

IAC Legislative Committee

January 19, 2022 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

700 W. Washington Street

Boise, ID 83702

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88937813369?pwd=OUJjVDFKQnZvLzk3b1A3Nkxsc2lPQT09>

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order | *Chair Justin Baldwin*

The following committee members were present:

Chair: Justin Baldwin, Gooding Assessor
Vice Chair: Don Hall, Twin Falls Commissioner
IACA: Josh Dison, Elmore Falls Assessor
IACC: Doug Zenner, Nez Perce Commissioner
IACRC: Angie Barkell, Owyhee Clerk
IACT: Annette Dygert, Owyhee Treasurer
IPPA:
ISA: Keiran Donahue, Canyon Sheriff

ISACC: Scott Carver, Valley Coroner
District 1:
District 2: Kathie LaFortune, Latah Commissioner
District 3: Phil McGrane, Ada Clerk
District 4: Wayne Schenk, Minidoka 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 D Brassfield, IAC
Kristin Cundiff, IAC
Brad Wills, Twin Falls Commissioner

Lorna Jorgensen, Ada Prosecutor
John David Davidson, Blaine Treasurer
Sherry Maupin, Valley Commissioner
Kim Keely, Teton Clerk
Dotti Owens, Ada Coroner

Twin Falls County Commissioner Terrel Tovey moved to approve the December 8th, meeting minutes; Nez Perce County Commissioner Doug Zenner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Update on IAC Priority Legislation

- IGA-01: Affordable housing
Governor's office is set to unveil a proposal next week. The framework will create a trust fund structured for workforce housing. There should be an appropriation with it. It is consistent with what we approved at our conference.

- IGA-04: Tax on vape products
Staff has been meeting with a stakeholder group including legislators, and have provided the language to them. There appears to be a path in the House. Vape products would be taxed at the same as other tobacco products, 5%. Funding would go to... Review draft.

Public health didn't receive Millennium Funds? Will this be a back fill? It could be used for that. This could be a significant funding source for them.

- IGA-05: Property tax relief fund
Biggest hurdle is that local option will only be allowed if there is an amendment to the constitution. A constitutional amendment is very tough to get done.
- JPS-02: Regional/state based public defense system
There are two proposals. One proposal restructures the PDC to add in six county commissioners and additional public defenders. Rep. Cheney doesn't feel that we need to add more people to the commission, he feels we need a state-based system. The second proposal creates a regional public defense system. There is more interest on the regional system. Counties are not obligated to participate. We are looking at trying to find the funding for this. Some legislators want the funds to only go to the counties that participate in the regional model and some want it to go to all counties regardless.

Would the public defenders be state employees? They would not be employees of the county. The question is whether or not they would be state employees or employees of the regional board. How would we transition to the regional board? We don't have a trigger date yet. There would also need to be a decision at the local level as to whether or not they are going to participate in this new system. It is going to take some time.

Update on IAC Affiliate Legislation

- IGA-02: Court fees paid to state treasurer
The clerk's lobbyist has the language and they have a sponsor.
- IGA-03: Investment of idle county funds
This proposal is still being discussed and the Treasurers will be making a decision as whether or not to move forward soon.
- JPS-03: Coroner notification timelines
The language is being drafted and is almost done. Dotti and Kelli will be meeting with Senator Heider to discuss the issues soon.

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Other Legislation Impacting Counties

- Preemption of local zoning authority over accessory dwelling units (KMF058 Nash)
The cities sent us the draft. This preempts counties from regulating these units. It hasn't been introduced yet. It appears to be an affordable housing issue.
- Five year rolling average property assessments (KMF143 Rice)
This would tax commercial and residential properties on a five-year rolling average, just like ag and timber. There are a few changes that need to be made. We are working towards it being as simple as possible. The average would happen before the homeowners' exemption would be applied.
- Limitation on county leases without a vote (RS29030)
Rep. Skaug and Kingsley sent this to IAC. If counties want to build a courthouse or jail with a lease (annual non-appropriation lease) and it would extend over 5 years, the county would have to go to the people for the vote. There are only a few projects that have done this.
- Involuntary commitment costs (Civil Commitments Final Draft 1_14_22)
Limits county liability for mental health/involuntary holds to transportation to the psych hospitals and court costs.
- Public defense funding (concept: dedicate a percentage of Wayfair to fund public defense)
This is still a work in progress.

Sen. Ricks would like to see more transparency around property that comes off the rolls when it is purchased by exempt entities. How difficult would this be? It wouldn't be so bad as long as we don't have to do it retroactively.

Senator Harris would like to introduce a bill that changes the way Coroners would be able to run for office if they are a funeral director.

The compensation pay rate is going to hurt counties. We aren't able to meet what the state is doing. They need to provide funding or exclude the counties. <https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2022/joint/cec/>

Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall made a motion to adjourn, Latah County Commissioner Doug Zenner seconded. Motion carried.

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MEMBERSHIP

CHAIR

Justin Baldwin
Gooding Assessor

Dan Dinning
District 1: Boundary Commissioner

Justin McLeod
District 2: Lewis Commissioner

Phil McGrane
District 3: Ada Clerk

Wayne Schenk
District 4: Minidoka Commissioner

VICE CHAIR

Don Hall
Twin Falls Commissioner

Annette Dygert
IAC: Owyhee Treasurer

Terrel Tovey
District 5: Bannock Commissioner

Brent Mendenhall
District 6: Madison Commissioner

Josh Dison
IACA: Elmore Assessor

Doug Zenner
IACC: Nez Perce Commissioner

Kieran Donahue
ISA: Canyon Sheriff

Scott Carver
ISACC: Valley Coroner

Angie Barkell
IACRC: Owyhee Clerk

ALTERNATES

Phil Lampert
District 1: Benewah Commissioner

Kathie LaFortune
District 2: Latah Commissioner

Sherry Maupin
District 3: Valley Commissioner

Ben Crouch
District 4: Jerome Commissioner

Jessica Lewis
District 5: Bingham Commissioner

Shayne Young
District 6: Jefferson Commissioner

Brad Wills
IACA: Twin Falls Assessor

IACC:

Kim Keeley
IACRC: Teton Clerk

John David Davidson
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