

Minutes of Meeting
Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Deliberations
July 25, 2016
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 were Clerk Jim Brannon, Chief Deputy Clerk Pat Raffee, Finance Director Dena Darrow, Senior Staff Accountant Kimberli Price, Human Resources (HR) Director Skye Reynolds, HR Generalist- Benefits & Compensation Dorothy Cross, BOCC Administrative Supervisor Nancy Jones, and Deputy Clerk Alicia Lynch. Also present were Aquifer Protection District (APD) Board Chair Leslie Duncan, APD Board member Paul Klatt, and citizen Carla Woempner.

- 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. Old Business:** There was no old business discussed.
- E. New Business:**

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

Shared Parking Project

Chairman Green requested a Capital Expense be added to the FY2017 budget for the Shared Parking project in the amount of \$1.323 million. He said because it was a Capital Expense it could be funded from the fund balance. Commissioner David Stewart clarified that the Board was approving the plan which also contained signalized intersection at Garden Avenue, since the documentation referred to the plan as both Option 1 and Option 2.

Commissioner Stewart moved to tentatively approve \$1.323 million for the Shared Parking project as a FY2017 Capital Expense. Chairman Green seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Lynch called the roll:

Commissioner Stewart: Aye
Commissioner Marc Eberlein: Nay
Chairman Green: Aye

The motion carried.

Elected Official Pay

Chairman Green noted the Board's prior decision to provide employees a 2% merit raise excluded Elected Officials. He inquired whether the Board would support any increase for Elected Officials. Commissioner Stewart said he would support a raise because it had

been years since one was granted to Elected Officials. Chairman Green said he did not support a raise because Elected Officials were aware of the pay when they ran for office, and Commissioner Eberlein agreed.

Citizen Chris Fillios entered the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

Health Insurance Update

Finance Director Dena Darrow informed the Board the health insurance projections supplied previously using Mercer's formulas were incorrect. She explained that with HR-Generalist- Benefits & Compliance Dorothy Cross' help, she had recalculated and the result was the County was still short \$100,000. Ms. Darrow said she trusted these new projections.

The Board reviewed new health insurance options. Chairman Green reluctantly suggested lowering the Mercer's projected overall insurance cost, but noted that the decision could create a shortfall in insurance funding for FY2018. Commissioner Eberlein suggested using salary salvage dollars to offset the difference. The Board discussed the item at length.

Chairman Green and Commissioner Eberlein agreed to lower the budgeted cost for health insurance to \$1.4 million. Clerk Jim Brannon confirmed Chairman Green's observation that the County would absorb 70% of the insurance increase with a \$1.4 million dollar contribution, and the employees would contribute only 30% of the increase with approximately \$660,000.

Airport Sewer Fund

Senior Staff Accountant Kimberli Price and BOCC Administrative Supervisor Nancy Jones noted they had each received questions from Airport staff regarding the Airport's budget for sewer. Ms. Price reported \$37,000 total was budgeted, with \$35,000 towards water, sewage, and garbage and \$2,000 for equipment repair. Chairman Green noted that Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board fees would be decreasing this year and the \$37,000 was based on last year's fees. Ms. Jones said she believed the discussion answered the Airport's questions. No Board action was taken.

Aquifer Protection District (APD) Budget

APD Board Chair Leslie Duncan and Board member Paul Klatt answered questions regarding the FY2017 APD budget request including: the Department of Environmental Quality project, recharge easements, collaboration with Kootenai Environmental Alliance (KEA), and APD fees.

Commissioners Stewart and Eberlein agreed it would be inappropriate for APD dollars to be used to push a KEA agenda. Commissioner Eberlein said he would support printing educational literature in collaboration with KEA as long as the literature was proofread for content and no KEA logo appeared on the documents. Commissioner Stewart said he would not support County dollars going to any political entity.

Both Commissioners Stewart and Eberlein agreed recharge easements were unwarranted as the properties under consideration were undesirable for building.

Commissioner Stewart said he was in favor of reducing APD fees to reduce their fund balance growth as opposed to spending the fund balance. Chairman Green and Commissioner Eberlein disagreed.

Commissioner Stewart moved to tentatively adopt the Aquifer Protection District's FY2017 budget with the following amendments: that the \$45,000 request for recharge easements be removed as well as the \$1,250 KEA request, which would reduce the APD budget to \$562,963.50. There was no second, and the motion failed.

Commissioner Eberlein moved to tentatively amend the Aquifer Protection District's FY2017 budget to exclude the \$45,000 request for recharge easements and stipulated the \$1,250 line item would not be used to further any political agenda. Chairman Green seconded the motion, noting that he supported the recharge easements. There being no further discussion, Deputy Clerk Lynch called the roll:

Commissioner Stewart: Nay
Commissioner Eberlein: Aye
Chairman Green: Aye
The motion carried.

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. There were no public comments.

Chairman Green adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

DANIEL H. GREEN, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Alicia Lynch, Deputy Clerk
