



FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chairman Rick Miller 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 Rick Miller, Chair Pro Tem Robert E. Koch and Member Brad Peck

Staff Present: County Administrator Keith Johnson, Auditor Matt Beaton, Human Resources Director Carlee Nave, Coroner Dan Blasdel and Clerk to the Board Karin Milham

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance

RECLASSIFICATION OF CHIEF DEPUTY CORONER

Human Resources Director Carlee Nave presented the Board with the Fair Labor Standard Act that would effect a few positions in the County as of January 1, 2017. Chief Deputy Coroner is one of the positions that would need a change.

After brief discussion, Resolution 2016-424 reclassifying the Chief Deputy Coroner position was tabled until Ms. Nave could gather additional information to bring back to the board for discussion at a later date.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Mr. Clint Didier expressed concern regarding discussion of salaries for the Coroner's office in light of proposed salary increases for Commissioners. He stated he was appalled by the proposed increase adding he didn't feel the work week and/or duties of a Commissioner warranted a \$94,350 annual salary. He urged the Commissioners to approve a reasonable salary for all three Commissioner positions.
- Mr. Rodney Mullen also expressed concern regarding the proposed salary increase for Commissioners. He felt the timing of the proposed increase was strategically planned and orchestrated, dishonest and purely political.



**FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

- Mr. Steve Allen noted raises for Commissioners have historically been discussed earlier in the year and felt the timing created a feeling of distrust and secrecy. He stated the County is going through turmoil right now and it was because of secrecy and dishonesty. He hoped Commissioners could give some confidence back to the County taxpayers.
- Mr. Joel Prantle also felt the timing was strange and felt it gave the impression of dishonesty and distrust. He felt he could do the same job for half the salary and still get the job done.

Commissioner Peck responded to the comments stating he had previously made a motion to reduce the Commissioners' salaries to \$1.00 per year. Once it was pointed out that the state required Commissioners be paid a minimum amount of approximately \$14,000 annually, he was in favor of reducing Commissioners salaries to the minimum amount. He didn't think any other Franklin County Commissioner had ever made such a motion to reduce the annual salary to the minimum required by law. The motion was not seconded and died on the table.

Commissioner Peck addressed Mr. Didier's concerns about the salaries in the Coroner's office stating the position had been described as a part-time position where one coroner works for one week, then the other works for one week, then the third coroner works for one week and they rotate. To compare a position that works one week out of three to a Commissioners position is unrealistic. He explained the scope of responsibilities of a Commissioner is much deeper than most people realize. Each Commissioner represents Franklin County on approximately twenty different boards and commissions and travels to represent the County at meetings all over the Country. It is much more than sitting in the Franklin County Commissioners' Meeting room for a weekly County Commissioners' meeting.

Commissioner Peck also explained the historical practice of proposing an increase to the Commissioners' salaries prior to the filing period is something he has supported. He stated this year was different in that there was pressure to increase salaries for employees. The Commission asked staff to research salaries of comparable sized counties to determine if Franklin County was losing employees due to lower wages. He acknowledged Franklin County had recently lost senior, highly skilled employees to other counties due to wages and felt that was an indicator Franklin County was not paying enough to attract and keep highly skilled applicants. As a result of the study, a salary package was presented increasing salaries for all elected officials, not just Commissioners, as well as all employees. He further explained that once a salary for Commissioners is set, it cannot be changed during that Commissioner's four-year term. In this case, the proposed five percent increase for years 2017-2020 works out to 1.2 percent per year over a four-year period but due to the law, it begins January 1, 2017. For other elected officials and employees, there was a retroactive increase of two percent (2%) in September 2016, another will be added as of January 2017 and another two percent (2%) in January 2018 for a total of six percent over the course of fourteen months.



**FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

With respect to whether the Commissioner positions are paid more than they're worth, Commissioner Peck stated he came from a career that compensated at a much higher level but chose to run for County Commissioner because he feels this is an important job and strives to do it well.

The suggestion that discussing the salary increase on Election Day is somehow inappropriate or underhanded ignores the fact that there was no intent to increase pay until late summer when the county started losing employees and the fact research regarding the comparable county salaries revealed Franklin County salaries were, indeed, lower.

He also addressed the fact that, due to election terms, the Franklin County Commissioner representing District Three was doing the same job for a higher salary than the Commissioners representing Districts One and Two. This increase would bring all three positions to the same annual salary.

Commissioner Miller explained during the previous election cycles, the salary for his position was lower than the other two districts and reiterated the intent of the proposed increase was bring all three positions to the same annual salary.

Mr. Allen still felt the fact Commissioners' salaries were not discussed earlier in the year but on Election Day gives the perception of dishonesty and secrecy, regardless of what other employees and/or elected officials receive.

Mr. Didier felt, if the Commissioners were truly worried about losing employees to other counties due to salary issues, they should forego an increase and give money to the employee.

There was extensive discussion of what it means to be a County Commissioner and/or public servant, whether Franklin County Commissioners' salaries should be raised or lowered to the minimum annual salary and employee health care savings accounts versus deferred compensation.

Commissioner Miller closed Public Comment.



**FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

OFFICE BUSINESS

Approval of County Roads and Motor Vehicle Warrants

November 21, 2016

Franklin County Commissioners:

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer by RCW 42.24.080, expense reimbursement claims certified by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been sent to the board members.

Action: As of this date, November 21, 2016, PKael move that the following warrants be approved for payment.

<u>FUND</u>	<u>WARRANT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
County Roads		
Net Payroll Checks	00309974-00309975	\$ 2,473.77
Net EFT Payroll Checks	00001145-00001178	43,138.99
Deduction and Contribution Checks	00310028-00310029	25,323.58
	Total	<u>\$ 70,936.34</u>
Motor Vehicle		
Net Payroll Checks	00309976-00309977	\$ 2,391.11
Net EFT Payroll Checks	00001177-00001179	3,481.80
Deduction and Contribution Checks	00310021-00310027	4,804.39
	Total	<u>\$ 10,477.30</u>
Grand Total All Payrolls		<u>\$ 81,413.64</u>

In the total amount of PKael **\$81,413.64** (\$70,936.34 + \$10,477.30)

The motion was seconded by Brend Peck and passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

John A. Buschman, Chief Deputy
The attached payroll has been approved by Auditor or Deputy

Michelle Olheiser
Payroll Prepared By Melissa Olheiser

- ❖ **Commissioner Koch moved to approve County Roads and Motor Vehicle prepared for the week of November 21, 2016 for payroll totaling \$81,413.64. Commissioner Peck seconded and the motion was unanimously carried.**



**FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

Approval of Fund Expenditures

Franklin County Commissioners:

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer by RCW 42.24.090, expense reimbursement claims.

Action: As of this date, 11/14/2016 Peck

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: 00310161 - 00310296 \$323,717.88

<u>Fund Expenditures</u>	<u>Amount issued</u>
CURRENT EXPENSE	\$152,310.04
AUDITOR O & M	\$70.74
ELECTION EQUIP REVOLVING	\$122.28
JAIL COMMISSARY	\$3,508.20
ENHANCED 911	\$2,074.76
COUNTY ROADS	\$132,612.42
SOLID WASTE	\$583.39
DISTRESSED CNTY LTGO DS	\$4,000.00
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	\$276.00
TRAC RENEWAL AND REPLACE	\$1,115.66
TRAC OPERATIONS	\$10,454.91
FRANKLIN COUNTY RV PARK	\$564.54
MOTOR VEHICLE	\$16,044.94

Peck

In the amount of: \$323,717.88

The motion was seconded by: Beck Peck

And passed by a vote of: 3 to 0

Reviewed by the County Administrator: Kenell

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

Maisey Stein
Vouchers Audited By:
Maisey Stein

- ❖ **Commissioner Koch moved to approve Fund Expenditures audited and certified by the auditing officer for warrants prepared for the week of November 14, 2016 for payment of payroll totaling \$323,717.88. Commissioner Peck seconded and the motion was unanimously carried.**



**FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

Approval of Fund Expenditures

11/21/2016

Franklin County Commissioners:

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer by RCW 42.24.090, expense reimbursement claims.

Action: As of this date, 11/21/2016 Peck

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:	00310640 -	00310797	\$ 162,614.95
Department of Revenue Tax Remittance			2,137.26
			<u>\$ 164,752.21</u>

Fund Expenditures	Checks	Dept of Revenue Tax Remittance	Amount Issued
Current Expense	\$ 70,888.42	\$ 1,134.38	\$ 72,022.80
Auditor O & M	\$ 445.40	\$ -	\$ 445.40
Treasurer O & M	55.80	-	55.80
Enhanced 911	1,164.90	134.90	1,299.20
County Roads	27,924.70	-	27,924.70
Solid Waste	25,048.69	-	25,048.69
TRAC Operations	-	747.51	747.51
Franklin County RV Park	-	121.07	121.07
Motor Vehicle	37,087.84	-	37,087.84
	<u>\$ 162,614.95</u>	<u>\$ 2,137.26</u>	<u>\$ 164,752.21</u>

In the amount of: \$ 164,752.21

The motion was seconded by: Peck

And passed by a vote of: 3 to 0

Reviewed by County Administrator: Will

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

Vouchers Audited By:
Maisey Stein
Maisey Stein

- ❖ *Commissioner Koch moved to approve Fund Expenditures audited and certified by the auditing officer for warrants prepared for the week of November 21, 2016 for payment of payroll totaling \$164,752.21. Commissioner Peck seconded and the motion was unanimously carried.*



FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2016

Approval of Consent Agenda

- Resolution 2016-425 Approval of SUB 2016-05 Application to Subdivide Approximately 23.70 Acres into 14 Residential Lots.
- Resolution 2016-426 Amending Resolution 2013-431 Eliminating HRA VEBA Contributions for Elected Officials
- Resolution 2016-427 Awarding Lutheran Community Professional Services Contract to Provide Mental Health Care to Youth in Detention
- Resolution 2016-428 Contracting with Benton City for Services for Graffiti Abatement Program
- Resolution 2016-429 Fourth Amendment to DSHS Agreement 1563-42594 between Benton Franklin Human Services and DSHS
- Resolution 2016-430 Approval of 2017-2018 Public Works Contract with Heritage Landscaping for Juvenile Justice Center Snow Removal
- Resolution 2016-431 Approval of Aetna Documents for the 2017 Employee Benefits
- Resolution 2016-432 Interlocal Agreement For Employee Services No. 44-14 Between Franklin County And City Of Richland
- Resolution 2016-433 Approval of Corrections Capital Outlay Interbudget Transfer of \$35,357
- Resolution 2016-434 Approval to Lease Digital Mailing System for Elections Department
- Resolution 2016-435 Approval of Interagency Agreement IAA17525 with Administrative Office of the Courts Interpreter Funding
- Approval of Albertsons\Safeway Veteran Assistance Program Contract
- ❖ ***Commissioner Peck moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1-8 and 10 -11, with item 9 and 12 pulled for separate discussion. Commissioner Koch seconded and the motion was carried.***



**FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

- ❖ *After brief discussion Commissioner Peck moved to approve Resolution 2016-433 Approval of Corrections Capital Outlay Interbudget Transfer of \$35,357. Commissioner Koch seconded and the motion carried.*
- ❖ *After discussion Commissioner Peck moved to approve Albertsons\Safeway Veteran Assistance Program Contract. Commissioner Koch seconded and the motion carried.*

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE BUSINESS

- County Administrator Keith Johnson presented the Board with Resolution 2016-436 for their Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Agreement between the Boards of Commissioners of Benton and Franklin Counties for the Allocation of Juvenile Justice Center Operations and Facilities.
 - ❖ *Commissioner Peck moved to approve the (MOU) and Agreement between the Boards of Commissioners of Benton and Franklin Counties for the Allocation of Juvenile Justice Center Operations and Facilities. Commissioner Koch seconded and the motion carried.*
- American Tower Contractors (Verizon) requested an Amendment to their current contract for cell towers located on the Franklin County RV park property. After a brief discussion of proposed amendments, the Commissioners decided not to commit to the contract as currently written.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Rocky Mullen asked the Commissioners to take care to be more transparent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g): Evaluate Qualifications of Applicant for Employment or Review Performance of Public Employee

Commissioner Miller recessed into Executive Session at 10:27 a.m., for Evaluate Qualifications of Applicant for Employment or Review Performance of Public Employee. Executive Session was anticipated to last ten minutes.

RECONVENE

Commissioner Miller reconvened the Regular meeting at 10:36 a.m., announcing Executive Session would be extended by ten (10) minutes.



**FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**RESCHEDULED MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2016**

RECONVENE


Commissioner Miller reconvened the Regular meeting at 10:46 a.m., with no action taken.

Mr. Johnson gave a brief review of issues discussed during the Washington State Association of Counties meeting held in Spokane. One of the main items of importance was regarding ground water.

ADJOURN

With no further business to bring before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Rick Miller, Chair



Robert Koch, Chair Pro Tem



Brad Peck, Member

ATTEST:


Karin Miller
Clerk to the Board