

IAC Legislative Committee

March 16, 2022 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

[ZOOM LINK](#)

MEETING AGENDA

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: Vic Pearson, Fremont Prosecutor
ISA: Kieran Donahue, Canyon Sheriff

ISACC: Dotti Owens, Ada Coroner
District 1: Dan Dinning, Boundary Commissioner
District 2: Kathie LaFortune, Latah Commissioner
District 3: Phil McGrane, Ada Clerk
District 4: Wayne Shenk, 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
Kim Keely, Teton Clerk

John David Davidson, Blaine Treasurer
Brad Wills, Twin Falls Assessor
Lorna Jorgensen, Ada Prosecutor
Andrew Jenkins, Ada Prosecutor

Call to Order | *Chair Justin Baldwin*

Owyhee County Treasurer Annette Dygert made a motion to approve the minutes from March 9, 2022. Minidoka County Commissioner Wayne Schenk seconded. Motion carried.

Update on IAC Priority Legislation

- [H0735](#) Public defense funding/Indigent Services (Rep. Moyle and Rep. Weber)
Moyle introduced a bill this morning that addresses public defense funding. It is going to be used as leverage for HB735. It was sent to the 2nd reading calendar. It phases in revenue sharing to pay for it. The state would pay counties for the difference until the revenue sharing could fully pay for it. It is pretty similar but it doesn't take it out of the city revenue sharing. It does require the cities to use 50% of their revenue sharing for property tax relief.

HB735 is waiting for a hearing in the Senate. It may be heard tomorrow. Primary opposition is Senator Anthon. He works for a city as an administrator. He believes the bill asks for cities to pay too much. Special purpose districts are also hit for funding and he doesn't believe they should have to pay for public defense. 30% of total case filings are city misdemeanors. There are a few other filings from cities. They are pushing 40% of the public defense filings.

The legislature is starting to feel the pressure of needing to do something on property tax relief, as there hasn't been any movement.

Has there been any discussion about giving counties relief in caseloads as the cases continue to increase now that court rooms are open again? Staff hasn't been included in any conversations and doesn't know if those conversations are happening.

If this falls apart, we may need to see about getting the state to fund public defense for the next two years and have language that states the legislature has to come back and decide on the long-term funding for public defense. The Governor's office is willing to use general funds in the short term but not the long term. The idea would be that the funds would be directly allocated to counties.

- [H0701](#) – Establishes workforce housing fund with sunset clause (Rep. Blanskma) Just passed the Senate Commerce committee and headed to the Senate floor.

Update on IAC Affiliate Legislation

- [H0542](#): Court fees remittance date change Signed by Governor.
- [S1266](#): Coroner notification timelines, Cremation timelines Headed to the Governor.

Other Legislation Impacting Counties (Action)

- [H0565a](#) – Definitions of transient personal property (Rep. Moyle) We were able to get the amendment that will help to minimize the impact on Caribou County.
- [H0575a](#) – Limit County Lease Courthouse/Jails (Rep. Skaug) **OPPOSED** This made it out of the senate committee on a party line vote. There are real challenges with this. May need to rely on the Governor to veto this.
- [H0635](#) – Area of city impact (Rep. Okuniewicz) **OPPOSED** This bill had a hearing last week. They did not make a motion and it will be back in committee this afternoon.

- [S1301](#) – Self-service storage assessment methods (Robert Anderst, Jeremy Pisca)

OPPOSED

The bill passed out of the House Rev and Tax committee and is headed to the House floor.

- [S1362](#) – Delinquent property tax interest rate (Sen. Ricks)

This is still on the 14th order waiting for the amendments. The Treasurers appreciate that Sen. Ricks is trying to help people out with a reduction in the interest rate but there are too many people that are using the county as a bank because the interest rate is lower than the bank. These people wait until the last day to pay their three year's property taxes.

Minidoka County Commissioner Wayne Schenk made a motion to oppose SB1362. Latah County Commissioner Kathie LaFortune seconded. The Treasurers are not all on the same page and differ in their opinions so they don't have an official position. Motion fails.

- [S1379](#) – Procurement services, personal property (Sen. Kelly Anthon)

Increases the minimum thresholds for purchasing personal property from \$50,000 to \$75,000. This does not apply to public works projects.

Bannock County Commissioner Terrel Tovey made a motion to adjourn. Twin Falls County Commissioner Don Hall seconded. Motion carried.

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MEMBERSHIP

CHAIR Justin Baldwin <i>Gooding Assessor</i>		VICE CHAIR Don Hall <i>Twin Falls Commissioner</i>	
Dan Dinning <i>District 1: Boundary Commissioner</i>	Terrel Tovey <i>District 5: Bannock Commissioner</i>	Annette Dygert <i>IAC: Owyhee Treasurer</i>	
Justin McLeod <i>District 2: Lewis Commissioner</i>	Brent Mendenhall <i>District 6: Madison Commissioner</i>	Vic Pearson <i>IPAA: Franklin Prosecutor</i>	
Phil McGrane <i>District 3: Ada Clerk</i>	Josh Dison <i>IACA: Elmore Assessor</i>	Kieran Donahue <i>ISA: Canyon Sheriff</i>	
Wayne Schenk <i>District 4: Minidoka Commissioner</i>	Doug Zenner <i>IACC: Nez Perce Commissioner</i>	Scott Carver <i>ISACC: Valley Coroner</i>	
	Angie Barkell <i>IACRC: Owyhee Clerk</i>		

ALTERNATES

Phil Lampert <i>District 1: Benewah Commissioner</i>	Jessica Lewis <i>District 5: Bingham Commissioner</i>	John David Davidson <i>IAC: Blaine Treasurer</i>	
Kathie LaFortune <i>District 2: Latah Commissioner</i>	Shayne Young <i>District 6: Jefferson Commissioner</i>	<i>IPAA:</i>	
Sherry Maupin <i>District 3: Valley Commissioner</i>	Brad Wills <i>IACA: Twin Falls Assessor</i>	<i>ISA:</i>	
Ben Crouch <i>District 4: Jerome Commissioner</i>	<i>IACC:</i> Kim Keeley <i>IACRC: Teton Clerk</i>	Dotti Owens <i>ISACC: Ada Coroner</i>	