

**Minutes of Meeting  
Commissioners' Debriefing  
November 30, 2015  
2:30 p.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Dan Green, Commissioner Marc Eberlein, and Commissioner David Stewart met to discuss the following agenda item. Also present was Deputy Clerk Alicia Lynch. Also present were citizens Tina Kunishige and Brent Regan, and Coeur d'Alene Press staff writer Brian Walker.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Dan Green called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.
- B. Introductions:** There were no introductions.
- C. Changes to the Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. Business:**

**Executive Order/ Resolution**

Commissioner Marc Eberlein opened a discussion regarding a draft resolution presented by Brent Regan. Commissioner Eberlein read into the record an email he received from Jan Reeves, Director of Idaho Office for Refugees, assuring the Commissioners that there are no plans at this time to settle refugees in North Idaho. Commissioner Eberlein stated he did not know the Idaho Office for Refugees organization but that they had provided their information and were willing to answer questions. He stated his concerns with the relocation of refugees to the County as security risks and the monetary impact to the County. He added that he had asked Prosecutor Barry McHugh to research whether there was any statutory or constitutional assessment of impact fees for taking in refugees and that Prosecutor McHugh found that there were none.

Commissioner Eberlein stated that while he fully supported the American tradition of welcoming people who had faced persecution, he wanted to sign the resolution before the Board to support the Governor and the federal government in refraining from accepting refugees until a plan addressing their concerns was put into place.

Bret Roush, Danielle Ahrens, and Shari Dovale of The Voice of Idaho entered the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Brent Regan said the Resolution before the Board was drafted by Attorney Christ Troupis. He explained that the federal government has the ability to accept refugees but not to place them in specific areas without state cooperation. Mr. Regan stated that the federal government placing refugees in a specific area without financial assistance would be a disproportionate tax burden on that location. He explained that the resolution before the Board was not stating that Kootenai County was against accepting refugees, but just stipulating that the County would accept refugees only if assistance with the financial burden was provided.

Danielle Ahrens with The Voice of Idaho stated that Boundary County had the discussion of adopting a similar resolution at a public meeting but she did not know if it was the same resolution the Kootenai County Board of Commissioners was presently reviewing.

Chairman Green stated that the Resolution was being circulated to other County Commissioners and he wanted to converse with them before making a decision.

Commissioner David Stewart stated he wanted Legal to review the Resolution and stated he would like to be as consistent as possible with other Counties.

The Board agreed to send the draft resolution to Legal and continue the meeting to Wednesday, December 2, 2015, to provide time for a thorough review.

Commissioner Eberlein moved to continue the Commissioners' Debriefing to Wednesday, December 2, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Lynch called the roll:

Commissioner Stewart:           Aye  
Commissioner Eberlein:         Aye  
Chairman Green:                 Aye

The motion carried.

**E. 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.

At 2:48 p.m. Chairman Green continued the meeting to Wednesday December 2, 2015, at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

DANIEL H. GREEN, CHAIRMAN

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alicia Lynch, Deputy Clerk

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