

IAC Legislative Committee

January 15, 2025 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm MST
700 W Washington | Boise, ID

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order | Chair Don Hall

Chair Don Hall motioned to approve the January 8th minutes. Vice Chair Tom Dayley seconded. The motion was carried.

Priorities

IGA-02 | Youth Vape Prevention

- There is a draft in the process, and will be shared when it is ready. Rep. Raymond co-chaired the interim committee that talked about youth vape prevention, and he is putting together a report to share his thoughts on how the committee went and what was covered. Once that is complete, it will be shared with the committee.

IGA-07 | Consolidated Elections

- Meeting rescheduled for today, hoping to get more information to provide an update next week. Trent Tripple shared a document with the committee to provide a bit of an overview on the election timeline changes. The purpose is to help standardize timelines across the board to help reduce confusion and increase clarity.

IGA-10 | Travel and Convention Tax for Counties

- Still being worked on. Trying to discover what certain legislators are feeling, but emphasizing the importance of funding emergency services (and current lack of funding) might be a good talking point. This includes utilizing some of these funds for the 911 Grant Fee Adjustment (JPS-01).

IGA-13 | Completing Public Defense Reform

- Lots of discussion in the Capitol on this issue. There are two differing views within the Statehouse. One side sees it as a funding issue, who wants to throw money at it. The other side sees the structural issues that need to be addressed. Key legislators recognize that the system hasn't been implemented in the way that it was originally intended. The main goal is to bring forward legislation that clarifies the structure that ensures it is carried out how it was originally intended too, with additional side boards to account for aspects such as residency.

JPS-01 | 911 Grant Fee Adjustment & Inclusion of FCC Guidance on Expenditures

- Major pushback from the carriers. Draft work will be slow for now as continued work takes place with the Sheriff's and carriers to help try and move legislation forward.

Policies

IGA-01 | PTR Benefit Increase

- There hasn't been a ton of movement on this at the moment. Meetings to take place tomorrow to get some more information on how this may be able to move forward.

IGA-03 | Coroner Records: Public Records Exemption

- Sheriffs put out a support letter for this piece of legislation. It remains separate from JPS-02. Legislators are working with IAC on this, and updates will be provided in upcoming meetings.

IGA-04 | Public Notices

- Continuous support has been popping up around this idea, and Rep. Ehlers is working on a bill that provides counties with the option to provide public notices however they see fit (website, townhall, newspaper, etc.) so that each county can utilize whatever method is best for them. Ideally, the online publication process would be state-centered in order to provide a 'one stop shop' for public notices.

IGA-09 | Hospital Property Tax Exemption

- Rep. Tanner is promoting a bill and that is the current path forward for now. More updates to come.

IGA-11 | Responsible Bidder

- The AGC (Associated General Contractors) doesn't currently support this policy. The goal is to find a path in which the AGC becomes comfortable with this. The goal is to become in parity with the State standard, so work will be continued on this.

IGA-12 | Allow District Boards of Health to Set Food Establishment License Fees

- Director of Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Alex Adams seems open to this idea. The costs are different in each jurisdiction, which causes issues with how current policy allows District Boards of Health to set their fees. There is a routing slip for this legislation at the moment, and work will be continued to iron out the details.

JPS-02 | Coroner Powers/Duties, Definition, Education/Standards

- This is currently on track, and has been drafted through LSO. Discussion between legislators and ISACC to talk about adding in autopsy notifications into this policy.

JPS-04 | EMS Identified as Critical by State Legislature

- Currently no additional information, update to hopefully come next week.

TRI-01 | Solid Waste Disposal Responsibility

- Alternative to the flow control legislation last year. It would define flow control, when it could be implemented, etc. This got purple slipped, Rep. Pickett signed off on it. Waiting for LSO to finish up a draft. Meetings to strategize going forward will take place, and more information to come next week.

Potential New Legislation

Idaho State Park Passports

- Not a lot of information on this at the moment, but the idea is to increase the park passport fee, and a portion of it go into a non-motorized recreation fund. Supposed to help allow locals to maintain lands for non-motorized recreational areas.

Kilowatt Hour Tax

- Last year, a kilowatt hour sales-tax was discussed quite a bit. There is strong interest from the speaker to run a kilowatt hour tax bill and exempt traditional utilities from the property tax and replace it with a kilowatt hour sales tax instead. The bill introduced at the end of the last session will be used as a starting point during this session. Possibly, there is an opportunity to leverage the Idaho Power judgement to get some pieces from this legislation. Intermountain Gas Company has also expressed interest in a similar 'therm' tax, so this bill may become more involved. The goal is to mitigate any harm to local jurisdictions and to shore up the 4-R act. The speaker is interested in trying to get this done within the first half of the session.

Solar Tax

- A group that represents solar developers would like to run a bill that would create parity between wind and solar. There are different tax methodologies employed currently for wind and solar tax. In this way, solar would be treated the same way as wind, and it appears all the utilities support it, and this would be an overall net positive for counties. When a final draft is brought, it will be shared with the committee.

Domestic Water

- Legislation that satisfies the needs of a variety of different actors and attempts to incorporate the whole spectrum of uses. Hopefully this year is another step closer to getting this done. A current hang up is some language in the draft that would require community wells within the area of impact be designed so that they are compatible with a municipal system. Developers believe this may be a bit too far, so it is going to cause some issues going forward. Some discussion about the potential impact on smaller counties and this bills potential to inhibit growth.

Drive Insured

- Drive insured is a law that cancels registration if you don't have insurance. This year's change is looking to raise the fee on drive insured. ITD gave some numbers about how much it would cost to implement from their perspective and the data given to the sponsor, Rep. Furniss, is to help provide more information.

General Discussion

- Some counties are trying to find ways to conserve farmland around Idaho. An example was given that New Jersey implemented, where if developers made farmers offers on their lands, the state would match that offer with the caveat that if accepted, that land must be used for agricultural production, though some counties see issues with this method (free-market complications).
- New bill in the works that would require helmets for individuals in a UTV for anyone under the age of 18.
- RS2477. Complaints from individuals who are experiencing locked gates on RS2477 roads. A bill may be run that if an individual comes across a road with a locked gate, and if it is an RS2477 road, it would allow the county to come and cut the lock off of the gate.
- Last year, Senator Herndon brought a bill that would require the county to provide a right of way without eminent domain if land that is developed does not provide that right of way anymore. That bill is being brought back this year, so discussion will take place after a meeting takes place and this bill comes forward this year.
- Agricultural Protection Act. Law requires a hearing to approve an APA. An idea has been floated that would allow an administrative approval process in lieu of having a public hearing.
- TECM (Transportation, Expansions, and Congestion Mitigation). Sales tax dollars are allocated for roads. An additional \$60 million dollars was called for by the governor for TECM. We will be keeping an eye on this bill so that there is no negative impact on the county distribution (ensuring that local distribution will not be delayed).

- POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) - There is a push in the legislature to alter the way you go through the POST process. At the moment, it is mostly centralized. There is a big push to decentralize, and POST would become the body to set the standards, but POST would not provide the training anymore, it would go to community colleges instead. This can create a problem for counties further out from a community college. This is going to require some solid engagement from everyone in order to find a solution. POST teaches 9 academies, while most community colleges only provide 2 of those disciplines. POST also provides a lot of in-service training.
- Burden of Proof issue will arise again this session. More updates to come.

Adjournment @ 11:57.

IAC Legislative Committee

MEMBERSHIP

*MEMBERS HIGHLIGHTED WERE IN ATTENDANCE

CHAIR Don Hall <i>Twin Falls Commissioner</i>	VICE CHAIR Tom Dayley <i>Ada Commissioner</i>	
Bruce Mattare <i>District 1: Kootenai Commissioner</i>	Donavan Harrington <i>District 5: Bingham Assessor</i>	Annette Dygert <i>LACT: Owyhee Treasurer</i>
Chris Goetz <i>District 2: Clearwater Sheriff</i>	Brent Mendenhall <i>District 6: Madison Commissioner</i>	Vic Pearson <i>IPAA: Franklin Prosecutor</i>
Sherry Maupin <i>District 3: Valley Commissioner</i>	Hollie Ann Strang <i>IACA: Gem Assessor</i>	Andy Creech <i>ISA: Payette Sheriff</i>
Ben Crouch <i>District 4: Jerome Commissioner</i>	Jared Orton <i>IACC: Minidoka Commissioner</i>	Scott Carver <i>ISACC: Valley Coroner</i>
	Trent Tripple <i>IACRC: Ada Clerk</i>	

ALTERNATES

Phil Lampert <i>District 1: Benewah Commissioner</i>	Eric Jackson <i>District 5: Bingham Commissioner</i>	Elizabeth Mahn <i>LACT: Ada Treasurer</i>
Brad Higgins <i>District 2: Idaho Commissioner</i>	Shayne Young <i>District 6: Jefferson Commissioner</i>	Vacant <i>IPAA:</i>
Zach Brooks <i>District 3: Canyon Commissioner</i>	Josh Dison <i>IACA: Elmore Assessor</i>	Matt Clifford <i>ISA: Ada Sheriff</i>
Vacant	Kim Keeley	Pam Garlock

<i>District 4:</i>	<i>IACRC: Teton Clerk</i>	<i>ISACC: Boise Coroner</i>

***More attendees listed below**

IAC Staff

Seth Grigg

Sara Westbrook

Kelli Brassfield

Chase Christensen

Clay Boeckel

More

Jeff Lavey

John David Davidson

Robert Berry