

WRAS Minutes: February 18, 2026

Present: John Aegerter, Jim Felton, Liz Mowrey, Tammy Wykes, Rhonda Hirata, Skip Duffy, Louise Duffy, John Murray, Gina Clark, Sue Iwasa Dan and Judy Randleman, John Burke, Jonny Holcomb, Aleina Cudnofskey, Thea Bendix, Shelli Holcomb, Chelsea Wood.

Tammy makes the motion; Gina seconds and we approve last month's minutes.

6:30. Reports meeting:

Treasurer's report: Louise Duffy. February 2026

Cash on hand \$45,868.56

Bldg. fund/ Zions: \$200,918.42

CDs ICCU: \$205,155.02

Total: \$406,073.44

Ridley's points: 2024: \$975.24. 2025: \$386.30

Spay and Neuter: \$1,500.00

Pet Friendly: is closed out until we apply again.

Louise gets statements quarterly.

An engineer who Louise deals with, works with a commercial realtor so she will follow up with that. The man Jeri Soulier suggested doesn't want to do it. We can write something up and then meet with the real estate agent and the engineer. We discussed about having a property survey done (once they accept the offer) then the soil testing would be written into the agreement.

FSC has said that they are going to give up the lease (late summer is all we know) John A. didn't ask when the lease ends in his most recent conversation with FSC because he didn't feel it was appropriate at the time. We should get back together and decide what we want to do and then ask FSC when their lease ends.

April 20 is when our CDs are mature. We need to meet and Louise will tell us when the engineer gets back to her. Rhonda wants all the infrastructure done first. This group (the engineers) did a Bully Rescue so they have some experience with shelters.

When we hear back from them then we will come up with the offer for UP. John talked to a man at the dog park in Payette who works in construction, and he says right now material costs are actually coming down.

Who will do the land survey? We have a list. We have a "free builder". The man who does Poker runs said he would do HVAC at cost. Dan R. stated his concerns about his previous experiences with free labor.

The engineering firm will first make a proposal saying we will do this for you. If you want this, this is the cost and so on. Part of their proposal will be the inspections, etc. They can design something that we can start with. Infrastructure.

We have \$400,000 in the bank right now and we just need to get going. John said the city said we don't "have to do anything". In other words, any problems once we buy the property will be ours. We need the testing (therefore) with the environmental assessment first, then if they find something, we would have the next phase of assessments. The results should be in the proposal to UP.

Louise said that we should get input from members and then say to the engineer and realtor that "we are ready to meet with you." Any of the board members who are interested in meeting should step up and also come up with any questions that the group might have. John said he will send an email. He thinks we should go to them first, but Louise said they may want to come look at the property instead.

Shelli: spay and neuter. We will get 15% off with Weiser Vet now. Martha is only doing neuters now and no spays. We took care of 68 animals in 2024-2025 with the WRAS spay/neuter funds. The Pet Friendly grants surgeries were 64 in 2024/2025. That was 17 dogs spayed, 10 dogs neutered, 22 cats spayed and 15 cats neutered with that fund. We had two Pet Friendly grants in 2025, one for \$5200.00 and one for \$4650.00. The total number of animals that were spayed and neutered by Weiser River Animal Shelter using both our funds and Pet Friendly funds through January 1, 2026 was 132. Shelli has done 52 phone calls this last month.

Yearly Events for the shelter:

John wants us to sign up for the events, two or three events at least. He is passing the pages around.

The foster meeting was canceled. It will be rescheduled. We need to look at different shelters to see how they handle it.

John will send out an email to see who wants to go to Simply Cats in Boise (an organization which finds homes for 1000 cats a year) Rhonda suggested that John sends around a sheet to see who wants to go over there. This was done. He will then communicate with us.

Idaho Gives: look at all the videos on the site. This promotion starts the end of April, first of May. Go to their website and look at the videos. Our shelter gains by having members get on. We could try to do a match.

We've gotten \$7000 so far with the 100 Club and John said it is an eye opener to go to the meetings. The next one is 11 May; a meeting happens every quarter. The last money amount was given to the public library. The Shamrock Club was a recipient. There are 18 groups in this organization.

It will be an \$85 fee to join the Harvest festival. Jonny moves and John seconds that we okay this Harvest Festival fee.

Jim then made a proposal that we vote on accepting the entry fees on all of our annual events at one vote. This would only include the registrations fees and not any additional expenses for materials such as float building, extra ducks and so one. These costs would still need to be voted on individually. Jim will move to do this in the March meeting and we will vote on that proposal then.

Idaho Gives made us money, the Fiddlers' Festival parade was free to join and gave us exposure, Farmer's market is \$70 Oktoberfest is \$85, the Holiday parade is \$25, the Arts and Crafts table is \$40 to join, and they all give us exposure or make money, at least to offset the fees.

Kori Rex told John about an organization called SNARF. The woman in charge had taken pound cats and then came over to John and took six. Shelli would like to talk to this group because she gets calls from people who need help in rehoming animals. John said SNARF places them in Petsmart and places like that. There is also a group Bully Breeds, and an arm that takes black dogs.

Membership: Aleina said that 44 people have renewed our membership. Jonny is redoing the membership form.

We have lost about thirty people (had 74 last year) Louise said she had two more. Two memberships per couple (or one, with only one vote). She asks that we write check number or cash, date on the form. And that we keep track of money. Don't take cash for different things at the same time and all membership money needs to have an accompanying form even if it is a renewal. The use for the money needs to be clear. In an envelope, marked down in a book (like at farmer's market)

No one is going to the PA animal care expo. The next one will be May 6-9 2027 but what are the dates to send money? Jonny says they will announce it shortly after this year's conference ends. Next year the conference will be in Grapevine TX.

September 19 will be the next duck race. We need someone to run that. John will check on the removal of the large tree.

It was suggested that we approach Champion to see what they could build the first building for us, just a small building to begin. A modular home. It is also important to do the infrastructure that will be needed for the main building to follow, but an initial building (which could be later used for something like storage, quarantined animals, a store, event facility, or something else) will give us presence in our community and something to fund raise on.

Outdoor grounds for both dogs and cats will be a good use of the property not used for building. It would be good to find out how much hookups for sewer, water, and electricity will cost us. LOR will perhaps be a source for some of our projects.

Meeting is adjourned. Next meeting March 18, 2026 at the Bee Tree at 6:30 pm.