

IAC Legislative Committee

March 13, 2024 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm MST
700 W. Washington St. Boise, ID

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order | Chair Don Hall

Minidoka Commissioner Wayne Schenk motioned to approve the March 6, 2024 Minutes. Vice Chair Tom Dayley seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Prioritize Resolutions

- **H0530 Emergency Communications Fee (no update needed):**
- **H0658 Hospital Property Tax Exemption:** Hoping to get a new bill introduced. It is in the works at the moment.
- **S1403 Area of Impact Agreements:** Passed the Senate unanimously (34-0-1) and is moving to the House. Cities are also supportive of this bill.
- **S1416 Essential Emergency Medical Services:** Going to be in up in Senate Health and Welfare tomorrow. Encouraging Senators and Representatives to support this would be a big help. Will move EMS from the Department of Health and Welfare and move to the Office of Emergency Management and establish EMS as an essential medical government service. If EMS is approving applications for funding from the EMS sustainability fund, then counties have authority and accountability to ensure that EMS is available through the community and county. The director of OEM budgets for the sustainability fund, and that then goes through JFAC. Starting in 2026, it will be included as part of the budget. In order to get sustainability funds, the county must endorse whoever is getting that funding.

IAC Policies

- **County Travel + Convention Tax:** This bill is dead for this year.

Updates

- **H0506 Short Term Rentals (OPPOSITION):** Was sent to the amending orders by the House. Likely dead this session.
- **H0508 PERSI, Rule of 80 (SUPPORT):** Allows for dispatcher and administrator to be on the rule of 80. Passed unanimously out of the Senate (35-0) and is heading for the governor's desk this week.

- **H0517 Freedom of Religion, Speech, and Action (OPPOSITION):** This bill was sent back to the committee. Amendment suggestions were sent and some were implemented, but not all suggestions were implemented (i.e. ICRMP's suggestions). The bill will try to be introduced again, but it doesn't appear it will get very far this year.
- **H0521 Taxation, School Facilities, and Funds (SUPPORT):** Hanging on the calendar in the Senate and has been on the third reading for almost a week now. Some angst around removing the four (4) day school option, but it looks like it will still move forward.
- **H0571 Public Works Exemptions (SUPPORT):** On its way to the governor's desk. Has been passed by both sides unanimously.
- **H0588 Public Records Request Deadlines (SUPPORT):** Passed the House and Senate, and appears to be on a successful path.
- **H0593 PTO for Employees Hired by State Public Defender (SUPPORT):** Sitting on the second reading calendar on the Senate and will be moved to the third calendar today. The goal is to help public defenders moving over to the state who have had trouble moving over PTO during transition.
- **H0608 Agricultural Protection Areas:** Heard in the Senate yesterday and they sent it to the amending order. There was agreement over the concerns of eminent domain which ultimately got it sent to the amending order. Amendment language has been submitted to Senator Schroder, and it will likely come back out of the amending order quickly. Nothing would preclude a county from establishing an area of agricultural protection within an area of impact, which is a potential area of conflict.
- **H0620aa Knives Pre-emption (OPPOSITION):** Passed the House 56-13-1. It was amended, but not enough. Going to reach out to Senator Lakey to discuss additional concerns (i.e. a musician or event organizer who does not want knives in or at their concert/event, as the bill stands, would not allow the city to prohibit people from actually bringing knives into the event, despite the requests of the musician or event organizer. Potential to have fiscal impacts).
- **H0624 Commercial Property Assessed Capital:** Will be heard in the Senate Local Gov. and Taxation tomorrow.
- **H0625 Equalization of Assessments (OPPOSITION):** This bill failed in committee. Rumors that there have been some flipped votes, but have yet to see the bill come back. Going to continue to monitor.
- **H0638a Strategic Initiative Grants, LHTAC (SUPPORT):** Passed the House (68-2-0). On its way to the Senate.
- **H0646 Counties, Boundaries (SUPPORT):** Passed the House with a unanimous vote (69-0-1). Also on its way to the Senate.
- **H0651 Sheriff Reimbursement (SUPPORT):** Passed the House 66-0-4. Referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday, and is being held at the moment. In the Governor's office, they believe there is already a way for sheriffs to be reimbursed, and so there is research being done to see if that is actually true or not.
- **H0697 Public Defender, Sick Time (SUPPORT):** This bill adds in the ability of transferring 40 hours of sick time for those public defenders transitioning to the State (in addition to H0508, Rule of 80 bill).

- **H0701 Homestead Exemption Status (SUPPORT):** Currently has been sent to the amending order without any real explanation. Unfortunately, it may not go anywhere this year. However, work is going to continue on this bill to try and get it worked through.
- **S1258 Public Rights-of-Way (OPPOSITION):** Had a hearing in Transportation last Wednesday, and a commissioner of Owyhee county came over to testify in opposition. The Vice Chairman of the committee pulled 1258 from the agenda because of a lack of information before the hearing. Owyhee county is looking at an opinion currently, and will get back to us soon with their thoughts.
- **S1365 Next of Kin Database (SUPPORT):** Passed unanimously out of the committee and is heading to the floor of the House.
- **S1367 Public Defense Guardian Ad Litem Fund (SUPPORT):** This was in the Senate Jud. and Rules last week. It made it through the Senate no problem, but it is not yet scheduled for a hearing. Hopefully it will get a hearing soon.
- **S1371 Elections Filing Dates:** Has been a priority for the clerks. Passed the Senate last week, but have run into some problems to get it heard in the House. There is a possibility that it will be held back and re-attempt to bring it back next year.

New Legislation

- **H0585 Digital Assets:** Currently placed on General Orders, but it is likely dead for the year. It can be removed.
- **H0702 Rate-Regulated Electric Companies:** Expecting a new bill, after daily meetings with legislators and rate-regulated utilities companies. Early week there should be a new draft, and continue to monitor until there is a final bill we can react to. If there are any concerns around this bill, please get in touch with Seth.
- **H0704 Electrical Code:** New version of the same bill we have seen throughout the legislative session. Main aspect is that it prohibits local governments from requiring an electrical plug for electric vehicles from being installed in new home construction. Reprint of H0662. Can be removed.
- **H0709 Purchasing by Political Subdivisions:** Filed in the office of the clerk, and it will likely sit in the desk of the Speaker. Likely won't move forward this year. Can be removed.
- **S1415 Presidential Preference Primary:** Passed the Senate yesterday on a 31-4-0 vote. To establish a presidential primary in Idaho, but introduces a preferred choice for candidate. Would be in the month of May, and it is inferred that parties can still have their caucus. It is on the way to the House floor.
- **S1420 Solid Waste Disposal Sites (OPPOSITION):** Just introduced yesterday. Sponsored by Senator Schroder, and the language has been shared. Idea is that the board of county commissioners or other public authority doesn't use their power to limit the private sector from competing on solid waste sites. It also establishes that if there is a new site, that the public will be given notice. There appears to be conflictions between this bill's language and a particular U.S. Supreme Court decision in 2007. Desire for much needed clarity on what this bill actually implies.

Minidoka Commissioner Wayne Schenk motioned to oppose S1420. Nez-Perce Commissioner Doug Zenner seconded. Motion passed.

Open Discussion

- Valley County also has some strong concerns with S1258 Right-of-Way bill. Encouragement to share concerns with Joe Palmer and Senator Herndon, to highlight that Owyhee County is not the only county to share concerns about S1258.
- Future meetings will likely be on Zoom from here on out, but in-person meetings could still be a possibility depending upon legislation that is introduced. Weekly emails will specify just in case there are changes.

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>	
Luke Omodt <i>District 1: Bonner Commissioner</i>	Mark Bair <i>District 5: Bingham Commissioner</i>	Annette Dygert <i>LACT: Owyhee Treasurer</i>	
Tom Lamar <i>District 2: Latah Commissioner</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>	Kieran Donahue <i>ISA: Canyon Sheriff</i>	
Wayne Schenk <i>District 4: Minidoka Commissioner</i>	Doug Zenner <i>LACC: Nez Perce Commissioner</i>	Scott Carver <i>ISACC: Valley Coroner</i>	
	Kim Keeley <i>IACRC: Teton Clerk</i>		

ALTERNATES

Phil Lampert <i>District 1: Benewah Commissioner</i>	Donavan Harrington <i>District 5: Bingham Assessor</i>	Tracie Lloyd <i>LACT: Canyon Treasurer</i>
Justin McCleod <i>District 2: Lewis Commissioner</i>	Shayne Young <i>District 6: Jefferson Commissioner</i>	Vacant <i>IPAA:</i>
Zachary Brooks <i>District 3: Canyon Assessor</i>	Josh Dison <i>IACA: Elmore Assessor</i>	Andy Creech <i>ISA: Payette Sheriff</i>
Ben Crouch <i>District 4: Jerome Commissioner</i>	Angie Barkell <i>IACRC: Owyhee Clerk</i>	Pam Garlock <i>ISACC: Boise Coroner</i>

*More attendees listed below

IAC Staff

Seth Grigg

Sara Westbrook

Kelli Brassfield

Chase Christensen

More

Lorna Jorgensen