



BENTON-FRANKLIN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

MINUTES

July 20, 2018 - 12:00 p.m. Meeting, Lunch @ 11:30 a.m.

El Chapala - 107 E. Columbia Dr., Kennewick

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 12 p.m., by Board President Skip Novakovich.
2. Roll Call – Brian Malley completed roll call, by jurisdiction.

BFCG Regular Board Members

<i>Jurisdiction</i>	<i>Delegate</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Ben Franklin Transit	Bob Koch/Excused	Shon Small/Jim Beaver
Benton City	Linda Lehman (Present)	NONE
Benton County	Jim Beaver/Excused	Shon Small
Benton PUD	Lori Sanders (Present)	Barry Bush
Connell	Lee Barrow/Absent	NONE
Franklin County	Brad Peck (Present)	Rick Miller/Bob Koch
Kahlotus	Chad Davis/Excused	John Rogers
Kennewick	Matt Boehnke (Present)	Steve Young
Mesa	Patti Bailey/Excused	NONE
Pasco	Blanche Barajas (Present)	Ruben Alvarado
Port of Benton	Bob Larson (Present)	Roy Keck
Port of Kennewick	Skip Novakovich (Present)	Don Barnes
Port of Pasco	Vicky Gordon (Present)	Jean Ryckman/Jim Klindworth
Prosser	Mary Ruth Edwards/Absent	Steve Becken
Richland	Brad Anderson/Absent	Phil Lemley (Present)
West Richland	Ken Stoker /Absent	Gail Brown (Present)
WSDOT	Todd Trepanier/Absent	Troy Suing

Economic Development District (EDD) Private Sector Members

<i>Representing</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Visit Tri-Cities	Michael Novakovich	Kim Shugart (Present)
TRIDEC	Carl Adrian /Excused	David Chavey-Reynaud (Present)
Prosser EDA	Deb Heinz/Excused	NONE
WorkSource Tri-Cities	Tiffany Scott (Present)	NONE
Baker Giles	Carol Woo (Present)	NONE
A.S. Klein Engineering	Andrew Klein (Present)	NONE
Elite Construction & Dev.	Trini Garibay/Absent	NONE
Community First Bank	Thomas Fisher (Present)	NONE
Community First Bank	Amanda Jones/Excused	NONE

Staff Present: Brian Malley, Tanna Dole, and Stephanie Seamans. Mr. Malley indicated a quorum present for BFCG and BFEDD.

3. Introduction of Visitors (NONE)
4. Public Comment (NONE)
5. Reports and Comments

A. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT –

Agenda Revisions – Brian Malley indicated that copies of the agenda, and a few complete packets were available in hard copy format.

Notes & Comments – Mr. Malley mentioned that the 2017 agency audit is complete, and that an invitation to the SAO Exit Conference is set for 10 a.m. the coming Tuesday and Board members should have receive an SAO invite to that meeting. He added that the audit has gone well, staff have fielded all questions and addressed all SAO concerns. Mr. Malley expects a “clean” audit.

Mr. Malley added that recruitment efforts are underway for Transportation staff.

Mr. Malley added that he'd recently attended WA/OR/ID COG Director's meetings, indicating that the group has plans to hold meetings in the Tri-City area next year. He added that Yakima Valley COG held a Regional Solutions Summit early in '18 and has desire to do again in '19, but located in the Tri-City area. Discussions are underway to potentially couple those events, and some assistance may be needed from Visit Tri-Cities with events.

Mr. Malley indicated that parking lot efforts should soon be complete at 1622 Terminal Drive.

Mr. Malley mentioned that the Ozone Workshop was held (yesterday), with participation from private sector interests, several member agencies, and pertinent state agencies as well as from Walla Walla area. Mr. Malley clarified that the agency is primarily tasked with Transportation Planning, and Community/Economic Development...but that the topic of elevated ozone goes well beyond these focus areas. He explained that Benton Clean Air may seem the most sensible to address elevated ozone levels – but the fact that Franklin County is not under their authority complicates the discussion. He added that BFCG is being viewed by other agencies as potential lead on this topic....Mr. Malley encouraged presentations at the local level as a prudent next step, and suggested that Benton Clean Air is well equipped to provide this information. He shared that Benton Clean Air and Ecology are encouraging proactive measures out of the local communities, in an effort to demonstrate awareness of elevated ozone levels and local attention toward lowering these levels. He added that TAC and PAC will be presented with Travel Demand Management topics in the near future, aimed at reducing vehicle emissions, which are known to be a major contributing factor to ozone formation. Tanna Dole provided additional detail, and encouraged those with questions to contact the BFCG staff.

Mr. Malley urged a discussion upon Commute Trip Reduction upon the next agenda, allowing discussion about the flexibility within the CTR program, status of current Tri-City exemptions, and our desired path forward.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS (NONE)

C. STAFF REPORTS

1. DRAFT 2018 Metropolitan Area Park and Ride Lot Report

Tanna Dole indicated that this update is available for review and comment at this time. This report was crafted by Len Pavelka, with input from other departmental staff. She explained that PNR lot usage is discussed within the document, as our suggestions as to appropriate areas for potential future placement of PNR lots. Tanna urged review of the document, and to please provide input to Len.

6. Administration

A. INFORMATION ONLY (No action necessary)

1. BFCG Financials – June 30, 2018
2. BFCG/EDD Financials – June 30, 2018

B. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Minutes of June 15, 2018 BFCG Board meeting
2. Voucher Summary – July, 2018

ACTION: Motion made by Phil Lemley, seconded by Matt Boehnke, to approved consent calendar, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. RECESS BFCG

8. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION (NONE)

9. Convene Economic Development District (EDD)

A. BFEDD Loan Trial Balance Report – Stephanie Seamans indicated that all existing loans are current, and prompted any questions (NONE).

B. BFEDD Activity Report – Stephanie Seamans shared that agency loan programs continue to have funding available and that no packages were reviewed through Loan Committee. Staff participated at FABREO earlier in the month. She added that staff met upon six inquiries during the past month, through a variety of referrals. Staff also met with and participated at FUSE event recently in Kennewick. Stephanie added that City of Connell and stakeholders met last Friday regarding their RR Interchange project. This project has been partially funded, but needs to secure an additional \$8-10 million in funding, which is being pursued through a variety of potential options. Port of Moses Lake and associated railroads have been integral with these applications. BFCG staff have recommended nomination for

NADO Innovation Award, based on the numerous stakeholders with interest and the concept being pursued, to bring the project some recognition while funding is being pursued. Stephanie added that the presence of railroads, ports, and elected officials was a good demonstration of the support in the region.

Stephanie added that the Women and Minority Business Loan program will be featured in the next Journal of Business.

Stephanie added that she'd attended a meeting on the Tri-City Market, which followed an online survey that has been active. She added that there were many vendors with market interest, discussions about their respective business and the potential for others, would the space have incubator spaces, as well as discussion on many other aspects.

C. Washington Economic Development Association (WEDA) Summer Conference – August 22nd & 23rd hosted by Prosser Economic Development Association

Brian Malley indicated that information about the WEDA conference is within the packet, and encouraged those able to attend to consider attending. He added that east-side WEDA events are not common. Stephanie added that many topics will be discussed with practitioners: tax credits, opportunity zones, as well as David Porter's presence and the ability to learn from his experience, all as reasons to consider attendance.

10. BFEDD – New Business

11. Adjourn Economic Development District (EDD)

12. Reconvene BFCG

13. BFCG Discussion Calendar

- A. State of Transportation presentation by WSDOT (recap) – Brian Malley provided a brief recap of presentation given to joint TAC/PAC meeting last month. He indicated the information is a bit sobering, but provides some great context to the challenges being faced by WSDOT and our partners across the state.

Brad Peck indicated the message he received was that maintenance and preservation are the areas of current focus, with new projects as last resort. He added that this is directly the opposite of federal indications of an infrastructure package.

Mr. Malley added that current funding is dedicated to projects already identified. The presentation is available on the agency website.

- B. 2018-2023 TIP Amendment (BFCG Amd. 18-JUL) – Tanna Dole explained this is a new WSDOT project of pedestrian improvements at SR240 & Columbia Center Blvd. Mr. Malley clarified that this project improves sidewalks and crossings at existing interchange, and does not provide a separate bike/ped facility.

ACTION: Motion made by Bob Larson, seconded by Matt Boehnke, to TIP amendment, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C. WSDOT Travel Modeling Request – Brian Malley explained that WSDOT has approached BFCG, urging modeling efforts upon the three alternatives identified in CRCS study (North Richland, Rd 68/Edison, New span adjacent Blue Bridge). He explained the request is to use new model and associated population and employment forecasts – while maintaining the assumptions used during the CRCS prior study on these potential alternatives. Mr. Malley indicated that WSDOT has some resources toward this effort, and that TAC and PAC were supportive of the modeling request. He added that this effort could also help support the Interchange Justification Report (IJR) for the Connecting Washington funded Red Mountain Interchange.
- D. Distribution Options for Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) funds – Tanna explained that HIP funding was presented last month, and that options will be discussed at TAC/PAC levels with an action item anticipated in the next few months.

14. Public and/or Board Comment –

Matt Boehnke inquired if there is any update regarding the Inland Seaport. Richland and Port of Benton representatives indicated none at this time.

David Chavey-Reynaud mentioned Opportunity Zones have been established, and that recent information sessions provided an opportunity to learn of opportunities. He encouraged anyone with questions to contact him.

Brian Malley indicated that he'd met with Kennewick/Port of Kennewick, City of Richland, and Port of Benton all on separate occasions on this topic. He urged that all parties keep the lines of communication open and that no project is currently identified.

Brian Malley added that Port of Kennewick is being recognized for their planning efforts at Vista Field. Please anticipate a message with event information.

15. Date and Place of Next Meeting

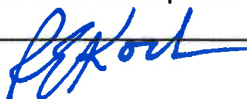
Friday, August 17, 2018 (Tentative)

Location: El Chappala

Lunch at 11:30 a.m., Meeting starts promptly at 12:00 Noon

16. Adjourn: 1:05 p.m.

Approved at the September 21, 2018 meeting:



Bob Koch, Past President