



MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
March 23, 2020
9:30 a.m.

Per the Governor’s COVID-19 Proclamation 20-28 Open Public Meetings Act, the Special Board Meeting was remote and telephonic, with call-in access provided to all participants and attendees.

1. Call to Order

CHAIR KOCH called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. PST

2. Roll Call

Representing	Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Franklin County #1	Bob Koch	Chair	Present	
Benton County	Shon Small	Vice Chair	Present	
Zahra Roach	Pasco	Alternate	Present	
Kennewick	Bill McKay	Director	Present	
Richland	Phillip Lemley	Director	Present	
West Richland	Richard Bloom	Director	Present	
Prosser	Steve Becken	Director	Excused	
Benton City	Lisa Stade	Director	Present	
Franklin County #2	Clint Didier	Director	Absent	
The Union	Norma Nelson	Non-Voting Union Rep.	Present	

BFT Staff: Gloria Boyce, Jerry Otto, Keith Hall, Jeff Lubeck, Ali Madison, Ayodeji Arojo, Paul Holgate, and Pam Loa

Legal Counsel: Pat Roach, Jeremey Bishop

Approval of Agenda

RESULT:	APPROVED [Unanimously]
MOVER:	SMALL
SECONDER:	ALVARADO

Public Comment

CHAIR KOCH asked if there was any comment from the public, to which there was none.

Action Items

Resolution A. 13-2020, BFT COVID-19 Declaration of Emergency Proclamation

Resolution B. 14-2020, Supplemental Leave Program

RESULT:	APPROVED [Unanimously], Resolution A and B
MOVER:	SMALL
SECONDER:	ALVARADO

General Manager, Gloria Boyce, explained that due to the COVID-19 outbreak, a State of Emergency has been proclaimed on both the State and Federal level. Ms. Boyce proposed that Ben Franklin Transit also declare a State of Emergency as transit across the nation is considered an essential function with the expectation to operate. The Proclamation will provide the agency access to Federal and local assistance and allow Ms. Boyce to take action on behalf of the agency as needed. The second resolution is to add up to 80 hours of supplemental leave for absences related to COVID-19 under Federal regulation. Cost recovery would be allowed under the aid program. The drivers are on the front line with a high probability of exposure and this would ensure they are covered.

A motion was made Resolution A and B, followed by brief discussion among the Board. The documents are recognized as fluid as information comes out and additional special meetings can be called as necessary.

DIRECTOR NELSON requested additional clarification regarding staff’s eligibility to use Family Leave in regard to COVID-19.


CHAIR KOCH asked for a roll call vote.

Adjournment

With no other items in front of the board, CHAIR KOCH adjourn and the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Next Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at 1000 Columbia Park Trail, Richland, WA 99352



Pam Loa, Clerk

5/14/20

Date approved