

**Minutes of Special Meeting
Commissioner Districts
December 31, 2015
9:00 a.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 were Clerk Jim Brannon, Chief Deputy Clerk Pat Raffee, Elections Manager Carrie Phillips, Assessor Mike McDowell, Chief Deputy Treasurer Laurie Thomas, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Manager David Christianson, Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney R. David Ferguson, BOCC Administrative Supervisor Nancy Jones, and Deputy Clerks Alicia Lynch and Cecilia Sweet. Also present were citizens Erin Olson, Nicole Olson, Sydney Olson, Alyson Chatterton, Jay Wilson, Donald Gary, Christian Watts, and Coeur d'Alene Press staff writer Brian Walker.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Dan Green called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- B. Introductions:** There were no introductions.
- C. Changes to the Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. New Business:**

Discussion with Dave Christianson regarding balancing of the existing Commissioner Districts

BOCC Administrative Supervisor Nancy Jones stated that according to Idaho Statute 31-704 the Commissioners must district their county into three districts as nearly equal in population as may be. She said that Commissioners from Districts Two and Three are up for election this year.

GIS Manager Dave Christianson explained that for the purpose of the discussion he was using estimates of the County population. He presented two maps to the Board, the first dividing the population into three Commissioner Districts as equitably as possible, and the second dividing the population into thirds while also balancing urban and rural populations in each district.

Citizen Becky Funk entered the meeting at 9:08 a.m.

Chairman Green stated that currently there was a 10,000 population variance between Districts Two and Three. He said his priorities were to balance the population and to keep the maps as close as possible to what they were now. He clarified that the Commissioners Districts do not determine how people vote but who can run in each District.

Mr. Christianson explained that "urban" was defined as within City limits for the purpose of the discussion. He added that he used precinct boundaries whenever possible and that statute dictated the districts should be formed based on overall

population, not on voters. He indicated that the Population Balance map was the most accurate based on population but would require boundary changes and more staff involvement. Mr. Christianson said that the Urban/Rural Balance map was closer to precinct boundaries.

Commissioner Marc Eberlein stated that doing this process in July rather than December would be more beneficial to the County. He directed Ms. Jones to add the meeting to the calendar for July, 2017.

Citizen Christian Watts and Clerk Jim Brannon exited the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

Clerk Brannon re-entered the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Commissioner Stewart moved to approve the Proposed Boundary Adjustment Urban/Rural Balance re-alignment of Commissioner Districts. Commissioner Eberlein 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.

Chairman Green adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

DANIEL H. GREEN, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____

Alicia Lynch, Deputy Clerk
