

NO. 18 - 0950

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF IMPROVING)
TRANSPARENCY BY NEGOTIATING)
COLLECTIVE BARGAINING)
AGREEMENTS IN A MANNER OPEN TO)
THE PUBLIC (REPLACES AND)
SUPERSEDES RESOLUTION NO. 18-0892))

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.32.120(6), the Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County, Washington (hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Board" or "Board of County Commissioners") has the care of County property and the management of County funds and business; and

WHEREAS, a transparent government is a top priority for Spokane County; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) was passed by citizen initiative in 1971; and

WHEREAS, the legislative declaration of the Open Public Meetings Act (RCW 42.30.010) states in part:

The people of this state do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.

and;

WHEREAS, collective bargaining agreements (CBAs) are among the most expensive contracts negotiated by Spokane County; and

WHEREAS, both taxpayers and employees deserve to be informed how they are being represented during collective bargaining negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the OPMA does not prohibit local governments from conducting collective bargaining negotiations more transparently than required by state law;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, from this day forward, it shall be the policy of Spokane County to conduct all collective bargaining contract negotiations in public subject to Spokane County bargaining in good faith pursuant to chapter 41.56 and 9.73 RCW. All public bargaining sessions shall be audio recorded; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, members of the public observing collective bargaining negotiations shall not be permitted to participate in or comment during the negotiations; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Spokane County shall provide public notice of all collective bargaining negotiations in accordance with the OPMA (RCW 42.30.060 – 42.30.080); and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Spokane County shall post on its website, within two business days, copies of any bargaining proposals it provides to or receives from unions during collective bargaining negotiations; and

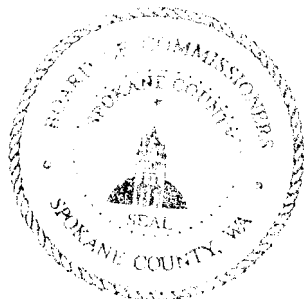
THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Resolution does not apply to meetings related to any activity conducted pursuant to the enforcement of a CBA after it has been negotiated and executed, including, but not limited to, grievance proceedings; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Spokane County send a copy of this resolution to the County CEO, to all union representatives, and all other deemed appropriate by County Officials; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution replaces and supersedes Resolution No. 18-0892.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of December, 2018.


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON




JOSH KERNS, Chair

ATTEST:

ABSENT
MARY KUNEY, Vice-Chair


Ginna Vasquez, Clerk of the Board


AL FRENCH Commissioner