

MINUTES
Approved by Council
Legislative Council
Thursday, November 10, 2022
8:15 A.M.
Room WW17
Boise, Idaho

Speaker Bedke called the meeting to order at 8:18 a.m.; a silent roll call was taken.

Legislative Council (Council) members in attendance: Speaker Scott Bedke; Senators Kelly Arthur Anthon, Dave Lent, Michelle Stennett, Grant Burgoyne, and Melissa Wintrow; Representatives Mike Moyle, John Vander Woude, Wendy Horman, Ilana Rubel, John McCrostie, and Brooke Green. Legislative Services Office (LSO) staff present: Director Terri Kondeff and Julie Cooper.

Opening Remarks

Speaker Bedke welcomed those in attendance and referred the Council to their binders and meeting minutes from the Legislative Council meetings held on June 3 and June 14, 2022. **Senator Anthon made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented for the Legislative Council meetings on June 3, 2022, and June 14, 2022; Representative McCrostie seconded the motion and the motion passed by voice vote.**

Director's Report (TAB 1)

LSO Director Terri Kondeff addressed the Council and began by introducing new LSO staff members. Director Kondeff referred the Council to the LSO FY 2024 Budget Request and the FY 2023 Strategic Plan. **Representative Horman made a motion to approve the FY 2024 LSO Budget Request as presented; Senator Burgoyne seconded the motion and the motion passed by voice vote. Representative McCrostie made a motion to approve the FY 2023 Idaho State Legislature Strategic Plan as presented; Representative Horman seconded the motion and the motion passed by voice vote.**

Election Update and Organizational Session (TAB 2)

Speaker Bedke referred the Council to Tab 2 of the binder regarding an update pertaining to the recent election. Speaker Bedke emphasized that there will be a steep learning curve and many challenges as there will be a significant amount of new legislators. Speaker Bedke shared that there will be 39 new legislators (11 Senate and 28 House members). Speaker Bedke highlighted the information provided regarding the Chairman training that will take place on December 2, 2022. The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) will provide training.

New Legislator Orientation Program (TAB 3)

Director Kondeff highlighted the agenda for the New Legislator Training to be held on November 28 - November 30, 2022, at the Idaho State Capitol. Speaker Bedke emphasized the hard work put forth to facilitate a smooth transition from civilian life to the life of a legislator. Speaker Bedke also emphasized the importance of civility and a respectful workplace.

Office of Performance Evaluations Update

The Office of Performance Evaluations Director Rakesh Mohan provided an update on the Office of Performance Evaluation's current project. Director Mohan expressed excitement that legislators are taking interest in the work of OPE and added that the work is being used to make a difference in the State of Idaho.

Interim Committee Update (TAB 4)

LSO staff provided updates on the following Interim Committees:

Committee on Federalism

LSO Legal Counsel Kolby Reddish provided an update on the Committee of Federalism and shared that the Committee met on June 7, 2022, and September 15, 2022. The Committee did not propose any new legislation.

Citizens' Committee on Legislative Compensation

Research and Legislation Manager Kristin Ford provided an update on the Citizens' Committee on Legislative Compensation. The Committee met on October 5, 2022. The Committee voted to retain the existing rates of compensation for Idaho legislators with the addition of a 2.75% increase in base salary for 2023 (\$19,394) and another 2.75% non-compounded increase in base salary for 2024 (\$19, 913). The Committee also tied the per diem rate to the federal per diem rate and added clarifying language regarding travel expense reimbursement and prorating mileage allowance for members in the event of a vacancy. The Committee's report is filed with the Secretary of State and the State Controller.

Natural Resources Interim Committee

Research and Legislation Deputy Manager Katharine Gerrity shared an update on the Natural Resources Interim Committee. The Committee met on October 6, 2022, and did not propose any new legislation.

Idaho Council on Indian Affairs

Senior Legislative Drafting Attorney Matt Drake provided an update on the Idaho Council on Indian Affairs. The Council met on July 6, 2022, and did not propose any new legislation. The Council agreed that further discussion regarding Medicaid and youth behavioral needs should occur at the next meeting.

Funding Construction of Public Schools Working Group

Legislative Drafting Attorney Trevor Ahrens provided an update on the Funding Construction of Public Schools Working Group. The working group met on October 6, 2022, and October 25, 2022, although no legislation was proposed. Senator Lent emphasized that October is a month of discovery, November will be a month for analysis, and December is a production month in which the working group hopes to draft legislation.

K-12 Health Insurance Working Group

Legislative Drafting Attorney Trevor Ahrens continued his presentation and provided an update regarding the K-12 Health Insurance Working Group. The working group met on September 29, 2022, and no new legislation was proposed. Similar to the Funding Construction of Public Schools Working Group, this working group is working toward drafting legislation in December 2022.

State Budget Update (TAB 5)

Budget and Policy Manager Keith Bybee referred the Council to Tab 5 of the binder and displayed a PowerPoint to update the Council regarding the state budget. Mr. Bybee briefly reviewed figures related to the FY 2022 year end and then provided an update on the FY 2023 General Fund. Mr. Bybee highlighted the State's current cash position as compared to 2009, as well as General Fund Revenue projections and FY 2024 agency requests. Mr. Bybee concluded by sharing with the Council how they may access budget information from the Legislature.Idaho.Gov website.

Economic Indicators (TAB 6)

Revenue Analyst Erin Phipps referred the Council to Tab 6 of the binder and presented an Economic Overview PowerPoint. Specifically, Ms. Phipps addressed five key indicators to help determine

an economic downturn. Ms. Phipps shared that interest rates are rising and house evaluations are flattening and Idaho is also seeing an increase in small business administration interest rates. However, Ms. Phipps added that Idaho's unemployment rate is below the national average and real income per capita is increasing. Ms. Phipps expressed that if we are headed toward a recession, Idaho appears to be in a good place to weather the storm.

Capitol Security

Idaho State Police Sergeant Mike Kish shared a brief update on Capitol Security. Sergeant Kish emphasized the importance of legislators notifying security when they are not comfortable with a situation or receive threats of any kind. Sergeant Kish also shared the increase of security presence, which includes two canines that will be available on a daily basis, year-around. ISP personnel introduced the Council to the two canines.

Audit Division Update (TAB 7)

Audit Division Manager April Renfro presented an update on the Legislative Services Office Audit Division. Ms. Renfro shared that the Audit Division currently has 5 vacancies and 24 filled full-time positions. Ms. Renfro summarized the audit reporting cycle and provided updates on Accountability Reports, the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), the Single Audit Report, and individual entity opinion reports. Ms. Renfro concluded by informing the Council on issued findings, the different types of findings, and the number of uncorrected findings

Statehouse Facility Update (TAB 8)

Kelly Berard with the Division of Public Works presented a Statehouse Facility Update. Ms. Berard provided a summary on various statehouse projects, including the fall protections system (roof), audio/visual upgrades, replacement of delaminating wire glass, chamber gallery guardrails, and parking garage repairs.

2023 Legislative Session Plans (TAB 9)

Speaker Bedke provided an overview of plans for the 2023 Legislative Session. Speaker Bedke highlighted that Ethics and Respectful Workplace training will be provided on January 11, 2023. Speaker Bedke advised the Council to follow the legislative calendar. Speaker Bedke concluded that he will end his role as a legislator on November 30, 2022.

Miscellaneous Announcements and Adjournment

There being no additional business, the Council adjourned at 11:57 a.m.