

COMMISSIONERS' AGENDA ACTION SHEET

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| Meeting Date: | March 29, 2022 | |
| Subject: | Amending the Benton County Accessible Community Advisory Committee (ACAC) Membership and Terms, and Rescinding Resolutions 2017-109, 2018-545, 2019-588, 2020-259, 2021-054, 2021-352, and 2021-896 | |
| Presenter: | N/A | |
| Prepared By: | Shyanne Palmus, Communications Coordinator | |
| Reviewed By: | Amanda Hatfield, Elections Manager & Brenda Chilton, Auditor | |
| PA Review, Approval to Form: | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <i>(If no, include reasoning for no approval)</i> | |
| Type of Agenda Item: | Type of Action Needed: <i>(Multiple boxes can be checked, if necessary)</i> | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent Agenda <input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduled Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Pass Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Decision / Direction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass Resolution <input type="checkbox"/> Sign Letter / Document <input type="checkbox"/> Pass Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Execute Contract | |

Summary / Background Information

On February 7, 2017, the Board of Commissioners passed Resolution 2017-109, whereby the Board and the County Auditor agreed to expand the scope of the Benton County Disability Access Voting Committee as established and maintained under RCW 29A.46.260 to that of an Accessible Community Advisory Committee ("ACAC").

The subsequent resolutions listed were passed to update the membership of the ACAC (appoint and/or remove members). These resolutions are now outdated and need to be rescinded, for clarity.

A revision to the ACAC is proposed, changing the committee membership from a total of 10 members to a total of 5 members, and eliminating the formal term lengths for members. The ACAC has struggled, as many local agency committees have, to maintain consistent membership and attendance, and proposes to reduce the number of members and to remove term limits to ensure continuity and greater attendance.

As always, these meetings are open and available for the public or other interested parties to attend.

Fiscal Impact

N/A

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the attached resolution to revise the membership and terms of the Benton County ACAC.

Suggested Motion

N/A

RESOLUTION

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BENTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING THE BENTON COUNTY ACCESSIBLE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ACAC) MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS, AND RESCINDING RESOLUTIONS 2017-109, 2018-545, 2019-588, 2020-259, 2021-054, 2021-352, AND 2021-896

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 and Resolution 2017-109, the Board of Benton County Commissioners and the Benton County Auditor’s Office agreed to expand the scope of the 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 Community 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

Orig Commissioners
Cc: Auditor, ACAC

S. Palmus

WHEREAS, the Board desires to revise the membership and terms of the Benton County Accessible Community 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 Community Advisory Committee (“ACAC”) shall continue to 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 revise the Benton County Accessible Community Advisory Committee (“ACAC”) to a five-member committee with no formal term limits on membership, to perform duties pursuant to RCW 36.01.310; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Board of Benton County Commissioners that Resolutions 2017-109, 2018-545, 2019-588, 2020-259, 2021-054, 2021-352, and 2021-896 are hereby rescinded; and

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 Community Advisory Committee meeting and committee sponsored activities (RCW 50.40.071-.072).

Dated this 29th day of March, 2022.

Chairman of the Board

Member

Member

Constituting the Board of Commissioners
of Benton County, Washington.

Attest.....
Clerk of the Board

Orig Commissioners
Cc: Auditor, ACAC

S. Palmus