



BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, August 14, 2025, at 6 p.m.
Ben Franklin Transit Boardroom
1000 Columbia Park Trail, Richland, Washington

Notice: Meeting attendance options included in-person and virtual via Zoom

MINUTES

1. CONVENE BOARD MEETING

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

Acting Clerk of the Board Janet Williamson asked the Board of Directors to state their name after their jurisdiction had been called.

2. ROLL CALL

Representing	Attendee Name	Title	Status
City of Pasco	Charles Grimm	Director	Present
City of Kennewick	John Trumbo	Alternate	Present
City of Richland	Kurt Maier	Director	Present
City of West Richland	Richard Bloom	Director	Present
Franklin County #2	Stephen Bauman	Vice Chair	Present
Franklin County #1	Clint Didier	Director	Present
Benton County	Will McKay	Chair	Present
City of Prosser	Steve Becken	Director	Present
City of Benton City	David Sandretto	Director	Present
Teamsters Union 839	Jeff Lahti	Alternate	Present

Present: Thomas Drozt, Hilary Carlson, Brian Lubanski, Joshua Rosas, Kevin Sliger, Alex Smith, Janet Williamson

Legal Counsel: Jeremy J. Bishop

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair McKay then opened the meeting to comments from the public.

Brenda Sayler, a resident of Kennewick, spoke about her son's Dial-A-Ride service issues.

No written public comments were received.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair McKay asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Director Maier moved to approve the agenda; the motion was seconded by Director Bloom and passed unanimously.

6. CITIZENS ADVISORY NETWORK (CAN) REPORT

CAN member Erik Watkins explained that the minutes of the July 21 meeting were included in the Board packet, but the CAN requested this item remain on the agenda as a placeholder for future business.

7. RECOGNITION

A. Resolution 24-2025 Retirement of Phouveune Sounthonephom

Chief Operations Officer Joshua Rosas paid tribute to retired Mechanic I Phou Sounthonephom, who was not present. He retired in June after over 40 years of service to BFT.

Director Bauman moved to approve Resolution 24-2025; the motion was seconded by Director Bloom and passed unanimously.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. July 17, 2025, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

B. July Voucher Summary

C. Resolution 25-2025, Authorization to Execute Option for the Additional Contract Years and to Increase the Not-to-Exceed Amount of Contract #1375 with Wenaha Group

Director Maier moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A-C. The motion was seconded by Director Bloom and passed unanimously.

9. ACTION ITEM

A. Resolution 26-2025, Adoption of the 2025-2031 Transit Development Plan

Chief Planning & Development Officer Kevin Sliger presented the updated 2025-2031 Transit Development Plan for Board approval. After the presentation, Chair McKay opened a public hearing to receive public comments on the plan. No public comments were made, and then the public hearing was closed.

Director Bloom moved to approve Resolution 26-2025. The motion was seconded by Director Maier and passed with 8 votes in favor and 1 against.

10. INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Q2 Performance Report

Mr. Sliger presented the Q2 Performance Report, highlighting ridership data and marketing outreach.

B. Memorandum Regarding the Utilization of Progressive Design-Build Method of Construction of the Facilities Maintenance Building

Senior Project Manager Steven Frazier presented an informational memorandum on the progressive design-build method of construction, which will be used on the Facilities Maintenance Building project.

11. STAFF REPORTS & COMMENTS

A. Legal Report

No legal report was provided.

B. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Chief Executive Officer Thomas Drozt gave a "Then and Now" presentation to Board members covering the agency's accomplishments since his hire date one year ago.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board member comments were made.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session was held.

14. OTHER


There were no other items.

15. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Chair McKay adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.


Janet Williamson, Acting Clerk of the Board


Date