



## Idaho State Association of County Coroners Business Meeting Minutes

Riverside Hotel, Boise, Idaho | February 9, 2018

### Members Present

Robert Beers, Bonner County  
Lucky Bourn, Minidoka County  
John Buck, Gem County  
Bonnie Burlage, Fremont County  
Mike Ernest, Lemhi County  
Mike Gardner, Bingham County  
Joshua Hall, Nez Perce County  
Ron Hodge, Benewah County  
Brad Horsley, Oneida County  
Warren Keene, Kootenai County  
Brenda Laird, Clark County  
Perry Larson, Lewis County  
Tim Melcher, Teton County  
Mick Mellett, Boundary County

Russ Mikel, Blaine County  
Tara Parsons, Butte County  
Craig Rinehart, Cassia County  
Mark Rose, Power County  
Jerry Rost, Elmore County  
Darrin Sims, Caribou County  
Steve Spence, Gooding County  
LaVar Summers, Jefferson County  
Aaron Tines, Owyhee County  
Chad Walker, Bear Lake County  
Wesley Walker, Camas County  
Sue Warner, Adams County  
Chad Workman, Custer County

### Members Absent

Gerald Brant, Jerome County  
Scott Carver, Valley County  
Keith Davis, Lincoln County  
Rick Davis, Madison County  
Vicki DeGeus-Morris, Canyon County  
Vincent Frazier, Clearwater County  
Cody Funke, Idaho County  
Kelli Garcia, Shoshone County  
Pam Garlock, Boise County

Cathy Mabbutt, Latah County  
Dotti Owens, Ada County  
Kim Quick, Bannock County  
Keith Schuller, Payette County  
Ron Smellie, Franklin County  
Rick Taylor, Bonneville County  
Gene Turley, Twin Falls County  
Bowe Von Brethorst, Washington County

### Others Present

Kristin Cundiff, IAC Director of Operations  
Mike Swain, IAC Event Coordinator  
Ryan Belanger, Ada County  
Eric Bonse, Ada County  
Jeff Fanter, Ada County  
Ron Geer, Gooding County  
Muggy Hafen, Gem County  
Ryan McElhoe, Ada County  
Jessica Mitchell, Ada County  
Lois Rinehart, Cassia County  
Shane Royal, Ada County

Steve Russell, Jr., Ada County  
Teresa Ryska, Owyhee County  
Russell Sprague, Power County  
Tracy Stampke, Camas County  
Ely Taysom, Bannock County  
Ben Warner, Adams County  
Debra Wright, Bingham County  
Jonathan Yearsley, Nez Perce County  
Cresley McConnell, Lincoln County  
Michael Johnson, Boise County

## **I. Call to Order**

President Bonnie Burlage called the meeting to order at 8:00 am on Friday, February 9, 2018.

## **II. Bylaw Amendments**

Burlage reviewed the ISACC Bylaws that were emailed out to the membership prior to the conference. There were two small changes that were made during the ISACC Board Meeting and Burlage reported that the typos were changing 45 days to 15 days and changing the continuing education hours back to 24 hours to match the statute.

***Ernest moved to accept all changes to the bylaws with the two typos included, Rinehart seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

## **III. Coroner Code of Conduct**

Burlage presented the draft Code of Conduct to the full membership. She explained that this is not meant to be law or to become law, but simply a code to say how the coroners should act as they perform their duties as the elected coroner in their county. The membership discussed the benefits of having a code of conduct and whether it should be incorporated into state statute at some point. Members agreed that they needed more time to review the proposed Code of Conduct. Burlage suggested that it be sent out to the full membership and Kristin will request feedback from the members.

The members also discussed whether this should be cleaned up and presented as potential legislation. There were some concerns with perceived conflicts of interest and forcing coroners to participate in ISACC. Members had mixed reactions on whether this should become statute. Some found that it should be a code of conduct to live up to while performing the duties of the office, but others thought it could end up causing issues and so it should be adopted as a law.

***Rinehart moved to take the draft Code of Conduct home to review it and we will discuss again in September, Sims seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

Buck informed the membership that there is a subcommittee formed by the ISACC Board that will be looking at potentially adding “teeth” to the continuing education law. Currently, there are no penalties if a coroner doesn’t comply with the required hours. Mellett didn’t think that ISACC should mandate training for coroners.

Summers noted that all counties are not equal and a code of conduct might not be “one size fits all.”

## **IV. Legislative Issues**

Buck informed the group that there is a push to license funeral directors and funeral establishments. The Funeral Directors Association would like to see support from the ISACC on licensure.

***Buck moved to write a letter to the legislature in support of licensure of funeral directors and funeral establishments, Hodge seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

## **V. Treasurer’s Report**

Secretary/Treasurer Bourn reported that ISACC currently has training fund balance is \$163,083.76 and ISACC’s training fund balance is \$16,964.82.

## **VI. IAC Update**

Cundiff reported that IAC has a new Executive Director, Seth Grigg. Grigg was a previous employee of IAC for five years and for the past three years he has been the Executive Director of the Association of Idaho Cities. Grigg’s background is in policy and advocacy and is looking forward to leading IAC into

the future. Cundiff also noted that IAC has been sending out legislative bulletins and alerts and the members indicated they are receiving the bulletins.

## **VII. ISACC Logo**

Johnson brought a logo to the membership from his current employer. According to Johnson's employer, the current logo has too much text included so it can't be easily printed on a patch or embroidered on a shirt. The members discussed the logo and noted that even though it doesn't have their official name they were okay with it.

***Ernest moved to approve the purchase of 200 patches from Johnson's company, Rost seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Rinehart moved to adopt the logo as presented to the membership as the official ISACC logo, Spence seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

## **VIII. 2018 Training**

Cundiff reported the ISACC Board authorized funding for 20 coroners and 10 deputy coroners to attend a training pre-approved by the Education Committee this year. That will include up to \$500 for a registration fee, up to six nights for a hotel, per diem for each day of the training, and transportation to the training.

The ISACC Fall Conference will take place September 27-28, 2018 at the Hampton Inn Boise Spectrum.