

IAC Legislative Committee

October 21, 2020 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

[Zoom Meeting](#)

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
IACC: Doug Zenner, Nez Perce Commissioner
IACRC: Carrie Bird, Clearwater Clerk
IACT: Annette Dygert, Owyhee Treasurer
IPAA: Bryan Taylor, Canyon Prosecutor

ISA: Kieran Donahue, Canyon Sheriff
District 2: James Zehner, Idaho Assessor
District 3: Tom Dale, Canyon Commissioner
District 4: Don Hall, Twin Falls Commissioner
District 6: Brent Mendenhall, Madison
Commissioner

The following guests were present:

Seth Grigg, IAC
Sara Westbrook, IAC
Kelli Brassfield, IAC
Tim Hibbard, IAC
Tracie Lloyd, Canyon Treasurer
Dotti Owens, Ada Coroner

Angie Barkell, Owyhee Clerk
Vaughn Killeen, ISA
Lorna Jorgensen, Ada Prosecutor's Office
Holly Rebholtz, IPAA
Murphy Olmstead

Minutes Approval (Action Item)

Nez Perce County Commissioner Doug Zenner moved to approve the August 26, 2020 meeting minutes. Madison County Commissioner Brent Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion Items

- State Budget Update
 - In the previous and current state fiscal years the Governor has issued a budget holdback of 2% and 5% respectively. State is on track to have over \$500 million budget surplus this coming year. About \$300 million is one-time money. Most state revenues are very strong. Income tax collections are still uncertain. Online sales tax dollars designated to tax relief are coming in at about \$10 million a month which should reach about \$200 million.
- Property Tax
 - There are several circuit breaker proposals. Means testing for the circuit breaker was proposed. Increasing the homeowners exemption to \$125,000 and indexing it was also discussed.

- Offering impact fees to schools could provide revenue to offset the needs for school bonds that could provide relief to property owners.
- Most of the time was centered on the three following proposals:
 - Ordinance authority for cities and counties. This would eliminate the authority of cities and counties from citing as a misdemeanor. Misdemeanors would solely be handed down from the state. This is motivated as a means to reduce the cost of providing public defenders. The general consensus of the committee is that this is not worth it considering what it would cost in giving up local control.
 - Creation of an oversight committee for uniform accounting for local governments and entities. This is the one item that will likely have consensus from the interim committee to advance and move forward. The committee would be comprised of three House Members, three Senators and the State Controller. It could appoint advisory members from the public, including local elected officials.
 - Limitation on property tax budgets. There were several proposals that would limit local budget increases in the last legislative session. This committee has only contemplated this one. This proposal would limit local budgets to a maximum of 5% each year. Local budgets could grow at the CPI rate plus new construction up to 5% total. There is a provision that would allow local governments to get a voter approved increase above the CPI rate. This would hurt both small and large counties in different ways.
 - Medicaid Expansion
 - The legislature is likely to bring back legislation that would require local governments to pay a portion of Medicaid expansion. Would counties prefer to take out of their base budget the amount they have been spending on medical indigency? This would be the only way to provide property tax relief for tax payers.
 - Health Districts
 - The authority of the Governor as it relates to pandemics and health districts will come under scrutiny this upcoming session. Whether health district trustees be appointed or elected will also likely come up.
 - Transportation Funding
 - There will likely be opportunity for transportation funding revenue enhancement. IAC has a meeting with the Governor's office next week to discuss what the Governor's plan is for transportation funding. The Transportation Steering Committee will need to be convened to discuss options.
 - Imagine Idaho is launching at the end of the week. They have brought together stakeholders to educate and lobby for more federal dollars to Idaho, and locally to allow locals to provide infrastructure for broadband.
 - Legislative Resolution JPS-01 Odyssey Fees
 - Last year IAC ran a bill that allowed counties to run misdemeanor probation fees through Odyssey. After the bill passed, it was apparent the bill didn't accomplish everything that was necessary. This bill would clean up the language to allow counties to collect all of the fees.

Canyon County Commissioner Tom Dale moved to adjourn the committee meeting at 11:51 am. Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall 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