

MINUTES  
**HOUSE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, January 26, 2026

**TIME:** 1:30 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW05

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Ehardt, Vice Chairman Cornilles, Representatives Erickson, Skaug, Weber, Alfieri, Cheatum, Hawkins, Price, Cayler, Rasor, Wheeler, Hostetler, Marmon, Berch, Church

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** Rep. Weber

**GUESTS:** The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

**Chairman Ehardt** called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Church** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2026 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 32949:** **Rep. Skaug** presented **RS 32949**, which would include rats on the list of pests for which county commissioners may take appropriate actions to control.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Price** made a motion to introduce **RS 32949**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**RS 32963C1:** **Rep. Bruce** presented **RS 32963C1**, which would allow more public comment time in public meetings for all governing bodies, not including the Idaho Legislature. The purpose of the proposed legislation is to address situations in which individuals were limited on when they could provide comments during public meetings by governing bodies.

**Rep. Rasor** clarified **RS 32963C1** would not apply to political party central committees, as Idaho election law stipulates they are private organizations.

**Reps. Price and Berch** stated they were not opposed to introducing **RS 32963C1**, but were concerned with the broad language in the proposed legislation.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Skaug** made a motion to introduce **RS 32963C1**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Rep. Tanner (14)**, chairman of the Idaho House Appropriations, gave a presentation on the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee budget process. He discussed the importance of the fiscal note being accurate in proposed legislation, as well as the factors the Idaho Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (JFAC) need to be aware of when considering budgets. Most budgets JFAC reviews are required by Idaho statute, with the largest statutory budgets being education, corrections, and health and welfare.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:58 PM.

---

Representative Ehardt  
Chair

Elijah Phipps  
Secretary