

Governing Council Meeting
ISB Child Protection Section
June 17, 2025 // Noon – 1:00 p.m. (MT Time)
via Zoom
MINUTES

1. Welcome - Call to Order at 12:05 pm Mountain Time.

Present:

Merritt Dublin, Chair

Jessica Partridge, VP;

Kyle Bringhurst- Past president

Jessalyn Hopkins – secretary/treasurer;

Members at Large:

Madison Miles

John Spalding Member

Brianna Allen DAG- Member at Large

Tyler Williams – MAL

Mark Withers

Teresa Baker, Staff

Absent: Judge Ellis

2. Review & Approval of Minutes from May 2025 GC Meetings
 - a. Motion to approve with change of title to Minutes by Kyle; seconded by Madison
 - b. 6 yays; two abstentions; 0 nays. Motion passed.
3. New member introductions
 - a. Introductions of new council members, Tyler Williams, John Spalding, Jessica Partridge.
4. Old Business
 - a. Discussion on Advocate Articles for January/February 2026 issue
 - i. Submissions due in November of this year
 - ii. One volunteer – Janice Beller – resiliency factors. Kyle will follow up to confirm.

- iii. Sent out to listserv, but unsure if it worked.
- iv. Discussion for Merritt to write an article on the constitutional rights of children.
- v. Tyler Williams discusses a uniform law group seeking to provide private protections to parents.
- vi. Discussion on finding someone to write about the interception between immigrant children and child protection law.
 - 1. There are a couple of ideas on who to reach out to including a professor and another attorney. Geoff Hereen and Denise Penton. (Merritt will reach out to Geoff; Jess reach out to Denise)
- vii. Discussion on consents for parents in terminations and writing about legislative changes.

b. SURVEY QUESTIONS

- i. Soliciting ideas for things people would like to hear about at CLEs and anything we can do to make the section more accessible, easier to attend, or increase participation.
- ii. Briana found the survey and provided that to the council members.
- iii. Council Members send their ideas to Merritt and Merritt will send it to the Bar in a final form.

5. New Business

- a. July & August Governing Council meeting?
 - i. No opposition to a council meeting between now and August.
 - ii. Plan to meet July 15, 2025 at 12pm MT time via zoom.
 - iii. Plan to get survey out this week to get responses by July for next meeting. (Merritt)

- b. Workshopping CLE ideas for June, **September, October 2025**; and January, February, March, May 2026. April 2026 CP Governing Council Conference- April 11, 2026.
 - i. Look at using the Law School again due to cheaper rates.
 - ii. Merritt will follow up with Teresa Baker regarding the date of the conference due to April 11, 2026 being on a Saturday.
 - iii. Add to survey what topic for the conference in April.
- c. Request for Donation from Idaho Access to Justice (letter attached)
 - i. Discussion on financials and treasury report from the Idaho State Bar.
 - 1. Reminder to keep the budget in mind due to conference costs for 2026.
 - 2. Budget for 2025 was approved \$250 for the year for donations and \$350 for special events for 2025.
 - 3. Discussion whether we provided the \$250 donation to Access for Justice, and it does not look like we did from 3.31.25 budget
 - 4. No motion made to donate at this time; review after conference planning
- d. Gala – July 16 – any more section tickets we want to offer (ISB encouragement)
 - i. Motion passed for Merritt to go to the Gala.
 - ii. Will have \$150 left over for a member of the section to go for CLE credits if desired.
 - 1. Discussion on how to let section know about the money for the Idaho State Bar Annual meeting. Will offer as incentive for next meeting participation – will be raffled to attendees. Kyle will ask Teresa to send out notice to section members.

6. Announcements

- a. Next General Section Meeting is June 27, 2025. CLE will be a presentation on CP Legislative Updates 2025 by Kyle Bringhurst.
- b. Reminder - No General Section Meetings in August, November or December
- c. Save the Date: July 15 – section leadership invited to Board of Commissioners event.
 - i. Invited to Board of Commissioners event. The evening before the Idaho State Bar Annual meeting.
- d. Save the Date: September 9 – Joint ISB and judiciary conference meeting – will do Distinguished Jurist award.

Next Meeting: The next Governing Council meeting will be held **July 15, 2025**, from Noon to 1:00 p.m. Mountain Time. Zoom link information remains the same from one meeting to the next.