

RESOLUTION

2017 109

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BENTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF ESTABLISHING A BENTON COUNTY ACCESSIBLE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACAC)

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.32.120(6), the Board of Benton County Commissioners ("the Board") has the care of county property and the management of county funds and business; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.01.310, counties have the legal ability to create an Accessible Community Advisory Committee ("ACAC") to (i) advise on addressing the needs of persons with disabilities in emergency plans; (ii) advise the county and other local governments within the county on access to programs, services, and activities, new construction or renovation projects, sidewalks, other pedestrian routes of travel, and disability parking enforcement; and (iii) develop local initiatives and activities to promote greater awareness of disability issues, and acceptance, involvement, and access of persons with disabilities within the community; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.01.310, the Board of Benton County Commissioners and the Benton County Auditor's Office have agreed to expand the scope of the existing Benton County Disability Access Voting Committee as established and maintained under RCW 29A.46.260 to that of an Accessible Community Advisory Committee ("ACAC"); and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Washington ("the Legislature") has found that when people who have disabilities are welcomed and included as members of our communities and provided with equal access to the opportunities available to others, their participation enriches those communities, enhances the strength of those communities' diversity, and contributes toward the economic vitality of those communities; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature further found that more than nine hundred thousand (900,000) Washington state residents with disabilities continue to face barriers to full participation that could be easily eliminated; and

WHEREAS, focusing on removing barriers to inclusion empowers people with disabilities by giving them an equal chance to contribute to their communities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.01.310, the Board has opted to create an Accessible Communities Advisory Committee with members that include persons with a diverse range of disabilities who are knowledgeable in identifying and eliminating attitudinal, programmatic, communication, and physical barriers encountered by persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to create a ten (10) member Benton County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee ("ACAC"), to be administered by the Auditor or an authorized representative, and composed of members as provided for in RCW 36.01.310; and

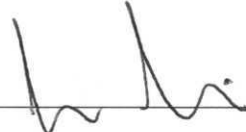
WHEREAS, the Benton County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee ("ACAC") shall have rotating, two-year terms and shall meet no less than once per quarter; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Benton County Commissioners, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.32.120(6) and RCW 36.01.310, that the Board does hereby establish a ten-member Benton County Accessible Community Advisory Committee to perform duties pursuant to RCW 36.01.310.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board that the Benton County Auditor or his/her duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to submit the appropriate documents as provided for in WAC Chapter 192-50 to obtain grants and reimbursement of travel, per diem, and reasonable accommodation for the Benton County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee meeting and committee sponsored activities (RCW 50.40.071-.072).

Dated this 7 day of Feb, 2017.


Chairman of the Board


Member


Member

Constituting the Board of Commissioners
of Benton County, Washington.

Attest.....
Clerk of the Board