

IAC Legislative Committee

January 27, 2021 | 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
IACA: Brad Wills, Twin Falls Assessor
IACC: Doug Zenner, Nez Perce Commissioner
IACT: Annette Dygert, Owyhee Treasurer
IPAA: Danny Clark, Bonneville Prosecutor
ISA: Kieran Donahue, Canyon Sheriff
ISACC: Scott Carver, Valley Coroner

District 2: Justin McLeod, Lewis Commissioner
District 3: Phil McGrane, Ada Clerk
District 4: Don Hall, Twin Falls Commissioner
District 5: Terrel Tovey, Bannock
Commissioner
District 6: Brent Mendenhall, Madison
Commissioner

The following guests were present:

Seth Grigg, IAC
Sara Westbrook, IAC
Kelli Brassfield, IAC
Tim Hibbard, IAC
Angie Barkell, Owyhee Clerk
Sherry Maupin, Valley Commissioner
Jessica Lewis, Bingham Commissioner

Chris Goetz, Clearwater Sheriff
Jack Johnson, Twin Falls Commissioner
Dotti Owens, Ada Coroner
Kathie LaFortune, Latah Commissioner
Craig Rowland, Bingham Sheriff
Lorna Jorgensen, Ada Prosecutor's Office
Holly Rebholtz, IPAA
Murphy Olmstead, ISA

Minutes Approval (Action Item)

Owyhee County Treasurer Annette Dygert moved to amend the January 20, 2021 minutes to include that she was present at the meeting and then to approve the amended January 20, 2021 meeting minutes. Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion Items

- [SJR101](#) Psychoactive drugs; *Senator C. Scott Grow*
 - Idaho has watched as nationwide drug use has become normalized, and in particular Idaho's neighboring states. Idaho (and specifically district 14 which Senator Grow represents) has seen

an influx of out of state “refugees” who have come from other states with unfavorable policies that relate to families, many of which have admonished to not let Idaho become what their states have become.

- Oregon recently decriminalized its hard drugs like heroin and cocaine, so to be proactive, Idaho is seeking to prevent similar actions from happening. It was determined that a constitutional amendment would be the best way to do that. There are already 133 amendments to the constitution.
- This amendment is supported by medical associations, hospital association, prosecuting attorney association, sheriffs’ association, chiefs of police association, etc.
- SJR101 would create a constitutional amendment that would prevent currently illegal psychoactive drugs from becoming legal without a repeal of the constitutional amendment.
- It would require 2/3rd of each chamber of the legislature and then go to the people for a vote requiring fifty percent plus one of the people to pass.

Canyon County Sheriff Kieran Donabue moved to support Senate Joint Resolution 101. Lewis County Commissioner Justin McLeod seconded the motion. The motion carried with one objection (Bannock County Commissioner Terrell Tovey).

Let the record reflect that Canyon County Sheriff Kieran Donabue voted yes to support Senate Joint Resolution 101. Let the record reflect that Bonneville County Prosecutor Daniel Clark voted yes to support Senate Joint Resolution 101.

- [H0008](#) Bond, levy, ballot disclosures
 - The bill by Representative Nate would limit what could be placed on the ballot in regard to a bond or levy question to only the amount of increase the item would cause. (Districts would not be able to, for example, explain that the levy would simply be replacing an expiring levy, so taxes wouldn’t be increased).
 - It was sent to the amending order.
- [H0014](#) Municipalities, bankruptcy
 - This is a bill IAC wants to circulate with the prosecuting attorneys. The law would repeal some existing statutes and references new federal policy regarding bankruptcy regulations that would govern how a municipality (counties, for example) could file for bankruptcy.
 - There haven’t really been any cases of this in Idaho. 2010 with Boise county came the closest.
 - More information to follow.
- [H0015](#) Property taxes
 - This bill would move up the date for assessment notices from the 4th Monday in November to the 3rd Monday. This is being brought by the State Tax Commission because the 4th Monday is the due date for any appeals.
- [H0030](#) Liquor account, POST fund
 - This bill would take roughly \$200,000 from the Liquor Fund to help fund POST. The purpose is to only keep the status quo of what POST needs to operate now.
 - IAC ran an analysis to determine the fiscal impact to each county and sent it to the committee.
 - The committee expressed some trepidation because of a lack of efficiency from POST and the availability to provide training through local colleges. However, it was noted that not all counties have that same access.
 - AIC voted to oppose the legislation.

Nez Perce County Commissioner Doug Zenner moved to support House Bill 30. Canyon County Sheriff Kieran Donabue seconded the motion. The motion carried with two objections (Ada County Clerk Phil McGrane & Payette County Treasurer Donna Peterson).

Let the record reflect that Canyon County Sheriff Kieran Donabue voted yes to support House Bill 30.

- [H0031](#) State police, forensic lab
 - The discussion was tabled.

Bannock County Prosecutor Daniel Clark moved to table discussion on House Bill 31 until a later date. Payette County Treasurer Donna Peterson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- [H0033](#) District boards of health
 - This bill, sponsored by representative Megan Blanksma, would provide that whenever there is a violation to an order made by the health district it would be an infraction of \$50 (first two violations, \$300 for the third and become a misdemeanor), rather than a misdemeanor out of the gate.
 - The biggest change the bill would make is that it would give the board of county commissioners the authority to hear appeals cases from any individual who has been adversely affected by a decision from the health district and either sustain the the health district's decision, or overturn it.
 - The way the bill is currently drafted it would include any decision. However, the intent is likely to only be applicable to county-wide orders such as county-wide mask mandates.

Canyon County Sheriff Kieran Donabue moved to oppose House Bill 33. Madison County Commissioner Brent Mendenhall seconded the motion. The motion carried with two objections (Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall & Bannock County Commissioner Terrell Tovey).

- [H0034](#) Health ordinances, city limits
 - This bill's intent is to clarify a provision in municipal code (that currently states if a mayor issues a public health order, the order extends 5-miles outside of city limits) to limit city authority to only city limits.

Bannock County Commissioner Terrell Tovey moved to support House Bill 34. Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- [S1021](#) Taxing district budgets
 - This bill is scheduled for a hearing Thursday afternoon.
 - It would establish budget caps in the following ways:
 - If your district is above 2% new construction growth, your budget growth will be based on a CPI increase plus new construction up to 4% total (including any forgone taken).
 - If your district is below 2% new construction growth, you can either take the option above, or take a 3% cap.
 - The bill does not specify which CPI it would use.
 - IAC did a fiscal impact analysis of this bill and shared it with the committee.
 - The committee discussed alternative budget caps it could potentially live with including:

- Option 1: An annual budget cap of 5% including the 3% and new construction. This option would meet the needs of rural counties.
- Option 2: An annual budget cap of a base index increase (perhaps CPI-U) plus new construction. In this scenario, the base budget increase would be reduced, but a county could budget the full new construction amount available. This would meet the needs of growing counties while providing modest caps on budget increases.
- The committee also discussed potentially allowing for forgone to be rolled off after a certain number of years to keep forgone balances from ballooning.

Lewis County Commissioner Justin McLeod moved to oppose Senate Bill 1021. Bannock County Commissioner Terrell Tovey seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall moved to table discussion on Senate Bills 1031 & 1037, and Budget Transparency until a later date. Nez Perce County Commissioner Doug Zenner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Bannock County Commissioner Terrell Tovey moved to adjourn the committee meeting at 12:44 pm. Nez Perce County Commissioner Doug Zenner 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

Annette Dygert
LACT: Onyhee Treasurer

Scott Carver
ISACC: Valley Coroner

Phil McGrane
District 3: Ada Clerk

Doug Zenner
LACC: Nez Perce Commissioner

Danny Clark
IPAA: Bonneville 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

Justin McLeod
District 2: Lewis Commissioner

Terrel Tovey
District 5: Bannock Commissioner