

Minutes of Meeting
FY22 Budget Deliberations
July 14, 2021
9:00 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 Coroner Warren Keene, M.D., Prosecutor Barry McHugh, Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud, KCSO Sheriff Robert Norris, KCSO Undersheriff Dan Mattos, KCSO Administrative Assistant Tammy Exley, Chief Deputy Treasurer Jill Smith, Chief Deputy Clerk Jennifer Locke, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Staff Accountant – Budget Michelle Chiamonte, County Assistance Manager Shelly Amos, Court Services Director Marissa Garza, Court Services Manager Kally Young, First Judicial District Trial Court Administrator Karlene Behringer, BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present was Chairman of the North Idaho Fair Board of Directors Jerry Johnson.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
- B. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Business (Discussion):**

FY22 Budget Deliberations to Include Preliminary Summary Charges

Finance Director Dena Darrow briefly reviewed the Board’s progress on the FY22 Budget and said the deficit at this moment stood at \$85,639.

Human Resources (HR) Director Sylvia Proud reminded those present that there would be a meeting with Alliant this afternoon to discuss the Employee Health Plan. She commented that it seemed there would be about a 3.8% increase in the cost of the Health Plan for FY22 and that Alliant would describe a proposal for a Prescription Drug Carve Out which could result in substantial savings.

Treasurer Steve Matheson entered the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

Ms. Darrow reviewed Commissioner Leslie Duncan’s and Chairman Chris Fillios’ proposed cuts and adjustments to the current budget figures.

Commissioner Bill Brooks remarked that he did not have any additional cuts or adjustments to offer at this time.

The Commissioners discussed potential uses for the \$2 million in returned CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act funds as well as ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds.

Interim Chief Deputy Assessor Reba Grytness entered the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

KCSO Sheriff Robert Norris and KCSO Undersheriff Dan Mattos provided extensive details about the challenges the Sheriff's Office faces, particularly regarding employee compensation.

The Commissioners' discussed KCSO's points at some length.

When the issue of salary compression was raised, Chairman Fillios suggested that Ms. Darrow enter a reserve amount of \$50,000 to address the problem, on a County-wide basis.

BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe suggested including a reserve amount for mid-year salary changes and position changes as well. She pointed out that this would help the Board set limits on the amount spent for those items during the year.

Chief Deputy Clerk Jennifer Locke provided additional information regarding salary compression, particularly for supervisors, in different departments.

Commissioner Brooks asked that some of the proposed cuts to the Fair's funding request be reversed. He also asked that the Veterans Services Officer be given a salary adjustment, as he had previously requested.

There followed additional discussion of COLA (Cost of Living Adjustments) and an across-the-board increase planned for all County employees for FY22, the introduction of a Matrix for General Pay Plan Employees and salary increases for Elected Officials. KCSO's funding for ammunition and other equipment were reviewed, along with funding for other non-mandated programs such as Jobs Plus.

- 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 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk
