

Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

February 1, 2022 | 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Riverside Hotel | Boise, ID | Juniper Room

MEETING MINUTES

1:30 pm Call to Order | *Chair Phil McGrane, Ada County Clerk*

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of September 2021 Meeting Minutes

Sabrina Young moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Annette Dygert. Motion carried.

1:35 pm 2022 Legislative Update | *Bobbi-Jo Mueleman, Deputy Chief of Staff & Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Governor's Office*

Proposing \$50 million to go to the Workforce Development Council to help develop nurses, CDLs and other needed occupation positions.

Broadband Advisory Board is working on a state plan to allocate incoming broadband funding. Bobbi-Jo Mueleman gave an update on Governor Little's Leading Idaho Initiative. Education is his number one priority. Proposed \$1.1 Billion over 5 years for education. Governor is recommending an increase in funding for teachers' health insurance, so their deductible and monthly cost would be comparable to state employees. Hoping for passage by the end of the week. He's looking to accelerate the career ladder to move them along the ladder faster. Also includes a \$1000 bonus.

Literacy for K-3rd is also a critical priority. He has proposed \$47 million ongoing that could be used for full-day kindergarten.

The Governor gets asked about property taxes. When the state invests in education it helps to relieve pressure on property taxes.

Empowering Parents Grant is proposed to help parents address needs such as tutors and other additional costs. There's an income threshold to ensure those who are in the most need will have access to aid first.

Governor is also increasing support for community colleges in the Governor's budget. Governor's income tax cut will be signed into law by the end of the week. It brings down the highest tax bracket for individuals and businesses to 6%.

Governor's budget has two components. \$200 million for local bridges will be administered through LHTAC. Governor's budget also includes \$200 million ongoing for maintenance. \$120 million for the state and \$80 million for locals. Both pots of funds will go through JFAC. The budget also has funding for air and rail.

Governor has proposed a big investment in local wastewater systems to be administered by DEQ. Raising Anderson Dam funding is also included. \$45 million for parks and recreation. Behavioral Health investment of approximately \$50 million. The recommendations are coming through the Behavioral Health Council. Community Behavioral Health clinics, Youth crisis centers, mental health and more would receive funding.

\$150 million in fire suppression fund.

Governor also proposed over \$100 million for a women's facility. Pocatello facility would then be used for men, to help bring inmates back to Idaho.

Funding proposed to aid with childcare needs to help women get back into the workforce. It's a tool for existing facilities and for businesses to work together to provide daycare capacity.

Governor is recommending paying off \$250 million in building maintenance. Other funds would go back into the rainy-day funds to get them back to the legal max.

Abbie Mace asked about insurance for Health Districts. There's concern about health districts being removed from the state's plan. The A.G.'s office is doing more analysis. Hoping to have more info by the end of the week.

Camille Messick asked if there are any plans to invest in schools to aid with social emotional health. Bobbi-Jo said that there has been a push, but have run into difficulties. Governor is definitely supportive and will continue to try to get movement on that front.

Sherri Maupin asked that Governor's Workforce Housing be considered a step one in the process and not the final solution.

Phil McGrane asked if there is more IAC can be doing to help with that effort. Bobbi-Jo said the draft is really close. She'll share it with Seth and Sara when it's ready and will call on IAC to help with the effort in the legislature.

Justin Baldwin asked for an assurance that a local DMV presence remains. Governor has made it clear he doesn't want something to happen that will wipe out counties.

Sherri Maupin asked on broadband is there an appetite for publicly owned broadband. Bobbi-Jo said that question should be directed to Broadband Advisory Committee as they determine a statewide, long-term plan for broadband.

Phil McGrane asked about cyber security and how it is being addressed. Bobbi-Jo shared that Governor has \$12 million for elections integrity. \$500,000 for SOS election audits and the rest for cyber-security.

2:00 pm IAC Legislative Update | *Justin Baldwin, IAC Legislative Committee Chair, Gooding County Assessor & Sara Westbrook, Policy Director, Idaho Association of Counties*

Justin Baldwin gave an update on IAC priority legislation pointing out that the focus for all of the priorities is to provide property tax relief in some fashion.

- IGA-01 Workforce Housing
- IGA-04 Tax on Vape Products
- IGA-05 Property Tax Relief Fund

IAC Policy Affiliate Legislation

- IGA-02 Court Fees Paid to State Treasurer this has a sponsor and could be heard by next week.
- IGA-03 Investment of Idle County Funds, Treasurers are going to have further discussion on this later in the week.

Sara Westbrook gave an update on other legislation impacting counties including policy affiliate legislation. She also provided an update on H0481 and S1241, both of which would change the percentage of homeowner's exemption, and S1249 which would clean up the Urban renewal piece.

- Circuit Breaker
 - H0481
 - S1241
- S1249: Clean Up of House Bill 389

3:00 pm Open Discussion | *Chair Phil McGrane, Ada County Clerk*

Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

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Ada Clerk

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