

MINUTES
JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, March 04, 2021

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room C310

MEMBERS PRESENT: Senators Co-chairman Bair, Agenbroad, Crabtree, Grow, Woodward, Lent, Riggs, Cook, Ward-Engelking, Nye
Representatives Co-chairman Youngblood, Troy, Horman, Amador, Syme, Bundy, Giddings, Nate, Green, Nash

ABSENT/EXCUSED: None

CONVENED: **Chairman Youngblood** called the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (JFAC) to order at 8:00 a.m.

LSO STAFF PRESENTATION: **SECRETARY OF STATE – LBB 6-157. Maggie Smith, Senior Analyst.**

Ms. Smith introduced the budget for the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State is one of the seven constitutional officers in Idaho, responsible for managing and certifying elections, and administering the sunshine law, as well as the centralized uniform commercial code and all business filings in the state.

MOTION: Original Motion: Moved by **Rep. Bundy**, seconded by **Sen. Crabtree**, for the Secretary of State beginning with the FY 2022 Base an increase of \$7,100 for benefit costs, a decrease of \$70,700 for statewide cost allocation, and an increase of \$38,000 for change in employee compensation. Also included is one line-item, which provides \$30,000 to publish the Idaho Blue Book. The totals for this motion for FY 2022 are 30.0 FTP and \$3,615,700 from the General Fund.

CARRIED: **AYES: 20.**
Bair, Agenbroad, Crabtree, Grow, Woodward, Lent, Riggs, Cook, Ward-Engelking, Nye, Youngblood, Troy, Horman, Amador, Syme, Nate, Giddings, Bundy, Green, Nash.
NAYS: 0.
ABSENT/EXCUSED: 0.

The majority, having voted in the affirmative, the motion passed, and without objection, carried a **DO PASS** recommendation. Hearing no objection, it was so ordered by **Chairman Youngblood**.

LSO STAFF PRESENTATION: **INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION - LBB 5-29. Maggie Smith, Senior Analyst.**

Ms. Smith introduced the budget for the Industrial Commission. The Idaho Industrial Commission administers the worker's compensation law. The commission has three budgeted programs, a compensation program, a rehabilitation program that assists injured workers in returning to work, and a Crime Victims Compensation Program, as well. The commission has 133.25 FTP.

MOTION:

Original Motion: Moved by **Rep. Syme**, seconded by **Sen. Lent**, for the Industrial Commission beginning with the FY 2022 Base, an increase of \$31,900 for the benefit costs, \$9,700 for the statewide cost allocation, and \$159,500 for change in employee compensation. Also included are the following line-items; line item 1, which provides \$3,232,000 for year two of the Commission's IT. Modernization project; line item 2, which reduces the Commission's ongoing operating expenses by \$165,300, to account for the reduced rent rate at the Chinden Campus; line item 3, \$100,000 to contract with an attorney to assist with the increase in unemployment insurance appeals reviewed and ruled upon by the Commission; and line item 4, which provides \$8,100 to implement a 2% change in employee compensation for the three industrial commissioners. The totals for this motion for FY 2022 are 133.25 FTP, \$294,000 from the General Fund, \$20,086,500 from the dedicated funds, and \$1,200,000 from federal funds for a grand total of \$21,580,500.

CARRIED:

AYES: 18.

Bair, Agenbroad, Crabtree, Grow, Woodward, Lent, Riggs, Cook, Ward-Engelking, Nye, Youngblood, Troy, Horman, Amador, Syme, Bundy, Green, Nash.

NAYS: 2.

Nate, Giddings.

ABSENT/EXCUSED: 0.

The majority, having voted in the affirmative, the motion passed, and without objection, carried a **DO PASS** recommendation. Hearing no objection, it was so ordered by **Chairman Youngblood**.

**UNANIMOUS
CONSENT:**

Requested by **Rep. Syme**, granted by unanimous consent, the following two sections were included in the FY 2022 appropriation bill for the Industrial Commission:

SECTION __. That Section 72-503, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-503. SALARY. Commencing July 1, 2021, the annual salary of each member of the industrial commission shall be one hundred eleven thousand four hundred seventy dollars (\$111,470). Industrial commissioner salaries shall be paid from sources set by the legislature. Each member of the industrial commission shall devote full time to the performance of his duties.

SECTION __. BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION. In accordance with Section 1, Article VIII, of the Constitution of the state of Idaho, of the amount appropriated in Section 1 of this act, \$2,844,200 from the Industrial Administration Fund and \$387,800 from the Crime Victims

Compensation Fund comprise the second of four onetime appropriations for the commission's business and technology modernization, subject to the availability of funds and satisfactory project implementation. On or before September 1 of each year, the commission shall report to the Legislature regarding the specific efforts made to upgrade its business applications, the outcomes of those efforts, and an estimate of the appropriation amount needed to continue those efforts.

**LSO STAFF
PRESENTATION:**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE- LBB 8-3. Rob Sepich, Senior Analyst.

Ms. Sepich introduced the budget for the Department of Agriculture. The mission of the division is to guarantee that Idaho agricultural products are of high quality, and meet the federal, and state laws and rules and regulations. Three line items were requested, and all these were approved by the Governor. The first item was to add an animal lab technician, the next item is to purchase some Microsoft Office 365 subscription licenses, the last item would be reflective of a CEC for the fruit and vegetable inspectors.

MOTION:

Original Motion: Moved by **Sen. Crabtree**, seconded by **Rep. Troy**, for the Department of Agriculture beginning with FY 2022 Base, \$54,900 for benefit costs, \$890,000 for replacement costs, \$58,000 for statewide cost allocation, and \$330,700 for a change in employee compensation. Also included are the following line items: line item 1, which adds \$57,600 to hire an animal lab technician; line item 2, \$97,300 to purchase Office 365 subscriptions; and line item 3, which provides \$63,300 for a CEC and variable adjustment for fresh fruit and vegetable inspectors. The totals for this motion are for FY 2022, 216.0 FTPs, \$11,975,200 from the General Fund, and \$27,773,700 from the dedicated funds, and \$6,364,400 from federal funds, for a grand total of \$46,113,300.

CARRIED:

AYES: 20.

Bair, Agenbroad, Crabtree, Grow, Woodward, Lent, Riggs, Cook, Ward-Engelking, Nye, Youngblood, Troy, Horman, Amador, Syme, Nate, Giddings, Bundy, Green, Nash.

NAYS: 0.

ABSENT/EXCUSED: 0.

The majority, having voted in the affirmative, the motion passed, and without objection, carried a **DO PASS** recommendation. Hearing no objection, it was so ordered by **Chairman Youngblood**.

**UNANIMOUS
CONSENT:**

Requested by **Sen. Crabtree**, granted by unanimous consent, the following section of bill language was included:

WATERCRAFT INSPECTION PROGRAM. The Department of Agriculture shall maximize the use of the appropriation provided for the Watercraft Inspection Program to minimize the chances of spreading zebra mussels, quagga mussels, and other aquatic invasive species into Idaho waters. The department is encouraged to use roving inspection stations when appropriate and for expanded hours of coverage during holidays when boat transport traffic is likely to increase. It is also encouraged to use extra staffing on busy holiday weekends. The department shall gather data regarding the number of watercraft that are bypassing the stations and nighttime transport of watercraft across Idaho's borders. The department shall also seek to secure federal funding to further enhance invasive species detection and prevention efforts. The department shall report back to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee, the Senate Agricultural Affairs Committee, and the House Agricultural Affairs Committee during the 2022 legislative session regarding the results of the data gathering, attainment of federal funds, and an operational review of the boat stations.

**LSO STAFF
PRESENTATION:**

WOLF DEPREDATION CONTROL BOARD- LBB 6-109. Rob Sepich, Senior Analyst.

Ms. Sepich introduced the budget for the Wolf Depredation Control Board. The board was created by House Bill 470 of 2014, which recognized the additional financial resources were needed to continue the implementation of Idaho's wolf management plan. The bill established the five-member board to control wolves that cause depredation on livestock and wildlife. The Governor's holdback did remove 5% of the ongoing General Fund, which was \$19,600.

MOTION:

Original Motion: Moved by **Sen. Crabtree**, seconded by **Rep. Troy**, for the Wolf Depredation Control Board \$392,000 from the general funds for FY 2022.

CARRIED:

AYES: 20.

Bair, Agenbroad, Crabtree, Grow, Woodward, Lent, Riggs, Cook, Ward-Engelking, Nye, Youngblood, Troy, Horman, Amador, Syme, Nate, Giddings, Bundy, Green, Nash.

NAYS: 0.

ABSENT/EXCUSED: 0.

The majority, having voted in the affirmative, the motion passed, and without objection, carried a **DO PASS** recommendation. Hearing no objection, it was so ordered by **Chairman Youngblood**.

**LSO STAFF
PRESENTATION:**

OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES - LBB 6-75. Rob Sepich, Senior Analyst.

Ms. Sepich introduced the budget for the Office of Information Technology Services. Under chapter 8, title 67, Idaho Code, the agency operates state networks, provides consolidated messaging, telephone, data, and video transmission services, coordinates the Idaho technology authority, and provides annual agency IT Support. There was one line-item requested, and recommended by the Governor, for \$790,000 relative to a small error in the calculation of the health benefits. The budget includes a 14.5% reduction as of the Governor's recommendation.

MOTION:

Original Motion: Moved by **Sen. Cook**, seconded by **Rep. Horman**, for the Office of Information Technology Services beginning with the FY 2022 Base, \$43,600 for benefits cost, \$12,300 for statewide cost allocation, and \$213,200 for change in the employee compensation. Also included is line-item one, which provides \$790,000 for health and benefit costs. The totals for this motion for FY 2022 are 135.0 FTP, \$1,764,000 from the General Fund, and \$13,974,900 from the dedicated funds. For a grand total of \$15,738,900.

CARRIED:

AYES: 20.

Bair, Agenbroad, Crabtree, Grow, Woodward, Lent, Riggs, Cook, Ward-Engelking, Nye, Youngblood, Troy, Horman, Amador, Syme, Nate, Giddings, Bundy, Green, Nash.

NAYS: 0.

ABSENT/EXCUSED: 0.

The majority, having voted in the affirmative, the motion passed, and without objection, carried a **DO PASS** recommendation. Hearing no objection, it was so ordered by **Chairman Youngblood**.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Committee, **Chairman Youngblood** adjourned the Committee at 8:31 a.m.

Representative Youngblood
Chair

Anna Maria Mancini
Secretary