

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - *DRAFT*

IAC District 1 Meeting

January 17th, 2019

Kootenai County Administrative Building

1st Floor / Meeting Rooms 1A & 1B

451 N. Government Way, Coeur d'Alene

Attendees:

Benewah County

Jack Buell, Commissioner
Phil Lampert, Commissioner
Bob Short, Commissioner

Bonner County

Steven Bradshaw, Commissioner
Dan McDonald, Commissioner
Mike Rosedale, Clerk

Boundary County

Wally Cossairt, Commissioner
Dan Dinning, Commissioner
Glenda Poston, Clerk
Sue Larson, Treasurer

Other Attendees

Monica Miller, Shoshone County
Sara Westbrook, IAC Policy Director

Kootenai County

Joe Johns, Chief Deputy Assessor
Steve Matheson, Treasurer
Rich Houser, Assessor
Jennifer Locke, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Laurie Thomas, Chief Deputy Treasurer
Chris Fillios, Commissioner
Leslie Duncan, Commissioner
Ben Wolfinger, Sheriff
Barry McHugh, Prosecuting Attorney
Bill Brooks, Commissioner

Shoshone County

Mike Fitzgerald, Commissioner
John Hansen, Commissioner
Jay Huber, Commissioner
Tami Lewis-Eberhard, Clerk
Jerry White, Assessor
Keisha Oxendine, Prosecuting Attorney
Ben Allen, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Call to Order: IAC District 1 Chairman Mike Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Chairman Fitzgerald initiated roundtable introductions.

Changes to the Agenda. One change to the agenda was proposed: After being introduced by Commissioner Lampert, Chairman Fitzgerald entertained a motion to add a discussion about problems counties are facing with auto insurance and vehicle registration. Sheriff Ben Wolfinger made the motion to approve these changes and Clerk Glenda Poston seconded. The motion carried unanimously, and the item was added to the agenda.

Business

Approval of Minutes – November 8th, 2019

Commissioner Jack Buell entertained a motion to approve the minutes from November 8th, 2019 and Clerk Glenda Poston seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Proof of insurance law. Commissioner Lampert expressed frustration with new legislation that implements a process of assessing fees to those with no auto insurance. Benewah County has been having a difficult time dealing with public's reaction to the process. Commissioner Lampert said he has been working with legislators on potential solutions. Commissioner Duncan said they were suffering the same effects in

Kootenai and that they were also working with legislators. Multiple DMVs are working to educate the public on the new law via pamphlets and handouts. There is a lack of enforcement on the state level due the fact that national insurance companies are not communicating with counties, causing local DMVs to take the brunt of the public blowback. Commissioner McDonald suggested that all counties work on recommendations for resolutions. Chairman Fitzgerald asked Commissioner McDonald if he would be willing to head a subcommittee geared towards problem solving and communications with law makers. Commissioners Duncan and Lampert volunteered to join the subcommittee.

Reports

Legislative Report

Legislative Representative Dan Dinning deferred to Sara Westbrook for the report.

Authorization of travel expenses to Boise for Legislative Committee Meetings. Chairman Fitzgerald entertained a motion to approve using budget funds to cover travel costs for Commissioner Dinning to attend legislative meetings in Boise. Commissioner John Hansen made the motion to approve and Sheriff Ben Wolfinger seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

IAC Report

Clerk Poston delivered the report. She said there was nothing new, but that she would be attending the next meeting in February.

GEM Plan Report

Clerk Poston delivered the report. The group is exploring improvements to certain parts of the GEM Plan.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

Commissioner Fillios gave the Treasurer's report, sharing that the current balance as \$17,669.61. All dues have been paid for fiscal 2020.

Updates

IAC

Sara Westbrook, IAC Policy Director provided the group with updates on matters concerning counties. The Legislative Committee is currently working on the following: Whistleblower Act; Odyssey fees; vehicle titles; IDL/county road agreements.

She also provided information on Medicaid Expansion explaining that the Governor wanted counties to contribute \$8.6m for the plan. The IAC is pushing back on this by proposing alternative sources of funding such as the elimination of the CAT Board. Discussions are ongoing and the Legislative Committee has designated a subcommittee to better address issues. She said that there are legislators willing to listen to counties' ideas. A roundtable discussion about budgeting for revenue shortfall ensued.

Sheriff Wolfinger interjected with a discussion about jail reimbursement. He explained that counties were housing more and more state inmates for increased periods of time, potentially resulting in a "snowball effect" of overcrowding, loss of certification, and loss of ICRIMP privileges. Sheriffs and lawmakers would address the subject at the Governor's meeting next week.

Ms. Westbrook continued her update. She said that the Legislative Committee's focus included altering laws related to uncontested city elections, security of ballots, clarifications to marriage licenses, an endowment transportation bill, and the handheld device restriction ban.

Sheriff Wolfinger continued the dialogue on the handheld device restriction ban saying that, from law enforcement's perspective, many parts needed refining. He went on to list a few other laws and bills affecting counties, specifically sheriff offices. These laws include the Religious Shield Law, a bill for domestic violence, and a Clean Slate bill.

PDC— A representative was not present to provide an update.

Sen. Crapo— A representative was not present to provide an update.

Sen. Risch—A representative was not present to provide an update.

County Updates

Benewah

Representatives were happy to report that they received no complaints about snow plowing.

Bonner

Commissioner McDonald explained that gravel roads are being damaged from snow removal and that the county is looking into resolutions. The county is exploring changes to workman's compensation; savings will come from being self-insured. They are looking at a mandate to implement new software during election time.

Boundary

Clerk Poston stated that the county is working on renovating the National Guard Facility. Commissioner Dinning talked about the recent diesel train wreck and aftermath. On another note, he said there is a lack of voice at the Magistrates Committee meetings and that county representation would create more of an impact.

Kootenai

Commissioner Fillios touched on the recent conviction of John Green. Sheriff Wolfinger said the sheriff's office working with ITD and the Governor's office on a pilot program that uses private vendors for licensing.

Shoshone County

Prosecutor Oxendine said that criminal filings had increased 11.3%; there has been an increase in civil matters and more people wanting to file open meeting law complaints. Commissioner Huber said that by the end of February, Shoshone County's air quality would be back in attainment. Clerk Eberhard said the Elections Conference went well and was well-attended. Commissioner Fitzgerald expressed condolences for those affected by the avalanche at Silver Mountain. Shoshone County is going through some airport management restructuring.

Adjournment. Sheriff Wolfinger made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Clerk Poston seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Fitzgerald adjourned the meeting at 11:30am.