



# FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 12, 2022

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 Clint Didier 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 Clint Didier and Member Brad Peck. Chair Pro Tem Rocky Mullen attended telephonically.

9:01 a.m. **Approval of Minutes**

❖ *March 29, 2022 Commissioners Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.*

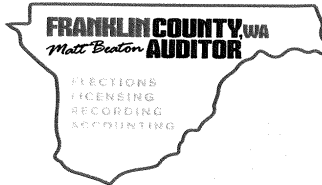
*Commissioner Peck requested level of detail provided for the Commissioner Reports be consistent throughout all the Commissioners and County Administrator. The level of detail provided in the reports by the Commissioners is not consistent.*



FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING  
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9:01 a.m. Approval of Fund Expenditure Warrants



1016 N 4th Ave  
Pasco, WA 99301  
(509) 545-3502

04/12/2022

Franklin County Commissioners:

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

Action: As of this date, 04/12/2022

Rocky Mullen

Move that the following warrants be approved for payment: Approved Telephonically

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

Warrants \ Check Numbers:	00380517 - 00380601	\$422,699.12
EFT Check Numbers:	00001118 - 00001121	\$8,750.00
		<u>\$431,449.12</u>

Fund Expenditures	Amount Issued
CURRENT EXPENSE	\$216,587.34
EDA CARES ACT RECOVERY ASSIST	\$60,920.88
ENHANCED 911	\$30,775.38
COUNTY ROADS	\$48,958.70
SOLID WASTE	\$2,103.98
LAW LIBRARY	\$1,126.77
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	\$2,925.00
THE HAPO CENTER	\$21,768.56
MOTOR VEHICLE	\$22,573.17
INSURANCE CLAIMS FUND	\$23,709.34

In the amount of: \$431,449.12

The motion was seconded by: BO Peck

And passed by a vote of: 3 to 0

Reviewed by the County Administrator: [Signature]

The attached vouchers have been approved by Auditor or Deputy:  
Matt Beaton

Vouchers Audited By:  
PA Mendo  
Paola Mendoza

❖ *Commissioner Mullen moved to approve Fund Expenditures audited and certified by the auditing officer for warrants prepared for the week of April 12, 2022 for payment totaling \$431,449.12. Commissioner Peck seconded and the motion carried.*

*\*NOTE Commissioner Peck clarified that the Auditor does not approve expenditures.*



# FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 12, 2022

## 9:03 a.m. Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Resolution 2022-076 Amendment 1 to Contract between JJC and Lutheran Community Services
2. Resolution 2022-077 Contract for On-Call Material Testing with Geo Professional
3. Resolution 2022-078 Juvenile Dependency Public Defense Contract with Peter Lucas-Roberts
4. Resolution 2022-079 Assessor's Office 2022 Vehicle Purchase
5. Resolution 2022-080 Precinct Boundary Adjustments due to Congressional and Legislative Redistricting
6. Memorandum of Understanding Appraisers Bargaining Unit Salary Matrix

❖ *Commissioner Mullen moved to approve consent agenda items 1-6. Commissioner Peck seconded and the motion carried.*

## 9:03 a.m. Commissioner/Administrator Updates

### Administrator Keith Johnson update

- Spent considerable time preparing for items on today's agenda
- WSAC—Broad band discussions- State and Federal funding
- ARPA Quarterly Reports- next week further discussion on this topic
- WSAC-Local assistance on Tribal consistency funds
- Annual WA County Administrator Conference in Leavenworth this week

### Commissioner Peck update

- Spring Break- some committees canceled
- WSAC—Broad band discussions- State and Federal funding- new director on cyber security
- GCBH
- Washington Council of Governments –Canceled- 2 Staff level meetings occurred

### Commissioner Mullen update

- GCBH
- BFT- Collection of fairs



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### Commissioner Didier update

- Commissioners Meeting will be held April 19, 2022 at 7 p.m. at the Courthouse.
- Met with Steve Reinke BCES equipment
- BFT Entrance Audit
- Franklin County Veterans Advisory Board
- BFT O&M
- Received messages for and against 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1 percent tax from BFT, and use towards Mental Health program. BFT meeting is Thursday April 14, 2022 if public would like to attend.

### 9:12 a.m. Public Comment-None

### 9:15 a.m. Proclamation - Public Service Recognition Week

- ❖ *Commissioner Peck moved to approve Board signatures in support of Public Service Recognition Week Proclamation just read into the record. Commissioner Mullen seconded and the motion carried.*

### 9:18 a.m. Conversion of Appraiser Position to Trainee (Resolution 2022-081)

Human Resources Director Eric Wyant brought information before the Board, clarifying the reason behind the requested position change in the Assessor's Office. After discussion, the Board brought it to a vote.

- ❖ *Commissioner Mullen moved to approve resolution 2022-081 conversion of Appraiser Position to Trainee. Commissioner Clint seconded and the motion carried.*

### 9:31 a.m. ER&R Vehicle Discussion

Auditor Matt Beaton brought forth his request for indemnification of Officers and Employees Chapter 2.04. In September 2021, Mr. Beaton accidentally backed into the Coroners truck and created damage to the tail end, between the bumper and rear tail light. He explained the process in which he reported this problem and how it was being resolved. There were discrepancies in what took place that brought Mr. Beaton before the Board in order to get the matter resolved. He submitted a packet to the Clerk of the Board, which included a Letter to Prosecutor Sant, Commissioner Didier and Public Works Director Craig Erdman, Indemnification code, Public Works invoice to repair damage, Request defense of Officers, and photos of the truck damage.

During this presentation, Mr. Beaton spoke of several county issues besides the vehicle damage.

Prosecuting Attorney Shawn Sant asked if Coroner Curtis McGary would give an account as to what took place and then asked the Board if he would be able to provide a summary, as some of the items have been misstated as to how this claim was handled. He would address the other accusations at another time.



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Sheriff Raymond corrected Mr. Beaton on accusations that the Sheriff held investigations on behalf of the Prosecuting Attorney. He conducted and directed a cyber-harassment investigation, which was turned over to the Prosecuting Attorney and it is available to the public upon a public records request 18-09784 cyber-harassment.

Coroner Curtis McGary gave his account of what took place with the process of the accident and the direction he was given to resolve it.

Commissioner Mullen explained his view on the subject and thought it was in the best interest of the county to pay the invoice and avoid any further expenses the county may ensue.

- ❖ *Commissioner Mullen moved to approve payment of the invoice on damage to the Coroner's truck through the general fund. Clint Didier seconded the motion with discussion.*

Commissioner Didier asked Administrator Johnson if the appropriate fund would be the ER&R or General in which the expenses should derive. Mr. Johnson believed either fund would be legal.

Prosecutor Sant gave a background on legalities of the issue.

Chief Deputy Civil Attorney Jennifer Johnson also explained in detail of what took place and how the matter had been handled.

- ❖ *Commissioner Peck moved to amend the motion on the table with the following change; there would be a 50/50 cost share between Mr. Beaton and Franklin County, with funds to be paid out of ER&R for the expressed purpose of resolving this dispute in avoiding additional cost and inconvenience to the county and the people.*

*No second, the amended motion died.*

- ❖ *Original motion to approve payment of the invoice on damage to the Coroner's truck through the general fund. Commissioner Didier seconded and the motion carried 2:1 Commissioner Peck nay, it was paid out of the wrong fund.*

### 10:44 a.m. Elections\Boundaries Discussion

Auditor Matt Beaton discussed RCW 29a.60 laws that govern the process of election districts and precincts. Documents need to include maps and legal descriptions of each of the districts and precincts to be voted upon by the Board through a resolution. Then information is given to the elections department to institute the changes necessary.



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**10:54 a.m. Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1) (i) – Potential Litigation**

Commissioner Didier recessed into Executive Session at 10:54 a.m., for up to 15 minutes to discuss litigation. Those participating are Commissioner Didier, Commissioner Mullen, Commissioner Peck, County Administrator Keith Johnson, Prosecuting Attorney Shawn Sant, Chief Deputy Civil Attorney Jennifer Johnson, Auditor Matt Beaton, Assessor John Rosenau and Clerk of the Board Karin Milham.

**11:15 a.m. Commissioner Didier reconvened the regular meeting.**

**11:15 a.m. Commissioner Didier recessed the regular meeting for five minutes.**

**11:21 a.m. Commissioner Didier reconvened the regular meeting.**

- ❖ **Commissioner Peck moved to approve Resolution 2022-082 as presented.** (Establishing Commissioners' Districts within Franklin County). **Commissioner Mullen seconded and the motion carried.**

**Note\* Commissioner Peck stated that this is identical to the voice vote that was established on January 11, 2022. This document is an affirmation to that vote.**

**11:23 a.m. Public Comment**

- Steve Bauman requested to have the sealed documents from ten years ago open to the public.
- Lawanda Hatch was embarrassed by the unprofessionalism in the Commissioners meeting. She asked for this type of conduct to stop.
- George Dockstader expressed his concerns with Matt Beaton's presentation, setting a bad precedence to the county with the vote on damaged vehicle and lack of civility amongst the Commissioners.

**11:31 a.m. Administration Office Business**

- Reminder that the next Commissioner meeting will be April 19, 2022 at 7 p.m. at the Commissioners Meeting room in the Courthouse.

**11:32 a.m. Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1) (i) – Potential Litigation**

Commissioner Didier recessed into Executive Session at 11:32 a.m., for up to 30 minutes to discuss litigation. Those participating are Commissioner Didier, Commissioner Mullen, Commissioner Peck, County Administrator Keith Johnson, Prosecuting Attorney Shawn Sant, Chief Deputy Civil Attorney Jennifer Johnson, and Clerk of the Board Karin Milham.

**12:03 p.m. Commissioner Didier reconvened the regular meeting.**

**Adjourn**

With no further business to bring before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date