



Keith Johnson
County Administrator

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY
WASHINGTON

BRAD PECK
District 1

ROCKY MULLEN
District 2

CLINT DIDIER
District 3

AGENDA
Regular Board Meeting and Public Hearing
Tuesday December 7, 2021

HAPO CENTER 6600 Burden Blvd. Pasco, Washington

This is a preliminary agenda. Discussion items may be added, deleted or modified. Public Hearings will not start earlier than the advertised time. Other agenda times are approximate and provided to aid in planning.

Mask required for in person attendance

Join us live stream on YouTube – Franklin County WA Commissioners Meeting (current date)

7:00 p.m. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

7:02 p.m. Office Business

1. Approval of Payroll Rosters
2. Approval of Warrant Registers
3. Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Resolution 2021-274 Kahlotus T Mobile Tower Site License Contract
2. Resolution 2021-282 Kim Empey Appointment to Mosquito Control Board
3. Resolution 2021-283 County Road Project 625 Safety Improvements Blanton Road, R-170 and Columbia River Road
4. Resolution 2021-284 Flat Monthly Payment for the 2022 Juvenile Budget
5. Taxing Districts Levy Certification Letter To Assessor

7:05 p.m. Commissioner/Administrator Updates

7:15 p.m. Public Comment by Phone: 509-546-5859

We welcome your comments. Please limit your comments to three minutes.

7:20 p.m. PUBLIC HEARING (Ordinance 11-2021 upon approval)

Establishing a Sales Tax for Chemical Dependency or Mental Health Treatment Programs
Presented by Commander Monty Huber and Guests
(Public Comments will be accepted during Public Hearing for above topic)

8:05 p.m. Administration Office Business

8:10 p.m. Public Comment

8:15 p.m. Adjourn



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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.

7:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Commission Chairman Clint Didier called the Franklin County Commissioners' Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., at the HAPO CENTER located at 6600 Burden Blvd, Pasco, Washington.

Commissioners Present: Commission Chair Clint Didier, Chair Pro Tem Rocky Mullen and Member Brad Peck

Commissioner Didier called for a moment of silence for those who lost their lives in Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941. He thanked all veterans for their services.

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7:01 p.m. Approval of Fund Expenditure Warrants

12/07/2021

Franklin County Commissioners:

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer by RCW 42.24.080, expense reimbursement claims.
Action: As of this date, 12/07/2021
Move that the following warrants be approved for payment.
Certified by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been sent to the board members.

Warrants \ Check Numbers:	00376719 - 00376839	\$851,373.66
EFT Check Numbers:	00000995 - 00000997	\$18,748.95
		<u>\$870,122.61</u>

Fund Expenditures	Amount Issued
CURRENT EXPENSE	\$225,999.27
AUDITOR O & M	\$270.43
TREASURER O & M	\$30.00
EDA CARES ACT RECOVERY ASSIST	\$6,159.03
JAIL COMMISSARY	\$12,546.65
ENHANCED 911	\$567.49
COUNTY ROADS	\$586,657.19
VETERAN'S ASSISTANCE	\$749.64
ENDING HOMELESSNESS	\$14,159.09
BF MENTAL HEALTH	\$369.75
THE HAPO CENTER	\$7,229.74
FRANKLIN COUNTY RV PARK	\$6,686.67
MOTOR VEHICLE	\$8,697.66

In the amount of: \$870,122.61

The motion was seconded by: Bob 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:
Tim Anderson

[Signature]
Vouchers Audited By:
Paola Mendoza

www.co.franklin.wa.us/auditor

- ❖ Commissioner Mullen moved to approve Fund Expenditures audited and certified by the auditing officer for warrants prepared for the week of December 07, 2021 for payment totaling \$870,122.61. Commissioner Peck seconded and the motion carried.



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Consent Agenda Items

1. Resolution 2021-274 Kahlotus T Mobile Tower Site License Contract
2. Resolution 2021-282 Kim Empey Appointment to Mosquito Control Board
3. Resolution 2021-283 County Road Project 625 Safety Improvements Blanton Road, R-170 and Columbia River Road
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5. Taxing Districts Levy Certification Letter To Assessor

❖ *Commissioner Peck moved to approve consent agenda with the five items as presented. Commissioner Mullen seconded and the motion carried.*

7:03 p.m. Commissioner/Administrator Updates

Administrator Keith Johnson update

- BCES Board strategic planning and structure.
- Working on ARPA funding. We do not know all rules at this time.

Commissioner Peck update

- County Road Administration Board
- Benton Franklin Council of Governments- approving loans
- TRIDEC- Tri City Development Council and Confederated Tribes for Shoreline Reconveyance
- WSAC Legislative Steering Committee

Commissioner Mullen update

- Local Decision Makers meeting
- Ben Franklin Transit- planning and marketing
- Aging and Long-term Care
- Metro Task Force- active shooter training
- Met with public and Sheriff Raymond for one tenth of one percent tax for mental health program discussion.

Commissioner Didier update

- Workforce Development
- Ben Franklin Transit O&M was cancelled
- Columbia River Pac
- Veterans Board-Veterans Service Officer VSO needed



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7:20 p.m. *Commissioner Didier opened the Public Hearing, Ordinance 11-2021 Establishing a Sales Tax for Chemical Dependency and Mental Health Treatment Programs*

Administrator Keith Johnson mentioned that the Tri-Cities is the only major metropolitan area in the state of Washington that does not have a Mental Health Program. He turned the time over to Commander Monty Huber to give his presentation.

Commander Monty Huber and invited Guests gave a PowerPoint presentation and public input. He presented RCW 82.14.460- Sales and use tax for chemical dependency or mental health treatment services or therapeutic courts. Moneys collected under this section must be used solely for the purpose of the operation or delivery of chemical dependency or mental health treatment programs and services and for the operation or delivery of therapeutic court programs and services. The money may also be used for modifications to existing facilities to address health and safety needs.

Angie Manterola spoke of the evidence in our community and the data that supports the need for mental health services and substance abuse center.

Pasco Police Officers Captain Parramore, Sergeant Brad Gregory, Sergeant Vaught addressed the Board.

Sergeant Brad Gregory spoke of the incidents that they address on a daily basis. Approximately 214 per month are actually a mental health and drug abuse issue but are classified differently. He gave an example of a person who stole a car, which would be classified as a misdemeanor. However, they were under the influence of narcotics and their mental state was the first issue, which is not recorded in the data. This is the reason the numbers of mental health are not recorded correctly and it is much higher than what the data suggests. The Officers often find themselves not being able to help a person because they have not committed a crime, however there is no facility available to help the person with mental health issues and/or drug abuse.

Sergeant Vaught discussed the "Blake" decision and how it has had a negative effect for the ability help for those in need. Officers are no longer able to apprehend those with drugs or under the influence and take them to a place for recovery and treatment. The exception is if they committed a crime. He stated that the road to recovery no longer exists.

Coroner Curtis McGary mentioned that since there is no place to take persons with mental health and substance abuse, they end up in jail with no opportunity for treatment and when they get out of jail, they go to their last dosage and end up passing away of an overdose or taking their own lives. He stated that in the last 4 years there have been 54 overdoses, which he handled. This does not include those who were transferred to Kadlec, Trios or out of the county.

Captain Parramore offered some scenarios as to what the officers are dealing with on a daily basis. There are no places available to take those who are in need of recovery and treatment.



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Lori Hayles is an EMT in North Franklin County and spoke of the need of a facility. Sheriff Jim Raymond read a statement to the Commissioners. He has been a resident of Pasco since 1978. He has concerns about his grandchildren's future. We need to help our community and not rely on the government. I have worked for 40 years in this occupation and watched many die in front of me due to overdose. We need to do something to help with the mental health, drug abuse and homelessness due to this trifecta. He encouraged the Commissioners to support this tax and join with Benton County to acquire a facility to address these problems.

Commissioner Peck tried to pass this tax previously and sought to obtain a venue. He supports a tax to help with the mental health and drug abuse treatment programs.

Commissioner Mullen thanked those who are doing what they can to support this important need in the community. He believes we should collaborate with Benton County and supports this tax.

Commissioner Didier thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He stated that the tax alone would not solve the problem. He is in full support of the tax. He is in favor of using the old KGH building to facilitate all kinds of treatment under one roof.

Commissioner Peck mentioned that the State would look to see if the county has instituted a tax first before additional funding would come from the State.

Administrator Keith Johnson proposed to amend the resolution of July 1, 2022 to April 1, 2022 if the Commissioners wish to push the date sooner.

Matt Rasmussen, Benton County Deputy Administrator informed the Board of what Benton County is doing with their tax. Benton County is working on an acquisition with the KGH building to hold a 50-bed facility to start with and expansion of other services.

Question and answers from the Board to Sheriff Raymond on the detention and transport of offenders to the facilities. Sheriff Raymond voiced his concern of equal representation for both counties and suggested that the public would have input. This is a public health issue and taxpayers want to be heard.

11:38 a.m. Public Comment

- Dr. Loann Ayers is Chair of United Way is in support of the tax.
- Lawanda Hatch shared personal experiences with mental health issues is in support of the tax. She asked that money given be used wisely.
- Ronnie Bachelor works with Lourdes on their outreach program and she is a Peer Specialist. She has dealt with mental illness and tried to commit suicide. She also lost a son to suicide. She supports the tax.



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- Dr. Michele Gerber, president of the Benton Franklin Recovery Coalition and lost a son to addiction in 2014. She is in favor of the tax.
 - Dr. Christina Chacon, Psychologist Provider and Professor of Washington State University. Past President of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association Washington Chapter. Tri-Cities is a black hole for those who need help. She supports the tax.
 - Dr. Jamie Carson, Somerset Counseling Center. She voiced her concern that it is devastating not having a local recovery center. She supports the tax.
 - Jason Bliss, Executive Director of Washington Alliance for Quality Recovery Residences supports the tax.
 - Shawna Thorpe, Outreach Pastor supports the tax.
 - James Gimenez is in support of the tax. He also read a letter from John Logue who was unable to attend tonight's meeting. He is a recovering alcoholic. Counties have been treating sick people as criminals with no option but to incarcerate them. He supports the tax.
 - Jason Lawrence, First Responder in Benton County and Taylor Brummett Health Professions with Lourdes Mobile Outreach Team. Both support the tax.
 - Mary Rosen adopted two drug addicted babies, both who are in a long-term recovery not available in our community. Parents dealing with this problem need to be educated as well. She is in support of the tax.
 - Trevor Crosby thanked people for coming out and caring enough to support the community in this tax.
- ❖ ***Commissioner Didier closed the Public Hearing at 8:58 p.m.***
- ❖ ***Commissioner Mullen moved to approve Ordinance 11-2021 (Establishing a Sales Tax for Chemical Dependency and Mental Health Treatment Program). Commissioner Didier seconded. After the amendment, the motion carried to pass the 1/10th of 1 percent tax.***
- ❖ ***Commissioner Peck amended the motion with the Ordinance as presented with the date enacted as April 1, 2022. Commissioner Mullen seconded and the motion carried.***

9:06 p.m. Public Comment

- Steve Bauman thanked the Commissioners for having a night meeting and asked if they might consider more evenings in the future.

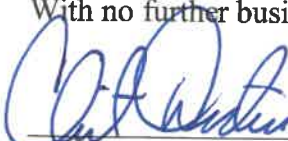


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Adjourn

With no further business to bring before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.


Chair


Clerk of the Board


Date