

MINUTES
JOINT FINANCE-APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

- DATE:** Thursday, February 17, 2022
- TIME:** 8:00 A.M.
- PLACE:** Room C310
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Senators Co-chairman Agenbroad, Crabtree, VanOrden (Bair), Grow, Woodward, Lent, Riggs, Cook, Ward-Engelking, Nye
- Representatives Co-chairman Youngblood, Troy, Horman, Amador, Syme, Bundy, Giddings, Nate, Green, Nash
- ABSENT/ EXCUSED:** None
- CONVENED:** **Co-Chairman Agenbroad** called the meeting of the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (Committee) to order at 8:02 a.m. He noted due to schedule conflicts the agenda would be rearranged.
- PRESENTATION: HONORING OF THE COMMITTEE PAGES TYLER FREEMAN AND QUINTEN CARNEY; Co-Chairmen Agenbroad and Youngblood**
- The Chairmen thanked the Pages for their service to the Committee, presented them with a letter and gift, and had them describe what they have learned during their time in service to the Legislature.
- PRESENTATION: COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS-HOUSE RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE, Representative Marc Gibbs, Chairman**
- Representative Gibbs** discussed a summary of issues being brought before his Committee. He pointed out that his Committee fully supports the Governor's recommendation of \$250 million from American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) for water resources for recharge and water storage projects. **Representative Gibbs** discussed Committee support for \$45 million to the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation for outdoor recreation capacity and maintenance. He stressed the need for attention to Idaho's water supply and increasing storage.
- Senator Steve Vick**, Chairman of Senate Resources and Environment Committee, discussed that his Committee also supports the Governor's recommendation for drinking water and wastewater projects.
- PRESENTATION: COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS-SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, Senator Steven Thayn, Chairman**
- Senator Thayn** presented his Committee has been discussing teachers, their pay, joining the state health insurance plan, providing an option for a health savings account, and that starting a wellness program is critical. He also reviewed all-day kindergarten, literacy, and touched upon other education topics being discussed this legislative session.

PRESENTATION: COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS-HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, Representative Lance Clow, Chairman

Representative Clow discussed his Committee's recommendations regarding the Governor's six ARPA budget recommendations (see attachment 1). He detailed and discussed the Empowering Parents Grants, the University of Idaho's Adult Computer Literacy Program, giving teachers a \$1,000 bonus, the Head Start program, the Career Ladder acceleration plan, and the Workforce Development Council's workforce training.

PRESENTATION: COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS-HOUSE ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE, Representative Barbara Ehardt, Chairwoman

Representative Ehardt discussed her Committee's view on the \$300 million ARPA funds the Governor recommended and how they would use all of it, mostly for the construction of drinking water and wastewater projects, in the form of grants for various city and county entities who would upgrade their wastewater and drinking use systems (see attachment 2).

PRESENTATION: COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS-SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, Senator Lori Den Hartog, Chairwoman

Senator Den Hartog discussed the potential of a \$400 million investment in transportation proposed to come from General Funds, bonding programs, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act appropriation, and the 428 bridges that need repair throughout the state.

LSO PRESENTATION: REVIEW OF STATEWIDE DECISIONS, Keith Bybee, Legislative Services Office (LSO), Budget and Policy Division Manager

Mr. Bybee discussed the draft packet for fiscal year (FY) 2022 and FY 2023 General Fund revenue for budget setting and statewide decisions (see attachment 3). He specified the draft packet has several caveats, with different options for decision making by the Committee. **Mr. Bybee** addressed that the LSO analysts verified there is sufficient revenue to support the listed appropriations for the several decisions in the budget that affect every state agency and every budget to be taken up this FY. He highlighted benefit cost adjustments, personnel benefit cost adjustments, statewide cost allocation, Change in Employee Compensation, and the remaining pieces in the maintenance area of a budget. **Mr. Bybee** detailed the general fund revenue numbers, recommendations from the Economic Outlook and Revenue Assessment Committee's report, the Governor's budgeted revenue projection, the General Fund Daily Update sheet, and statewide cost allocation.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bybee and the Committee discussed various specific amounts, how they are calculated, and their source.

ADJOURNED: There being no further business before the Committee, **Co-Chairman Agenbroad** adjourned the meeting at 9:48 a.m.

Senator Agenbroad
Chair

Erin Miller
Secretary