



## **Board Meeting Minutes**

**August 19, 2025**

**Call to Order:** The meeting convened at 9 a.m. with the following present:

Holly Kessler, Chair  
Isabel A. M. Cole, Member  
Bob Battles, Member  
Anita Booker-Hay, Chief Industrial Appeals Judge  
Bob Liston, Chief, Administrative Services  
Christy Sterling, Human Resources Manager  
Brian Watkins, Chief Legal Officer  
Jay Raish, Confidential Secretary

Guest: Brenda Bono

**Changes to Agenda:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:** The August 12, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes were approved.

**Management Conference Agenda:** We reviewed the proposal from Wendy Fraser and agreed on the two-day option. We agreed to compile reports and send them ahead of time for review, then answer any questions during the meeting rather than presenting the reports. We discussed overnight travel authorizations. This matter is TICKED to the September 2, 2025 Board Meeting.

**Hiring Exception:** It was approved to hire an IAJ3 to fill behind Ann Riedel-Thomas.

**Management Update:** Bob reported on the Olympia office space and closing out the biennium. Anita reported on items for the stakeholder meeting; LOA recruitment; prioritization fixes/enhancements in BAMS; upcoming naming convention meeting; and PAAC discussion about bundling of pre-submitted exhibits. Christy provided the email about the Olympia office downsize to WFSE; there are meetings next month with WFSE and AIAJ; and she has a Friday meeting with our new labor negotiator assigned from OFM. Brian reported on a tort claim and lawsuit.

**Public Comment:** Brenda questioned whether there will be a liaison between Admin./Dis. Res. during Olympia office construction and any effect it has on in-person proceedings.

**Executive Session:** We entered Executive Session at 9:50 for 20 minutes to discuss Salary Recommendations and Performance of a Public Employee. We came out of Executive Session at 10:10.

**Salary Increases:** Raises were unanimously approved for an assistant chief and three program administrators.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Jay Raish,  
Confidential Secretary