

IAC Legislative Committee

January 20, 2021 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

Chair Baldwin called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

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
IPAA: Danny Clark, Bonneville Prosecutor
ISACC: Scott Carver, Valley Coroner

District 1: Dan Dinning, Boundary
Commissioner
District 2: Justin McLeod, Lewis Commissioner
District 3: Phil McGrane, Ada Clerk
District 5: Terrel Tovey, Bannock
Commissioner
District 6: Brent Mendenhall, Madison
Commissioner

The following guests were present:

Seth Grigg, IAC
Sara Westbrook, IAC
Kelli Brassfield, IAC
Tim Hibbard, IAC
Angie Barkell, Owyhee Clerk
Sherry Maupin, Valley Commissioner
Phil Lampert, Benewah Commissioner

Jessica Lewis, Bingham Commissioner
Chris Goetz, Clearwater Sheriff
Jack Johnson, Twin Falls Commissioner
Dotti Owens, Ada Coroner
Kathie LaFortune, Latah Commissioner
Jeff Lavey, ISA
Lorna Jorgensen, Ada Prosecutor's Office

Minutes Approval (Action Item)

Twin Falls County Assessor Brad Wills moved to approve the January 13, 2021 meeting minutes. Owyhee County Treasurer Annette Dygert seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion Items

- POST Funding Legislation
 - Part of the Governor's State of the State address he plans to request an additional \$800,000 to POST. No bills have been introduced yet.
- Disasters, Governor's Powers ([H0001](#), [S1001](#), [S1002](#))

- There have been several bills introduced early in the session. IAC met with the Pro Tempore yesterday to discuss the topics of those bills. They are intended for use in future emergencies. One of the hallmarks is that the Governor will only be able to declare an emergency for 30-days.
- If it was longer than 30-days, the Governor would have to call the legislature into a special session.
- The senate is looking to introduce language to protect funding that may be lost due to the legislation.
- The senate is split on how to proceed with the legislation. IAC is trying to stay out of the balance of power fight going on, but trying to ensure all parties know that counties need to be able to manage the emergencies, including making sure those funds are available to match the federal grants. IAC will continue to monitor.
- [H0002/H0008](#) Bond, Levy Elections, Disclosures
 - House Bill 2 and 8 were introduced by Representative Nate, primarily because the school board was putting more information on the ballot with their bond requests than just the mandatory information. One of his constituents was confused because there is too much information now. The goal is to limit taxing districts to only the mandatory language. If counties did not comply with the statute then the Clerk would personally be fined \$10,000.
 - IAC met with Representative Nate and explained that \$10,000 was extremely unreasonable for a fine for elected officials, and explained that the Clerk's office was not responsible for the language.
 - Representative Nate removed the language involving the Clerk and the \$10,000 fine and reintroduced the bill as House Bill 8. With House Bill 8, if the language is incorrect on the ballot, a constituent has 30-days to contest the language in court, and if the court deems the language does not comply with the statute, the taxing district would have to reimburse the clerk for the election costs as well as any legal fees.

Ada County Clerk Phil McGrane moved to strongly oppose House Bill 2. Payette County Treasurer Donna Peterson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ada County Clerk Phil McGrane moved to approach legislators with amendments to House Bill 8 regarding the proration and calculation of costs, and not to take a position at the current time. Valley County Coroner Scott Carver seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- Property Tax Proposals from Study Committee
 - Fund Balance Proposal
 - IAC met with Senator Guthrie to discuss the fund balance proposal. It's not a hill he plans on dying on. He is looking for suggestion from IAC to make it better. Representative Addis reiterated that it is just a starting point, but that they are open to suggestions. IAC does not believe there is broad support in the Senate for the bill to move forward.
 - Budget Growth Cap
 - Senator Rice is introducing a proposal this afternoon to cap local government tax budget increases at 4%: inflation-based increase plus new construction up to 4%, or 3%.
 - Transparency
 - IAC met with Senator Addis to discuss transparency regarding who will be the primary driver behind transparency legislation. There are several new changes to

the draft that was circulated a few months ago. IAC believes the changes help the bill.

- One of those changes keeps current budget laws intact until such point there is a standardized chart of accounts and uniform accounting manual for locals to follow, at which point there will be a transition.
- The language regarding the oversight committee is going to change so it's clear the oversight committee isn't there to oversee local budgets, but to oversee state Controller's office in its development of the uniform accounting standards and setting up the data repository where the local government data will be presented.
- Of the three proposals, the transparency proposal has broadest support.
- PDC Rules
 - PDC rules have started to be heard in the Senate this week. IAC has not testified yet. The PDC rules discussion have been moved to Friday at 1:30 pm in the Senate. They are not being heard in the House this week.
- PILT Tax Equivalency
 - Representative Horman has circulated draft legislation for a House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) calling on the Idaho legislature to ask the interim committee on federalism to investigate PILT tax equivalency to see what it would look like compared to the current PILT formula used to determine federal PILT payments. Now that there is an appropriate technology to do so.
 - The Public Lands Committee is meeting on the 28th of January and will vote to either support, oppose, or remain neutral on the proposed HCR.
- Remote Testimony Tutorial
 - To sign up to testify remotely for a committee:
 1. Go to the committee page on the legislature website,
 2. Click the "Public Testimony Registration" tab, and if there is a meeting that day, underneath the list of items testimony is being allowed for, there is a button to click: "Register to Testify."
 3. Click: "Register to Testify."
 4. After clicking the link, fill in your information, and you will receive a confirmation email.
 - Also, if you are looking at an agenda, click the link "Register to Testify" on the bottom of the agenda and it will take you to step 2 above as if you clicked the "Public Testimony Registration" tab.

Payette County Treasurer Donna Peterson moved to adjourn the committee meeting at 11:52 am. Boundary County Commissioner Dan Dinning seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.

IAC Legislative Committee

MEMBERSHIP

CHAIR

Justin Baldwin
Gooding County Assessor

Brad Wills
LACA: Twin Falls Assessor

Annette Dygert
LACT: Onybee Treasurer

Scott Carver
ISACC: Valley Coroner

Phil McGrane
District 3: Ada Clerk

Doug Zenner

LACC: Nez Perce Commissioner

Danny Clark

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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

Justin McLeod
District 2: Lewis Commissioner

Terrel Tovey
District 5: Bannock Commissioner