



Bonner County

Board of Commissioners

Brian Domke

Asia Williams

Ron Korn

MINUTES FOR THE BONNER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

August 26, 2025 – 9:00 AM

Bonner County Administration Building
1500 Highway 2, Room 338, Sandpoint, ID

On Tuesday, August 26, 2025, the Bonner County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting. Commissioners Domke, Williams, and Korn were present. Commissioner Williams called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Invocation was presented by Will Bush and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

ADOPT THE ORDER OF AGENDA AS AMENDED

Commissioner Korn made a motion to amend the order by moving Solid Waste Items #1 and #2 to immediately follow the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Domke seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes; Commissioner Korn – Yes. The motion carries.

Commissioner Korn made a motion to adopt the Order of the Agenda as amended. Commissioner Domke seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes; Commissioner Korn – Yes. The motion carries.

CONSENT AGENDA – Action Item

- 1) Bonner County Commissioners' Minutes August 19, 2025
- 2) Liquor License(s): Pivo Peaks Alehouse
- 3) Plat(s) for Approval: MLD0035-25, Lazzarini Acres
- 4) Invoices Over \$5k: Airport (Big Brand Tire, **\$5,784.12**)

Commissioner Domke made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Korn seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Williams – Yes; Commissioner Korn – Yes; Commissioner Domke – Yes. The motion carries.

SOLID WASTE – Bob Howard

- 1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Request for Bid of Scrap Metal from Waste Transfer Sites

Commissioner Korn made a motion to approve that the County approve the issuance and advertisement of a Request for Bid to remove the metal piles at Dickensheet, Idaho Hill and Colburn waste transfer sites. Commissioner Domke seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Williams – Yes; Commissioner Korn – Yes; Commissioner Domke – Yes. The motion carries.

- 2) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Bid for Household Hazardous Waste Disposal
Commissioner Domke made a motion to approve that the County approve the issuance and advertisement of a Request for Bid to accept, package, transport and dispose of household hazardous waste at various collection sites throughout the county on each scheduled Saturday. Commissioner Korn seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Korn – Yes; Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes. The motion carries.

3) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Bid for Wood Grinding

Commissioner Korn made a motion to approve that the County approve the issuance and advertisement of a Request for Bid to grind, transport and proper disposal of the wood piles at the Dickensheet, Idaho Hill, and Colburn waste transfer stations. Commissioner Domke seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes; Commissioner Korn – Yes. The motion carries.

PANHANDLE HEALTH DISTRICT UPDATE

1) PHD Board Chairman Thomas Fletcher

Discussed changes in public healthcare that will affect PHD. Appreciates the commissioners for questioning the budget; unfortunately, he cannot account for where Bonner County's tax dollars are being used within PHD. Dr. Fletcher introduced PHD's new Medical Director, Dr. Greg Pennock.

Dr. Pennock provided a brief overview of his medical background and experience and what his role is at PHD. He will be doing a deep dive into what PHD is doing clinically including if they are meeting the needs of the community, efficiency, and the support they can provide. A brief discussion followed regarding what services are offered in Bonner County.

Dr. Fletcher reiterated that there are many challenges in finding what is going on at PHD as well as doing a deep audit of PHD. Commissioner Williams asked if there would be a dissemination of information/education regarding kratom, an OTC herb. Dr. Fletcher said he has no information on that and that he is being obstructed from receiving information.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

- Dian Welle – Commented that Dr. Fletcher's tone was very adversarial
- Jim Leighty – Asked about the budget for PHD and how it compares to other departments, such as Solid Waste/Road & Bridge/Sheriff's Office
- Theresa Hiesener – Commented that a local restaurant has a box of morning after pills available for people, including children. Asked Dr. Fletcher about cloud seeding and geoengineering in the skies and will rainwater begin to be tested
- Darla Fletcher - Takes the health of neighbors and family and we need to look at food and we need more education regarding food; when she brought this up at a PHD board meeting it was not received well

CLERK – Michael Rosedale

1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding FY25 Claims Batch #46, **Totaling \$668,517.55**

Commissioner Korn made a motion to approve payment of FY25 Claims Batch #46, Totaling \$668,517.55. Commissioner Domke seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Korn – Yes; Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes. The motion carries.

ELECTIONS – Tere Schultz

1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Disposal of Election Records; **Resolution**

Commissioner Domke made a motion to approve **Resolution #2025-55** that allows the Elections Office to dispose of the election records listed in Exhibit A. Commissioner Korn seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Dave Bowman – Asked what the time period is

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes; Commissioner Korn – Yes. The motion carries.

SHERIFF – Ror Lakewold

1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Excavation Services from North Point Trenchless; **\$9,845 – No Motion Made**

2) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding the Purchase of One Chevy Silverado; **\$50,594.32**

Commissioner Domke made a motion to approve the purchase of One 2025 Chevy Silverado in the amount of \$50,594.32 Commissioner Korn seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Jim Leighty – Asked if these purchases are an additional cost to the \$7.5 million budget

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Korn – Yes; Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes.
The motion carries.

AIRPORT – Dave Schuck

- 1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Construction Contract for FAA AIP 3-16-0033-024-2025 Grant for Obstruction Removal; Sandpoint

Commissioner Korn made a motion that we enter into this contract with Selland Construction for the obstruction removal project at Sandpoint Airport and that the Chair sign administratively. Commissioner Domke seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes; Commissioner Korn – Yes. The motion carries.

- 2) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Hangar Shelter #5 Lease; Priest River
Commissioner Domke made a motion that Bonner County enter into this lease agreement and that the Chair sign administratively. Commissioner Korn seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Williams – Yes; Commissioner Korn – Yes; Commissioner Domke – Yes. The motion carries.

- 3) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Temporary Construction Easement for the 2025 Obstruction Removal Project; Sandpoint

Commissioner Korn made a motion that Bonner County enter into this easement agreement and that the Chair sign administratively. Commissioner Domke seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Korn – Yes; Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes. The motion carries.

JUSTICE SERVICES – Ron Stultz

- 1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Boundary Security & Transport Service Agreement
Commissioner Domke made a motion to approve the Boundary Security & Transport Service Agreement with Bonner County Juvenile Detention. Commissioner Korn seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes; Commissioner Korn – Yes. The motion carries.

PLANNING – Jake Gabell

- 1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding a Request for Additional Funds to the Planning Department FY2025 B Budget in the amount of \$40,000; **Resolution**

Commissioner Domke made a motion to approve this request for additional funds to the Planning Department FY2025 B Budget in the amount of \$40,000, **Resolution #2025-56**. Commissioner Korn seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Williams – Yes; Commissioner Korn – Yes; Commissioner Domke – Yes. The motion carries.

BOCC – Commissioner Asia Williams

- 1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Commission-Board Interview Process & Procedure
Commissioner Williams stepped down from the chair and made a motion that the Board of County Commissions hold the interview portion of the boards and commissions in public using the executive session portion to evaluate the respective qualities of the applicants.

Commissioner Domke seconded the motion to advance for discussion. Commissioner Korn expressed concern about treating volunteers differently than employees and they may be hesitant to answer questions due to an interview being on YouTube, he believes that volunteers should be treated the same as employees.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Theresa Hiesener – Understands Commissioner Korn’s concern but advisory boards are on zoom anyway
- Wayne Martin – Understands Commissioner Korn’s concern but would offer them an opportunity to answer some questions away from the public but the rest of the process is public so that they know that citizens are holding them accountable
- Dave Bowman – In response to Commissioner Korn’s concerns, there should not be questions directed to an applicant that can’t be answered in public, there are OML for a reason, doing this kind of stuff behind closed doors is a breeding ground for corruption; these positions are not hired or employees; there should not be any Executive Session not even deliberation

- Jonathan Holmgren, HR Director – Urges the board to consider that volunteers and employees can be treated differently and to be cautious that a volunteer position does not seem to be an employee
- Dave Bowman – If this stuff is done in Executive Session, it opens the county up to litigation

There was discussion among the board regarding these commissions, and the community should have input. This would allow the board and the community to see how an applicant will behave when answering questions. Commissioner Domke added that well questions should be well structured and not personal, agreed that seeing how an applicant responds to pressure in a public meeting environment; he asked legal about the magistrate process and if that had ever been challenged. Bill discussed his legal opinion that was provided and that the statute needs to be looked at in its entirety and the justification to consider extending that to volunteers as they are not elected positions. Commissioner Williams reiterated that these are volunteers, not employees. Commissioner Korn discussed the inefficiencies of going in and out of Executive Session and if deliberation in an open meeting could potentially open up the County to litigation, there are a lot of negative concerns, he does not see the benefit of doing this in open meeting because of a few people wanting them to be. He does not take this lightly and thinks there are more negatives than positives. Further discussion followed.

Commissioner Domke moved to amend the motion that is on the table to read based on the information before us, I move that the Board of County Commissioners hold the interview and deliberation portion of the boards and commissions in public using the Executive Session only as allowed by State Statute.

Commissioner Williams seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Dian Welle – Making these open allows trust in our commissioners and it is open and transparent and takes away handshake deals. Not all volunteers are covered by the county.
- Matt Linscott – P and Z commissioners may not receive salary, but they are akin to a hired public official and are different than volunteers, their integration into the county government and decision making and are bound by OML as well
- Fred Arn – If we looked at how boards and volunteers were selected in the past, we should avoid that in the future and should make a decision that enhances openness
- Amy Lunsford – These boards are not just volunteers; they are important and are making important decisions that impact the taxpayers and the county so they should be open and transparent, and the public should know their backgrounds
- Dave Bowman – Appreciates this in-depth dialogue, discussed OML and that these positions are far more than a volunteer but not an elected official, however they are closer to an elected official than an employee
- Theresa Hiesener – Volunteers do a lot however they can get up and walk if they choose
- Wayne Martin – As a CERT member they are only covered by county insurance when activated, he understands Matt Linscott's view, but not everything needs to be based on having specific knowledge, these boards are critical

Commissioner Korn wanted to reiterate that these positions are not elected.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Korn – No; Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes. The motion carries.

Commissioner Domke made a motion to approve the motion as amended. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Korn – No; Commissioner Domke – Yes; Commissioner Williams – Yes. The motion carries.

DISTRICT 1 COMMISSIONER UPDATE

- 1) Citizen Concerns and Suggestions
- 2) Current High Priority Tasks
- 3) Questions from the Public on District 1 Commissioner Update

DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONER DISTRICT DISCUSSION

- 1) Ongoing Issues/Concerns Updates
- 2) Litigation
- 3) Workshops Pending

- 4) Discussion Regarding Open Board/Commission Positions: Which boards have openings, also tracking of positions that will become open within 6 months' time
- 5) Questions from the Public

DISTRICT 3 COMMISSIONER REPORT

- 1) Summarization of Meetings During the Week
- 2) Community Events Attended During the Week

PUBLIC COMMENT* Opened at 11:38 a.m.

- Fred Arn – Still waiting for a call from Priest River
- Wayne Martin – Thanked all firefighters/emergency responders, Road & Bridge for chip sealing and striping on Dufort, and Commissioner Korn for his monthly preparedness meeting; asked about compliance officer in Planning not working on weekends

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Clerk: *Alisa Schoeffel*

The following is a summary of the Board of County Commissioners' Special Meetings (including Tax Cancellations, Assistance Meetings, Admin, and other) Executive Sessions, Emergency Meetings, and Hearings held during the week of August 19, 2025 – August 25, 2025. Copies of the complete meeting minutes are available upon request.

On Tuesday, August 19, 2025, an Executive Session was held pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(F) Litigation.

On Tuesday, August 19, 2025, a Special Meeting with Justice Services was held pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-204(4)

On Tuesday, August 19, 2025, Tax Cancellations were held pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-204(4)

On Wednesday, August, 20, 2025, a Budget Hearing for the BCASD was held pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-204(4)

ATTEST: Michael W. Rosedale

By *Asia Williams*
Commissioner Asia Williams, Chair

By *Alisa Schoeffel*
Deputy Clerk

9-2-25
Date