

**Benton County Commissioners**

James R. Beaver, Chairman  
Jerome Delvin, Chair Pro Tem  
Shon Small, Member  
(509) 786-5600  
(509) 736-3080 (toll-free from Tri-Cities)

**Franklin County Commissioners**

Robert E. Koch, Chairman  
Brad Peck, Chair Pro Tem  
Rick Miller, Member  
(509) 545-3535

**AGENDA**

**BENTON and FRANKLIN COUNTIES COMMISSIONERS’  
Special Bi-County Meeting  
August 14, 2017**

Franklin County Courthouse,  
Commissioners’ Meeting Room  
1016 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Pasco, Washington 99301

**9:00 am CALL TO ORDER**

**HOW INTEGRATION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND  
PHYSICAL HEALTH IN 2020 WILL AFFECT THE COUNTIES**

*Presentation by Mr. Brad Banks, President of Banks Consulting Group*

Mr. Banks will be presenting information to the Commissioners on issues that will need to be considered while moving forward to 2020.

*Special Board Meeting being held due to agenda item being of a unique concern to area citizens*

**BOARDS OF BENTON AND FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING MINUTES**

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**SPECIAL BI-COUNTY  
COMMISSION MEETING**

Monday, August 14, 2017, 9:00 a.m.

Franklin County Courthouse  
Commissioners' Meeting Room  
1016 North 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Pasco Washington

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**Franklin County Commissioners Present:** Chairman Bob Koch and Member Rick Miller  
**Absent:** Chair Pro Tem Brad Peck

**Benton County Commissioners Present:**  
**Present:** Chair Pro Tem Jerome Delvin and Member Shon Small  
**Absent:** Chairman James Beaver

**Franklin County Employees Present:** County Administrator Keith Johnson, Auditor Matt Beaton, Director of Human Resources Carlee Nave, and Clerk of the Board Karin Milham

**Bi-County Employees Present:** Superior Court Judge Cameron Mitchell, Human Services Director Kyle Sullivan and Human Services Finance Manager Tammy McKeirnan

**Public Present:** Health Officer of Walla Walla, Washington Dr. Larry Jecha, Kirk Williamson and Isabel Lin with Benton Franklin Community Health Alliance, Doug Bowes, Amina Suchoski and Sarah Bollig Dorn, with United Health Care, Carol Moser and Wes Luckey with Greater Columbia Accountable Community of Health, Dell Anderson with Tri-Cities Community Health, Troy Wilson with Greater Columbia Behavioral Health, Denise Clapp with Lourdes Counseling Center, Benton County Public Relations Coordinator Shyanne Faulconer, and *Tri-City Herald* Reporter Wendy Culverwell.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Franklin County Board of Commissioners Chair Bob Koch called the Special Bi-County Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., for Franklin County.

Benton County Board of Commissioners Chair Pro Tem Jerome Delvin called the Special Bi-County Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., for Benton County.

Commissioner Koch welcomed Benton County Board of Commissioners and the public to the Franklin County Courthouse.

## **INTEGRATION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND PHYSICAL HEALTH IN 2020**

Benton and Franklin Counties Human Services Director Kyle Sullivan introduced Mr. Brad Banks, President of Banks Consulting Group to the Commissioners. Mr. Sullivan thought it would be of great benefit to both Counties to hear what Mr. Banks had to present in regards to what options were available to the Counties' as they prepare for future Integration of Behavioral Health and Physical Health in 2020.

Mr. Banks presented the following information to the County Commissioners for their consideration as they decipher the direction they would like to go in moving forward with a plan of action.

Items of consideration were listed as follows:

- Flexibility available to Counties since some are smaller than others and may require different plans or phases of transition.
- What are the timelines and when do they need to be met?
- Who sets the timeline?
- The need for clarity from the State as to what is expected from each County and when they would require changes to be made.
- Is there a good model to follow?
- What are the dangers of waiting until 2020 to incorporate changes?
- How do we ensure the Providers stay intact?
- How do we keep care affordable?

Mr. Banks stated that there are no hard fast rules as to how the plan could be built. It would however, be in the best interest of all to work together and come up with a plan to move forward. The suggested course of action would be to work with the State and the various entities in a group effort. This would allow everyone to participate and use the best resources available to build the best program for our Counties. It should be of the highest priority to move forward with discussion and a plan of action to provide a transition prior to the 2020 deadline. Mr. Banks hoped this discussion enlightened the Commissioners' as to the options that are available to them in order to move forward and to attain a smooth transition for all.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

United Health Care of Washington CEO Doug Bowes agreed that every region is different and unique. Mr. Bowes views this as a collaborative process between different entities. United Health Care provides care in 27 states. They are currently the Behavioral Health Organization for Pierce County. The Providers have been very pleased with the results. They have seen an increase of people using the system as well as a decrease in costs.

Commissioner Small mentioned that there was a group in Colorado that looked like it would be a good model to follow. Mr. Bowes mentioned that the group in Colorado is very happy with the work that has been accomplished with the help of United Health Care. Mr. Bowes would like the opportunity for one of their Colorado members to talk to the Commissioners to assist them with information they are seeking to move forward with this process.

Greater Columbia Accountable Community of Health Executive Director Carol Moser stated that behavioral health is one of the most important issues in the communities. Ms. Moser hoped that the Commissioners would see an opportunity to collaborate with Greater Columbia Accountable Community of Health (ACH) on the best way to transition to Managed Care Contracts. ACH would be able to offer ten million dollars in funding to help with assessments, technology upgrades, software and hardware.

Greater Columbia Accountable Community of Health Program Manager Wes Luckey presented information and statistics of how Medicaid Demonstration incentive funding would work. The State of Washington and DSHS have proposed estimates for incentives available for each region for mid-adopters of integrated managed care.

Benton-Franklin Community Health Alliance Program Manager Kirk Williamson stated that (BFCHA) started in 1993 and has served the community for many years. In 2016 (BFCHA) updated the 2012 Community Health Needs Assessment and added a third strategic issue with the improvement of Mental\Behavioral Health System. Mr. Williamson also suggested that dental health was a key component.

Tri-Cities Community Health Director of Behavioral Health Del Anderson presented the Commissioners with findings he has dealt with over the past two years with new electronic data processing equipment. Mr. Anderson stated that it is a very costly process and that it would benefit the community to get the incentive funding to help with these types of items. It would be a better use of time and efficiency to have data available to roll up stream for providers to use. Working in a collaborative manner would be the best way to achieve productive, efficient and well spent time to all involved.


Lourdes Health Network Chief Nursing Officer Denise Clapp agreed with Mr. Anderson with respects to working in a collaborative manner. Lourdes would like to work together to achieve the best care possible to make it a smooth and effective transition.

There being no further business to bring before with Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
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Chairman, Robert Koch

  
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Chairman Pro Tem, Brad Peck

  
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Member, Rick Miller

Attest

  
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Karin Milham, Clerk to the Board