

**Minutes of Meeting
Commissioners' Status Update
April 4, 2023
10:00 a.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chair Leslie Duncan, Commissioner Bruce Mattare and Commissioner Bill Brooks met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Clerk Jennifer Locke, Finance Director Brandi Falcon, Community Development Director David Callahan, BOCC Communications Coordinator Jonathan Gillham and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present was Coeur d'Alene Tribe Representative Tyrel Stevenson.

- A. Call to Order:** Chair Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business:**

State of the County Address 5/18/23 (Discussion)

Chair Duncan announced that the date of the Address had been changed to May 31, 2023. She asked the other Commissioners for their plans for their individual presentations.

Commissioner Bill Brooks indicated that he would follow the same pattern as last year, updating information on his liaison groups. He added that he would not be presenting any PowerPoint slides.

Commissioner Bruce Mattare said he would do the same.

Chair Duncan stated she would also follow the same pattern. She added that they would revisit the topic two weeks before the event.

CDA Reservation Area-Wide Re-Zoning Discussion with David Callahan (Discussion)

Community Development Director David Callahan reminded the Commissioners that they had been included on a series of emails related to this rezoning effort. He reported that Colin Coles objected the re-zoning, although it had already gone before the Planning Commission, had a public hearing and was now in deliberations. He stated that Mr. Coles claimed that the Commissioners were not given all they needed to know about the proposal in July 2021.

Mr. Callahan indicated he had reviewed the Youtube video of that meeting and felt it had been generic but the Commissioners at the time had been comfortable with going forward. He stated that the Land Use and Development Code expressly allowed Community Development staff, the Planning Commission or the Board of County Commissioners to initiate rezoning. He said he felt that once the discussion had been held that the BOCC had what they needed to allow him to proceed.

Commissioner Brooks asked if there had been a unanimous vote in the initial meeting shown in the Youtube video.

Mr. Callahan confirmed that it had been.

Chair Duncan reviewed salient points of the rezoning proposal for Commissioner Mattare, since he had not been part of the BOCC in 2021. She said the action had been taken at the request of the Tribe.

Mr. Callahan said he felt the process had been good: more than 2,000 postcards had been sent to notify residents of the two public workshops which had been held. In response to Chair Duncan's question, he said that the specific question of fees for the rezoning had not been discussed. He remarked that he had not yet made any requests for fees. He reported that the Tribe had voluntarily paid for the postcard notices and had agreed to cover the expense for the newspaper notices. He stated that the only unaddressed item was the approximately \$2,000 filing fee which would be typically charged if an individual owner asked for a rezoning of a property, but that did not seem appropriate in this case.

Commissioner Brooks asked if anyone other than Mr. Coles was objecting.

Coeur d'Alene Tribe Representative Tyrel Stevenson commented that there were people who had objected, but those who had been critical of the process seemed to be the same ones who disagreed with the whole idea. He suggested that any questions about the process be cleared up so that the matter could be brought before the County Commissioners for a decision.

Chair Duncan reviewed the steps that had been taken in the rezoning project. She said that she felt the exact same pattern had been followed which had been used in the Cougar Gulch rezoning, with nothing left out.

Mr. Callahan agreed.

Chair Duncan said the only question remaining in her mind was in relation to fees, but she would not object to following the same course as Cougar Gulch in which fees were not charged. She commented she would like to go into these questions more in the future, especially since Community Development did pay for an outside consultant in the project.

Mr. Callahan and Mr. Stevenson exited the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

National Association of Counties (NACo) Membership 2023 (Discussion)

Chair Duncan asked for input on whether the County should remain members of the National Association of Counties (NACo). She said that IAC (Idaho Association of Counties) had urged them to retain membership.

There followed some discussion of the value of NACo membership.

Commissioner Brooks indicated that he did not think the value returned by the membership was worth the cost.

Commissioner Mattare suggested further reflection on the issue.

Chair Duncan said that NACo had been helpful to the County in relation to ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) representation. She said she would discuss the question with IAC, gather additional information and bring it back for the Board's consideration during the first Status Update meeting in May.

Private Event Security Letter (Discussion)

Commissioner Mattare commented that he had observed a great deal of cost-shifting to the County from different entities. He said he felt they should begin assigning costs more appropriately. He noted that KCSO was overworked and understaffed, so the BOCC should try to prevent inappropriate demands on them from causing service levels to suffer. He said he had drafted a letter for the cities differentiating between planned and unplanned events and state that planned, private events should be responsible for their own security. He pointed out that Post Falls had held an event which attracted thousands of people and the cost for traffic management and security had fallen on the Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Brooks said he thought it was a good idea.

Chair Duncan remarked she would like to soften some of the phrasing somewhat to give a more conciliatory tone.

Commissioner Mattare said he wanted the cities to realize they had a responsibility to their citizens, who were also citizens of the County. He stated that, if they wanted to shift these costs over to the County, the public should be made aware of it.

It was generally agreed that the draft language would be revised and the final letter would be presented to the Commissioners for signatures before being sent.

Chair Duncan added that she was most concerned about the inequity, for example, of having Rathdrum and Athol citizens paying for events that took place in Coeur d'Alene.

- 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.

Finance Director Brandi Falcon remarked that BOCC departments had expressed confusion because her budget deadlines did not match up to those given by the Board. She pointed out that a department's Elected Official could require a budget to be done earlier than the statutory deadline. She added that, if a department contacted her and reported that their budget was done, she would like them to enter it into New World right

away, so she could review it. She remarked that she would only have two weeks to review 26,000 accounts if everything was turned in at the May deadline.

Ms. Falcon stressed that, if someone got their budget done early but the Elected Official wanted to make adjustments before their individual due date, it could be done. She said that she would not be able to return the budgets to the departments after May 15, but could before then.

It was generally agreed that Ms. Falcon’s request would be passed on to the departments.

E. Adjournment (Action): Chair Duncan adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JENNIFER LOCKE, CLERK

BOCC SIGNATURE

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk