



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

**Monday, February 10, 2025
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

Meeting Minutes

Members: Merritt Dublin, Jessica Ivancic, Brian McCauley, Alisha Merrill left @ 5:41, Carlos Galindo left @5:13

Absent: Shannon McCarthy, Nicole Noltensmeyer

Staff: Lynn Watkins (CDH)

Guest: Racheal Peace (DHW)

Call Meeting to Order

Merritt Dublin called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Minutes Approval

Merritt indicated she did not believe she was the one who seconded the motion about the slate. All agreed to table the January Minutes approval until March after some research can be done.

Motion: Brian McCauley made a motion to approve the February meeting agenda as written. Alisha Merrill seconded. None opposed. The motion carried.

Health and Social Services Ombudsman Staff Introduction

Ombudsman, Trevor Sparrow and Deputy Ombudsman, Brandon Cabrera

Deputy Ombudsman Cabrera & Ombudsman Sparrow introduced themselves and gave a brief accounting of their backgrounds. The new Health and Social Services Ombudsman office is being referred to as the HSSO.

Ombudsman Sparrow indicated that he is excited for this new role and advocating for kids. The HSSO office considers kids to be their primary constituents. All of their actions and guides will be to work for the best interest of the children that they will serve.

He indicated that although they serve at the pleasure of the Governor, they are an impartial agency. He also spoke of his excitement about policy and his belief that there is room for changes in Idaho policy that will benefit the kids and both the bio parents and foster parents. He is hopefully optimistic about the reception he has received by the department (DHW) and their willingness to work with his office.

His recommendation report from most of the CRP's indicated the concern by several for training for panel members and communication amongst the different CRP. His intention is for there to be collaboration between his office and all the CRP's to help facilitate that communication and partnership.

There was a period of questions and answers amongst the panel members and the HSSO staff revolving around how they can collaborate and be of help to each other and the intentions, goals and running of the HSSO.

Panel Member Departure Brief: Tabled as Nicole Noltensmeyer was not in attendance.

The Panel discussed the review process and the possibility of changing the wording from reviewing cases to reviewing children and one person following the child all the way through review. No action required at this time.

Merritt attended the Governor's task force annual meeting and found that CRPR2 chair person, Zanita Delva, is the national representative who recently attended the national conference with a representative of CRPR3. There was a lot of training information at the conference and a full training manual for CRP members is in the works. Zanita has been working on the quarterly Idaho CRP meeting, somehow the invitations are not getting to the individual CRP members. Merritt would like to follow up on this and also see how they could fund some members to attend the next national meeting.

Family First Prevention Services was discussed, including the fact that the child must be qualified as unsafe.

The Panel also discussed the possibility of moving the CRP underneath the HSSO office. No action at this time.

The Panel discussed filling the open CRP position and how they go about getting the word out. They asked if Jason had advertised the open position on the website. Lynn indicated she would have him email them when he is back in the office next week.

Executive Session

The panel agreed there would be no Executive Session at this meeting.

Adjourn

Merritt Dublin adjourned the meeting at 5:49pm.