

**Regular Meeting Minutes  
District 5 Meeting  
Red Rabbit Grill – 1200 Yellowstone Ave.  
Pocatello, Idaho  
April 17, 2025**

**Attendees:**

**Bannock**  
Jeff Hough  
Ken Bullock  
Ernie Moser  
Torey Danner  
Anita Hymas  
Jennifer Clark  
Tony Manu  
Jason Dixon  
Ian Johnson  
Kristi Davenport

**Bear Lake County**  
Alan Eborn

**Bingham County**  
Eric Jackson  
Drew Jensen  
Whitney Manwaring  
James Roberts  
Flint Christensen

**Caribou County**  
Bryce Somsen

**Oneida County**  
Lon Colton  
Kathleen Atkinson

**Power County**  
Shree Sprague

**Other**  
Rep. Dustin Manwaring  
Rep. Tonya Burgoyne  
Rep. Rick Cheatum  
Senator James Ruchti  
Renee Richardson  
Sidney Decker  
Sally Symons  
Sara Westbrook  
Savannah Renslow  
Trent Clawson  
TJ Budge

**Business -**

1. **Welcome and Call to order:** Commissioner Jeff Hough  
**Pledge of Allegiance:** Sheriff Tony Manu  
**Roll Call by County:** Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Caribou, Oneida, and Power in attendance
2. **Presentation of the minutes:** the January 28, 2025 meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion carried.
3. **Presentation of the Treasurer's Report:** Commissioner Hough presented the Treasurer's Report. There is a balance of \$3,796.55. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion carried.
4. **(AMENDED) Discussion pertaining to the IAC Unemployment Fund:** Sara Westbrook provided an update on the IAC Unemployment Fund. (See Appendix A and IAC Unemployment Fund Policies and Procedures in the attachment).
5. **Legislative update:**
  - Senator James Ruchti discussed coroner statutes have been updated, in part with the help of Bannock County Coroner Danner. He sees progress with the cost of childcare. Senate Bill 1206 added 45 million over three years to expand childcare capacity. There has been an increase in child tax credit. This version of the legislature is very anti-local control. A short list of things the legislature has passed: childcare regulations, mask mandate prevention, flag restrictions, public camping, etc. He has concerns with the mask mandate because we don't know what the next pandemic looks like.
  - Representative Dustin Manwaring presented a budget picture. General budget, projected ending balances with adopted revenue forecast, maximized rainy day fund, and income and property tax relief, increased grocery tax credit. \$275 million into roads and bridges,

\$30 million into surface and groundwater management and \$10 million into a grant fund for smaller cities for assistance to improve water and sewer infrastructure. Increased State employee pay by 5%, targeted pay increases for specific job classifications – officers, healthcare, IT and forensic. There were 700 pieces of legislation this year. They don't have staff to read them, so they read the submitted pieces of legislation themselves. He also spoke about property valuations.

Discussion ensued on the topic of Public Defense. They worked to clarify the legislation verbiage pertaining to the Public Defense. The state won't pay for the private parental termination of rights cases; they will pay for cases assigned by the state.

6. **Discussion pertaining to Groundwater and Groundwater Districts:** TJ Budge presented the history of groundwater in the State of Idaho, first in time/first in right, how water districts are formed, distribution of water, use of the State's water and priority water rights, etc. Because water is a public resource, everyone sees the benefit of its use. He then discussed the history and goals of The Groundwater Act, drilling wells, changes to first in time/first in right, etc.
7. **Origin of Titan Batteries:** Trent Clawson presented the origin of Titan Batteries, its history and current benefit to the City of Pocatello and reach to the world.
8. **The next meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2025; place to be determined.**

**A portion of the group took a tour of Titan Batteries at 3309 US 30, Pocatello, ID.**