



FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING AND
PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 27, 2021

The Minutes of the Board of Commissioners proceedings are not verbatim. Access to an electronic audio recording of meetings are available on the Franklin County website or upon request.

9:00 a.m.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Commission Chairman Clint Didier called the Franklin County Commissioners' Regular Board Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., in the Commissioners' Meeting Room in the Franklin County Courthouse located at 1016 North Fourth Avenue, Pasco, Washington.

Commissioners Present: Commission Chair Clint Didier, Chair Pro Tem Rocky Mullen and Member Brad Peck

9:01 a.m. **Potts and Associates Legislative Updates**

Zak Kennedy gave a final update on the 2021 legislation session. The session ended on Sunday April 25, 2021 at 5:45 p.m. Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) sent out a breakdown of the state budget to each county. Mr. Kennedy suggested relying on WSAC for guidance in the future, since they have legal counsel to review items.

There were multiple discussions based around HB 1091-2021-22 reducing greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the carbon intensity of transportation fuel.

He discussed the irregular year due to COVID-19 restrictions and the difference it made in decision-making without meeting in-person.

The biennial budget is over 1100 pages long and consists of over 59 billion dollars. Capital gains for Ag has not been clarified as of yet.

9:13 a.m. **Commissioner/Administrator Updates**

- Commissioner Mullen discussed updates on the Long-Term Care requirements. November 1, 2021 is the last chance to opt out; however, you must show proof of coverage elsewhere prior to doing so.
- Commissioner Peck's updates included the following:
 - Ben Franklin Council of Government (BFCoG) is rewriting bi-laws
 - Columbia Basin Development League (CBDL) discussed setting up a parallel nonprofit entity for fundraising
 - Local Decision Makers who meet voluntary to go over COVID 19 briefings.
 - Benton Franklin Health District meeting
 - Met with Planning and Building Director Derrick Braaten
 - Researched Conover Insurance presentation on Long-Term Care
 - Discussed with TRIDEC Shoreline Reconveyance issues



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- Administrator Keith Johnson's updates included the following:
 - Discussion on the spike of COVID cases, which could result in Franklin County going back to phase 2
 - Follow up meeting with TRIDEC and other entities on Shoreline Reconveyance issues
 - He and Commissioner Mullen will do a presentation on the State of the County Address during a Tri City Chamber of Commerce luncheon
 - No additional information from U.S. Treasury on the Recovery Act Funds
 - Working on .09 Economic Development
 - Commissioner Didier's updates included the following:
 - Hanford Communities cleanup project
 - Workforce Development meeting today
 - Ben Franklin Transit budget and his concerns about it being too large
 - Commissioner Peck discussed reducing the six-tenths tax for the Transit to five-tenths and allowing citizens to vote on putting one-tenths towards mental health programs
- ❖ *Commissioners asked Mr. Johnson to initiate a Bi-County meeting to discuss this matter.*

9:35 a.m. **CLOSED RECORD HEARING-Zone Change 2020-03 Harker**

- ❖ *Commissioner Didier opened the Closed Record Hearing at 9:35 a.m.*

Prior to discussion, Ms. Stickney asked if any of the Commissioners had any conflicts of interest or ex parte communications. The Commissioners responded with a no. AHBL Planning Contractor Nicole Stickney presented the request to rezone approximately 39.2 acres from AP-20(Agricultural Production) to RC-1 (Rural Community-1). Building and Planning department staff provided the Planning Commission with a recommendation of approval for the application. Subsequently, at their meeting on March 30, 2021, the Planning Commission held a duly advertised open-record public hearing.

The Planning Commission unanimously passed a motion to forward the BOCC a recommendation of approval, based on 5 findings of fact and with 3 conditions of approval.

- ❖ *Commissioner Peck moved to approve Ordinance 05-2021 and Commissioner Mullen seconded. Commissioner Didier closed the Closed Record Hearing and the motion carried.*

9:45 a.m. **Human Resources Presentation**

Human Resources Director Carlee Nave presented a brief overview of the Human Resources Department. Main items of discussion are as listed:

- Department Staffing and Budget
- Staff Development and Experience



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- Civil Service Commissioner
- LEOFF-Disability Board
- Labor Relations
- Recruiting –Staffing Management
- Compensation- Worker’s Compensation
- Employee Benefits
- Compliance and more.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Nave for a presentation well done.

10:05 a.m. **Public Works - Planning and Building Discussion**

Planning and Building Director Derrick Braaten explained some aspects of the Planning and Building department. He mentioned that incoming applications are steadily coming in large numbers and he does not have the staff to keep up with the demand. Discussion continued as to the needs of the Planning and Building department. Mr. Braaten requested a full time permit tech and planner.

- ❖ *Commissioner Peck moved to immediately lift the hiring freeze and authorize hiring of a permit tech and a planner. Commissioner Mullen seconded and the motion carried.*

10:56 a.m. **Public Comment**

- Sheriff Jim Raymond encouraged the Commissioners to address the issues of mental health and public safety before our streets look like Seattle.
- Michelle Andres appreciated the Commissioners updates. LEOFF and civil service is running well. She asked that Potts and Associates to remain neutral in regard to their reports. Ms. Andres asked about planting megaflora for improving environment.
- Steve Bauman supports reducing the one tenth of monies from Ben Franklin transit and divert it to mental health projects. He supports a bi-county meeting to discuss this further. He disagreed with Mr. Braaten on not accepting an application because it is incomplete. He appreciated the lifting of the hiring freeze.
- Michelle Andres shared the same concerns as Sheriff Raymond about mental health and public safety on our streets.



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11:10 a.m. **Approval of Fund Expenditure Warrants**

04/27/2021

Franklin County Commissioners:

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer by RCW 42.24.080, expense reimbursement claims.
 Action: As of this date, 04/27/2021 Loisley Mullen
 Move that the following warrants be approved for payment:
 Certified by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been sent to the board members.

Warrants \ Check Numbers:	00370367 - 00370471	\$528,704.73
EFT Check Numbers:	00000788 - 00000803	\$65,398.33
		<u>\$594,103.06</u>

Fund Expenditures	Amount Issued
CURRENT EXPENSE	\$375,568.66
AUDITOR O & M	\$916.84
ELECTION EQUIP REVOLVING	\$102.46
BOATING SAFETY	\$396.37
DARE FUND SHERIFF	\$118.10
ENHANCED 911	\$163.36
COUNTY ROADS	\$141,158.91
SOLID WASTE	\$396.75
LAW LIBRARY	\$40.73
VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE	\$288.42
ENDING HOMELESSNESS	\$41,522.02
THE HAPO CENTER	\$15,351.73
FRANKLIN COUNTY RV PARK	\$2,828.19
MOTOR VEHICLE	\$15,250.52

In the amount of: \$594,103.06

The motion was seconded by: Bob Peck

And passed by a vote of: 3 to 0

Reviewed by the County Administrator: [Signature]

The attached vouchers have been approved by Auditor or Deputy:
[Signature]
 Matt Beaton

[Signature]
 Vouchers Audited By:
 Paola Mendoza

www.co.franklin.wa.us/auditor

❖ *Commissioner Mullen moved to approve Fund Expenditures audited and certified by the auditing officer for warrants prepared for the week of April 27, 2021 for payment totaling \$594,103.06. Commissioner Peck seconded and the motion carried.*



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11:10 a.m. Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Resolution 2021-087 Washington State Patrol Automated Biometric Identification System for Juvenile Justice Center
2. Resolution 2021-088 Bi-County Resolution and Interlocal IT Agreement
3. Recommendation of Award - Pasco-Kahlotus Rd 605 Inland Asphalt

❖ Commissioner Mullen moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Peck seconded and the motion carried.

11:10 a.m. Administration Office Business

- Mr. Johnson brought forth a draft “Controlled Substance” Ordinance for Franklin County. He believed it was premature to move forward with this ordinance at this time due to current discussion in the legislature. He suggested waiting to see what the State outcome will be.

Sheriff Raymond requested moving forward with a Franklin County Ordinance. Prosecuting Attorney Shawn Sant preferred to wait and see what the State will do and then proceed if action by the State is not approved.

The soonest Franklin County would be able to hold a public hearing would be May 18, 2021 due to public notice requirements.

❖ Commissioners were in consensus with moving forward with the process to hold a public hearing on the “Controlled Substance” Ordinance for Franklin County.

- Mr. Johnson drafted a letter of support for the Community Project Funding Request for Reimann Industrial Center. This letter will be sent to Honorable Dan Newhouse in support of the Port of Pasco’s Community Project Funding request.

❖ Commissioners were in consensus with moving forward with the Chair signing the letter on behalf of the Board.

11:49 a.m. Public Comment

- Taylor Taranto thanked the Board for supporting the first and second Amendments. He does not support nullification of Amendments.



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11:52 a.m. Executive Session

RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i) to discuss with legal counsel: litigation or potential litigation.

Commissioner Didier recessed into Executive Session at 11:52 a.m., for up to 30 minutes to discuss with legal counsel regarding litigation or potential litigation.

Commissioner Didier, Commissioner Mullen, Commissioner Peck, Administrator Keith Johnson, Attorney Shawn Sant, Civil Attorney Jennifer Johnson, Clerk of the Board Karin Milham and Outside Council, Attorney John Safarli were in attendance.

Prior to going into Executive Session, there was a recess.

11:52 a.m. RECESS

Commissioner Didier recessed the regular meeting for five minutes.

11:58 a.m. RECONVENE

Commissioner Didier reconvened the regular meeting at 11:58 a.m. and moved into Executive Session.

❖ Commissioner Didier reconvened the Regular Meeting at 12:30 p.m. with no action taken.

Adjourn

With no further business to bring before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Chair

Clerk of the Board

Date