

MINUTES
JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, January 17, 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: **GOVERNOR'S REVISED BUDGET RECOMMENDATION**

LSO STAFF PRESENTATION: **Jani Revier, Administrator, Division of Financial Management:** Dept of Environmental has removed its request for a replacement; Office of the Governor recommends a director of information security position; Dept of Commerce request one-time to support education and efforts to recruiting missions for the F-35 and other future missions at Gowen Field. Dept of Health and Welfare has updated its projection for the Aid to the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (AABD) case load growth. The proposed legislation has been adjusted downward to \$1,597,500.
([INSERT LINK TO PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xX86r))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX86r>)

AGENCY PRESENTATION: **COMMISSION FOR LIBRARIES**

PERSONATOR: **Ann Joslin, State Librarian:** Idaho's library community consists of 144 public library buildings that are open year-round. Too many people are unaware of the changes in the Public Libraries. The public library in their communities are good learning tool, technology, our job is to provide resources and plan for the future to these community libraries. Libraries have built what they have learned from our unique. STEM and the action center are working together to open grants to open libraries. LILY.org and Libraries linking Idaho, are resources available 24/7.
([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh>)

PERSONATOR: **Robynn Lockett, Principal Budget Analyst:** The agency has 3 funds General, Federal and Miscellaneous. The majority of these funds are from the library services and technology act; Miscellaneous: the fund receives donations and grants from individuals and corporations that support ICFL programs; ([INSERT LINK TO PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xX86Q))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX86Q>)

QUESTION:

SEN MORTIMER: I'm looking at two cash balance sheets and it appears the agency, sheets, It appears I have three with balances, the library improvement fund and that fund is missing from the screen. Also how do we treat the General Fund account?

LOCKETT; The general fund is cash. The libraries improvement fund is continuously appropriated. We do not track the different agencies continuously appropriated funds here. The commission tracks the amounts. ([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh>)

LOCKETT: The FY 2017 appropriation of \$180,000, is for reimbursement of the non E-Rate portion of public libraries' internet service provider charges.

DIRECTOR: Regarding Federal appropriations, these funds are used in virtually all of the services we provide; lily.org is our largest cost. The Broadband reimbursement program, is a state funding that provides internet services to public libraries and public schools.

LOCKETT: For FY 2018, the commission requests \$5,848,400 and also requests replacement items for \$96,000.

DIRECTOR: Personal computers 12; server and storage 4; vehicle for Northern field consultant, has a 2007 vehicle and is going to reach 110,000 miles.

LOCKETT: FY 2018 move the Talking Book Service to the General Fund from the Federal Grant Fund; This was not recommended by the Governor; ([PRESENTATION LINK](https://go.usa.gov/xX86Q)) (<https://go.usa.gov/xX86Q>) ([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh>)

QUESTION:

REP WINTROW: What happens if we don't approve the amount requested for The Book Service?

DIRECTOR: We are dedicated to continue this service. The consequences would be the federal funds that are put in other places would continue to decrease, but we are dedicated to continue this service.

SEN. LEE: What happens to the surplus vehicle? Do the funds go back into the General Fund and does the Commission get credit for that?

LOCKETT: If you go back to actual report; when they sell the vehicle the amount goes back to the fund in which the vehicle was ongoing funded from. ([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh>)

LOCKETT: Maker and STEAM program expansion. This request is to hire someone to coordinate, evaluate and advance existing program. this was not recommended by the Governor.

QUESTIONS:

REP MALEK: Is the Make It Program same as the Maker program?

DIRECTOR: Yes, it is an emerging culture, the libraries started this 5 years ago.

REP MALEK: How is it different than the STEM Action Center?

DIRECTOR: The Stem Action Center are our friends, clearly is focused on K-12, both classroom and out of school, but that is the age group. They have chosen to zero in on certain area of STEM. They offer many one time grants, the private donors have conditions as to how those moneys are to be used. The Make It Program is much wider than STEM or STEAM. We are trying to help the ongoing STEM Program. Clearly the audience is very, very young to people of 100 years old;

REP KING: Do you have increase of patrons coming to your libraries due to these programs?

DIRECTOR: Yes, definitely, this programing is bringing people that have never used the libraries before. They are very interested in using the tools that they are provided with.

REP KING: You named two schools, do you have the name of those schools?

DIRECTOR: One is a Boise area school; not sure of the names.

REP KING: Mr. Tolman: Why didn't the Governor recommend these programs?

GIDEON TOLMAN, Division of Financial Management: The Governor does know these agencies value these programs, the agency is able to continue to carry out these programs with the current funding and so additional funding was not a priority.

REP MILLER: How many people utilize these programs? State Wide?

DIRECTOR: I have seen the figure from about a year or so ago; but each year new libraries participate; I will have to get back to you and let you know.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh>)

DIRECTOR: I would like to talk about staffing; We have 37.5 positions but only 26.5 are federal funded. We will lose 60 years of knowledge when 2 staff members retire. We have been preparing for this change.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8Fh>)

**AGENCY
PRESENTATION:**

COMMISSION OF THE ARTS

PRESENTER:

Michael Faison, Executive Director: Idaho commission of the Arts; 13 volunteer commissioners appointed by the Governor throughout the state. The commission request \$100,000 in trustee and benefit payments from the General Fund for Public Programs in the Arts grants supporting Idaho's charitable arts organizations;

([PRESENTATION LINK](https://go.usa.gov/xX8MQ)) (<https://go.usa.gov/xX8MQ>)

LOCKETT: In line item 1, they reverted \$10,500 back to the FY 2016 General Fund; Three funds general fund is about 40%, Misc. Revenue fund is about 5% and Federal Grant fund is about 55%.

([PRESENTATION LINK](https://go.usa.gov/xX8MQ)) (<https://go.usa.gov/xX8MQ>)

DIRECTOR: Misc fund was increased \$200 in FY 2017. This supports the Idaho Falls Children's Art Program;

LOCKETT: The agency is asking for one line item that was not in the Governor's recommendation.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8ME))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8ME>)

SEN. MORTIMER: Form B12; talking about misc. rev form, I want to confirm the rev, I assume those are donations?

LOCKETT: Yes, donations for FY2016 and estimates for FY 2017/FY 2018.

SEN. MORTIMER: If I'm looking at the cash balance, and they are very consistent, we are ending up in negative balances in FY 2017 and FY 2018. Basically we are not spending it unless we get it, am I reading it correctly?

LOCKETT: That is correct.

SEN. MORTIMER: The Federal Fund form, looking at line item 23 has a borrowing limit, is there really a borrowing limit for Federal Funds?

LOCKETT: They get Federal grants on a reimbursement basis, so the State pays for them up front and then the Federal grant pays them back.

SEN. NYE: For the \$1.9 million request, that equals about \$1 per citizen. How does that compare nation wide?

DIRECTOR: We compared and we are about 3rd in the nation. Top of the bottom 3rd of the nation.

REP HORMAN: Do you know what you had in mind for the line item for the

future ?

DIRECTOR: I'm not there yet. We haven't discussed. The Governor does not recommend this. The reason we why we requested the line item was because the public programs in the arts is the bread and butter in the support of the arts. We do support the Governor's budget.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8ME))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8ME>)

**AGENCY
PRESENTATION:**

DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

PRESENTER:

Susan Buxton, Administor: The division is responsible for employee recruitment, job classification, employee assessment and selection processes, compensation issues, workforce planning and development, employee relations and providing human resource policy to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

LOCKETT: The Division of Human Resources has one program and get one source of funding. The budget is paid by fees all State agencies have associated for classified positions. Agencies do not contribute for non classified positions.

([LINK TO PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xX8MF)) (<https://go.usa.gov/xX8MF>)

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8Me))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8Me>)

SEN SOUZA: On the front of our packet there are 12 FTP but with 2 vacancies, but the screen shows 3 vacancies. Can you clarify that please?

LOCKETT: The screen is always the most current, there are three vacant.

SEN. SOUZA: On the front of our packet there are three organizational colored charts that show three employees switch from CTE Program, are they the current vacancies?

ADMINISTRATOR: Those three vacancies are filled.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8Me))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8Me>)

LOCKETT: The 2nd line item is for the Applicant Tracking System. This was recommended by the Governor.

ADMINISTRATOR: The system is an online program that is 12 years old. We work with the Department of Labor to update our online systems; the old system is not large enough. We want to keep it updated and more useful.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8Me))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8Me>)

SEN. AGENBROAD: You have spent a lot of money maintaining the old system; what kind of money would we be saving on the new system?

ADMINISTRATOR: We hope to maintain the same amount to update the system. Right now it is about \$100,000–\$150,000 to keep it upgraded and function properly.

LOCKETT: Line item 3 is for statewide Cybersecurity training, it is an online training. It has been recommended by the Governor.

DIRECTOR: This is part of the Statewide task force. We have requested spending authority. It should take approximately three months to implement the training plan.

SEN. SOUZA: Will this training be mandatory for all employees?

ADMINISTRATOR: Yes.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8Me))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8Me>)

**AGENCY
PRESENTATION:**

JUDICIAL BRANCH

PRESENTER:

Sara Thomas, Administrative Director of The Courts: Gives a brief overview of the Judicial Branch. Goes over some of the very important line items in the budget request.

Jared Hoskins, Principal Analyst: Goes over the organizational chart and the expenditures and reviews the budget.

([LINK TO PRESENTATION](https://go.usa.gov/xX8MS)) (<https://go.usa.gov/xX8MS>)

THOMAS: I have always started with an update on court technology, but I want start out with our interpreter program for the state. We hired an ADA consultant. The Department of Justice went to Coeur D' Alene to check with their court to see how they were doing and what we should expect.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8eH))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8eH>)

QUESTIONS:

REP. HORMAN: Does your language access person cover sign language?

THOMAS: Yes.

HOSKINS: FY2018 budget request: Court technology phase 4 of 5;

THOMAS: In 2014 the icourt was started. It had a 5 year plan; There were two new revenue sources. In many areas court fees have decrease in filing. Current short fall, additional one-time \$1.88 million.

HOSKINS: Line item 2 is Judicial salary differentials. To restore salary differentials between Court of Appeals Judges and District Judges;

THOMAS: The problem to recruit judges; It use to be a \$6,000 differentials between Court of Appeals and District Judges, now it is \$1,500 differentials between court of appeals and district.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8eH))(<https://go.usa.gov/xX8eH>)

QUESTIONS:

SEN. SOUZA: How or why are court fees decreasing?

THOMAS: On the national level civil cases have decreased. It could be associated with higher costs or not available ;

SEN NYE: What are we in Idaho to national 48th? How could we move towards the middle.

THOMAS: We looked at the 7 states surrounding, we came in 6, And in all of the Western States we are 11 out of 13.

SEN NYE: Can you help find the number of cases per year; is it still true of 4,400 per year?

THOMAS: I would like to refer to Judge Wood.

JUDGE BARRY WOOD, Senior District Judge: It is north of 3,400 or so. Traveling has to do with it, I can get that for you.

SEN NYE: If I do the math of 3,400 cases a year; each judge 9 cases per day?

JUDGE WOOD: We need to get adequate calculations.

SEN MORTIMER: Regards to collection and declining fees, I know in the past its difficult. How many fees are we collecting and what is the trend;

THOMAS: We do the 509 fees or civil fees; istars does not give the details in fees;

SEN MORTIMER: What are the sources and uses?

THOMAS: The breakdown of the technology funds were coming from 2014 coming from small clams cases, and 509 is only civil fees.

SEN MORTIMER: You are indicating basically that the funds are declining because we are not getting the filing fees, but to see what was happening in the past we can get an idea of what could happen.

SEN LEE: Number of civil cases to court fees; testimony was saying fees were

being moved, I know we are probably looking at policy, but I would like to see those numbers.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8eH)) (https://go.usa.gov/xX8eH)

HOSKINS: Summarizes the 10 line items.

([PRESENTATION LINK](https://go.usa.gov/xX8MS))(https://go.usa.gov/xX8MS)

THOMAS: There were just two more that I wanted to talk on. The Court improvements federal grants to general funds. These funds help training to judges; travel operations; indirect costs; The federal budget cut funding and we are losing children grants. Protecting Person Grant: guardianship are increasing; protect children; annual reporting to see how the children are doing; monitor; very successful program.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8eH))(https://go.usa.gov/xX8eH)

**AGENCY
PRESENTATION:**

GUARDIAN AD LITEM

PRESENTER:

Natasha Lattin, Casa Program, 6th district: Has been a Board President for 6 years; explains what the program is; staff is volunteering when there is no one else to take on the guardian ad litem; they are the eyes and ears to report to the court about the children's situation;

([PRESENTATION LINK](https://go.usa.gov/xX8eM)) (https://go.usa.gov/xX8eM)

HOSKINS: General fund program; maintenance budget: \$467,500 to recruit 187 additional volunteers; ([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8ee))(https://go.usa.gov/xX8ee)

LATTIN: The funds being requests are throughout the state; equals out to 187 volunteers; educate and maintain these volunteers; supervising / training / emotional attachment; large commitment for the volunteer; \$2500 per volunteer to train/maintain; directly to our districts; fund-raising /grants and local communities;

SEN BAIR: My question is made guardian consists from donations/gifts;

HOSKINS: Account is a holding fund;

LATTIN: Each district is its own business; those are our base just to run the business;

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8ee)) (https://go.usa.gov/xX8ee)

**AGENCY
PRESENTATION:**

JUDICIAL COUNCIL

PRESENTER:

Tony Cantrill, Executive Director: We have 4 vacancies to fill; We deal with removals, discipline, and retirement of judicial officers.

([PRESENTATION LINK](https://go.usa.gov/xX8et))(https://go.usa.gov/xX8et)

HOSKINS: No dedicated funds; easiest budget.

([AUDIO](https://go.usa.gov/xX8ez)) (https://go.usa.gov/xX8ez)

ADJOURNED:

There being no further business, Senator Keough adjourned the meeting at 10:51 A.M.

Senator Keough
Chair

Amberlee Honsaker
Secretary