

**2025 IFRW Spring Board of Directors Meeting
Red Jacket Days at the Capitol
Monday, March 10, 2025
Idaho State Capitol, 700 W Jefferson St. Boise**

The first day of the board meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by President, Theresa Bradford. A prayer was offered by Julie Yamamoto, Chaplain and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Natalie Millington, Americanism chairwoman. Roll was called by Secretary, Shellie Blanchard and a quorum was confirmed.

A motion to approve the program was heard by April Wilke and seconded. No discussion was heard. All in favor, none opposed.

A motion to approve the 2024 Spring Board Meeting Minutes was made by Shirlayne Corder and seconded. No discussion was heard. All in favor, none opposed.

Treasurer, Darlene Simpson presented the treasurer's report.

In her opening remarks, President Bradford offered her sincere thanks to the Red Jacket Planning Committee, Charlene Matheson, Marsha Bjornn, Shellie Blanchard, Darlene Simpson, Becky Funk, Natallie Millington, Tracey Wasden, April Wilke, Pam Their, Arvilla Dafin, and Shirlayne Corder.

Gov. Little started off the day by welcoming the Federation to the Idaho State Capitol. Lt. Gov Bedke stopped by a little later and also welcomed the Federation.

Report: Charlene Matheson, 1st VP of Programs

Charlene Matheson, serving as the 1st Vice President of Programs, reviewed the progress of current programs and explored strategies for enhanced participation in the Achievement Awards. Members shared valuable insights, setting a collaborative tone for future endeavors aimed at fostering engagement and recognizing exemplary contributions within the community.

Chair Matheson introduced the Special Committee Chairs as follows:

MELP -Charlene Shuping

Fundraising and Online Auction -Andrea Graff

Campaign Hours Award -Shirlayne Corder

Public Relations/Website -April Wilke

Scholarship Program Training -Anne Bechen

Chair Bechen introduced the process for nominating a young woman for the IFRW scholarship program. The 2025 candidate is Annabelle Kelly from Canyon County RW.

Training:

- April Wilke, Public Relations Chair reviewed the website showcasing the newest changes.
- Shirlayne Corder, Campaign chair, reviewed the current results of clubs' volunteer campaign hours report from NFRW for period 1-3. A total of twelve IFRW clubs reported 84,995 volunteer campaign hours. Period 4 is due July 15, 2025 and will be counted at the NFRW

Convention. Clubs are judged by membership size. The current sizes are shown at <https://www.nfrw.org/drl-awards>. Navigate to Political & Campaign Award.

Club	Hours Reported
Canyon County Republican Women	28,279
Southern Idaho Republican Women	10,799
Treasure Valley Republican Women	10,154
Clearwater River Republican Women	9,373
Magic Valley Republican Women	9,293
High Desert Republican Women	7,409
Nez Perce County Republican Women	3,590
Kootenai County RWF	2,798
Ada County Republican Women	1,365
South East Idaho Republican Women SEIRW	915
Jefferson County Republican Women	658
Bonneville County Republican Women	362
Total	<u>84,995</u>

- Mamie Eisenhower Literacy Program (MELP) Chairwoman, Charlene Shuping discussed the program.
- Leadership Chairwoman, Laurie Likely
- Membership training with 2nd VP of Membership, Marsha Bjornn.

Report: Arvilla Daffin, Audit Chair via zoom

The president proposed changing the reporting term to October 1 to September 30 in order to align it with the president's term, thereby promoting greater accuracy. A review of the treasurer's records revealed no material changes or discrepancies.

Speaker -NFRW President, Julie Harris

Spoke on the importance, history and roll of Republican Women.

Speaker: Chairwoman, Dorothy Moon, Idaho Republican Central Committee

Chair Moon addressed the assembly, highlighting the Republican Party's recent victories, the 2024 presidential election, and Idaho's presidential caucus.

Speaker: Julie Ellsworth, Idaho State Treasurer

Treasurer Ellsworth's announcement about the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence is a significant occasion, as it marks an important milestone in American history. This anniversary, set for July 4, 2026, provides an opportunity for reflection on the values and principles enshrined in the Declaration, as well as the progress the nation has made since its adoption in 1776.

Speaker: Daniel Springston, Youth Works Director, Idaho Youth Ranch

Introduced by Caring for America, Chair Catherine Bedford, Daniel spoke about the impact of the Youth Works program and its positive impact on at-risk youth.

Members were dismissed for lunch to attend the House and Senate Galleries

Training: Secretary of State, Phil McGrane

Understanding Idaho Sunshine Laws

Training: University of Idaho Law, Professor Lawrence Wasden

Understanding Nonprofits & PACs

Training: Secretary of State, Chief Deputy, Nicole Fitzgerald and Business Director, Kim Hunter

Understanding Idaho State Filings

Training: When & What to File with Ginnette Manwaring

Understanding when and what - federal returns.

Report: Marsha Bjornn, the 2nd Vice President, Membership invited Beverly Guenette and Beverly Kingsford to provide updates on their clubs' activities.

****Beverly Guenette (Kootenai CRW)**** spoke about their efforts to educate individuals on Republican candidates. The club holds monthly luncheons with an impressive attendance of 80 to 100 people, organizes town halls, and collaborates closely with the Central Committee on various service initiatives.

****Beverly Kingsford (Bonneville CRW)**** shared insights about their new club, which has been active since November. She discussed the importance of attracting women to join, emphasizing the need to replace animosity with curiosity. The club successfully shipped 350 valentines to various locations, taking on the unique opportunity to send humanitarian aid to the Marshall Islands, where her sister resides. This initiative involved stuffing suitcases with books and potatoes while shipping additional supplies. During the visit, they met with the queen of the Marshall Islands, presenting her with 100 hygiene kits, musical bells, recorders, and other essential items. The queen expressed her gratitude for these contributions. Kingsford concluded with the message that when we do good, divinely guided events will follow in our lives.

Speaker: Debbie Critchfield Superintendent of Public Education

My theme is to get "back to basics". Making sure our students can read. Focusing on phonics. Putting time and attention into those efforts is critical for our students in Idaho. SB1069 - a bill to help support our professionals - giving them the ability to have a coach. Smart Coaching program numbers go up. Gives money to hire these coaches, Writing is another part - bring cursive back. SB1044 is the bill. Making changes to the civic exam. The district has been able to come up with what that assessment was. It's time to set up a statewide test. My focus is on the fundamentals. I want to see that our teachers are trained and competent. Modernize our school budget. Money to let local school boards

use a portion of their budget how it works best for them, not how we as a state board think it should be used.

Announcements: Please join us for the IFRW Fundraising Dinner tonight at 6:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Shellie Blanchard,
Secretary, IFRW

**2025 IFRW Spring Board of Directors Meeting
Red Jacket Days at the Capitol
Tuesday, March 11, 2025
Idaho State Capitol, 700 W Jefferson St. Boise**

The second day of the board meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by President, Theresa Bradford. A prayer was offered by Julie Yamamoto, Chaplain and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Natalie Millington, Americanism chairwoman. Roll was called by Secretary, Shellie Blanchard and a quorum was confirmed.

The president offered her thanks on behalf of the Federation for breakfast that was provided by State Treasurer Julie Ellsworth and State Superintendent of Education Debbie Critchfield prior to the opening of the meeting and a thank you to Gov. Little for the opportunity of a photo shoot with our clubs.

Training:

Sue Pring -Achievement Awards

Speaker -Brandon Woolf

The State Controller addressed the committee regarding the role of Transparent Idaho and participation on the Land Board alongside other Constitutional officers. Key points included the recent appointment of Tom Schultz as the new Chief of the U.S. Forest Service and the naming of Mike Boren as the Under Secretary in Agriculture. The discussion highlighted that Idaho was ahead of the curve with its use of DOGE before it became widely popular. Members were urged to continually seek efficiencies and opportunities by engaging with County Commissioners and local governments during budget-setting processes.

Key discussion points included:

1. Public trust in government is currently at an all-time low.
2. Members were encouraged to reflect on their beliefs and news sources, noting that research indicates that 66% of adults obtain their news from social media, television, radio, and newspapers.

The presentation concluded with a demonstration on how to navigate the Transparent Idaho website.

Report: Nicole Trakel

The Special Committee on Armed Services, chaired by Nicole Trakel whose husband is a retired Marine, convened to discuss initiatives aimed at encouraging Republican women to engage actively in politics and increase participation in veterans' affairs. Key objectives include enhancing awareness, providing support, and promoting veterans to run for office. The committee outlined plans to send care packages, letters, Christmas cards, and monetary support to veterans. Collaboration with the Wyakin Foundation, located in Treasure Valley, was highlighted as a way to provide mentorship programs and assist veterans in obtaining education and employment. The committee also aims to partner with organizations such as Disabled American Veterans. Members were instructed to visit the designated

website, navigate to the Armed Services tab, and submit necessary forms by the deadline of June 1, 2025.

Report: Arvilla Daffin -Bylaws Chair

Chair Arvilla Daffin (attended via Zoom due to car trouble as she was leaving home was unable to attend in person) discussed the recent bylaws updates for clubs as received from NFRW. The new template was presented for adoption.

Key Points:

- The section governing removal from office has been revised to align with Robert's Rules of Order, specifically Section 7.2.6.
- Article VIII, regarding the Board of Directors, has been added as a new section.
- The club and state bylaws now match in policy points, ensuring consistency.
- Notice of meetings can now be sent electronically.
- A section for the election of delegates and alternates has also been added.

President, Theresa Bradford reminded club presidents to submit the updated bylaws to the state for review. The state bylaws committee will provide approval or suggestions for changes. NFRW does not allow changes/removal of sections or verbiage to ensure clubs remain as protected as possible from potential litigation. However, clubs may add verbiage that is specific to their needs.

Speaker -NFRW President, Julie Harris

During the meeting, the importance of bylaws was emphasized by NFRW President Julie Harris, who spoke about their role in establishing the framework for the organization. National provides a template to facilitate the process, ensuring that local and national bylaws do not conflict; any conflicts should be resolved using Robert's Rules of Order. It was noted that 11 amendments were passed at the last national board meeting, with some being simple housekeeping items. Bylaws were likened to load-bearing walls, supporting the leadership and standing committees that strengthen the overall structure of the club. Members were encouraged to review their bylaws and make any desired changes, as these documents help ensure the organization moves in a unified direction.

Report: Andrea Graf, Fundraising Char

The fundraising auction featured a total of 28 items and successfully raised \$1,750.00. The items for the auction were generously donated by various clubs, individuals, and community leaders.

Speaker: Attorney General Raul Labrador

Attorney General Raul Labrador addressed the group, focusing on the efforts of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force, which has significantly improved response times with a 24-hour turnaround on tips, resulting in at least one arrest per week. Labrador also discussed Republican initiatives to protect women's sports from male participation, sharing optimism about an upcoming Supreme Court case that could uphold restrictions against men in women's sports and prevent them from accessing women's restrooms and locker rooms, noting Idaho's recent legal victories in this area.

The meeting adjourned for lunch to Hoff building hosted by Ada County RW. Keynote speaker Phil McGrane

Delegate Selection:

President Bradford reviewed the process for delegate selection to the NFRW convention in Orlando, Florida, scheduled for September 25-27, 2025. Ballot counting would commence in a separate room while the digital spreadsheet used to track the ballots cast was simultaneously displayed in the meeting room for transparency, allowing all present to watch the process in real-time.

President Bradford outlined the nomination and voting procedure, stating that the IFRW would be allocated six delegates, along with the IFRW president, noting this number might change should membership increase. A point of clarification arose regarding Arvilla Daffin's voting eligibility; she ultimately abstained due to her inability to see the ballot. Shellie Blanchard proposed that each board member be permitted to nominate only one individual, with Laverne Sessions seconding the motion. Following discussion, the motion passed with an overwhelming majority after a call to question. A subsequent vote affirmed that nominations would be limited to one per person. Penny Allmer suggested counting votes in the room, which was seconded by Leslie Wolff. The motion failed after debate. Alex Caval proposed designating two poll watchers to count the ballots with a second. Tracey Wasden called the question which passed by voice vote. President Bradford then sought volunteers for poll watchers, with Nina Beesley and Lindsey Beaman stepping forward. Nominations for delegates ensued, during which 17 members were nominated: Charlene Matheson (Shellie Blanchard), Farhana Hibbert (Charlene Matheson), Karen Hughes (Beverly Kingsford), Tracey Wasden (Alex Coval), Darlene Simpson (Lori McCann), Catherine Bedford (Beverly Guenette), Kathy Tanner (Penny Allmer), Julie Lee (Marsha Bjornn), Carla Mattare (Claire Schumacher), Tiana Abel (Georgia Hagler), Janalee Woolf (Natalie Millington), Linda Heaton (LaVerne Sessions), Marsha Bjornn (Andrea Graf), Marie Silver (Leslie Wolf), Andrea Graf (April Wilke), LaVerne Sessions (Shirlyne Corder), and Shirlyne Corder (Tracey Wasden).

Announcement of Results: Chairwoman, Mary May, Credentials**Delegates**

1. Shirlyne Corder
2. Tracey Wasden
3. Charlene Matheson
4. Laverne Sessions
5. Marsha Bjornn
6. Janalee Woolf

Alternates:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Darlene Simpson 2. Andrea Graf 3. Catherine Bedford 4. Farhaa Hibbert 5. Julie Lee 6. Tianna Abel | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Karen Jayes 8. Marie Silver 9. Linda Heaton 10. Carla Mattare 11. Kathy Tanner |
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The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Shellie Blanchard
Secretary, IFRW

Post-Adjournment Objection: Ronnalee Linsenmann, First Vice Chair of Treasure Valley, raised a point of objection regarding the voting process, expressing her belief that it resembled ranked-choice voting. She found it offensive to the Republican Party and our National Party and objected to the manner in which the election was conducted. However, since the meeting had already been adjourned, her objection cannot be included in the official minutes.