

National Association of Benefits and Health Professionals

Treasure Valley Chapter

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2026

Mountain West Scouting Office

8901 Franklin Rd, Boise, Idaho 83709

and ZOOM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Marcia Benton, Doug Fry, Daniel Skelton, Joe Morgan, CarrieAnne Kowalczyk, Samantha Venable Harjo, Amity Harrison, Claudia Callahan, Julie Triepke, Jackson Longwill, Robert Tierney, Bryce Waite, and Sebrina Chevalier-Koehler.

GUEST PRESENT: None

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Knute Kleven, Lisa Wilson, Caleb Simpson, Stephanie Hartruff, Lisa Brown, Lindsay Clarke-Youngwerth, and Bill Duncan.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Meeting called to order at 1:42 p.m.

Roll call.

1. President's Report (Marcia Benton – President)
 - a. Review of Antitrust Statement –
 - b. Approval of November 20, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes
Doug Fry made a motion to approve the November 20, 2025, and the December 18, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes. Daniel Skelton seconded the motion. Motion passed, unanimous vote.
 - c. NABIP-TV Sponsorships Committee-Updates?
Review of sold sponsorships. The board has secured six sponsorships for the upcoming year:
BBSI - Diamond
Saint Alphonsus – Ruby
St. Luke's Health Plan – Emerald
Your Health Idaho – Sapphire
TASC (Total Administrative Services Corp) – Sapphire
SelectHealth - Amethyst
United Heritage will be a 2026 sponsor – Sponsorship Level is TBD
Marcia will be reaching out to all of last years sponsors as well as any prospective sponsors within the next few weeks.
 - d. Scheduling Happy Hours, a Membership Drive and Membership Benefits Lunch
 - i. Happy Hour:
Had Happy Hours in October and November. The next Happy Hour is scheduled at Legends from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 28th. Check into a Hawks NABIP day.
 - ii. Membership Drive
No new report at this time.
 - iii. Membership Benefits Lunch
No new report at this time.
 - e. Cap Conference – February 22-25 - Who is going?
Marcia discussed the upcoming CAP conference and National Leadership Training Day. She noted certain positions (VP, President, Legislative Chairs) earn points for attending. Currently planning to attend: Marcia, CarrieAnne, Robert, Lindsay and Sam (first time attendee). State and TV are both offering scholarships for first-time attendees.
 - f. Buy Idaho Event – February 25, 2026 – 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (700 W. Jefferson)
Request to be next to YHI. Joe, Jackson and Claudia will staff the booth. The booth will provide information about agents and NABIP membership. Sebrina, send Marcia a reminder to ask Wendy and Rhonda to send a request to the State Board for extra volunteers.
 - g. 2026-2027 Board Members
We need to fill the Vice President, President Elect, and President position. Marcia expressed concern about not having a VP to eventually replace her as President. Robert offered to be a “safety net” but would prefer someone else step up into the VP position. He did state that he could temporarily fill the VP role if needed but would prefer to not move forward into the President position.

- h. January 2026 Membership Meeting
 - Topic: Finding Direction of the Roadmap of Challenges with EAPs
 - Sponsor(s): None
 - CEs Offered: 1
 - Attendees: 31 (Reviewed Monthly Meeting Report)
 - Marcia announced the following:
 - Upcoming Meetings:
 - Thursday, February 12th – Lobbyist Sarah Bettwieser – Legislative Update
 - Mentorship Program
 - REBC Designation
 - LPRT
 - Education Foundation
- 2. 2026 Fall Forum/Medicare Summit Updates
 - a. 2025 Survey—what went well, what can we do better next time?
Prepare survey and send out in January 2026.
 - b. CE Credits
We are still waiting for documentation from Reed Smith (Medicare Summit) to prepare his timed outline and submit it for CE.
 - c. 2026 Dates
 - Marcia shared a vision for a 3-day event including a community day, Medicare Summit, and a regular Fall Forum.
 - Potential date – August 12th – 14th (or 11th – 13th)
 - Also discussed the value of adding a Group Summit at the same time or one in the morning and one in the afternoon. If we bring in speakers that are pertinent to group, we may get Group Agents to attend. Robert has access to a lot of physicians that would be able to speak. Employers Health Coalition in Idaho may be able to speak. Biggest concern is that there could be a lot of effort with little attendance at the Group Summit. Would want to focus it toward smaller group brokers. Small employer compliance. Possibly open it to the public, the employers. Have the chamber send the information out.
 - The community day/Health Insurance Awareness Day will be free for non-profit organizations that support health needs. Teach public how to read an EOB.
- 3. Secretary Report (Doug Fry)
 - a. Education Foundation
 - No new report at this time.
- 4. Chair Reports
 - a. Treasurer's Report / Finance / Budget (Daniel Skelton, Treasurer; Marcia Benton, Co-Chair)
 - Profit and Loss Statement for July through December 2025
 - i. Current bank balance, \$53,128.24 (this includes Christmas auction proceeds that still need to be paid out to City Light).
 - 2025-2026 Budget Review and Approval
 - i. No new report at this time.
 - ICCU Checking
 - i. Checking account was hacked by a total of approximately \$32,000. The investigation is now complete, and the funds have been permanently deposited into new checking account. The old account has now been closed. Sebrina set up text notifications on the new account for any withdrawals from the new account and if the account balance drops below \$10,000.
 - Board Member Benefits (reduced fees, etc.)
 - i. Joe, suggestion to use funds for giveaways to entice members to show up for meetings, donate to PAC, etc. Free luncheons, reduced luncheons. Reduce the cost of monthly membership meetings. Homework to bring back additional ideas? Use funds to bring in better presenters.
 - Income from Monthly Membership Meetings (review Monthly Meeting Breakdown)
 - i. Reviewed report as of 1/8/2026.
 - ii. Marcia would like the form updated. Marcia, Robert and Sebrina will work to make the changes.

- b. Marketing and Communications Update (Joe Morgan, Lisa Wilson, and Jane Fry, Co-Chairs)
 - Social Media Releases – Updates/postings to NABIP-TV Facebook page, LinkedIn Program; Twitter, and Instagram (Buffer).
 - Letters to the Editor (5); Op-ed articles – Lisa will be working on these.
 - Status on Social Media Posts (40) – Jane Fry is assisting with posting social media. She is not doing content creation.
 - Jane is doing a great job of getting information posted about our monthly meetings.
 - Press Releases - Lisa
 - Top Golf
 - Golf Tournament – Idaho Crisis and Suicide Hotline Donation
 - New Board
 - Fall Forum
 - Medicare Summit
 - NABIP – National Press Releases
 - Update NABIP-TV/NABIP-Idaho Websites – meeting dates and upcoming event dates & board positions. Joe will add information about Buy Idaho Event. NABIP Treasure Valley Sponsorships. Diamond and Ruby sponsors need to go onto the website. Joe will also post regarding Cap Conference scholarships.
 - Joe asked Robert to send a new Saint Alphonsus logo to be used on the Sponsorship page of the NABIP-TV website.
 - Marcia will reach out to Lisa Wilson regarding Press Releases.
 - Julie – suggest we start posting information after monthly meetings.
 - Newsletter
 - Marcia and Stephanie to prepare the December and January newsletters.
- c. Membership Recognition Chair (Stephanie Hartruff, Marketing Recognition Chair)
 - Awards Status Updates
 - CarrieAnne is currently working on Legislative Excellence Award. It is due today at midnight.
- d. Community Service (Lisa Brown and Julie Triepke – Community Service Co-Chairs)
 - Updates on December Meeting/Christmas Auction
 - Julie will reach out to City Light to schedule date/time for check delivery.
 - This year's Christmas Charity auction was a success. We raised \$21,288 (including the Fredriksen Cash Match). NABIP-TV will write a check to City Light in the amount of \$15,318.05. The chapter retained 15%, which was approximately \$1,500.
 - Spring Charity Event
 - Lisa and Julie will begin planning for the Spring community service event.
 - The board set a date for the Spring Charity event as: Friday, April 17th – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
 - Discussion for the spring charity event to be a bowling event. Possible location: Meridian Lanes since they were recently remodeled. Lisa and Julie will check venue availability.
- e. Professional Development Update (Jackson Longwill and Lindsay Clarke-Youngwerth, Prof. Dev. Co-Chairs)
 - Update on speakers and sponsors:
 1. February 12th:
 - a. Location: St. Luke's – 11:30 a.m.
 - b. Topic: Legislative Update and Legislator Education
 - c. Speakers: Lobbyist – Sarah Bettwieser – lunch meeting
 - d. Need to reach out to Sarah and get her timed outline and bio for CE credit.
 2. March 12th:
 - a. Location: Saint Alphonsus (Nampa?) – 8:00 a.m. Robert will confirm if the Nampa location is available.
 - b. Topic: Self-Funded 101
 - c. Speakers: Eric Weiningham
- f. Legislative Update (CarrieAnne Kowalczyk, Legislative Chair and Sam Venable Harjo, Co-Chair)
 - Report on State Legislative Call/Region 7 Legislative Call
 - Update on Key Contacts.

- Day on the Hill is scheduled for March 12th.

- **2026 Legislative Session Preview**

The second session of the sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature convened today at noon. Idaho has no set duration for the session, but we anticipate this year's will wrap near the end of March, allowing time for legislators seeking reelection to campaign in advance of the primary election taking place May 19. Notably, legislation passed in 2025 shifted Idaho's candidate filing deadline up from mid-March to February 23–27. Once filing closes, a clearer picture will emerge of the May primary landscape for legislative races and statewide constitutional offices.

Election year sessions are often referred to as "litmus test" sessions as issues emerge that are utilized by legislators as a mechanism to campaign. These issues often create a contentious and divisive legislative climate focused and fixated on social issues. We anticipate this will be the case in 2026 with Medicaid funding, womens' health, tax relief, and state revenue shortfall emerging as hot button topics.

Governor Little delivered his State of the State address, outlining his top priorities under the "ENDURING IDAHO" plan. Key themes included immigration, budget reductions through D.O.G.E., continued support for Idaho LAUNCH, strengthening rural healthcare, protecting water infrastructure investments, and ongoing investment in public education.

- **Leadership Changes**

The House of Representatives is going head-first into session seeing multiple leadership changes, including having to address 3 chairmanship vacancies. Representative Wendy Horman (R – LD 32), Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee Co-Chair, announced her resignation from the legislature in December to pursue a role within the Trump Administration under Health and Human Services. She will be joining former Budget Chief and Department of Health and Welfare Director Dr. Alex Adams at the Administration for Children and Families. Representative Josh Tanner, Assistant House Majority Leader, was announced as the new Co-Chair last Monday – just one week before the start of the legislative session. Erin Bingham from Idaho Falls was appointed by Governor Little late last week to fill Rep. Horman's vacant seat. On Sunday evening, House Republicans convened a caucus meeting to select a new Assistant Majority Leader. Following deliberations, House Education Chairman Representative Doug Pickett (R – LD 27) was elected to fill the leadership role.

Following Rep. Pickett's move to leadership, Representative Dale Hawkins (R – LD 2) has been named the new House Education Chairman.

More vacancies in the legislature include those of House Agriculture and Business Committee chairs. Representative Kevin Andrus (R – LD 35) will also be heading to the Trump Administration at the Farm Service Agency, and Representative Lance Clow (R – LD 25) is taking a step back to pursue time with family and taking care of his health. Their seats have been filled by Michael Veile and County Commissioner Don Hall, respectively. Representative Jerald Raymond (R – LD 31) has been named as the new House Agriculture Chairman, and Representative Jordan Redman (R – LD 3) as the new House Business Chairman.

Following the departure of House Minority Caucus Chair Representative Todd Achilles to pursue a campaign for the U.S. Senate, Anne Haws has been appointed to fill legislative seat 16B, and Representative Monica Church has assumed the role of Minority Caucus Chair. These changes have led to adjustments in certain committee assignments, particularly within the House of Representatives.

- **Budget Concerns**

All eyes will be on JFAC this year, as the state is looking at what could be a nearly \$1 billion budget deficit heading into fiscal year 2027. Agency budget cuts, Medicaid service and rate cuts, and heavy use of the state's Rain-Day Fund is to be expected to fill this gap. The deficit, driven largely by lower-than-expected tax revenues that reduced ongoing General Fund revenue, must be addressed according to the Idaho Constitution, which requires a balanced budget. Lawmakers must close the gap before the end of the fiscal year, which has already led to agency holdbacks, spending restraints, and pressure on various high-spending programs like Medicaid. While the state still has substantial reserve funds, leaders are divided over whether

to use one-time savings, pursue deeper cuts, or reconsider tax policy as longer-term budget pressures loom.

Medicaid is also expected to dominate much of the policy discussion this session, following the implementation of HR 1 at the federal level, the distribution of Rural Health Transformation Program funds, and ongoing debate over Medicaid Expansion. The Legislature's D.O.G.E. Committee met throughout the interim and, at its final meeting in December, agreed to formally recommend that the House and Senate Health & Welfare Committees explore repealing Medicaid Expansion – a program approved by voters through a 2018 ballot initiative. As a result, we anticipate multiple proposals this session seeking to repeal Medicaid Expansion, as well as to modify or eliminate other Medicaid programs.

Additionally, the Legislature is expected to consider freezing the distribution of approximately \$14 million in childcare grant funds, following developments in Minnesota and other states. Several legislators, including new JFAC co-chair Rep. Tanner, have been outspoken about concerns related to fraud and misuse of public funds and plan to work closely with the Department of Health and Welfare to ensure appropriate oversight of these grants.

- **Key Session Dates**

- January 12 – Legislative session convenes
- February 16 – Constitutional amendment deadline
- February 26 – Bill introduction deadline
- March 6 – Transmittal deadline
- March 12 – Target date for JFAC to complete budget-setting
- March 27 – Target date for adjournment, sine die

- Sam mentioned that the December Region 7 call included some concerns that Scott Leavitt had started conversations with legislators for the Capitol Conference. There was an agency hired to manage those meetings, and those appointments scheduled by Scott conflicted. Per Marcia, this has since been resolved.

- g. Membership Recruitment and Membership Experience Chair Update (Knut Kleven/Claudia Callahan/Caleb Simpson-Co-Chairs)

- Reviewed current membership reports – New Member, Billed not paid, and Lapsed. Claudia will reach out to Marcia to meet to review membership codes and agency memberships.
- Next New Member Orientation/Value of Membership Meeting is 3/5/26 at 1 pm. Microsoft Teams info is on NABIP-TV.org under events, or email Knute for more info.
- There were no attendees at the New Member Orientation Meeting that was held on 1/8/2026.

- h. Diversity, Equality, Inclusion & Belonging (Sam Venable Harjo – Chair)

- Discussed aligning DEI with professional development. Sam recommended incorporating speakers a couple times a year who address underserved groups/populations, i.e. immigrants, veterans, native Americans. Potential collaboration with YHI on addressing needs of specific populations. New population (immigrants) losing their tax credit next year. Jackson, Lindsay and Sam to meet to discuss.

- i. NABIP-PAC/IPAC Chair (Amity Harrison, NABIP-PAC/IPAC Chairs)

- Status of NABIP-PAC/IPAC
 - \$270.00 was raised at the January Membership Meeting. Cindy Hogberg was the winner of \$135.00.
 - Maintaining NABIP PAC contribution levels, which are currently at only 10% of members.
 - CarrieAnne is reaching out to NABIP Idaho to see if there is an Idaho PAC monthly automatic draft payment option.

5. New Business

6. Old Business

7. Adjourn

- a. **Joe Morgan** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Samantha Venable Harjo** seconded the motion. Discussion. Motion passed, unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Task List

Board Member

- **Knute/Claudia/Caleb** – Create list and track monthly calls to those on the Billed not paid report.
- **Lisa Wilson** – Work on Press Releases, Newsletters, Letters to the Editor, etc.
- **Jackson Longwill/Lindsay Clarke-Youngwerth** – Find speakers and sponsors for upcoming membership meetings.
- **Joe Morgan**– Update NABIP-Idaho/NABIP-TV websites with meeting dates and upcoming event dates.
- **Marcia Benton** - NABIP-TV Sponsorships Committee
- **Marcia** - Scheduling Happy Hour, a Membership Drive and Membership Benefits Lunch
- **Lisa** – Find and share the inaccurate media report on tax credits and subsidies to potentially prepare a response.
- **Robert** – send Joe updated Saint Alphonsus logo for Sponsorship page of website
- **Robert** – check Nampa meeting availability for March 12th membership meeting.
- **Marcia and Claudia** – meet to review membership codes and agency memberships.
- **Marcia** – prepare January Newsletter
- **Board Members** – attend evening gathering on April 8th during the NABIP Idaho Symposium.
- **Sam** – apply for Cap Conference First Time Attendee Scholarships from State.
- **Julie and Lisa** – find a venue for the Spring Bowling Charity Event
- **Julie and Lisa** – schedule City Light check delivery.
- **Board Members** – ensure you are signed-up for NABIP PAC monthly contribution.

Please read and print these minutes and bring to the next board meeting to be held on:

Thursday, February 19, 2025

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**Location: Mountain West Scouting Office
8901 Franklin Rd, Boise, Idaho 83709**