

## IAC Legislative Committee

February 26, 2020 | 10:00 am –12:00 pm

Conference Call 208-717-1950

### MEETING MINUTES

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#### 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: Tracie Lloyd, Canyon Treasurer  
ISACC: Lucky Bourn, Minidoka Coroner

District 1: Dan Dinning, Boundary  
Commissioner  
District 2: James Zehner, Idaho Assessor  
District 3: Tom Dale, Canyon Commissioner  
District 6: Brent Mendenhall, Madison  
Commissioner

The following guests were present:

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

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

#### Minutes Approval (Action Item)

*Idaho County Assessor James Zehner moved to approve the February 19, 2020 meeting minutes. Madison County Commissioner Brent Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

#### Legislative Priority Update

- [H0429](#) Public Defense
  - On General Orders for potential amendments. The emergency clause was drafted erroneously. Support is mixed. The amendment should be made today. Should be voted on sometime next week on the House floor.
- [H0430](#) Whistleblower Act
  - A new draft will be heard in Ways and Means tomorrow.
- [H0463](#) Juvenile Pretrial Release/Odyssey Fees
  - Had a full hearing yesterday afternoon. There were no questions except for a statute reference.

- [S1268](#) Write-in Deadline
  - Passed Senate floor and is now in House State Affairs.
- [S1269](#) Security of Ballots
  - Passed House State Affairs yesterday morning. House floor to vote soon.
- [S1306](#) Uncontested City Elections
  - Passed House State Affairs yesterday morning. House floor to vote soon.
- [S1339](#) Clerk on Magistrate Commission
  - Passed Senate. Tentatively scheduled for hearing in House Judiciary & Rules next Tuesday.

#### **New Business**

- [H0521](#) (Monitoring) Taxation of Data Centers
  - Will provide an exemption for personal property for new data centers in Idaho. There is an issue that could lead to the entire property being exempt given the current language. IAC will follow up with the bill sponsor to address the issue.
- [H0533](#) (Monitoring) Medicaid Expansion, County Share
  - This bill requires the least dollar amount from counties than any other bill introduced or what has been recommended. Funds would be diverted away off the top of Revenue Sharing. Amends Charity levy to broaden it be used for any justice related expense. Would repeal the county indigent program after 6 months from signing. When the state receives the IMD waiver, counties would no longer be obligated to pay for involuntary commitments for individuals below 138% of the federal poverty level. The CAT program would remain for 12 months beyond the repeal of the county indigent programs and then go into suspension.
  - There is an issue that this bill severs the criteria that tells the court who is responsible for involuntary commitments. IAC will follow up with the bill sponsor to address this issue.
- [H0553](#) (Monitoring) Taxation of Forest Land
  - Passed out of House Revenue & Taxation this morning and is set to be voted on this afternoon. Is on the fast track. Updates process through which timber land will be valued to an indexed model (5-year stumpage value). IAC recommends supporting the bill. The committee elected not to take a position.

#### **Other Business**

- [H0409](#) (Oppose) Property Tax Budget Freeze
  - Passed House yesterday. The expectation is the Senate will amend the bill. What the amendment will look like is not known. The most popular option is 1% or new construction. A 3% or 4% hard cap are also gaining traction. The interim committee will likely last 3 years. Counties should prepare for a fundamental shift in how they levy property taxes. The current model is likely to become a relic of the past. IAC urges its members to continue to work with their Senators to urge them to vote no on House Bill 409.
- [H0495](#) (Monitoring) Assessment of Agricultural Land
  - This bill was pulled and then reintroduced today. Does not have a bill number yet. It will go straight to the House floor for a vote and then over to the Senate. Brad Wills: a Twin Falls legislator made a request for an AG opinion that should be made available next week.
- [H0518](#) (Monitoring) Property Tax Notices
  - On the House floor awaiting a vote. IAC spoke with the sponsor, and is willing to make amendments. Amendments likely to be made on the Senate side. Would likely add a page to the tax bill. The programming cost to the Tax Commission would be about \$16,000.

- Would create more work for the Treasurers. Sponsor was open to having a website link on the tax notice in lieu of the changes proposed but did not commit to it.
- [H0325](#) (Monitoring) Transportation
    - Passed the House. Was given a hearing in the Senate yesterday and sent to the amending order to add locals on a 60/40 split with the 2% rather than just 1%. Hopefully the House accepts the amendment.

*Canyon County Treasurer Tracie Lloyd moved to adjourn the committee meeting at 11:18 pm. Payette County Treasurer Donna Peterson seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

The meeting was adjourned.

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