

Ben Franklin Transit Citizens Advisory Network Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday October 20, 2025 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

BFT Administration Building – Room 304 1000 Columbia Park Trail, Richland, WA

1. Convene CAN Meeting:

2. Attendance: 2 Min

CAN MEETING ATTENDANCE: P=PRESENT, R=REMOTE, A=ABSENT, E=EXCUSED
2025

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
AMBER WISSENBACH	-	-	-	A	A	A	A	A	A	A		
BERNIE VINTHER	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A		
BILL BARLOW	-	-	-	P	P	A	A	R	R	P		
BRANDON HARBO	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	P	P		
BROOKLYN HUFSTADER	P	A	R	R	R	A	R	A	P	R		
DENNIS KREUTZ	P	P	P	P	P	R	P	P	P	P		
DORI LUZZO-GILMOUR	R	A	P	P	E	R	R	P	R	R		
ED FROST	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P		
ERIK WATKINS	-	-	-	-	-	P	P	P	R	P		
FRANK CUTA	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	E	P	P		
LAURIE PRICE	P	R	R	P	P	A	E	P	P	R		
NAYELI ARANDA	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A		
ULISES NAVARRO	A	R	A	A	E	A	R	A	A	A		

Representing Name

Position

BFT STAFF

PAULEEN ESCALARA

CEO REPRESENTATIVE

BFT STAFF

KEVIN SLIGER

CHIEF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

3. Comments by Guests: 5 Min.

None

4. August 2025 Meeting Minutes Approval: 2 Min.

Discussion: None

Motion to Approve the Minutes by: Frank Cuta

Second to Approve the Minutes by: Brandon Harbo

Minutes Approved Unanimously by a Voice Vote: YES

September 2025 Meeting Minutes Approval: 2 Min.

Discussion: None

Motion to Approve the Minutes by: Frank Cuta

Second to Approve the Minutes by: Brandon Harbo

Minutes Approved Unanimously by a Voice Vote: YES

5. Old Business: 1 Min.

None

6. New Business: 50 Min.

A. Report of the October BFT Board Meeting – Dennis Kreutz

1. Board approved moving \$4M in construction funds from the planned Maintenance Facility Project to the Facilities Maintenance Project.
2. CEO presented a report on Key Performance Indicators.
3. Council presented options to address the newly passed WA Bill allowing two non-elected, voting, members to the BFT Board. The Board voted unanimously to address this in the November BFT Board Meeting.

B. BFT has advised that the proper method to provide input regarding vehicle selection is by bringing it up in CAN Meetings.

1. Kevin Sliger stated that the best method is to present comments to the BFT Vehicle Operations Mgr

C. Public Comments generally have to be made at the beginning of the Board Meeting rather than after an Agenda Item has been presented by BFT Staff to the Board.

Refer to Attachment A:

Subcommittee CAN Recommendation 2025-03 Presentation – Brandon Harbo, Dennis Kreutz

1. Voted unanimously to present Recommendation to BFT Board in the November Board Meeting, with one modification: change Item e. to \$1,000,000.

D. Modifications to the existing CAN Standing Rules:

Refer to Attachment B:

Subcommittee CAN Recommendation 2025-04 Presentation– Frank Cuta, Dennis Kreutz

1. Voted unanimously to present Recommendation to BFT Board in the November Board Meeting, with these modifications:
 - 1.3 c) change “nor” to “and”.
 - 1.3 d) Do not delete this section

E. CAN Recommendation to be presented to BFT Board regarding adding two non-elected Board Members:

Refer to Attachment C:

Subcommittee CAN Recommendation 2025-05 Presentation – Dori Luzzo-Gilmour, Frank Cuta, Erik Watkins

1. Voted unanimously to present Recommendation to BFT Board in the November Board Meeting, with these modifications:
Modify wording to indicate that this issue will be on the November Board Meeting Agenda.

F. Election of CAN Officers to start January 1, 2026

Per Standing Rules Section 4.1.a the CAN Chair “Shall oversee a nomination in October for the CAN to select a slate of proposed officers for the following year”.

- a. Nominees for Chair: Tabled until November CAN Meeting
Motion:
Approval by vote: YES / NO
- b. Nominees for Vice Chair: Brandon Harbo
Motion: Bill Barlow
Approval by vote: YES

- c. Nominees for Recoding Secretary: Frank Cuta
Motion: Brandon Harbo
Approval by vote: YES

d. Past Chair:

G. CAN Members status:

Dennis Kreutz	Expires Dec. 2025
Ed Frost	Expires Dec. 2025
Dori Luzzo-Gilmour	Expires Dec. 2025
Amber Wissenbach	Expires Dec. 2027
Bernie Vinther	Expires Dec. 2025
Bill Barlow	Expires Dec. 2027
Brandon Harbo	Expires Dec. 2027
Brooklyn Hufstader	Expires Dec. 2026
Erik Watkins	Expires Dec. 2027
Frank Cuta	Expires Dec. 2025
Laurie Price	Expires Dec. 2025
Nayeli Aranda	Expires Dec. 2026
Ulises Navarro	Expires Dec. 2026

SECTION 1.4 - APPOINTMENTS TO THE CAN

b) A CAN member shall be appointed for a two-year term and may reapply for additional two-year terms.

c) Upon completion of a two-year term, CAN Members shall relinquish their membership unless the BFT CEO, or their representative for such a purpose, has confirmed reappointment for another two-year term.

H. Next CAN Meeting Proposed Agenda Items:

- a. Nominees for CAN Chair
- b. Presentation of BFT Annual Service Plan by Kevin Sliger
- c.

7. BFT Board / BFT Staff Comments: 5 Min.

A. Distribution of new BFT Boarding Passes to CAN Members

B. Display BFT Swag handed out at the Ben Franklin County Fair

8. CAN Member Comments: 5 Min.

1. Dennis Kreutz asked would that implementation of No Fares would affect State funding of Kids Ride Free Program. Kevin Sliger responded that it would not.
2. Erik Watkins asked if there were plans to better prepare for closure of the Dayton Transfer Center during the KHS Homecoming night. Kevin Sliger stated that he would pass that along.
3. Bill Barlow asked if BFT was involved with the environmental planning being done by local governments. Kevin Sliger stated that BFT was being very proactive in the planning process.
4. Ed Frost discussed need to be careful about Budget.
5. Dennis Kreutz asked if the Key Performance Indicator presentation show quantity as well as percentages, ie. Total number of late DAR rides as well as percentage. Kevin Sliger said that request will be passed along.

9. Assign CAN Member to Attend next Board Meeting: 1 Min.

Board Meeting November 13, 2025

6:00 PM

BFT Board Room

CAN Member Assigned: Brando Harbo

10. Next CAN Meeting: 1 Min.

Monday November 17, 2025

6:00 p.m.

BFT Board Room

11. ADJOURN:

A. Meeting adjourned at: 7:29