

Minutes of Meeting
Kootenai County Fire and Rescue
January 11, 2022
1:30 p.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Chris Fillios, Commissioner Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda item. Also present were BOCC Communications Coordinator Jonathan Gillham and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present were Kootenai County Fire & Rescue (KCFR) Fire Chief Chris Way, KCFR Advisory Board Treasurer Joe Doellefeld, KCFR Division Chief of Prevention/Fire Marshall Jeryl Archer and Kootenai County Resident Bill Darnafell.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business:**

Presentation by Kootenai County Fire and Rescue Regarding Station #6 Location (Discussion)

Commissioner Leslie Duncan stated that Kootenai County Fire & Rescue (KCFR) hoped to locate Station #6 on property owned by Solid Waste (SW).

KCFR Fire Chief Chris Way reported that they had identified a two acre section of land that they would like to earmark for a new station. He said it was located at the crossing of West Prairie Avenue and North Corbin Road, near the Transfer Station. He asked to enter into formal discussions with the Board about leasing the indicated parcel.

Chief Way remarked that the land could not be used for anything else, due to zoning, but would be ideal for a fire station. He said it would be a minimum of five years before they began building that station. He provided a projected site plan, architect's proposed sketches of the type of building they wanted and described how the entrance/exit would be planned, for traffic safety.

Chief Way stated that buying land in the area would probably run to about \$2 million, which he felt was not the best use of taxpayer money. He said a long term lease arrangement with the County for the parcel at SW would be beneficial to all.

Commissioner Duncan stated that she had spoken to Solid Waste (SW) Director John (JP) Phillips about the proposal. She reported that SW might move their driveway or get a second driveway, so they would need to be able to work right up against the edge of the parcel, in that case.

Chief Way said that they could move the new station further to the south a bit, if SW needed to move the driveway. He assured the Commissioners that they did not need to be right at the intersection.

Commissioner Duncan said that Mr. Phillips had also commented that, due to the potential of fires at the Transfer Station, it would be very helpful to have the station right next door.

Chief Way explained that Station 6 was part of their 10-year Capital Plan, along with the equipment. He said they would have an engine and a piece of wild land apparatus housed there.

KCFR Advisory Board Treasurer Joe Doellefeld said he also had the impression that Mr. Phillips was very receptive to the proposal.

Chief Way suggested that he and KCFR Division Chief of Prevention/Fire Marshall Jeryl Archer meet with Mr. Phillips to discuss the plan. He said that, if Mr. Phillips was in favor, formal presentations could be made to the BOCC and the KCFR Board.

Both Chairman Fillios and Commissioner Bill Brooks expressed their support for the project.

Commissioner Duncan cautioned that this Board could not obligate a future Board to comply with the securing of that property. She noted that it was not a financial commitment, but could still be a question.

Chief Way expressed his understanding and said he would certainly keep future Boards fully informed and ask their approval.

Commissioner Duncan pointed out that Mr. Phillips might be able to help in this respect by including the project in the SW Site Plan. She said this could help ease the project through a transition of County Commissioners.

- D. Public Comment:** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing. There were no public comments.
- E. Adjournment (Action):** Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

BOCC SIGNATURE

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk