

**MINUTES**

**BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Special Board Meeting  
September 15, 2009, 3:00 p.m.  
Commissioners' Executive Conference Room  
Benton County Justice Center, Kennewick, WA

**Present:** Chairman Max E. Benitz, Jr. Chairman  
Commissioner Leo Bowman  
Commissioner James Beaver  
Clerk of the Board Cami McKenzie

**Washington State Association of Counties**

Merrill Ott and Eric Johnson met with the Board to give an update on WSAC and hear about issues concerning Benton County.

Mr. Johnson provided a packet of information concerning WSAC policies, website information, legislation, WSAC budget, and proposed changes to bylaws.

Chairman Benitz requested that WSAC watch the following issues and their impacts to Benton County: exempt well moratorium and small public drinking water system.

Commissioner Beaver said he wanted to be proactive and focus on negative impacts that were really hurting the counties and help where he could. Additionally, he requested that WSAC look at an automobile leasing program for counties to participate in.

Commissioner Bowman provided a copy of a letter from Benton County to the Department of Ecology regarding Benton County's opposition to opening RCW 90.80 Water Conservancy Legislation and asked WSAC to review the matter. Additionally, he expressed his opposition to proposed changes to bylaws concerning NACO membership terms and discussed the importance of continuity for those members. Also, Commissioner Bowman discussed his concern about the disbanding of the Transportation Committee by staff and said those decisions should be made by the Legislative Steering Committee, the Board, or the President.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:15 p.m.

---

Clerk of the Board

---

Chairman