



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING: BOARD WORKSHOP
Wednesday, July 13, 2022, at 6 p.m.
Ben Franklin Transit Boardroom
1000 Columbia Park Trail, Richland, Washington

*Meeting attendance options included in person and virtual via Zoom
Simultaneous translation into Spanish was available via Zoom*

MINUTES

1. CONVENE BOARD MEETING

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

2. ROLL CALL

Representing	Attendee Name	Title	Status
City of Pasco	Joseph Campos	Director	Present
City of Kennewick	Brad Beauchamp	Director	Present via Zoom
City of Richland	Terry Christensen	Director	Present
City of West Richland	Richard Bloom	Vice Chair	Present
Franklin County #2	Rocky Mullen	Director	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	Absent
Teamsters Union 839	Caleb Suttle	Union Representative	Present

BFT Staff: Ayodeji Arojo, Brandy Arojo, Janet Brett, Jaslyn Campbell, Carina Cassel, Chad Crouch, Steve Davis, Terry DeJuan, Ed Frost, Keith Hall, Lisa Larson, Jeff Lubeck, Rob Orvis, Ashley Rolland, Erin Russell, Chris Slack, Rich Starr, Solomon Torelli, Wendi Warner

Legal Counsel: Jeremy Bishop

Interpreters: Ruth Medina, Ynez Vargas

3. PRESENTATION

Director of Administrative Services Jeff Lubeck began the presentation on the impact of a 1/10th of 1 percent sales tax reduction including an overview of the potential impacts, the considerations of increasing costs and likelihood of recession, along with BFT cost efficiencies. Director of Planning & Service Development Keith Hall reviewed the

implications and possible reductions in service and/or capital projects. Interim General Manager Ed Frost discussed the impact the potential cuts in funding have had on employee morale, recruitment, and retention. He also emphasized the loss of the Transit Support Grants if the sales tax collection was reduced.

4. DISCUSSION

BFT Legal Counsel Jeremy Bishop explained he had requested, on behalf of the Board of Directors, an informal opinion letter from the attorney general's office, but they declined on two grounds: one, they indicated we weren't entitled to their opinion; and two, they could not come close to the timeline we would need to put the measure on the ballot.

Board members expressed interest in a workshop to discuss ways to make BFT services more efficient and effective including the possibility of smaller vehicles on fixed routes at night, resuming bus service to the Hanford area, educating potential riders, and finding creative ways to do more with the current funding.

5. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Thursday, July 14, 2022, at 6 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chair McKay adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.


Janet Brett, Clerk of the Board


Date