



# KOOTENAI COUNTY

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LESLIE DUNCAN • BRUCE E. MATTARE • BILL BROOKS

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### **Media Release**

For Immediate Release

### **New BOCC Appreciates District Court Order to Reinstate Assessor's Salary**

**May 10, 2023** - District Judge Susie Jensen made a mixed ruling against both the Assessor and previous Kootenai County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). The court recognized that the BOCC acted with knowledge of issues pertaining to the Assessor's poor performance in not meeting statutory guidelines last year.

However, the court simultaneously recognized that the BOCC acted without a reasonable public discussion of the facts behind this decision. Consequently, this latter point was the main basis for reinstating the "Assessor position" back to a pay amount commensurate with the duties of the position, not necessarily for the individual.

The BOCC appreciates this distinction and recognizes the long-term impact the previous BOCC's actions could have throughout the great state of Idaho with other Boards and elected officials. The unintended consequences of a particular Board's actions must be considered.

The current BOCC believes that public officials should be held to account in a public setting if such officials breach their statutory requirements. Consequently, this BOCC is looking forward to working with the Assessor, and all other elected officials, throughout their terms.