



IFF's mission is to defeat Marxism and socialism by building a culture of liberty around America's founding principles so Idahoans can prosper.

Government Watchdogs:

The Idaho Freedom Foundation (IFF) has served as a “watchdog” for both the executive and legislative branches of government for over a decade. Year after year, the IFF holds elected officials accountable to conservative principles. Recently, we have begun holding local government officials accountable, too, whether that be in counties, cities, or on school boards. Corruption and secrecy have no place in Idaho governance. Taxpayers deserve to have elected officials and state employees who are accountable and transparent.

We are working to expose corruption and questionable “happenings” in local governments around the Gem State, but we can’t do it without you. Visit idahofreedom.org/local to stay informed, get involved, report any suspicious activity, and learn how to be a watchdog for your local government.

How YOU Can Be a Watchdog for Your Local Government:

1. Get Familiar with Your Local Government

Learn the structure of your local government, including who your local elected officials are, what departments exist, and how decisions are made.

2. Read Meeting Agendas and Minutes

According to Idaho statutes [§74.204](#) and [§74.205](#), local governments must publish upcoming meeting agendas and schedules and keep detailed records of meetings called “minutes.” Stay informed by watching for schedules and agendas and reading minutes from city council, school board, and other meetings. These documents are typically available online (if not, through public records requests) and show what’s being discussed or voted on.

3. Attend or Watch Public Meetings

Attending meetings in person or watching livestreams or recordings is the best way to stay informed about what your local governing body is doing. Pay attention to who says what, how votes are cast, and whether public input is considered. Public attendance at meetings often shifts officials’ votes!



IFF's mission is to defeat Marxism and socialism by building a culture of liberty around America's founding principles so Idahoans can prosper.

4. Ask Questions and Submit Public Records Requests

If you have questions about something or if something seems off, ask for clarification. Often, at meetings, officials allow for a time of public comment, during which you can ask pointed questions. Additionally, you can make public records requests, per Idaho statute [§74-102](#), for budgets, emails, contracts, or other official documents.

5. Contact Your Elected Officials

Contacting your county, city, or school board's elected officials directly should be your first step if you have a question or concern. Allow your elected official the chance to explain themselves; offer them suggestions, and express to them your concerns or frustrations.

6. Track Voting Records and Financial Decisions

Keep a record of how your local elected officials vote, especially on major spending or policy issues. Are they voting in pay raises for themselves? Are they raising local taxes? Are they allowing a woke culture in schools?

7. Hold Officials Accountable

The best way to hold local government officials accountable (or any elected officials) is at the ballot box. Vote for officials who serve the best interests of their constituents, utilize taxpayer money best, and are transparent.