

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - *DRAFT*

IAC District 1 Meeting

November 6th, 2020

Kootenai County Administrative Building

1st Floor / Meeting Rooms 1A & 1B

451 N. Government Way, Coeur d'Alene

Attendees:

Benewah County

Bonner County

DIALED IN:

Jeff Connelly, Commissioner
Dan McDonald, Commissioner
Steve Bradshaw, Commissioner

Boundary County

DIALED IN:

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

Other Attendees

Marc Kilmer, Rep. Fulcher's Office

DIALED IN:

Seth Grigg, IAC Director
Jennifer Rourke, PDC Regional Coordinator
Sara Westbrook, IAC Policy Director
Kelli Brassfield, IAC Policy Analyst
Kristen Cundiff, IAC Director of Operations

Kootenai County

Bill Brooks, Commissioneer
Chris Fillios, Commissioner
Leslie Duncan, Commissioner
Barry McHugh, Prosecuting Attorney
Steve Matheson, Treasurer

Shoshone County

Mike Fitzgerald, Commissioner
Monica Miller (minutes)

DIALED IN:

John Hansen, Commissioner
Jerry White, Assessor

Call to Order: Chairman Mike Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Mike Fitzgerald initiated introductions.

Changes to the Agenda. There were two changes/corrections made to the agenda: Minutes being approved would be July, not January Minutes; Jennifer Rourke would be providing an update after the IAC Director's presentation. Glenda Poston made a motion to approve the proposed changes to the agenda and Chris Fillios seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Business

Approval of minutes. One change was made to the July 17th, 2020 minutes: There was one typo. The previous minutes approved were for January 2020, not November 2019. No other changes were proposed. Chris Fillios motioned to approve minutes with changes. Leslie Duncan seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Schedule for IAC District 1 2021 Meeting Dates.

Friday, January 15 10:00 - 12:00 (Date set by District #1 By-Laws)

Friday, April 16 10:00 - 12:00

Friday, July 16 10:00 - 12:00

Friday, October 15 10:00 - 12:00

No changes in the meeting dates/times. Leslie Duncan made the motion to approve the 2021 meeting dates. Chris Fillios seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Elections. District 1 representative and alternate were voted on at the last meeting; Glenda Poston would remain the District 1 representative and Phil Lampert would be the alternate. Mike Fitzgerald opened the floor for nominations to the Legislative Committee. Glenda Poston motioned for Dan Dinning to be representative and Phil Lampert to be alternate of the Committee. Chris Fillios seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

General IAC updates—Seth Grigg, IAC Director. Mr. Grigg reported on the IAC meeting coming up on November 17th in Moscow. It will be a one-day event. Number of registrants is low. About 50% of general attendance will attend in person. A survey from the event's coordinator would be going out in preparation for the mid-winter conference in February. The survey would solicit feedback on COVID precautions. Changes to legislators would result in new committee chairs. An update on these changes will be provided in December. There will be new leadership in the Senate; all House leadership was re-elected. There are ongoing deliberations between the House and Senate on executive authority. The legislature will review authority of health districts.

The Property Tax Study Committee is focusing on transparency. This is causing a shift in where information is reported (county vs. legislators). The goal is to make the information more publicly available from a central hub without overburdening counties. Another related issue is county ordinance authority and how commissioners can issue misdemeanors rather than infractions to assist with compliance. The next issue being review is budget caps. Currently, property tax budget caps are at 3%. There is a proposal circulating within the committee that would replace the 3% cap with an inflation-based cap; IAC representatives found the proposal to be problematic because local governments could not operate according to a CPI cap. Jeff Connelly expressed concern with increased DMV traffic in Bonner and other counties. He asked if DMV access could be restricted to local county residents only. Mr. Grigg explained that the legality of this would be questionable, but county residents could take priority and affected counties could switch to appointment-only access to DMVs.

Dan Dinning asked if a remote access option would be offered for newly elected officials wanting to attend the meeting in Moscow. Mr. Grigg said yes, a hybrid model of in person and digital webinars would be offered.

Steve Bradshaw inquired about how IAC is going to address the authority of local health districts and how IAC would represent counties in the matter. Mr. Grigg explained that it would depend on what the membership [committees] wants to do. If there is a consensus that changes need to be made, IAC would represent the membership.

Mr. Bradshaw went on to ask about the effectiveness of lobbying legislators for changes vs lobbying and educating the constituency about property taxes. Mr. Grigg said he and others have been working on a draft piece of legislation that would implement budget caps for the state without putting the burden on counties. He is working with the board on developing a messaging campaign for county officials to help them educate constituents who may then put pressure on legislators. Watch for draft legislation on mandates in the next few months.

Public Defense Committee—Jennifer Rourke. Expenditures are due by December 31st. The form has been updated and sent out. There will be two open houses in December for counties to come ask questions about the form or processes. PDC has been going through the negotiated rule making process. Great input was received from counties. Rules were presented to the Commission who worked with stakeholders to make further revisions. Adopted pending rules will be published on December 2nd. PDC hopes to meet with each county to go over rules.

Barry McHugh asked when pending rules would be circulated. They will be officially published on December 2nd. Mr. McHugh asked if there would be timeframe for additional comment. Ms. Rourke said that once rules are published, they cannot be changed besides through legislature and committees. Amendments are limited but additions can be made. For a rule to become law, only one committee's approval is required.

Reports

Legislative Report

Dan Dinning delivered the report. He stressed that District One should sit down together to further discuss issues brought up by Steve Bradshaw. He reminded the group that the weekly legislative calls would be starting again soon.

IAC Report

Glenda Poston delivered the report. She referenced Mr. Grigg's earlier update and said that IAC was looking for input on the February conference.

GEM Plan Report

Glenda Poston delivered the report. The GEM Plan Committee would be meeting next week. Topics of discussion will include extension of telehealth. Profit sharing funds are coming back from Blue Cross for stock loss premiums and will be extended to affected counties. GEM Plan received \$1m in CARES Act relief.

Secretary/Treasurer Report

Chris Fillios gave the Treasurer's report. The current balance is \$17,646.82 as of the end of September. All 2021 dues have been paid but not deposited yet (no branches open), bringing the balance to \$19,146.82.

Updates

County Updates. None.

Chairman Fitzgerald adjourned the meeting at 11:05am.