

IAC Legislative Committee

February 19, 2020 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

700 Washington | Boise, ID | Main Conference Room

Call-in Number 208-717-1950

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
IPAA: Bryan Taylor, Canyon Prosecutor
ISACC: Lucky Bourn, Minidoka Coroner

District 1: Dan Dinning, Boundary
Commissioner
District 2: James Zehner, Idaho Assessor
District 3: Tom Dale, Canyon Commissioner
District 4: Don Hall, Twin Falls Commissioner
District 5: Craig Rowland, Bingham Sheriff
District 6: Brent Mendenhall, Madison
Commissioner

The following guests were present:

Seth Grigg, IAC
Sara Westbrook, IAC
Kelli Brassfield, IAC
Tim Hibbard, IAC
Kristin Cundiff, IAC

Annette Dygert, Owyhee Treasurer
Angie Barkell, Owyhee Clerk
Lorna Jorgensen, Ada Prosecutor's Office
Phil McGrane, Ada Clerk

Minutes Approval (Action Item)

Payette County Treasurer Donna Peterson moved to approve the February 12, 2020 meeting minutes. Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IAC Initiated Legislation Update

- [H0429](#) Public Defense
 - Will be voted on today in the House Jud & Rules committee. Will likely go to the amending order to fix an issue with the emergency clause in the current draft. The PDC expressed strong concerns about it.
- [H0430](#) Whistleblower Act
 - Full hearing is scheduled for the 25th of February.

- [H0463](#) Juvenile Pretrial Release/Odyssey Fees
 - Full hearing is scheduled for the 26th of February.
- [S1268](#) Write-in Deadline
 - The amendment to adopt the changes was made. It will be on the third reading calendar tomorrow. Should pass the Senate by the end of the week.
- [S1269](#) Security of Ballots
 - The Senate passed the bill unanimously. It is now in House State Affairs.
- [S1306](#) Uncontested City Elections
 - Sits on the third reading calendar. Should be voted on today.
- [S1339](#) Clerk on Magistrate Commission
 - Should be in the House by the end of the week. Will likely be held for a while due to the volume of bills in the House Jud & Rules committee.

New Business

- [H0495](#) (Monitoring) Assessment of Agriculture Land
 - Introduced on Monday. Would change the market value of the land to its use. This may be unconstitutional. Includes language that would take away power from the Senate. Is being pushed by the Farm Bureau likely because they want to do away with the perception that Ag has a property tax exemption. Will continue to work with the Farm Bureau. Will work with the Senate to point out the language that takes away power from the Senate.
- [H0513](#) (Support) Economic Reserve Account
 - This bill is another iteration of a previously introduced bill. Would take money from the budget stabilization to create the Economic Reserve Fund. The interest would be used to fund transportation projects for local governments through the highway distribution account. May be modified in the future. IAC recommends supporting the bill.
 - *Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall moved to support House Bill 513. Nez Perce County Commissioner Doug Zenner seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
- [H0518](#) (Monitoring) Property Tax Notices
 - Would require the expiration date of the bond to be printed with any bond. Also would require on all tax notices a comparison of property taxes from the previous year under penalty of losing their revenue sharing money. All of this information is already on county websites. May be as simple as putting a link to the website.
- [S1309](#) (Support) Emergency Absentee Ballots
 - Would require election staff to deliver absentee ballots to individuals who have been hospitalized on the day of the election. There is a question as to if there is a physical delivery requirement. Some individuals that are hospitalized are hospitalized out of state or in other hospitals too far to physically deliver ballots. IAC will work to clarify.
 - *Madison County Commissioner Brent Mendenhall moved to support Senate Bill 1309 contingent on clarification of delivery issues. Bingham County Sheriff Craig Rowland seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
- [S1310](#) (Support) Recall Elections
 - Would correct an issue to require that the officer in charge of a recall election is not the officer being recalled.
 - *Payette County Treasurer Donna Peterson moved to support Senate Bill 1310. Bingham County Sheriff Craig Rowland seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
- [S1338](#) (Monitoring) Public Records Exemptions
 - Would exempt records containing individual's personal information. There is a question as to the intent of the bill whether or not it is to exempt the entire record, or if the personal information is to be redacted. IAC to seek clarification.

- [HJR005](#) (Monitoring) Taxation of Public Property
 - Would allow for the taxation of public property by private lease holders, not including federal lands. Revenues from taxation would be designated for property tax relief. Passed the Revenue and Taxation Committee. Would require a constitutional amendment. IAC to gather information.

Other Business

- [H0446](#) (Support) Quality Based Selection (QBS)
 - This bill would allow counties to take cost into consideration when evaluating perspective candidates for procuring the services of professionals.
 - *Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall moved to support House Bill 446. Madison County Commissioner Brent Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
- [H0450](#) (Neutral) Planning and Zoning Boards
 - This bill would give the county or city the option of considering planning and zoning amendments themselves without first sending it to the planning and zoning commission. The American Planning Association legislative committee is opposed to this legislation. The committee expressed concerns about the legislation. Some expressed the desire to let the issue be handled at the local level.
 - *Boundary County Commissioner Dan Dinning moved to take a neutral position on House Bill 450. Canyon County Commissioner Tom Dale seconded the motion. The motion carried.*
- [H0409](#) (Oppose) Property Tax Budget Freeze
 - House Bill 409 passed the House Revenue and Taxation committee with a do pass recommendation. It is being held on the third reading calendar until February 20th. It is unlikely that the bill will proceed. What is concerning is what comes next.
- Temporary Cap on Property Tax Budget Increases (4%, 5%, or 1% + new construction)
 - Also being discussed a 4 or 5% cap that counties could take, or they could take 1% plus new construction. Though that is unlikely at this point. There will likely be a new bill introduced that will institute a temporary budget cap. A 4% hard cap (or new construction) seems to be popular in the House. This temporary cap would be for 2 to 3 years while the interim committee tries to find a permanent solution.
 - The interim committee may have 1 or 2 county representatives. It is not clear if it/they will have to be an elected official, or may be represented by IAC. The individual/s who are appointed need to have a perspective that isn't purely urban or rural, and need to be eloquent at getting the county perspective across to the committee. The committee may travel.
 - A concern was raised that if IAC negotiates for a temporary cap, it might become permanent. In that case, it might be more strategic to take the freeze.
- Medicaid Expansion
 - IAC expects a Medicaid expansion bill to be introduced on Thursday that will recommend diverting approximately \$9 million out of revenue sharing off the top and won't be based off of enrollment of Medicaid. There will likely be another 1 or 2 more proposals on Medicaid expansion before the session is over.

Owyhee County Treasurer Annette Dygert moved to adjourn the committee meeting at 12:55 pm. Idaho County Assessor James Zebner 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

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