

MINUTES
HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

DATE: Tuesday, March 02, 2021
TIME: 1:30 P.M.
PLACE: Room EW05
MEMBERS: Chairman Mendive, Vice Chairman Kingsley, Representatives Barbieri, Clow, Christensen, Bundy, Erickson, Galloway, Nate, Skaug, Weber, Berch, Green, Davis
**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Representative(s) Christensen, Skaug
GUESTS: Jason Boal, APA Idaho; Jake Cluff, BB&A, AIC; Tim O'Meara, Middleton Fire, Middleton P&R

Chairman Mendive called the meeting to order at 1:31 PM.

MOTION: **Rep. Bundy** made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2021, February 12, 2021, and February 18, 2021 meetings. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

H 155: **Rep. Nichols** introduced **H 155** to the Committee stating it would add recreational districts to the list of districts that can enter into agreements with governments. This would allow some governmental agencies to enact a transfer of lands or property between themselves at no cost rather than a sale. She stated the current restrictions have lead to issues in some communities, which were brought to her attention by a constituent.

Tim O'Meara, Greater Middleton Parks and Recreation District, stated the reason he approached **Rep. Nichols** was to transfer an old school building. The school district owns the building but has been allowing the Parks and Recreation District to use the building. The Parks and Recreation District has spent a large amount of money into making it a usable community center. This legislation would allow the city to transfer ownership from the school district to the Parks and Recreation district without a formal sale. He stated this would be a small formality which would be very helpful to the community.

In response to Committee questions **Mr. O'Meara** explained the Parks and Recreation District is a different taxing district than the City Parks District.

MOTION: **Rep. Clow** made a motion to send **H 155** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep Nichols** will sponsor the bill on the floor.

H 156: **Rep. Nichols** introduced **H 156** to the Committee stating it would add fire stations and apparatus to the public safety definition. She stated there is currently an issue of clarity within cities and counties and this legislation would bring needed clarity.

In response to Committee questions **Rep. Nichols** stated "apparatus" typically involves equipment and is more narrowly defined within other parts of code. There are several definitions in regards to item that can be utilized, but in this section it will be defined as equipment specific to fire stations such as trucks, ladders, lights and other large equipment.

MOTION: **Rep. Nate** made a motion to send **H 156** to the floor with a **DO PASS** recommendation.

Jason Boal, APA Idaho; **Jake Cluff**, BB&A, AIC; and **Tim O'Meera**, Middleton Rural Fire District, spoke **in support** for **H 156**. They stated there is a need for this language, current Idaho statutes are very clear on their definition of "improvements" as equipment that will last for at least 10 years, but unfortunately most fire fighting equipment does not fit that description. They claimed this legislation is a straight forward clarification of existing statute and expressed hope that similar legislation for other first responder equipment such as ambulances might be passed in the future.

In Committee discussion, comments were made in appreciation for the additional clarity as well as the technical definition of "storm water". Additionally the committee questioned the language regarding "useful life of 10 years" and if impact fees include the same definition. Committee members commented this is currently an issue in police departments because the useful life of a police car is only 4-5 years.

VOTE ON MOTION:

Motion Carried by voice vote. Rep. Nichols will sponsor the bill on the floor.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 1:54 PM.

Representative Mendive
Chair

Emma Wall
Secretary