



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 6 p.m.  
Benton County Administration Building, Room 303  
7122 W. Okanogan Place Building E, Kennewick, Washington

*Meeting attendance options included in person and virtual via Zoom*

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### MINUTES

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#### 1. CONVENE BOARD MEETING

Chair Will McKay called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

Representing	Attendee Name	Title	Status
City of Pasco	Joseph Campos	Director	Present via Zoom
City of Kennewick	Brad Beauchamp	Director	Present
City of Richland	Terry Christensen	Director	Present
City of West Richland	Richard Bloom	Vice Chair	Present
Franklin County #2	Rocky Mullen	Director	Present via Zoom
Franklin County #1	Clint Didier	Director	Present Via Zoom
Benton County	Will McKay	Chair	Present
City of Prosser	Steve Becken	Director	Present
City of Benton City	David Sandretto	Director	Present
Teamsters Union 839	Caleb Suttle	Union Representative	Present

**BFT Staff:** Rachelle Glazier, Janet Brett, Chad Crouch, Kris Darby, Steve Davis, Terry DeJuan, Tom McCormick, Rob Orvis, Mike Roberts, Kevin Sliger, Katie Wall, Wayne Welle

**Legal Counsel:** Jeremy Bishop

**Interpreters:** Ruth Medina, Ynez Vargas

#### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair McKay led the meeting participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair McKay opened the meeting to comments from the public. No public comments were offered.

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair McKay asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

*Vice Chair Bloom moved to approve the agenda, and Director Sandretto seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.*

**6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**A. Chair/Vice Chair**

BFT Legal Counsel Jeremy Bishop asked for nominations for Board chair. Director Beauchamp nominated Director McKay; Director Didier seconded the nomination. Director Becken moved that nominations cease; Director Sandretto seconded that motion. All directors voted in favor of Director McKay remaining Board chair.

Mr. Bishop then asked for nominations for Board vice chair. Director Sandretto nominated Director Bloom; Director Becken seconded the nomination. Director Campos nominated himself. A roll call vote was taken:

McKay—Campos  
Bloom—Bloom  
Sandretto—Bloom  
Christensen—Bloom  
Becken—Bloom  
Beauchamp—Campos  
Mullen—Bloom  
Didier—Campos  
Campos—Campos

Director Bloom was named vice chair.

**B. Committee Selections**

Mr. Bishop informed Board members that while the Administration & Finance, Operations & Maintenance, and Planning & Marketing Committees do not presently meet, we will still assign Board members to those committees. The chairs of those committees and the Board chair would continue to comprise the Executive Committee. The current committee makeup is as follows:  
Administration & Finance: Chair McKay, Vice Chair Bloom, and Director Becken—Chair  
Operations & Maintenance: Directors Campos—Chair, Christensen, and Didier  
Planning & Marketing: Directors Beauchamp, Mullen, and Sandretto—Chair

Mr. Bishop asked Chair McKay if he wished to make any changes, and he did not, so the committee assignments will remain the same.

**C. BFCOG Representative**

Mr. Bishop explained that the BFCOG representative is traditionally the General Manager and then an alternate is named, which is currently Director Bloom. He asked if there were any requested changes to these assignments, and there were none, so they will remain unchanged.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair McKay presented the Consent Agenda items and invited a motion.

**A. January 12, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**B. January Voucher Summary**

**C. Resolution 6-2023 Authorizing the General Manager to Declare Old and Failed Information Technology Items as Surplus and Dispose of per Resolution 62-2014**

*Director Sandretto moved for approval of the Consent Agenda items. The motion was seconded by Director Becken and passed unanimously.*

**8. DISCUSSION & INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**A. Informational Report on Fleet Transition**

Senior Manager of Fleet & Facilities Maintenance Joshua Rosas presented a Fleet Strategy Final Report prepared by Stantec, Inc. for Board information. This report was a requirement for BFT to apply for certain zero-emissions grant applications.

**B. Fourth Quarter 2022 Performance Report**

Chief Planning & Development Officer Kevin Sliger presented the Fourth Quarter 2022 Performance Report for Board information. A discussion was held on the growth in ridership versus the growth in population during the same time period.

The Hanford pilot program was also discussed, including reception by Department of Energy contractors and the need for badges and background checks.

**9. STAFF REPORTS & COMMENTS**

**A. Legal Report**

BFT Legal Counsel Jeremy Bishop had no news to share.

**B. General Manager's Report**

General Manager Rachelle Glazier announced that dispatcher negotiations have begun. We will potentially be coming to the Board next month with an agreement for approval.

BFT signed a proclamation with the Army a few months ago to begin recruiting and assisting veterans transitioning from the service. We have hired two individuals who had served in the Army for eight years and are now moving into their first civilian positions at BFT.

We are hosting monthly Town Halls here at the Benton County Administration Building since we no longer have room at BFT. If any Board members are interested in attending, they are being held on the third Thursday of the month at 2 p.m.

Several revised policies will be brought to the Board for approval next month.

All BFT nonrepresented employees have completed Equal Employment Opportunity Commission training.

Our 19 new coach operators will be finished with training and begin work in March, allowing us to initiate the Route 64 extension.

Plante Moran, our EBS consultant, has developed the scope for a timekeeping/payroll/accounting platform, so further information on that project will come to the Board at a later date.

**10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Director Suttle, who is a veteran from the U.S. Army, was very happy to hear that BFT is recruiting Army veterans. He also informed Board members that Fentanyl use has been witnessed on BFT buses, and he has talked with Rachelle and Chad about it. We will be talking with other agencies and seeing how they're dealing with the problem; we need to develop standard operating procedures to nip this in the bud.

Vice Chair Bloom commented on the sales tax collection, which is down 5% this month. He will be traveling to Las Vegas for the APTA Marketing & Communications Workshop, hoping to hear the best practices of other agencies. Also, as far as the growth in ridership, he thinks one of the important things to remember is that coming out of COVID, a lot of people are not going to work anymore. Also, the population increase could include people that have moved here who are working from home.

**11. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Bishop announced an Executive Session would be held under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) regarding evaluation of a public employee for 10 minutes, with no action to be taken following. The Board recessed at 6:33 p.m. and returned to open session at 6:44 p.m.

**12. OTHER**

There were no other agenda items.

**13. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 6 p.m.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair McKay adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

  
Janet M. Brett, Clerk of the Board

  
Date