold could be and what counties are willing to do. If legislators don't come work with us, the committee will need to decide if they will oppose the draft.
    - There was a suggestion for a sunset for review to see if this is actually working. Also, legislators haven't really understood what this will do to infrastructure. Counties will not just be able to move funding around to pay for projects.
  - Broadband Language
    - The language that was sent out to the committee is now void. It has been pulled, which is a good thing as it was the same language as last year and did not go anywhere. The language is being crafted by Ben Brocksome, (Port of Lewiston and AIC) but IAC will be working with him.

- Transportation was discussed today and the Governor will be announcing in the State of the State that he is working on a plan to give locals funding.
- Alex Adams did mention that if congress extends CARES Act funding before December 31, there could be some impacts to some.

*Boundary County Commissioner Dan Dinning moved to adjourn the committee meeting at 5:16 pm. Nez Perce County Commissioner Doug Zenner seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

The meeting was adjourned.

## IAC Legislative Committee

### MEMBERSHIP

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#### CHAIR

Justin Baldwin  
*Gooding County Assessor*

Brad Wills

*LACA: Twin Falls Assessor*

Tracie Lloyd

*LACT: Canyon Treasurer*

Lucky Bourn

*ISACC: Minidoka Coroner*

Tom Dale

*District 3: Canyon Commissioner*

Doug Zenner

*LACC: Nez Perce Commissioner*

Bryan Taylor

*IPAA: Canyon Prosecutor*

Dan Dinning

*District 1: Boundary Commissioner*

Don Hall

*District 4: Twin Falls Commissioner*

Brent Mendenhall

*District 6: Madison Commissioner*

#### VICE CHAIR

Donna Peterson  
*Payette County Treasurer*

Carrie Bird

*LACRC: Clearwater Clerk*

Kieran Donahue

*ISA: Canyon Sheriff*

James Zehner

*District 2: Idaho Assessor*

Craig Rowland

*District 5: Bingham Sheriff*