



**Citizen's Review Panel Meeting Minutes
Thursday November 2, 2023**

PANEL MEMBERS:

Stephanie Morgan – Chairperson – Present
Karee Curry – Co-Chair - Present
Hal Iverson – Panel Member- Present
Kari Hatcher – Panel Member – Present (virtual)
Angie Martinez – Panel Member - Present
John Baldazo – Panel Member – Present
Lori Rainboth – Panel Member – Present (virtual)

OTHER:

Marinda Squibb – DHW Liaison – Present
Jo Dollinger – SWDH Liaison – Present
January Gibbens – Guest – Present (virtual)
Coral Sciscoe – Guest - Present (virtual)

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairperson Stephanie Morgan called the meeting to order at 9:00

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS; APPROVAL OF AGENDA – 11/2/2023

Panel members reviewed the agenda.

MOTION: John Baldazo made a motion to approve agenda for November 2, 2023, with no additional items to add. Hal Iverson seconded the motion. All in favor; the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – 10/5/2023

Panel members reviewed the meeting minutes from the meeting held October 5, 2023

MOTION: John Baldazo made a motion to approve the October 5, 2023, Citizen's Review Panel meeting minutes as presented. Angie Martinez seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

GUEST SPEAKER – JUDGE DARRINGTON

Judge Darrington introduced himself. He is currently the magistrate judge for Owyhee County. [OBJ] Judge Darrington graduated from law school in 2001. He worked as an attorney in Ada County, Caldwell and Weiser before becoming a judge in 2019. Judge Darrington explained his role in child protection cases and how the cases get started.

The four ways cases get started are: Family stops working with Health and Welfare, law enforcement deems the child to be in eminent danger, Health and Welfare writes a report and files it with the court, or the judge, working with Health and Welfare, can order child removal from home. If law enforcement does not notify the parents within 48 hours, the judge has no authority to remove the child. Law enforcement should notify the parents of why the child is being removed, the right to an attorney, when the hearing will be, and the purpose for the removal. If the law has not been followed, the judge has no choice except to send the child home. In some cases, local prosecutors don't know how to handle these cases. If that happens, the attorney general may

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take over. The first hearing is held within 24 hours of the removal. The reasons for removal can be abused, abandonment, neglect, homelessness, improper living conditions. If the child is over 12 years old, the child will get an attorney and/or guardian ad litem. Health and Welfare's main goal is to unify parent and child, unless in aggravated circumstances. If a child is in foster care 15 out of 22 months with little or no communication with parents, a motion will be filed to terminate parental rights. In Idaho, parents must go before the judge to voluntarily terminate parental rights. There is normally mediation or arbitration. In a mediation process, a neutral, trained mediator works to help disputants come to a consensus on their own. In arbitration, a neutral, trained arbitrator serves as a judge who is responsible for resolving the dispute.

A case plan should include what parents will do, services provided to the child, and a deadline for tasks that are set. It should also include what department will do and what the child will do.

CASE TRENDS

This topic will be covered at the next meeting, due to time constraints.

CASE REVIEW FORM

Co-Chair Karee Curry asked the panel to consider what they are looking for when reviewing cases, including identifying the problem and if the system is working properly. John Baldazo suggested looking at the narrative first before reviewing the entire case. Marinda stated that she will share the federal guidelines for reviewing cases.

QUARTERLY REPORT REVIEW

This topic will be covered at the next meeting, due to time constraints.

PANEL MEMEBERS IN-KIND HOURS AND CASE NUMBERS REVIEW: Panel members reported their in-kind hours and number of cases reviewed and noted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: IN ACCRODANCE WITH IDAHO CODE SECTION 74-206(d):

At 11:33 am John Baldazo made the motion to go into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Hal Iverson.

At 12:05 pm John Baldazo made the motion to leave the Executive Session. Karee Curry seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved as written:

Jo Dollinger

Citizens Review Panel Liaison

Stephanie Morgain

Chairperson

Date:

01/04/2024

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Next meeting: ***January 4, 2024 @ 9:00 am***

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