

Minutes of Meeting
Commissioners' Debriefing, Continuation
July 23, 2013
10:00 a.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Todd Tondee, Commissioner Dan Green and Commissioner Jai Nelson met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present was Deputy Clerk Nancy Jones.

A. Call to Order: Chairman Tondee called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

B. Introductions: There were no introductions made.

C. Changes to the Agenda: There were no changes made to the agenda.

D. Old Business: There was no old business discussed.

E. New Business:

Commissioner Green initiated a conversation regarding the grant process, specifically with regard to grant sharing and administration. Commissioner Green explained that Grant Writer Jody Bieze recently worked with Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Pat Braden to add updated language to the Alpine Meadows grant, in order to meet federal guidelines. As a result of this change, Panhandle Area Council (PAC) is refusing to sign the contract, as they feel the language is too open-ended.

Mr. Braden joined the meeting at 10:19 a.m.

Mr. Braden explained that federal and state grant guidelines have expanded to include disadvantaged groups and to require specific civil rights verbiage within grant documentation. Because there is legal precedent, Mr. Braden advised that the verbiage could be removed from the Alpine Meadows grant, as an existing agreement. However, moving forward, he recommended that our Grant Management Office should make it clear that this language will be included on all future grants. Commissioner Nelson noted that the verbiage in question addresses civil rights that are already protected under the law, making the inclusion of the verbiage superfluous. Commissioner Green stated that he would address this issue at the upcoming PAC Board meeting.

Chairman Tondee informed the group about an issue regarding the Bayview Community Center (Bayview) grant. Upon inspection, the state engineer determined that the project could be simplified, resulting in the grant being reduced from \$150,000 to \$40,000. The architect for the project disagreed with the assessment from the state, but is working with Bayview to amend the plans. However, through this process, it has also come to light that the kitchen in the building was not properly permitted as a commercial kitchen. Chairman Tondee will be meeting with Bayview representatives to verify that the kitchen must be vented or removed, as a result. Once that issue is resolved, it will be up to the Board of County Commissioners to accept or reject the amended grant amount. The attendees went on to discuss potential changes to general County policies and procedures within the Grant Administration Office.

Mr. Braden exited the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Commissioner Nelson presented a report that detailed the cost per case and the cost per client for each Conflict Attorney that currently serves Kootenai County. The Board discussed overall costs, inefficiencies, and comparisons of the individual items within the report. As a result, Commissioner Nelson will meet with individual conflict attorneys, in order to address billing questions and concerns. Commissioner Nelson also explained that, when each attorney is approved, the judges assign them to work particular types of cases, but that several attorneys are currently working outside the parameters of their contracts. Judge Haynes recently discussed the situation with Commissioner Nelson, detailing how this is happening and what can be done to rectify the situation. Judge Haynes will be reviewing the existing contracts, in order to determine whether contract periods or verbiage should be updated. The Board debated the number of attorneys that should be in place for each category. Commissioner Nelson noted that the number of Category C cases could increase in the future, due to changes in statute.

Commissioner Nelson provided the Board with an updated printout of the Strategic Plan. The Board reviewed the timelines for various projects and discussed the time sensitivity of actions scheduled for this fall. Discussion centered on the status of the Fleet Management project, with particular focus on the advantages of establishing a shared vehicle fleet. Commissioner Nelson also addressed topics concerning the five (5) year capital plan, the bond process, property holdings, and the long-term plans for the Airport and Information Systems.

F. Staff Reports: There were no staff reports.

G. Public Comment: This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

CLIFFORD T. HAYES, CLERK

BY: _____
Nancy A. Jones, Deputy Clerk