**Idaho Association of Counties**

**Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes**

IAC Washington Office, Conference Call| 700 W. Washington St., Boise, Idaho | April 10, 2018| **10:00 am**

**Call In: 208-717-1950**

Members Present:

Chair: Chris Goetz, Clearwater Sheriff

Vice-Chair: Pat Vaughan, Latah Assessor

IACA: Justin Baldwin, Gooding Assessor

IACRC: Carrie Bird, Clearwater Clerk

IACT: Donna Peterson, Payette Treasurer

IACT Alt.: Tracie Lloyd

ISA Alt.: Vaughn Killeen, ISA Executive Director

District 1: Dan Dinning, Boundary Commissioner

District 3: Gordon Cruickshank, Valley Commissioner

District 5: Craig Rowland, Bingham Sheriff

District 6: Abbie Mace, Fremont Clerk

Members Not Present:

IACC: Terry Kramer, Twin Falls Commissioner

IPAA: Bryan Taylor, Canyon Prosecutor

IPAA Alt.: Holly Koole, Ada Deputy Prosecutor

ISA: Kieran Donahue, Canyon Sheriff

ISACC: Dotti Owens, Ada Coroner

ISACC Alt.: Pam Garlock, Boise Coroner

District 1 Alt.: Phil Lampert, Benewah Commissioner

District 2:

District 2 Alt.:

District 3 Alt.: Vicky McIntyre, Ada Treasurer

District 4: Helen Edwards, Gooding Commissioner

District 4 Alt.: Larry Schoen, Blaine Commissioner

District 5 Alt.: Ladd Carter, Bingham Commissioner

District 6 Alt.: Shelly Shaffer, Butte Clerk

Guests:

Seth Grigg, Executive Director, Idaho Association of Counties

Kelli Brassfield, Idaho Association of Counties

Kristin Cundiff, Idaho Association of Counties

Mike Kane, Idaho Sheriff’s Association

Lorna Jorgensen, Ada County

Phil McGrane, Ada County

10:30 am **I.** **Call to order** - Chair Chris Goetz

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of March 9, 2018 Minutes.

***Gordon Cruickshank made a motion to approve the minutes from March 9, 2018. Donna Peterson seconded. Motion passed.***

10:35 am **II. IAC Package (Update)**

1. Justice Levy #14 – [H0555](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2018/legislation/H0555.pdf)
   * Increase levy from .02% to .025%

Seth Grigg mentioned that H555 was moved out of the House Revenue and Taxation committee but Rep. Moyle actively lobbied against it. Seth also mentioned that the membership wants to move forward again next year, there is a great need to really work on it over the interim and educate legislators on how this affects the counties. A good strategy needs to be developed on this as well as public defense.

1. Records Retention for LE #15 – [H0499](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2018/legislation/H0499.pdf)
   * Update required retention timeframes
2. Delinquent Tax Payments #11 – [S1230](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2018/legislation/S1230.pdf)
   * Clean up requirement payment of delinquent taxes
3. Electronic Notice #1 – [H0420](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2018/legislation/H0420.pdf)
   * Option to post public notices on county websites

Seth Grigg mentioned that H420 was one of the biggest up hill battles this session. Rep. Nate brought this proposal last year and wasn’t even able to get a print hearing on it. There was a commitment made that it would get printed this year. The hearing was fairly productive; however, it still failed in committee on a 6-8 vote. If the membership wants to continue with this next year, some changes will need to be made. H611 will help even though there were some concerns about it. It did require online notices in addition to the print notice. It is a good start and will help make others feel more comfortable with moving forward.

1. Interest for Supplemental and Missed Property Rolls #10 - [S1231](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2018/legislation/S1231.pdf)
   * Apply interest to sup. and missed property rolls the same as all other taxes
2. Early Voting Plan #5 - [S1229](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2018/legislation/S1229.pdf)
   * Allow for annual plans unless plan is modified
3. Election Age #6 – [S1228](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2018/legislation/S1228.pdf)
   * Reduce student poll worker age from 17 to 16
4. Federal Lands – Conservation #13
   * Provides a yearly payment of a fee in lieu of taxes for property that is accepted as a donation

10:45 am **III. Legislative Wrap-up**

Chris Goetz stated that the legislative committee should set the priorities at the end of the annual conference, that way progress can be made sooner. Donna Peterson agreed that it would be great because the ideas are still fresh in our minds. Seth Grigg mentioned that it would also give the other members the opportunity to sit in on that meeting.

Chris Goetz asked for everyone to give feedback from this year’s process through session. Chris started with stating he was frustrated with the speed at which the legislature moved bills.

Pat Vaughn stated that he appreciated the work that IAC staff did. He mentioned there was good communication and meetings were on point. Pat pointed out that ideas need to be coordinated with and receptive with leadership because there are so many bills that come out that affect counties.

Justin Baldwin really appreciated having the legislative committee schedule earlier. He felt like he was able to participate better because he could plan better. Justin also mentioned that he is frustrated with the perception at the legislature that counties are moneygrubbers. It is unknown on how to fix it but it is something counties need to be continually working on. Seth Grigg noticed the perception as well. Legislators publicly criticized counties this year. IAC staff wants to hold meetings with committees to explain what counties do and how they function. Hopefully this will help with the perception.

Carrie Bird was disappointed that the legislators didn’t listen. Legislators didn’t take into consideration the implications of how bills will affect those that are actually on the ground. Carrie suggested sending out the resolution template out to everyone so they can start earlier.

Donna Peterson mentioned that the legislative alerts were amazing. The elected officials stated that they heard from counties because they received the alerts. Donna suggested sending the legislative alerts out to the whole membership so they are better informed. It was also suggested inviting legislators to district meetings, if they aren’t already being invited. This will give legislators and county elected a chance to get to know each other.

Tracie Lloyd agreed with other and the perception of legislators needs to be worked on. Tracie also thanked Seth Grigg and IAC staff for their good work.

Vaughn Killeen stated that he read a good article about the legislature going further to the right. Vaughn mentioned that if that happens it could become more difficult to pass bills.

Dan Dinning was impressed with how the IAC staff transitioned. Dan also liked the action alerts. Legislators in Dan’s district felt they were helpful. The alerts were helpful for explaining the unintended consequences. There is a culture at the legislature that the counties are not respected. Dan suggested that engaging with the new legislators before they are in office too deep could help the culture. Dan stated that changes start with the counties, not IAC staff.

Gordon Cruickshank’s impression is that the legislators feel that counties waste money; they don’t respect us, and don’t bring us to the table and don’t listen when we speak. Gordon was shocked that with the trespass bill one legislator stated that if there were something wrong with the bill, the senate would fix it. This is not why they are elected. Counties will have a lot of new counties officials and they will need to be mentored.

Craig Rowland mentioned that this is my first time on the legislative committee. Craig thanked Seth for all his hard work on the justice levy and Mike Kane on the trespass bill. Craig mentioned that the governor debate in his area showed a discussion about the trespass and that things need to be addressed when they are in the legislature instead of later.

Abbie Mace said she appreciates IAC staff and the leadership of Seth Grigg. Counties are headed in the right direction and there can be some repair done of the damages from the past. Abbie mentioned that she would love to see the legislature get a budget and levy training so they truly understand how the counties work.

Lorna Jorgensen wanted to thank IAC, and especially Seth Grigg, for allowing Ada County to participate in meetings even though Ada County isn’t a member. Lorna feels that there was great collaboration this year.

Phil McGrane mentioned that each member should watch the legislative leadership races also. There could be a good shuffle in leadership. Phil heard from a lot of legislators that said that they knew that some bills would be more work but they believed the clerks could handle it.

Mike Kane found this session interesting. Mike feels that ideology always trumps good government and there haven’t been any consequences for bad legislation, except at the county level. The IFF has established a platform and the legislators understand exactly where they stand. It might be a good idea to create some sort of platform.

Kristin Cundiff mentioned that IAC is going to continue to work on communication. County priorities could get more media attention.

Seth Grigg mentioned that he appreciated the engagement of the members. Bills being presented by members help bring the engagement to the legislature. IAC will continue to make changes with media. Email is becoming a less affective tool to communicate with legislators. Other outreach options are being explored

IAC will work to do a better job of publishing the platforms from our committees. IAC staff will be more proactive in the interim. There will be challenges with the election but we will be able to work with it. At the next board meeting, there will be discussions about staff and there may be some changes. Seth also mentioned he will work with Ada County to bring them back into the association.   
  
Gordon Cruickshank thanked everyone that helped with SRS and PILT.

11:00 am I**V.** **Adjourn**

***Donna Peterson made a motion to adjourn. Abbie Mace seconded. Motion carried.***