

MINUTES  
**JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, January 13, 2020  
**TIME:** 8:00 A.M.  
**PLACE:** Room C310  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Senators Co-chairman Bair, Johnson, Lee, Agenbroad, Grow, Burtenshaw, Woodward, Ward-Engelking, and Nye.  
Representatives Co-chairman Youngblood, Horman, Anderson, Kauffman, Raybould, Syme, Troy, Wintrow, and Toone.  
**ABSENT/EXCUSED:** Senator Crabtree and Representative Amador.  
**CONVENED:** **Chairman Bair** called the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (Committee) and 8:00 a.m.

**AGENCY PRESENTATION:** **OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, Alex Adams, Administrator, Division of Financial Management**  
The Governor recommends repurposing prior years' appropriations of the Division for Public Works to the Department of Correction for alteration, repair, and remodeling of Unit 24 at the Idaho State Correctional Institution. This action will increase housing capacity by 146 beds. Repurposing these prior appropriations is deemed an emergency as the Department of Corrections needs additional capacity. If appropriated, additional capacity could be available as early as July 2020.  
A one-time amount of \$3,200 has been moved from ongoing funds to OT in the Personnel Complaint Line recommendation.  
Unused sick leave fund, holiday, and unemployment insurance revisions have been captured across higher education budgets where they were not previously included. See [Audio](#) and [Information](#).

**AGENCY PRESENTATION:** **IDAHO COMMISSION FOR LIBRARIES (ICfL), Stephanie Bailey-White, State Librarian  
Jill Randolph, LSO Analyst**  
The Idaho Commission for Libraries, with offices in Boise, Moscow, and Idaho Falls, assists in statewide library development and provides continuing education and consultant services to the library community. The library community consists of 147 library buildings, open year round, as well as school and academic libraries. The ICfL is governed by the Board of Library Commissioners and organized within the Department of Self-Governing Agencies.  
Historical Summary and Organization: General funds account for approximately 71 percent of the total appropriation; dedicated funds account for one percent, and federal funds account for approximately 28 percent. The ICfL has 37.5 full-time staff members. Eleven staff members are funded with the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services Fund, 26.5 percent of which are funded with general funds.



FY 2021 Line Items and Total Appropriation: The commission did not request specific line items. The Commission requested an appropriation of \$2,103,000, a 1.2 percent increase. The governor recommended a total appropriation of \$2,071,700, a 0.3 percent decrease. See [Audio](#) and [Presentation](#).

**AGENCY** IDAHO COMMISSION ON AGING (ICOA), Office of the Governor, Judy  
**PRESENTATION:** Taylor, Director; Kevin Bittner, Program Manager

**Jill Randolph, LSO Analyst**

The ICOA consists of seven statewide commissioners appointed by the governor to advise on issues relating to older Idahoans and vulnerable adults. The staff of 13 FTPs, plus volunteers, serve 94 senior centers and other providers. They assist seniors in avoiding institutionalization and in remaining as independent as possible in their homes and communities. ICOA receives 34 percent of its budget from the general fund and 66 percent from federal funds.

Performance and Audit Reports: Director Taylor reviewed specific measures and projects accomplished in 2019. ICOA had no open audit findings, although one was listed in error.

FY 2019 Actual Expenditures: ICOA made no mid-year transfers. It reverted a total of 0.4 percent of its total appropriation, primarily in federal funds.

FY 2020 Approved Line Items: The legislature approved two line items for the establishment of a statewide caregiver program and for technology consolidation and modernization. The caregiver support program funds will be matched toward a dementia capability program and will identify and implement an effective Adult Protective Services model. Legacy software and hardware funds have been fully expended based on approved state standards.

FY 2021 Line Item Request: ICOA requests an increased allocation to spend federal dollars already received. Funds will be used across multiple federal programs, including nutrition, transportation, and home and community services program. This request was approved by the governor.

FY 2021 Total Appropriation: ICOA requested a total appropriation of \$13,873,900, a 1.7 percent increase. The governor recommended \$13,759,800, a 0.9 percent increase.

In answer to questions from the Committee, **Director Taylor** replied that Adult Protective Services has been a top priority. Two of the open projects are being led by the Department of Health and Welfare. Many programs will not be affected by the spending reset.

The majority of services come from the Older Americans Act for adults 60-plus years of age. Within that group, services are focused on those at most risk for institutionalization and are directed at preventative programs. These programs include meals, socialization, and targeted services for those who have lost their activities of daily living and are at risk for institutionalization. In addition, ICOA directs funds to vulnerable adults, identified as people in crisis, through adult protective services. All programs focus on local communities. See [Audio](#) and [Presentation](#).

**AGENCY** IDAHO OFFICE OF DRUG POLICY, (IODP) Office of the Governor,  
**PRESENTATION:** Melinda Smyser, Administrator

**Janet Jessup, LSO Analyst**

Historical Summary: The FY 2021 budget request included a 1.9 percent decrease from their FY 2020 budget. The governor recommended a 2.2 percent decrease.

Organization: The IODP is responsible for the oversight of substance misuse and prevention and is tasked with consulting decision makers regarding the best policy initiatives to reduce substance use. Guided by Idaho Code, its vision is to help achieve a safe and healthy Idaho free from the devastating impacts of substance use on youth, families and communities. IODP employs 6 FTP and is fully staffed.

In answer to questions from the Committee, **Administrator Smyser** reported that school boards, superintendents, and parents in the Boise School District alone had 30 to 50 vaping violations. Vaping is hard to detect, and THC is the more dangerous form. IODP focuses on prevention by partnering with Idaho Department of Education to strategically place preventative education in early, middle, high schools, and colleges and universities. A marijuana work group, with over 40 partners, meets every other month to discuss Idaho's drug challenges. Medical marijuana is currently available by prescription from a licensed physician.

Performance and Audit Reports: **Administrator Smyser** reviewed specific performance measures and projects accomplished in 2019. The IODP had three audit findings, one of which is now closed. Corrective action is in place for the other two findings.

FY 2019 Expenditures: The IODP made sizable transfers and reversions in federal funds. Some federal grants have multiple years of distribution and will be reflected in subsequent years.

FY 2020 Line Items: The legislature appropriated funds for extension of the Partnership for Success Grant. Funds were also appropriated from the Idaho Millennium Fund to establish a vaping prevention and awareness program..

FY 2021 Total Appropriation: IODP did not request specific line items. The IODP requested a total appropriation of \$4,827,100, a 1.9 percent reduction. The governor recommended \$4,811,100, a 2.2 percent reduction.

In answer to questions from the Committee, **Alex Adams, Director, Office of the Governor, Department of Financial Management** and **Director Smyser** described the interaction of IODP with the Departments of Health and Welfare and the Board of Pharmacies. The IODP is working with the governor to expand drug training to rural doctors around the state. See [Audio](#) and [Presentation](#).

**AGENCY** STEM ACTION CENTER, Office of the Governor, Angela Hemingway,  
**PRESENTATION:** Executive Director

**Janet Jessup, LSO Analyst**

The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Action Center was created under the Office of the Governor in 2015 to promote the expansion of student engagement in STEM activities. The requirements, goals, and objectives of the STEM Action Center include: 1) coordination of all state departments and divisions on STEM-related activities; 2) promotion of STEM through best practices in education; 3) support of high-quality professional development for educators; 4) facilitation of STEM-related competitions, science fairs, camps, and

student programs; and 5) engagement of private industry in the development and maintenance of STEM Action Center projects.

Historical Summary and Organization: The FY 2021 STEM Action Center appropriation request included an a 42.9 percent all fund increase over FY 2020. This increase reflects a one million dollar supplemental which was included in the FY 2021 total. The STEM Action Center employs six FTPs and is fully staffed.

In 2019, 7,633 STEM jobs throughout Idaho went unfilled, representing \$500,000,000 in lost personal income to Idahoans. The Idaho Department of Labor lists 184 stem jobs in Idaho, and STEM job demand continues to grow. Sixty-one percent of funding supports rural Idaho communities, allowing equal access to all Idahoans.

Performance Measures and Audit Reports: **Director Hemingway** reviewed specific measures and projects accomplished in 2019. No open audits were reported.

FY 2019 Expenditures: The STEM Action Center reverted 1.9 percent of its total appropriation primarily from dedicated funds.

In answer to questions from the committee, **Director Hemingway** explained that in FY 2019, the computer science budget was decreased by 50 percent. As a result, only 25 percent of educators and students were served. The additional one and two percent reductions requested by the governor will come from operating expenses. STEM grants are highly competitive, and the STEM Action Center currently grants only one-third of grant applicants. New reductions means fewer grants awarded. Educators seeking training and opportunities will be denied because of budget reductions.

FY 2020 Line Items: The legislature funded two line items in FY 2020: support for the computer science initiative and a net object transfer for a policy analyst. The total appropriation also included a transfer from the General Fund to the STEM Education Fund and for funding for technology consolidation and modernization.

FY 2021 Line Item Requests: The STEM Action Center requests \$1 million in General Funds for the Computer Science Initiative, half one-time, and half ongoing. The governor recommended \$500,000 ongoing.

FY 2021 Total Appropriation: The STEM Action Center requested a total appropriation of \$6,709,500, a 42.9 percent increase. The governor recommended \$6,149,700, a 31.0 percent increase.

**Director Hemingway** and **Gideon Tolman**, answered questions from the Committee. STEM jobs are expanding rapidly in Idaho. Idaho needs to provide opportunities for educators and students to gain STEM experiences in order to meet future STEM job demand. See [Audio](#) and [Presentation](#).

**ADJOURNED:** Having no further business before the committee, **Chairman Bair** adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

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Senator Bair  
Chair

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Elaine Leedy  
Secretary