

MINUTES
JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, February 10, 2017
TIME: 8:00 A.M.
PLACE: Room C310
MEMBERS PRESENT: Senators Co-chairman Keough, Bair, Mortimer, Martin, Souza, Lee, Agenbroad, Crabtree, Ward-Engelking, Nye
Representatives Co-chairman Bell, Youngblood, Miller, Burtenshaw, Horman, Malek, Anderson, Dixon, King, Wintrow
ABSENT/ EXCUSED: None

CONVENED: Senator Keough convened the meeting at 8:00 A.M.

AGENCY

PRESENTATION: ATTORNEY GENERAL

LSO STAFF LAWRENCE WASDEN, ATTORNEY GENERAL: Highlights the FY2016.
PRESENTATION: Reviews the functions and responsibilities of the Attorney General's Office.
[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqYQ) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqYQ)
JARED HOSKINS: Reviews the FY2016/2017 budget [PRESENTATION](#) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqYw)
TARA ORR, FINANCIAL OFFICER: Reviews the line items from FY2017.
HOSKINS: Reviews the FY2018 budget and line items [PRESENTATION](#) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqYw)
ORR: Highlights most of the replacement items are needing updates. Telephone system that is 10 years old, it's out of warranty. And asking for two vehicles.
HOSKINS: Reviews the line items for FY2018.
GENERAL: Item 1, we have withdrawn this request;
ORR: We are using our existing resources to create two Attorneys Generals in this area. Item 2: Department of Environmental Quality, this position will assist them with the clean water act. We will provide them with legal advice and representation.
HOSKINS: Reviews the remaining line items for FY2018.
ORR: Tax commission, to assist them in tax collection in different states. Position to be paid by the State wide cost allocation plan.
HOSKINS: Reviews the last line item for FY2018.
ORR: Criminal investigation unit, great time saving to do the actual investigative work and release them from the actual clerical work.
[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqYQ) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqYQ)

AGENCY

PRESENTATION: PUBLIC DEFENSE COMMISSION

LSO STAFF KIMBERLY SIMMONS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Reviews the agency's
PRESENTATION: overview. [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgT) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgT)
JARED HOSKINS: Reviews the FY2016/FY2017 budgets [PRESENTATION](#) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqYw)
DIRECTOR: Reviews the FY2017 line items [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgT) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgT)

QUESTIONS: SEN MORTIMER: Can you get us some detail information on the expenditures of FY2017 and importantly how the disbursements are doing and where those disbursements are going within the counties.
HOSKINS: If you are referring to the \$5.4 million that was appropriated to the Commission for FY2017, I can tell you how they are allocated and how they have been expended thus far. \$4.2 million was to formulaic grants, \$550,000 was for merger incentives, and \$250,000 was for extraordinary litigation costs. The remaining monies were appropriated to the agency for personnel costs and operating expenditures and a little one time capital outlay.
SEN MORTIMER: I just want to see what has gone up and where the monies are going to, what each county has received and what we are doing with that \$5.4 million.
REP KING: Are the counties contributing as well as the State?
DIRECTOR: Yes, the counties are paying 100% of the Public Defenders salaries.
[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgT) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgT)

HOSKINS: Reviews the FY2018 budget and the one line item. [PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xXqYw) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqYw) [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgT) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgT)

QUESTIONS: REP BELL: First agency I have seen with a 50% vacancies, can you comment on that?
DIRECTOR: Vacant position, we were just allocated those positions starting on July 1 and I was hired on May 1 and I have hired one position. They provide help to the Public Defenders office in providing services to the counties with Public Defenders. [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgT) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgT)

AGENCY

PRESENTATION: SECRETARY OF STATE

LSO STAFF
PRESENTATION: LAWRENCE DENNEY, SECRETARY OF STATE: Reviews the agency's overview, and highlights what the future holds for the agency. [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7)

JARED HOSKINS: Reviews the FY2016/FY2017 budget [PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgF) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgF)

SECRETARY: Reviews the FY2017 line items. [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7)

QUESTIONS: SEN CRABTREE: Did you say ITD?
SECRETARY: Our State wide voter system works off the Driver's license and so we need ITD;
[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7)

HOSKINS: Reviews FY2018 budget [PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgF) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgF) [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7)

SECRETARY : Reviews FY2018 line items [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7)

QUESTIONS: SEN SOUZA: On the election software upgrades, we have had conversations about the possibility of having counties being able to report their elections results, also the Candidates' disclosure, all housed in a central spot. Would this upgrade give your office the ability to do that?
SECRETARY: Not this one, but we do have enhancements that we are going to do to our website. We hope to be able to do that.
REP WINTROW: On the IT upgrade, I'm curious about how that's going and when you think that will be complete? A few folks have contacted me about expedited verse non-expedited filing fees for businesses, and there is some hold up. I am assuming that is because of this IT issue?
SECRETARY: That is part of the upgrade, and when we are done with that sunshine upgrade, we will be able to do that a lot quicker. We do get that posted very quickly.
[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7)
DALE HIGER: Thanks the committee and gives review of the Commission on Uniform State Laws. They want to stay ahead of the new laws and researches.
[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqg7)

AGENCY

PRESENTATION: COMMISSION ON HISPANIC AFFAIRS

LSO STAFF **MARGIE GONZALEZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Established in 1987.
PRESENTATION: Advises the State in regards to the Hispanic communities and population; Reviews the agency's overview [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgM) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgM)

QUESTIONS: REP WINTROW: What would you say is your largest challenge with people who are Hispanic in our State are facing in regards to access to education and health care?
DIRECTOR: I believe that language is still a barrier. To be able to communicate and become more educated on what are valuable resources.
[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgM) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgM)
ROB SEPICH: Reviews the FY2016/FY2017 budget, and with no further comments, reviews the FY2018 budget [PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xXqge) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqge) [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgM) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgM)

AGENCY

PRESENTATION: DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

LSO STAFF **CHRIS JENSEN, ADMINISTRATOR:** Reviews the agency's overview.
PRESENTATION: [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgt) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgt)
ROB SEPICH: Reviews the FY2016/FY2017 budget, with no further comments, reviews the FY2017 line items. [PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgh) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgh)
ADMINISTRATOR: Reviews the FY2017 line items [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgt) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgt)

QUESTIONS:

REP ANDERSON: They wanted some vehicles and the Governor's recommended them all.

GIDEON TOLMAN: These vehicle replacement request went through the same process that other agencies go through. It is based on mileage and normal wear and tear, and there is guidance in the budget process that all these items have to go through. These vehicles met the requirements. And so they were all recommended by the Governor.

REP KING: The B12, looks to me like you have \$10 million on the Free Fund Balance on the Regulatory Fund, and on page 6 you have \$3 million in the Free Fund Balance on the Regulatory Electrical. There are several other pretty good balances, is that a timing issue? Is that why you have that kind of funding in there?

ADMINISTRATOR: Yes, it is a timing issue. As we went through the recession, all of our fund balances went down. When the recession came, construction went out like flipping a light switch, and our permits stopped. We still had obligations to our inspectors, personnel, and to our costs. As we were able to scale down our cost and our people, then our fund balances leveled out. Now that the economy is coming back, and construction is coming back, those fund balances are growing rapidly.

REP MILLER: Will you get to a point where you reduce fees?

ADMINISTRATOR: The public works actually got to that point last year, and reduced fees by 20%. We are actively looking at those to see what we can do. We are really struggling with keeping up with construction, we did in one day over 600 inspections, that is a record for the division.

SEN SOUZA: Is there a point, at which the fees would be reduced, or does it change with each of your different areas, once you reach that target of funding, retain funding, that you would reduce the fees? At what point is that?

ADMINISTRATOR: These funds are all controlled by the Board and so those decisions are made by those Boards. We can make recommendations to the board.

[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgt) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgt)

SEPICH: Reviews the FY2018 budget [PRESENTATION](#)
(https://go.usa.gov/xXqgh)

ADMINISTRATOR: Reviews the FY2018 replacement items. [AUDIO](#)
(https://go.usa.gov/xXqgt)

SEPICH: Reviews the FY2018 line items [PRESENTATION](#)
(https://go.usa.gov/xXqgh)

ADMINISTRATOR: Reviews the FY2018 line items? [AUDIO](#)
(https://go.usa.gov/xXqgt)

SEN SOUZA: I'm wondering for the building codes and having them printed to Idaho. Is there any funding and how is that going forward?

ADMINISTRATOR: The Building Code Board is responsible for that. Its a board decision. The Building Contractors Association actually took the lead, and hope to get the funding to have that code printed. It is not our spending authority to do that. They are working on that.

[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXqgt) (https://go.usa.gov/xXqgt)

AGENCY

PRESENTATION: LAVA HOT SPRINGS

LSO STAFF **DEVANEE MORRISON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Gives the background
PRESENTATION: of the Lava Hot Springs. Reviews the agency's overview. [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXq4r)
(<https://go.usa.gov/xXq4r>)
RAY HOUSTON: Reviews the FY2016/FY2017 budget [PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xXq4D)
(<https://go.usa.gov/xXq4D>)
MARK LOWE, OUT-GOING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: The Free Fund
Balances, over the years, have helped support the agency's improvements.
HOUSTON: Reviews the FY2017 line items [PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xXq4D)
(<https://go.usa.gov/xXq4D>)
LOWE: Reviews the FY2017 line items
HOUSTON: Reviews the FY2018 budget and replacement items
[PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xXq4D) (<https://go.usa.gov/xXq4D>)
MORRISON: Reviews the FY2018 replacement items
HOUSTON: Reviews the FY2018 line items [PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xXq4D)
(<https://go.usa.gov/xXq4D>)
MORRISON: Reviews line item 2 in the FY2018 budget [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXq4r)
(<https://go.usa.gov/xXq4r>)

QUESTIONS: **REP MILLER:** Question on line item 1, what is the kind of turnover and are you short on employees?
MORRISON: The rationale behind that request, is because the city of Lava Hot Springs has approximately 500. The labor pool is very small. When we are pooling for employees they may come as far as 40 miles away. There is quite a turnover rate within employees. It is also a specialized positions, they need CPR certification and if we are hiring a life guard, they need additional training.
[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXq4r) (<https://go.usa.gov/xXq4r>)

HOUSTON: Finishes the last line item in the FY2018 budget [PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xXq4D)
(<https://go.usa.gov/xXq4D>)

MORRISON: Reviews line item 3 of the FY2018 budget [AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXq4r)
(<https://go.usa.gov/xXq4r>)

QUESTIONS: **REP BURTENSHAW:** Is there elevation that you deal with or hills you deal with? Why is the cost so expensive?
MORRISON: It is for an additional parking garage, so it would be a second level for parking on an already existing parking lot. Lava Hot Springs is on a hill more or less. There is not a lot of area to work with.
REP ANDERSON: On the existing parking lot, is it the parking lot off to the south?
MORRISON: Yes, it is.
REP ANDERSON: Is the hotel on your property?
MORRISON: Yes, it is, it is leased land.
[AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xXq4r) (<https://go.usa.gov/xXq4r>)

ADJOURNED

There being no further business, Senator Keough adjourned the meeting at 10:22 A.M.

Senator Keough
Chair

Amberlee Honsaker
Secretary