

Minutes of Meeting
Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Deliberations
July 20, 2016
1:30 p.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Dan Green, Commissioner Marc Eberlein, and Commissioner David Stewart met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Clerk Jim Brannon, Chief Deputy Clerk Pat Raffee, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Senior Staff Accountant Kimberli Price, Treasurer Steve Matheson, Sheriff Ben Wolfinger, Undersheriff Dan Mattos, Major Neal Robertson, Major Kim Edmondson, Lieutenant Stuart Miller, Systems Manager Val Soumas, Auto Mechanic Will Stein, Administrative Assistant Christina Clay, Personnel Technician Marcia Heglie, Buildings & Grounds Director Shawn Riley, and Deputy Clerk Alicia Lynch. Also present was citizen Bob Bingham.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Dan Green called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
- B. Introductions:** There were no introductions.
- C. Changes to the Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. Old Business:** There was no old business discussed.
- E. New Business:**

Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Budget Deliberations with the Auditor's Office

The Board reviewed all of the FY2017 Capital Requests.

Commissioner Marc Eberlein suggested denying the Sheriff's request for Digital Evidence Storage. Major Neal Robertson said the cost had been reduced from \$507,743 to \$349,279 with approximately \$8,000 in annual maintenance. Chairman Green and Commissioner David Stewart said they supported the item at the reduced cost.

Commissioner Stewart moved to tentatively deny the Capital Request for Microsoft Office 2016 in the amount of \$300,000, and to amend the request for Digital Evidence Storage to \$349,279. 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.

The Board discussed with Buildings & Grounds Director Shawn Riley the Airport's request for Armory Building Improvements. Chairman Green recommended denying the request because the maintenance would be completed in FY2016, and his fellow Commissioners agreed.

Commissioner Stewart moved to tentatively deny the Capital Request for Armory Building Improvements in the amount of \$15,000. 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.

Lieutenant Stuart Miller and Auto Mechanic Will Stein discussed with the Board the Fleet Management Task Force's suggestions for FY2017 vehicle requests. The Board approved Fleet Management's suggestions with the following amendments:

- Deny the Sheriff Civil Division's request for a new all wheel drive vehicle
- Repurpose a patrol vehicle to the Civil Division
- Increase the requested eight patrol vehicles to nine
- Repurpose the Civil Division's 2007 Dodge Nitro to Veteran Services

Mr. Riley requested the Board approve Buildings & Grounds receiving a repurposed pickup truck from the Sheriff's office in FY2016. Lieutenant Miller agreed to provide the truck in advance of FY2017 so Buildings & Grounds could continue services through the summer.

Commissioner Stewart moved to tentatively approve the Fleet Management Task Force's Suggestions as contained in the information provided with the following amendments: to deny the Sheriff Civil Division's request for an all wheel drive vehicle in the amount of \$47,456; to transfer the Sheriff Civil Division's 2007 Dodge Nitro to Veterans Services; and to increase the Sheriff Patrol Vehicles from eight to nine vehicles totaling \$568,959.25. 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.

Mr. Riley noted the Evidence Remodel project and the Shared Parking Lot project were absent from the Capital Requests. Ms. Price reported that \$333,000 had been committed for the Evidence Remodel project. Chairman Green inquired whether that included architect fees. Mr. Riley replied that the architect fees were included and totaled approximately \$46,000.

Chairman Green updated his fellow Commissioners regarding the Shared Parking Lot proposal with the City of Coeur d'Alene. He said he had recently spoken to Welch-Comer & Associates President and Principal Engineer Phil Boyd and said he learned Mr. Boyd was in talks with the City regarding the County's agreement terms. Chairman Green asked his fellow Commissioners whether they wanted to budget the proposed \$1.2 million for the plan or wait until the City responds. Commissioner Stewart said he was in favor of waiting for the City's response and amending the budget once terms were finalized. Commissioner Eberlein said he was not in favor of the project but if it was going to happen he wanted to ensure the County's interests were protected.

Commissioner Stewart moved to add the Capital Request for Evidence Remodel in the amount of \$333,000 to the FY2017 Budget. 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.

Mr. Riley suggested committing an additional \$100,000 to the Shared Parking Plan to cover the cost of paving the County's gravel lot. He noted as part of the agreement with the City, the County would be allowed to pave the gravel lot without having to replant trees.

Lieutenant Miller and Mr. Stein exited the meeting at 2:34 p.m.

The Board reviewed the proposed FY2017 New Program Requests. No cuts were made.

Undersheriff Dan Mattos requested the Board reconsider the request for a new copier in the amount of \$9,000. The Board agreed the Sheriff could allocate surplus dollars for the copier, since it was an urgent need. Commissioner Stewart requested Undersheriff Mattos send a memo for the Board's signature.

Sheriff Ben Wolfinger, Undersheriff Mattos, Major Kim Edmondson, Major Neal Robertson, Administrative Assistant Christina Clay, and Personnel Technician Marcia Heglie exited the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

Deferred Decisions

Ms. Price reviewed the Preliminary Budget Summary. She said the numbers included a 3% property tax increase plus new growth, the Personnel change decisions made on July 19, 2016, Operation cost changes from prior meetings, a 2% employee merit increase, and shifting several New Program Requests to Capital. She said the current County budget shortfall was \$1,670,192.

Ms. Price pointed out the Board had committed \$723,729 from Indigent fund balances to the Indigent budget in FY2016, but the funds were not used. She suggested committing the same dollars for FY2017 in lieu of appropriating additional tax dollars. The Board discussed the suggestion and agreed to re-commit the \$700,000 from Indigent fund balance for FY2017 operations.

Chairman Green requested the Auditor's office provide a projection of the County's fund balances as of the end of FY2016 in the General Fund, Replacement Reserve/ Acquisition Fund, and the Justice Fund.

The attendees discussed health insurance options at length. Chairman Green said he was not in favor of raising rates for insured children, but he would support an increase in employee contributions for employees and spouses. Commissioner Stewart said he was not in favor of increasing employee contributions because he said it was the cost of

doing business. Commissioner Eberlein commented that the current insurance structure was not sustainable for the County and he would support raising contributions by \$25 for employees and \$40 for spouses.

Commissioner Eberlein requested the Auditor’s staff provide budget projections by Elected Official for FY2016 and FY2017.

The Board discussed with Mr. Riley their intention to allocate \$100,000 for the Fair but locating the funds in Buildings & Grounds FY2017 budget. Commissioner Stewart inquired whether a five year improvement plan could be developed for the Fair, and Mr. Riley said that was possible.

Commissioner Stewart said he would request the Fair Board make a presentation to the Board regarding the potential Recreational Vehicle Park and the related grant the Fair was pursuing.

F. 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.

Citizen Bob Bingham inquired if or when County employees had last had an increase in their medical insurance costs. Chairman Green estimated the last change to the employees’ insurance premiums was made three years ago.

Chairman Green adjourned the meeting at 3:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

DANIEL H. GREEN, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Alicia Lynch, Deputy Clerk
