



Bonner County

Auditing

3/31/26

Memorandum

Consent Agenda
BOCG Item # 1

To: Commissioners
From: Board of Community Guardian
Re: 2025 Board of Community Guardian Annual Report

After making a determination that there exists a need within the county for a guardian for those persons in need of guardianship and for whom there is no person or corporation qualified and willing to act in such capacity, Idaho Code § 15-5-601 allows the BOCC to create and budget for a Board of Community Guardian (BOCG). Idaho Code §15-5-602 sets forth the BOCG structure, powers and duties.

Idaho Code § 15-5-603 requires the BOCG to report annually in writing to the BOCC its activities for the preceding year, sets forth specific requirements for the report and requires that "...the BOCC shall review each report and shall determine whether to dissolve or continue the Board of Community Guardian in the County."

Attached you will find the FY2025 Annual Report. It is recommended that Bonner County continue the Board of Community Guardian.

Auditing Review: [Signature]

Email is attached verifying that auditing has verified that the funds to cover this item are within the budget; this is required for any expenditure/budget adjustment request.

Risk Review: N/A

If applicable, email is attached verifying that all Risk questions/concerns have been resolved and that it has been approved. This includes new equipment/assets to be insured or contracts requiring insurance for review.

Legal Review: X

Email is attached verifying that all legal questions/concerns have been resolved and that it has been approved.

Distribution: _____ Original to BOCC
_____ Copy to Veronica Dixon

Consent Agenda

Recommendation Acceptance: yes no

[Signature]
Brian Domke, Chair

3/31/26
Date

2025 Bonner County Board of Guardian Annual Report

Idaho Code § 15-5-603

The Bonner County Board of Guardian (BOCG), a dedicated volunteer group, continued to serve the Bonner County community in 2025. The Board conducted its meetings in person and via teleconference to review cases and referrals, supported throughout the year by Legal Counsel and Deputy Clerk/BOCG Liaison, Veronica Dixon.

Financial Overview

The BOCG operated with a budget of \$1,000.00 in 2025. All budgeted funds (\$1,000.00) were spent on advertising materials to inform the community about the Board's mission and services. The County provides substantial non-monetary support, including staff attendance at all meetings, consistent guidance, maintenance of a dedicated voicemail line, email, and website, and provision of legal guidance. Furthermore, the county covers all filing fees and court costs for cases accepted by the Board.

Board Membership and Outreach

In 2025, the Board consisted of six (6) active volunteer members, welcoming one (1) newly appointed member and reappointing one (1) current member. Volunteer recruitment remains a priority. The BOCG utilized its budget for advertising and education through the distribution of brochures and speaking engagements to promote awareness of the Board's services and the need for volunteers. The Board plans to increase its visibility by attending more community events in the future. The BOCG also continued to respond to various community calls for support.

Services Provided to Incapacitated Persons

The BOCG currently provides services to five (5) Bonner County residents this year. The BOCG received four (4) referrals in 2025:

- Two (2) individuals had the Bonner County Board of Guardian appointed as Guardian and Conservator.
- One (1) individual passed away before the guardianship process could be finalized.
- One (1) individual was determined ineligible for the program.

Board Recommendations

The Board continues to observe recurring challenges in the community. Specifically, we have seen and expect to see an increase of mentally challenged individuals who require but lack a guardian in our growing and aging population. This frequently results in these individuals being hospitalized, with facilities bearing the burden of care without appropriate funding or means to support their ongoing needs.

To address this and related issues, the Board recommends:

- Continued effort to organize and identify attorneys, guardian ad litem, and court visitors who are willing to accept Guardianship cases for individuals unable to afford the associated legal costs. This would allow the Board to direct families to necessary resources.

- Encouraging community agencies to engage in collaborative efforts to better address the complex needs of mentally compromised community members.

Dated this 26th day of March 2025

Submitted by: Steve D Franklin
Steve Franklin, Chairperson
Bonner County Board of Community Guardian