



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

**Tuesday, February 12, 2024  
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Members:** Brian McCauley, Nicole Noltensmeyer, Carlos Galindo, Shannon McCarthy, Jessica Ivancic

**Absent:** Alisha Merrill, Merritt Dublin

**Staff:** Jason Shaw (CDH)

**Guest:** Rachael Peace (DHW), Teresa Vance (ID Supreme Court)

### **Call Meeting to Order**

Brian McCauley, the Region IV Citizen Review Panel Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

**Motion:** Brian made a motion to amend the January meeting minutes to reflect Teresa Vance, Rachael Peace, and Judge Andrew Ellis as guests rather than staff. Shannon seconded. None opposed. The motion carried.

**Motion:** Brian made a motion to amend the February agenda to shift the position nominations to the end of the meeting. Shannon seconded. None opposed. The motion carried.

### **Position Nomination**

The Panel chose to postpone the position nomination to the next meeting when more Panel members were present.

**Motion:** Brian made a motion to postpone the position nomination to the next meeting. Shannon seconded. None opposed. The motion carried.

### **Meeting Scheduling**

The Panel chose to hold the meetings for October and November a week later due to holidays.

**Motion:** Brian made a motion to adjust the October and November meetings back one week. Shannon seconded. None opposed. The motion carried.

### **New Member Status Update**

Background checks are still pending for the new members to be able to access E-Cab and attend Executive Sessions. The Panel went on to discuss the rapid increase in the use of short-term rentals for foster children.

### **New Member Training Update**

The Panel provided training for a new Panel member on how to perform a case review.

### **Townhall Meeting Scheduling**

The Panel discussed a previous townhall meeting they held where members of the public could come and share information on their perspectives of the foster system or provide written statements of the same. The Panel decided to schedule another townhall session for the May meeting.

### **Statewide CRP Meeting Recap**

The Panel members who attended the meeting were not present.

### **Judge Ellis Meeting Review**

The Panel felt the meeting with Judge Ellis was extremely productive and informative. Some major takeaways was how siloed the child welfare system was and the impact that has on each party's ability to perform as well as possible, and how slow the process of improving the system is. The Panel discussed experiences with past Judges and some of the changes they've seen, and shared some differences they perceived in trends happening in Region 6 and in Region 4.

### **Potential Legislative Changes**

Panel Members met with Senators on the Child Welfare Committee as individuals to discuss proposals for legislation to clarify the role and authority of an ombudsman in the conduct of child welfare case reviews. They also discussed some of the barriers to discussion caused by legal requirements for confidentiality on child welfare cases.

### **Executive Session**

The Panel did not go into Executive Session at this meeting. The Panel did discuss general information they heard about a case separate from their role as Members of the Citizen Review Panel.

### **Adjourn**

Brian McCauley, Region IV Citizen Review Panel Chair, adjourned the meeting at 6:00pm.

*Meeting minutes prepared by Jason Shaw*