

**Minutes of Meeting
Commissioners' Debriefing
September 22, 2014
2:00 p.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Todd Tondee, Commissioner Jai Nelson, and Commissioner Dan Green met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Buildings and Grounds Operations Manager Shawn Riley, Solid Waste Director Cathy Mayer, SWAT Commander Lieutenant Matt Street, Major Kim Edmondson, Network Administrator Grant Kinsey, Board of County Commissioners Administrative Assistant Nancy Jones, Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney R. David Ferguson, and Deputy Clerk Daniel Robertson.

A. Call to Order: Chairman Tondee called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

B. Introductions: There were no introductions made.

C. Changes to the Agenda: Commissioner Nelson moved to add a discussion on the Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization (KMPO) meeting and a discussion on the responses by KMPO and the City of Hayden to the Board's letter. Commissioner Green seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Robertson called the roll:

Commissioner Nelson: Aye

Commissioner Green: Aye

Chairman Tondee: Aye

The motion carried.

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

E. New Business: Board of County Commissioners Administrative Assistant Nancy Jones notified the Board that many of the options she had been looking into for digital signage for posting meeting notices were not viable. Network Administrator Grant Kinsey clarified that the most promising of these options had a yearly cost of about \$800 per sign, which he did not think would be cost effective. He shared a more recent idea for a solution which would have a cost of about \$1,300 for hardware, plus a one-time software license fee of \$800 per user. Ms. Jones stated that \$1,500 has been budgeted for this, which could pay for the hardware or the software, but not both. Mr. Kinsey stated that Information Systems (IS) has three (3) licenses and he would be willing to share one (1) through Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 if the Board decided to pursue this option. Chairman Tondee instructed Mr. Kinsey to move forward with purchasing the equipment for one (1) system.

Mr. Kinsey exited the meeting at 2:17 p.m.

Solid Waste Director Cathy Mayer notified the Board that the FY15 budget includes an appropriation to purchase a wood grinder. Solid Waste currently produces 10,000-11,000 tons of wood waste per year, the disposal of which is handled by a contractor for \$326,000 per year. She informed the Board that operations and maintenance on the proposed wood grinder would be substantially less than the cost of the contract. She also stated that the contractor was selling the wood waste for an unknown sum. She could not provide a precise estimate of cost

savings as some vendors were open to paying Solid Waste for this material, which could also be used by the County for such purposes as lining trails, making compost, etc. Commissioner Green was in favor of asking the contractor for a lower rate. Chairman Tondee stated that he had spoken with the contractor and that they could not reduce the rate. The Board directed Ms. Mayer to continue researching the potential cost savings and to bring a more accurate estimate before the Board.

Ms. Mayer notified the Board that the earnest money for the Rose Lake property has not been released yet by the title company, but the documents cancelling the sale have been signed. She stated that a press release for the closure of the Garwood and Twin Lakes collection sites has been published, and that signs have been posted at these sites indicating the closures. The attendants at these sites have been passing out flyers, as well. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Chilco site was scheduled for September 29, 2014.

Ms. Mayer exited the meeting at 2:28 p.m.

The members of the Board discussed a legal opinion received regarding continued Board Meetings. Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney R. David Ferguson requested clarification as to whether the question he received from the Clerk's Office was concerning a specific incident or for general knowledge. Deputy Clerk Daniel Robertson clarified that the question was regarding a specific incident in which the Board continued a meeting to the following day (less than 24 hours) due to a decision to be made at a later meeting. Commissioner Green stated his opinion that a continued meeting would not need to have a new notice or agenda published as individuals present at the original meeting would be aware of the motion to continue the meeting to a date and time certain. Chairman Tondee stated that the continued meeting would have the same agenda as the original meeting. Mr. Ferguson offered his opinion that the original notice would not cover the continued meeting. He stated that the intent of the Open Meeting Law is to give the public opportunity to attend all open meetings, and continuing a meeting to less than 24 hours and not giving public notice would not meet this intent. He suggested that any future meetings requiring continuations be continued to more than 24 hours with a new notice published. The Board agreed that this was a reasonable measure.

Mr. Ferguson exited the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Major Kim Edmondson and SWAT Commander Lieutenant Matt Street inquired as to whether it was legally appropriate to use drug forfeiture funds to pay for Crossfit Training for the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team. The team had already been conducting this training for approximately one (1) year in order to build physical fitness and team camaraderie. The Board directed Lieutenant Street to research whether case law exists for such use of drug forfeiture funds and to seek a legal opinion on the matter.

Lieutenant Street exited the meeting at 3:16 p.m.

Commissioner Nelson reported that Sheriff Ben Wolfinger was not in favor of storing evidence at the Work Release Center. She stated that he was open to hiring an expert to conduct a feasibility study to determine if another department could utilize the space. She also recommended contracting for an analysis of the needs for evidence storage. Commissioner Green was not in favor of conducting these studies as an analysis of the storage needs was

already done, and that the new Board may not support making renovations to the building. Buildings and Grounds Operations Manager Shawn Riley shared his opinion that the evidence storage needs could be met for less than the previous study suggested. Chairman Tondee stated that the Work Release Center would be an improvement on the temporary sheds currently being used to store evidence. Mr. Riley suggested meeting with the Sheriff to discuss the evidence storage needs and determine if there is a way to make the Work Release Center fit those needs. Major Edmondson expressed her concern that the space may not be able to be renovated to meet the various requirements. The Board Directed Major Edmondson to meet with Sheriff Wolfinger and come up with a list of needs and to set up a meeting with the Board to discuss these concerns.

Major Edmondson and Mr. Riley exited the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

Commissioner Nelson requested that a public hearing be scheduled and advertised to amend the Emergency Management Services (EMS) FY15 budget to transfer \$335,000 from the cash reserve and to carry forward approximately \$485,000 of FY14 funds, for a total of \$820,000. This would enable EMS to purchase and equip fifteen (15) new ambulances. This would be a lease purchase agreement, saving the County \$32,000 per year over current maintenance and refitting costs for the ambulances. There would be no levying of new taxes. The Board agreed to schedule this hearing.

Commissioner Green brought forward the proposed lease for the Public Defender's office space and updated the Board on the estimated costs associated with the building. He stated that Legal has reviewed the lease, which he would be presenting at the Business Meeting on September 23, 2014, for a decision. Commissioner Nelson was not in favor of signing the lease unless the old Public Defender building was to be demolished to offset the costs of maintaining it. Commissioner Green and Chairman Tondee were in favor of keeping the current building as additional space to meet other needs.

Chairman Tondee stated that he had met with the KMPO and that Post Falls Highway District and Lakes Highway District expressed frustration about not being invited to meet with the Board to discuss their concerns about the Airport Master Plan. The Board was favorable to contacting them to offer the opportunity for independent meetings.

Ms. Jones and the Board discussed whether to file an objection to the Coeur d' Alene Tribe's water rights claims, as suggested by the Waterways Advisory Board. Ms. Jones also updated the Board on the County's water rights claims, noting that there were six claims. She stated that the Waterways Advisory Board had recommended looking into ways to protect these claims. The Board directed Ms. Jones to schedule a Board meeting with Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Pat Braden to further discuss these issues.

Ms. Jones requested permission to attend the PRIMA Training Course. This is a one (1) day course with a cost of \$35. The Board authorized her to attend this training.

Commissioner Green moved that the Board enter Executive Session pursuant to *Idaho Code §67-2345(1)(b)* to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent. Commissioner Nelson seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Robertson called the roll:

Commissioner Nelson: Aye

Commissioner Green: Aye

Chairman Tondee: Aye

The motion carried.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 4:36 p.m.

The Board exited Executive Session at 4:44 p.m. No decision was made by the Board.

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 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

TODD TONDEE, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Daniel Robertson, Deputy Clerk
