



**Region IV Citizen Review Panel
707 N. Armstrong Pl, Boise, ID 83704
White Pine Room**

**Tuesday, March 01, 2022
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm MT**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84638154043?pwd=aDZ0d2EzREhTbzZSMW9uZHBYaStOZz09>

Meeting ID: 846 3815 4043 **Passcode:** 693507

Meeting Minutes

Members: Allison Berkson; Britney Journee; Kym Nilsen; Nicole Noltensmeyer, joined at 4:10.
Quorum established.

Staff: Courtney Boyce, Teresa Balsz (CDH); Cameron Gilliland, Lance McCleve, Niki Flock, Roxanne Printz (DHW)

Call Meeting to Order

Allison Berkson, Region IV Citizen Review Panel Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Motion: Allison moved to approve the February meeting minutes as written. Britney Journee seconded. The motion carries. Minutes approved.

Motion: Allison moved to approve the agenda as written. Brittney second the motion. None opposed. Agenda approved.

DHW Administration Meeting

Cameron Gilliland discussed the DHW budget. The Legislature is scheduled to set budgets on Friday, March 04, 2022, for Child Welfare, including a 7% pay raise through change in employee compensation. Foster care and the percentage maintenance rates will be set then as well.

Cameron updated the Panel on the short-term rental situation. Cameron anticipates that the number of children staying at short-term rentals will dissipate. Most short-term rentals are last minute situations for large sibling groups or difficult-to-place children.

Lance shared that DHW is working on eCabinet documentation. For the short term, they discovered processes to get the program working up to speed with development on system changes. DHW will keep in communication with the Panel and stay in contact with all CRP groups for information and to track changes made.

A Panel member asked how often eCabinet is utilized daily with social workers. eCabinet is meant to go paperless; it should be as accessible as a paper file. There is a utility in eCabinet to file as an electronic form. The administration is currently working to correct labels of files for functionality. Panel member shared that she

comes upon misfiled documents and asked if the Panel should make note of these. DHW asked that the Panel send any concerns to either Lance or Roxanne.

DHW is hiring a social worker for Valley County This position is part-time and may go into a full-time position. If they are unable to hire a social worker, DHW will move to hire a Case Management Specialist.

Valley County is working on a new mental health contract with a solidified therapist. Someone who can fulfill their foster care treatment commitment and help kids from domestic violence.

DHW is shifting supervision and leadership roles, providing continuity between Child Advocacy Centers. DHW Region IV holds meetings twice a month and meets with members on specific cases.

A Panel member requested information for an early permanency on child adoption and if there is a timeline or process for a parent wanting to waive parental rights at three months. DHW responded that there needs to be an assessment and a case where the parent decides to terminate the case. What the judge, prosecutor, and/or public defender decide can change the adoption of the child. The Department can make recommendations, but the judge rules over the case.

Executive Session: Case Reviews

Motion: Allison Berkson motioned to move into Executive Session. Per Idaho §16-647 (d), the Region IV Citizen Review Panel can enter Executive Session to discuss items exempt from public disclosure, as outlined in §74-105. Britney Journee seconded the motion. Allison Berkson, Aye; Britney Journee, Aye; Nicole Noltensmeyer, Aye; Kym Nilsen, Aye.

The Region IV Citizen Review Panel entered into Executive Session at 4:56pm.

Motion: Allison Berkson motioned to end the Executive Session, per Idaho §16-647 (d), the Region IV Citizen Review Panel can enter Executive Session to discuss items exempt from public disclosure, as outlined in §74-105. Britney Journee seconded the motion. Nicole Noltensmeyer, Aye; Kym Nilsen, Aye; Britney Journee, Aye; Allison Berkson, Aye.

The Region IV Citizen Review Panel exited Executive Session at 5:41pm. The Panel discussed case reviews exempt from public disclosure.

Idaho Foster Care Awareness Day

A Panel member shared that the day was packed with information for those who want to get into foster care or already serve as foster parents. The PHD Liaison to the Region IV Citizen Review Panel shared information during Idaho Foster Care Awareness Day to webinar participants about the open application process for a potential Panel member.

Governor's Taskforce on Children at Risk

This meeting is Friday, March 04, 2022. Panel members were invited to speak on a few points of the Taskforce meeting with the Governor.

Motion: Nicole Noltensmeyer motioned to have Allison Berkson represent the Region IV Citizen Review Panel at the Taskforce meeting for children at risk. Britney Journee seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Allison will report back to the Panel on how the meeting went.

Public Testimony and Panel Update

Courtney shared the flyer for Public Testimony Requests. Courtney will arrange for the social media image to go out on a repetitive basis. The flyer is available on CRP website, located right after "Members" on the site, and will take those interested to the flyer, which has a link to the Microsoft Form to be completed. A guidance document will be sent to all in the Panel as the meeting will be subject to an Open Meeting Law.

Courtney shared the budget has been prepared by Laura Smith (CDH). The Citizen Review Conference will be held in Monterey, CA and participation by a Panel member could be funded through CDH. Courtney will send out the information for the conference and will email the budget report to the Panel

Courtney asked the Panel to complete their Monthly Evaluation Forms and to consider any recommendations to present at the next meeting.

Agenda items for next meeting:

- Quarterly report due in April
- Need time to discuss and vote on new Panel members
- Update on statewide CRP meetings

Adjourn

Allison Berkson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:04pm.

Meeting minutes prepared by Teresa Balsz and Courtney Boyce.