

**District IV Citizen Review Panel**  
**707 N. Armstrong Pl, Boise, ID 83704**  
**Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
**12:00pm – 12:30pm**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85102797776?pwd=M2s5Nkd3bG1YaVNReUFuVEIyVnlBdz09>

**Meeting ID:** 851 0279 7776

**Passcode:** 643910

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**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendance**

**Members:** Brian McCauley, Shannon McCarthy, Melissa Mezo, Kym Nilsen, Darcie Bobrowski, Nicole Noltensmeyer, Allison Berkson

**Staff:** Courtney Boyce (CDH)

Brian McCauley, District IV Citizen Review Panel Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:01.

**Motion:** Shannon McCarthy motioned to confirm the agenda for the September 25, 2020 meeting. Melissa Mezo seconded. None opposed. The motion passes.

**Motion on Governor's Taskforce for Children at Risk Representative**

Included agenda item: Discussion on Governor's Taskforce for Children at Risk Meeting

Brian discussed that the invitation to attend this meeting was provided by Roxanne, for all Idaho Citizen Review Panels. This task force has members of both houses of the legislature, the Director of Health and Welfare and other member of IDHW administration, law enforcement, and the courts, to mention a few. Brian shared that this was a diverse group of stakeholders that will be attending this meeting and sit on this committee. The goal of the CRP's attendance will be to demonstrate the value of the CRP in discovering problems and implementing solutions as well as building relationships with this group for future collaboration. Additionally, to provide valuable information to answer their focused questions:

- The handling of child abuse and neglect cases, particularly cases of child sexual abuse and exploitation.
- The handling of cases of suspected child abuse or neglect related fatalities;
- The investigation and prosecution of cases of child abuse and neglect, particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation.
- The handling of cases involving children with disabilities or serious health-related problems who are victims of abuse or neglect.

Brian addressed these questions, and identified that he feels comfortable interacting with the group but would like support from the CRP to answer their questions in its entirety. Melissa Mezo, a subject matter expert in her role as Behavioral Health Director at TRHS, could also answer some of these questions. Melissa is not available on that day, but would be willing to compile her responses in an e-mail. Darcie discussed that the CRP members should be able to pick up a case file and be able to determine how sexual abuse cases, and otherwise are managed. Brian asked, does the information coming from the case files provide context, perspective, and determine how a child's case is being managed? There was some discussion regarding the focus on parent's progress in the case, however that is not indicative of the emotional wellbeing of the children. Discussion continued on some of the limitations regarding the Taskforce's questions including only able to review cases after 120 days, and only open cases.

**Motion:** Shannon motioned to nominate Brian McCauley to represent the District IV Citizen Review Panel at the Governor's Taskforce for Children at Risk meeting. Melissa seconded. None opposed. Motion carries.

Brian requested that District CRP members informally document their thoughts, feelings, and perspectives, surrounding some of the requested questions from the Taskforce include sexual abuse and physical abuse cases. This could include reflections on how the CRP member feels the Department is doing, what they are doing well or struggling with, and the CRP's ability to effectively evaluate the cases based on what is in the files. Brian also discussed that it might be a good idea for the panel to consider, reviewing one or two cases as a group, independently but coming together to discuss the themes and insights of those specific cases. Allison Berkson, the newest panel member is still not currently able to access e-Cabinet, so this may need to be discussed at the next meeting.

Brian will consolidate those reports for his presentation. The panel was not provided with the length of time in which they will be speaking, so Brian hopes to keep their report brief and concise.

**Action Item:** District IV CRP members will draft a response to the Governor's Taskforce questions and submit over this weekend to Brian McCauley and Courtney Boyce.

### **Motion on Meeting Extension for October**

**Motion:** Nicole motioned to extend the District IV Citizen Review Panel October meeting, for up to an additional thirty minutes. Melissa second. None opposed. The motion passes.

Brian McCauley, District IV Citizen Review Panel Chair, adjourned the meeting at 12:30pm.

*Meeting minutes prepared by Courtney Boyce.*