



**Region IV Citizen Review Panel  
707 N. Armstrong Pl, Boise, ID 83704  
Bluebird**

**Tuesday, January 16, 2024  
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Members:** Brian McCauley, Alisha Merrill, Nicole Noltensmeyer, Merritt Dublin, Carlos Galindo, Shannon McCarthy, Jessica Ivancic

**Absent:**

**Staff:** Jason Shaw (CDH), Rachael Peace (DHW), Teresa Vance (ID Supreme Court), Judge Andrew Ellis (Ada County Courts)

**Call Meeting to Order**

Brian McCauley, the Region IV Citizen Review Panel Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

**Motion:** Brian made a motion to approve the December meeting minutes as written. Shannon seconded. None opposed. The motion carried.

**Motion:** Brian made a motion to approve the January agenda as written. Shannon seconded. None opposed. The motion carried.

**Annual Membership Votes, Discussion**

Three members of the Panel reached the end of their four-year term of membership. The Panel held the following votes on their reappointment.

**Motion:** Brian made a motion to reappoint Nicole to the Panel. Shannon seconded. None opposed. The motion was approved by role call vote. Alisha Merrill, aye; Jessica Ivancic, aye; Shannon McCarthy, aye; Brian McCauley, aye.

**Motion:** Nicole made a motion to reappoint Brian to the Panel. Alisha seconded. None opposed. The motion was approved by role call vote. Shannon McCarthy, aye; Jessica Ivancic, aye; Alicia Merrill, aye; Nicole Noltensmeyer, aye.

**Motion:** Brian made a motion to reappoint Shannon to the Panel. Nicole seconded. None opposed. The motion was approved by role call vote. Nicole Noltensmeyer, aye; Alicia Merrill, aye; Jessica Ivancic, aye; Brian McCauley, aye.

The Code of Conduct and NDA were both reviewed in a recent meeting, so that was already completed. The Panel agreed to approve the Bylaws as written. The Panel decided to shift the Officer elections to next month to leave more time for that to be completed.

### **Presenter: Judge Ellis**

The Panel hosted Judge Andrew Ellis, who handles all family cases in Ada County, for a question-and-answer session to get his feedback on the current state of the foster system in the area, and in Idaho as a whole. The session transcript is in a separate file, which is also posted. The Panel wished to note the following items in the minutes that Judge Ellis listed as the changes he would make, were he given a proverbial magic wand to change the foster care situation in Idaho.

- Be able to put every family with a child in the system in a house and solve housing instability.
- Triple the number of foster homes in the state so kids can get into a home with a family.
- Double the number of social workers and reduce their case load by half.

### **Meeting Scheduling**

Due to scheduling conflicts some of the Panel Members were going to have going forward, the Panel chose to shift their meeting dates starting in February to the second Monday of the month.

### **New Member Status Update**

The new Panel Members are still pending background checks results due to problems the State is experiencing with the background check system.

### **Adjourn**

Brian McCauley, Region IV Citizen Review Panel Chair, adjourned the meeting at 6:15pm.

*Meeting minutes prepared by Jason Shaw*