



**Keith Johnson**  
County Administrator

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
**FRANKLIN COUNTY**  
WASHINGTON

**BRAD PECK**  
District 1

**ROBERT KOCH**  
District 2

**CLINT DIDIER**  
District 3

**AGENDA**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 12, 2019**

*Franklin County Courthouse, Commissioners' Meeting Room*  
1016 North Fourth Avenue, Pasco, Washington

This is a preliminary agenda. Discussion items may be added, deleted or modified. Public Hearings will not start earlier than the advertised time. Other agenda times are approximate and provided to aid in planning.

**9:00 AM Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

**9:01 AM Legislative Representation from Olympia**  
*Jim Potts and Zac Kennedy*

**9:15 AM Vehicle Purchase for Coroner's Office**  
*Presented by Coroner Curtis McGary and Administrator Keith Johnson*  
*(Resolution 2019-052 upon approval)*

**9:25 AM Public Comment**

**9:30 AM Office Business**

1. Approval of Payroll Rosters
2. Approval of Warrant Registers
3. Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Resolution 2019-053 2019-2021 Juvenile Clerical Collective Bargaining Agreement
2. Resolution 2019-054 Premera Blue Cross Contract for 2019 Dental
3. Resolution 2019-055 Premera Blue Cross Contract for 2019 Employee Medical Benefits
4. Resolution 2019-056 Re-Appointing Jeremy Bishop to the Housing Authority Board
5. Resolution 2019-057 Appointing James Smith to the Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Council Term Expiring June 30, 2021
6. Resolution 2019-058 Lease Agreement between Franklin County Public Works and the Port of Pasco for Office Building 3416 Stearman Ave. Pasco
7. Resolution 2019-059 Personal Services Contract between Redwood Toxicology and Benton-Franklin Juvenile Justice Center
8. Resolution 2019-060 Denial of Claim for Damages Filed by David Specht

**9:35 AM Other Business**

- **Discussion on Employee Benefits**  
*Clint Didier*

**9:45 AM Administration Office Business**

- Office Business

**9:55 AM Public Comment**

**10:00 AM Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i) To discuss with legal counsel:  
Litigation or potential litigation**

**10:30 AM Adjourn**



# FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 12, 2019

*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 Robert Koch 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 Robert Koch, Chair Pro Tem Brad Peck and Member Clint Didier

**Staff Present:** County Administrator Keith Johnson, Sheriff Jim Raymond, Assessor Peter McEnderfer, Auditor Matt Beaton, Coroner Curtis McGary, Prosecuting Attorney Shawn Sant, Human Resources Director Carlee Nave, Public Works Director Matt Mahoney, Chief Deputy Assessor Piper Mitchell, Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Jennifer Johnson and Clerk of the Board Karin Milham

*Computer recording shut down at 9:02 and restarted 9:09*

## 9:01 a.m. **Legislative Representation from Olympia**

Jim Potts and Zac Kennedy updated the Board on the following items:

SB 5597 Creating a work group on aerial pesticide applications in forestlands.

HB 1530 Restricting possession of weapons in certain locations.

HB 1228- SB 5130 Increasing transportation revenues to help fund state fish barrier removal.

SB 5259 Encouraging the success of agriculture on agricultural land.

## 9:21 a.m. **Vehicle Purchase for Coroner's Office**

County Administrator Keith Johnson informed the Board that the Coroner's Office currently has three vehicles, which are past their economic/mechanical useful life and are in need of replacement. The Coroner suggested purchasing a vehicle that would be capable of transporting human remains, which would reduce the cost of transport fees.

❖ *Commissioner Peck moved to approve approval of purchase of vehicle for the Franklin County Coroner's Office Resolution 2019-052. Commissioner Didier seconded and the motion carried.*

## 9:36 a.m. **Public Comment**

- Lisa Thomas was in opposition to the needle exchange program and listed the reasons why she opposed the program.
- Ron VanDinter was in opposition of the needle exchange program and gave adverse statistics to the program and would encourage shutting it down.



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Commissioner Didier had a meeting with Greater Columbia Basin Health District on Friday February 8, 2019. After reviewing their presentation, Commissioner Didier asked a few questions. How many overdose injections were heroin? A response was mixed with yes and no answers. How many of the participants were adolescence? The Health District officials could not answer since they are not allowed to ask the participants their age. He then asked again, could you be giving needles to adolescence? The replied was yes. The syringe exchange is open one day a week for four hours. In May, 960 needles were distributed. In November, 20,000 needles were distributed. He was opposed to having this program at the WSU Extension Office Building where 4-H members are exposed to those who are one the needle exchange program.

Sheriff Raymond clarified he did not say what was happening with the needle exchange program was illegal. He tried to educate the public on RCW's and laws. There was discussion about possession with intent to deliver. Possession and the classes of crimes they are and how it becomes drug paraphernalia, which is a gross misdemeanor.

- Joel Prantle complained that WSU extension office door was locked and he had to be let in by staff. The staff explained that they were afraid of those who were using the needle exchange program and were entering the WSU office. Mr. Prantle takes his children to this building for 4-H and does not agree with having the program in this building.

Commissioner Peck was initially against the program but reconsidered it after taking a tour and listening to the officials in charge. After last week's discussion from Heart to Heart, Commissioner Peck changed his mind when it was disclosed that the exchange was not a 1 to1 ratio, but could possibly be a 1-10 ratio. Since the criteria changed, he could no longer support the program. Commissioner Peck requested to cease the Blue Mountain agreement immediately.

County Administrator Keith Johnson will confer with the Health Department and implement the request of the Board.

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**FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 12, 2019**

**9:52 a.m. Approval of Fund Expenditure Warrants**



**FRANKLIN COUNTY AUDITOR**

**Matt Beaton, Auditor**

2/12/2019

**Franklin County Commissioners:**

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer by RCW 42.24.080, expense reimbursement claims.

Action: As of this date, 2/12/2019

Move that the following warrants be approved for payment:



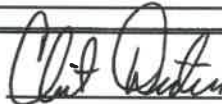
Certified by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been sent to the board members.

Warrants / Check Numbers:	00344313	-	00344431	\$961,498.39
EFT Check Numbers:	00000085	-	00000085	\$4,800.00
				<u>\$966,298.39</u>

<u>FUND Expenditures</u>	<u>AMOUNT ISSUED</u>
Current Expense	491,085.27
Crime Victims/Witness Assist	2,298.99
Jail Commissary	2,747.15
County Roads	435,724.46
Veteran's Assistance	2,487.51
Ending Homelessness Fund	6,339.00
TRAC Operations Fund	16,915.54
Franklin County RV Facility	889.01
Motor Vehicle/Public Works	7,811.46

In the amount of 966,298.39

The motion was seconded by



And passed by a vote of 3 to ~~0~~

Reviewed by County Administrator




2/12/2019

The attached vouchers have been approved by Auditor or Deputy:  
Thomas Westerman



Vouchers Audited By:  
Rosa Gomez

❖ *Commissioner Peck moved to approve Fund Expenditures audited and certified by the auditing officer for warrants prepared for the week of February 12, 2019 for payment totaling \$966,298.39. Commissioner Didier seconded and the motion carried.*



# FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 12, 2019

## 9:52 a.m. Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Resolution 2019-053 2019-2021 Juvenile Clerical Collective Bargaining Agreement
2. Resolution 2019-054 Premera Blue Cross Contract for 2019 Dental
3. Resolution 2019-055 Premera Blue Cross Contract for 2019 Employee Medical Benefits
4. Resolution 2019-056 Re-Appointing Jeremy Bishop to the Housing Authority Board
5. Resolution 2019-057 Appointing James Smith to the Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Council Term Expiring June 30, 2021
6. Resolution 2019-058 Lease Agreement between Franklin County Public Works and the Port of Pasco for Office Building 3416 Stearman Ave. Pasco
7. Resolution 2019-059 Personal Services Contract between Redwood Toxicology and Benton-Franklin Juvenile Justice Center
8. Resolution 2019-060 Denial of Claim for Damages Filed by David Spec

❖ *Commissioner Peck moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with discussion if so desired. Didier seconded with discussion and removal of #3 for separate discussion. Commissioner Peck withdrew his motion. Second concurs. Commissioner Peck moved to approve consent agenda as presented with #3 removed for separate discussion and discussion on consent items. Commissioner Didier seconded with discussion. After discussion on items #1 and #7, the motion carried.*

Commissioner Didier invited Human Resources Director Carlee Nave to answer questions he had on the Premera Blue Cross Contract for 2019 Employee Benefits. Commissioner Didier requested information from Ms. Nave on the waiver of benefits and the VEBA accounts. He read Ms. Nave's email stating that 63 employees have waived County medical coverage. Employees waiving coverage must provide proof of other qualifying group coverage, and receive \$945/month into their VEBA in lieu of coverage (the \$945 us paid as cash in lieu of benefits for elected officials and appraisers). Ms. Nave surveyed several local comparable entities to see if they allowed waivers of medical coverage. Several counties allowed the waiver, however, most do not offer any benefit if county medical benefits are waived. Commissioner Didier expressed concerns regarding the amount of money expended to VEBA each month for employees waiving medical coverage. He recommended the county consider a no opt-out plan for county medical coverage.

Commissioner Peck indicated that based on the age breakdown of employees who are waiving coverage, his opinion is that costs for the plan could go up, as cost is claim and rate based and there is a correlation with the health of the population. Ms. Nave responded that based on current waivers, the majority of the population waiving medical coverage is over age 50.

Commissioner Didier brought up his concerns about the 2-tier system voted on earlier and the negative effects it has on some county employees. Ms. Nave explained there was a Benefits Committee that recommended the county move to a 2-tier structure. The committee considered representatives and/or input from all offices and departments in making their recommendation.



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Commissioner Didier expressed concerns over the selection of Conover as the county's insurance broker. Ms. Nave explained that the decision for the broker was made around 2011 before she began employment with the County. Commissioner Koch explained that the County and previously been with WCIF for benefits and the rates had increased significantly so the County went out for proposal and Conover is just the broker for benefits.

Commissioner Didier expressed concerns that the County may be setting a precedent by allowing waiver of benefits, and Ms. Nave explained that Franklin County has allowed waiver of medical coverage as far back as she can tell but Franklin County does not necessarily set a precedent beyond the County.

Ms. Nave clarified that the 2-tier rate structure had been approved and the resolution today is for approval of the contract for Premera to continue to provide the benefits it is already providing to county employees for 2019.

- ❖ ***Commissioner Peck moved to approve Resolution 2019-055 Premera Blue Cross Contract for 2019 Employee Benefits. Commissioner Koch seconded and Commissioner Didier opposed. The motion carried 2:1.***

**10:20 a.m. Administration Office Business**

County Administrator Keith Johnson notified the Board that Benton County had a meeting in which they discussed a potential split in Human Services between Benton and Franklin counties. This has been a bi-county program for a number of years. Splitting the two counties would create many challenges such as dividing joint grants and contracts.

The Commissioners will wait to see what Benton County has to offer and proceed from there.

**10:33 a.m. Public Comment**

Auditor Matt Beaton asked the Board members to review the split of Human Services carefully. He would like to see the county to work together with our current partners.

Commissioner Didier asked Public Works Director Matt Mahoney to clarify process of clearing snow on rural routes. Mr. Mahoney responded with priorities in this order; primary routes, bus routes, local access, then public calls. Commissioner Didier proposed involving a volunteer committee of farmers to help clear roads if necessary.

**10:43 a.m. Executive Session**

Commissioner Koch recessed into Executive Session at 10:43 a.m., for 10 minutes to discuss with legal counsel RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i) regarding litigation or potential litigation. Also present were Chief Prosecuting Attorney Jennifer Johnson and Clerk of the Board Karin Milham.

Commissioner Koch reconvened the Regular Meeting at 10:56 a.m. with no action taken.



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**10:57 a.m. Executive Session**

Commissioner Koch recessed into Executive Session at 10:57 am, for 5 minutes to discuss with legal counsel RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i) regarding litigation or potential litigation. Also present were Chief Prosecuting Attorney Jennifer Johnson and Clerk of the Board Karin Milham.

Commissioner Koch reconvened the Regular Meeting at 11:02 a.m. with no action taken.

**11:06 a.m. Executive Session**

Commissioner Koch recessed into Executive Session at 11:06 a.m., for 20 minutes to discuss RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g), evaluate qualifications of applicant for employment or review performance of public employee. Also present were Auditor Matt Beaton, Chief Prosecuting Attorney Jennifer Johnson, Human Resources Carlee Nave and Clerk of the Board Karin Milham.

Commissioner Koch reconvened the Regular Meeting at 11:29 a.m. with no action taken.

11:29 a.m. Commissioner Peck gave an update on the Veteran's Advisory Board meeting.

**11:37 a.m. Executive Session**

Commissioner Koch recessed into Executive Session at 9:56 a.m., for up to 10 minutes to discuss RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g), evaluate qualifications of applicant for employment or review performance of public employee. Also present were Chief Prosecuting Attorney Jennifer Johnson, Human Resources Carlee Nave and Clerk of the Board Karin Milham.

Commissioner Koch reconvened the Regular Meeting at 11:43 a.m., with no action taken.

**Adjourn**

With no further business to bring before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

*R. Koch*  
Chair

*Karin Milham*  
Clerk of the Board

*3-5-2019*  
Date