

Minutes of Meeting
Commissioners' Status Update
June 20, 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, Chief Deputy Clerk Grace Blomgren, Finance Director Brandi Falcon, Deputy Finance Director Keith Taylor, Staff Accountant – Grants Julina Hildreth, Solid Waste (SW) Director John (JP) Phillips, Kootenai County Surveyor Rodney Jones, Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys Jamilia Holmes and R. David Ferguson, BOCC Communications Coordinator Jonathan Gillham and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present was Latah County Surveyor John Elsbury. Commissioner Brooks was present via teleconference.

- A. **Call to Order:** Chair Leslie Duncan called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.
- B. **Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. **Business:**

S.4295 Financial Data Transparency Act Implications for Bond Issuance (Discussion)

Finance Director Brandi Falcon explained the impact that the S.4295 Financial Data Transparency Act would have on Kootenai County. She commented that the new regulations would probably require the purchase of new software. She said it would probably require additional staff hours and would create a third level of reporting on all County finances.

Ms. Falcon stated that Kootenai County had no bonds at this time and would have three and a half years to prepare to be compliant with the Act. She pointed out that the actual requirements had not yet been revealed; the government had an 18 month window before those had to be finalized. She concluded that this would increase the cost of bond issuance and would also affect the North Idaho Fair and KCEMSS (Kootenai County Emergency Medical Services System).

Six County Boundary Joint Ordinance Discussion with John Elsbury/Latah County Surveyor (Discussion)

Latah County Surveyor John Elsbury explained that Kootenai County and five other counties all had boundaries that are considered problematic. He said that the boundary descriptions had not been altered since they were first put into place in 1863. He provided substantial information regarding the inadequacy of the current situation and said that he was working to have it updated. He stated that all six counties needed to sign on to the project before the legislature would consider it and urged the Board to agree to participate.

Kootenai County Surveyor Rodney Jones provided supplemental information.

Mr. Elsbury said he had offered his presentation to Benewah and Bonner Counties before this and they had signed the proposed ordinance. He added that Latah County would certainly participate. He said that once all six counties had agreed, he would seek a legislative sponsor to present the bill. He added that he hoped to have it presented in the next legislative session.

Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney R. David Ferguson suggested that the Board seek input from the Assessor's Office and the Clerk's Office before making any decision.

Commissioner Bill Brooks said he felt they should move forward with care and attention to detail.

It was generally agreed that the Commissioners would discuss this further and seek input from the Assessor and the Clerk, before making a decision.

Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board (HARSB) Dissolution (Action)

Chair Duncan provided background history on the HARSB (Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board) Joint Powers Agreement. She said that it had become evident that having the City of Hayden take over ownership of the plant would be beneficial. She said the questions that Legal would like answered were:

- Whether or not the County would keep ownership of the collection system. Chair Duncan suggested that the County plan to keep ownership at this time, but consider the option of relinquishing it in the future. Commissioner Bruce Mattare voiced agreement, as did Commissioner Brooks.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Elsbury exited the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

- Whether sufficient capacity would exist for future development in the County. Chair Duncan reported that the City of Hayden had indicated they would make certain this remained the case and that the County and the Sewer District were covered. She said they would just need to be sure that this was documented in any agreements.
- Chair Duncan said that they would need to determine the easements and other accommodations that the H3 Lift Station would need, because moving it would not be a viable option.
- Chair Duncan said that permission needed to be given to the entities to move forward with the draft dissolution agreement and said she was in favor of it. Commissioners Mattare and Brooks agreed.
- Chair Duncan stated that, in the dissolution agreement, assurances needed to be included saying that the County would only pay for its own use of the facility and that no other entity's cost would be borne by the County.

- Chair Duncan reported that a decision framework had been presented to the Board by Legal. She said she agreed with its contents. Commissioners Mattare and Brooks voiced approval also.

Deputy Finance Director Keith Taylor pointed out that there had been some shared equipment, owned by the Airport but loaned to HARSB. He said they should be sure that the equipment be included in the dissolution agreement.

Chair Duncan indicated that use of the loaned equipment would probably still go on, as needed.

Mr. Ferguson remarked that some mention of shared equipment had been made in the discussions and that he agreed with Mr. Taylor's point, that the ownership and use should be included in the documents. He offered some advice on how the motion should be worded.

Commissioner Mattare moved that the Board proceed with the dissolution of the Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board to include that the collection system would remain with the Airport after dissolution and for the entities to move forward as indicated. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Ginorio called the roll:

Commissioner Brooks: Aye
Commissioner Mattare: Aye
Chair Duncan: Aye

The motion carried.

Commissioner Mattare moved that the Board enter into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206(1)(d). Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Ginorio called the roll:

Commissioner Brooks: Aye
Commissioner Mattare: Aye
Chair Duncan: Aye

The motion carried.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 10:51 a.m.

Chair Duncan invited Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Jamila Holmes and Mr. Ferguson to remain for the Executive Session.

Solid Waste

**Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in Chapter 1, Title 74, Idaho Code – BOCC Division (Closed Session – Discussion)
Decisions/Direction (Open Meeting – Action)**

The Board exited Executive Session at 11:14 a.m. Commissioner Brooks was no longer present.

Commissioner Mattare moved that the Board exit Executive Session (1)(d). Chair Duncan seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Ginorio called the roll:

Commissioner Brooks: Excused

Commissioner Mattare: Aye

Chair Duncan: Aye

The motion carried.

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): Chair Duncan adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JENNIFER LOCKE, CLERK

BOCC SIGNATURE

BY: _____

Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk