Minutes of Meeting
Commissioners’ Status Update
January 27, 2020
11:00 a.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Chris Fillios, Commissioner Leslie Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Prosecutor Barry McHugh, Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud, KCSO Undersheriff Dan Mattos, KCSO Captain Matthew Street, KCSO Lieutenant Ryan Higgins, KCSO 911 Communications Services Manager Collin McRoy, KCSO 911 Communications Services Technician Alan Mallory, Parks & Waterways (P&W)/Noxious Weeds Director Nick Snyder, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Senior Staff Accountant Melissa Merrifield, Snowgroomer Operations Manager Dave Bonasera, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present was Contractor Shawn Riley.

A. Call to Order: Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

B. Changes to the Agenda (Action): There were no changes to the agenda.

C. Business:

KCSO Marine/Post Falls Funding (Discussion)

Commissioner Leslie Duncan reported that the City of Post Falls had agreed to allow their police officers to assist KCSO Marine Deputies in the upcoming boating season. She estimated that their assistance would cost between about $25,000 and $40,000 and said that this item would appear on the agenda of the January 28, 2020 Business Meeting. She suggested that the full $40,000 be allocated.

KCSO Undersheriff Dan Mattos voiced his approval of the proposal. He asked that it be understood that if the cost was covered out of salary savings from KCSO but they were able to fill the empty positions, that the Board would backfill the amount. The Commissioners agreed.

Undersheriff Mattos also asked for the Auditor’s Office to help them create a specific account for these funds.

Finance Director Dena Darrow said she understood his request and would be glad to help.

Snowgroomers Department Changes (Action)

Commissioner Duncan announced that Snowgroomer Operations Manager Dave Bonasera planned to step down from his position. She said that she, Mr. Bonasera and Parks & Waterways (P&W)/Noxious Weed Director Nick Snyder had discussed bringing Snowgroomers in under P&W in the future.

Coeur d’Alene Press Reporter Jennifer Passaro entered the meeting at 11:06 a.m.
Commissioner Duncan explained that Mr. Snyder would become acting department head for FY2020 and the full reorganization would take place in 2021. She said that Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud would work with Mr. Snyder on the restructuring of the three departments. She noted that the item would appear on the January 28, 2020 Business Meeting agenda.

Mr. Snyder stated that he felt he was able to cover the additional duties. He commented that the funding mechanisms for P&W overlapped with those for Snowgroomers, which would help in combining the responsibilities. He added that there was no anticipated budget impact for FY2020.

Mr. Bonasera and Mr. Snyder exited the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

911 Pole Barn Project (Discussion)

Contractor Shawn Riley reported on the progress being made on the 911 Pole Barn Project. He reminded the Commissioners that the project had already been over budget when the Board accepted the bids and that change orders detailing about $7,200 in additional expenses would be presented in the January 28, 2020 Business Meeting. He commented that the project had been estimated at about $500,000 total and he felt that the change orders had been acceptable so far. He added that he was doing what he could to find ways to reduce the cost.

Commissioner Duncan asked that the breakdown of the contingency amount allowed for the project be clarified.

KCSO 911 Communications Services Manager Collin McRoy responded that, when the project was first approved by the Board, the budget was $553,320.36, which included the 5% contingency. He explained that the split was a 90%/10% split, with the General Fund providing about $2,571.25 of the contingency.

Ms. Darrow stated that, as of today, E911 had about $85,000 left for the project and 911 had about $28,000 left.

Request for Support (Discussion)

- Elmore County Commissioner Albert Hofer seeking support for legislation to provide 50% of drug forfeiture funds to go to Public Defender

Chairman Fillios stated that he had received a call last week from an Elmore County Commissioner who asked for his support on an initiative to be sent to the IAC (Idaho Association of Counties) proposing that 50% of the drug forfeiture funds in each county be allocated to their public defender.

Commissioner Duncan and Commissioner Bill Brooks both indicated that they would need much more information before they could make any decision about the request.
Prosecutor Barry McHugh remarked that it was probably the State, not the Federal, drug forfeiture funds that were being considered.

Chairman Fillios noted that the Public Defender was supposed to receive twice the allocation from the PDC (Public Defense Commission) for FY20 as in the past.

D. Public Comment (Discussion): 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.

Chairman Fillios asked BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe to provide some information on proposed House Bills.

Ms. Plouffe stated that #353 would remove the County’s taxing ability on new growth and #355 would limit the County to the amount of its FY2020 budget for FY2021.

Ms. Darrow commented that there was another Bill seeking to abolish all property tax in the State of Idaho. She said these issues would be discussed further in the January 29, 2020 FY21 Budget Kickoff meeting.

Ms. Plouffe confirmed this and said the bill would propose eliminating property tax and would also raise the sales tax to 11%. She said one sponsor of the bill was State Representative Jason Monks; she thought the other was State Representative Mike Moyle.

Prosecutor McHugh reminded the Commissioners that he had sent them the PDC Distribution figures for FY20.

E. Adjournment (Action): Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRISS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: ______________________________
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk