

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 30, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Meeting provided by Video Live-Broadcast and Telephonically

Present: Chairman James Beaver
Commissioner Shon Small (via/teleconference)
Commissioner Jerome Delvin (via/teleconference)
County Administrator Jerrod MacPherson
Clerk of the Board Cami McKenzie

Benton County Employees Present During All or a Portion of the Meeting: Matt Rasmussen, Deputy County Administrator; IT Manager Robert Heard; Robert Blain, Director of Operations/Capital Assets; Scott Souza, Chief of Corrections; Commander Joshua Shelton; Adam Fyall, Sustainable Development Manager; Karlee Ainsworth, Assistant HR Manager; Clerk Josie Delvin; Lt. Joshua Combs; District Court Administrator Ela Selga; District Court Judge Terry Tanner; DPA Ryan Brown; PA Andy Miller; and HR Manager Lexi Wingfield.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of June 23, 2020 were approved.

Review Agenda

Three items were added to the agenda to be discussed under “Other Business”:

- Award of Contract for Finance Department Tenant Improvement
- Requiring Face Coverings in County Buildings
- Corrections Dept. Grant Award

An executive session was added to discuss potential litigation and review a claim or complaint against an elected official.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the consent agenda items “a” through “o” Commissioner Small seconded and upon vote, the Board approved the following:

Clerk

- a. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 106

Commissioners

- b. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 115

Coroner

- c. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 109

Human Services

- d. Contract w/Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital for Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Services
- e. Contract w/Jennifer Dorsett for Implementation of Prevention Programs Strategies
- f. First Amended Contract w/Kristi Sharpe for Implementation of Prevention Programs & Strategies
- g. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0108-101, Dept. 568

Information Technology

- h. Purchase of Electronic Data Processing Equipment, Telecommunication Equipment & Services from CompuNet, Inc.
- i. Purchase of Latitude Laptop, Five Docking Stations & Two Monitors For Elections Department From Dell Inc.

Juvenile

- j. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0115-101, Dept. 173

Planning

- k. Final Plat of Ridge View – SUB 2020-004

Public Works

- l. Contract w/All Pro Shop Services to Service the Coats Tire Changing Machine
- m. Contract w/Double J Excavating Inc for the Roadside Improvements Project
- n. Contract w/Central Paving for 2020 Crack Seal Project

Risk Management

- o. Salary Request Statement

Public Comment

Name unknown (via/teleconference), expressed her frustration about Benton County not being able to open up. She said she had been calling and emailing the State and wanted to know how much longer they were going to have to do this.

Lisa Thomas, Richland, expressed her disgust with the process and wanted to know when she could meet with the Commissioners in person and was told not until the Governor removed the OPMA restrictions.

Dorothy (last name unknown) asked if the Commissioners were meeting with Governor Inslee during his visit to the Tri-Cities and if the Commissioners were involved in the pre-meeting.

Commissioner Delvin said he would meet with the Governor during the press conference and there was not a pre-meeting that he was aware of.

Dorothy requested the Commissioners encourage positive leadership by requesting everyone to mask up and send out a public service announcement so they could begin to open businesses.

Commissioner Delvin said he had been working on this for three months and they had an active campaign, were posting videos on social media, and holding a press conference tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. with other elected officials.

Randy Slovic, Richland, expressed her concern about the final plat approval of Ridge View with one-acre lots, that it was an example of sprawling, and she was concerned about the costs, water storage, and not being able to recoup costs.

District Court Reorganization

Judge Terry Tanner and Karlee Ainsworth, Assistant HR Manager presented the District Court Reorganization. Judge Tanner said he was happy to report that after hiring their new Administrator a year ago, they had moved along with new technology and efficiencies. Additionally, Ms. Selga went through the entire staffing requirements and found efficiencies and proposed to eliminate one position. The reorganization would save \$27,000 during the next budget cycle. Ms. Ainsworth said the position was a Legal Process Assistant III and was currently unfilled.

Mr. MacPherson said they were always encouraging departments to look within their organization and move internally to what worked best and they were supportive of the reorganization.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Line Item Transfer as presented for the reorganization of District Court. Commissioner Small seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Other Business

Award/Execution of Finance Tenant Improvement Project with Banlin Construction LLC

Robert Blain presented the contract awarding the Finance Tenant Improvement Project to Banlin Construction. He said it was to finish out the 5,000 square feet of open space in the Commissioners' office and remodel space to create staff restrooms. He said they were able to expedite the contract, saving a month on the timeline of the contract.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to award bid for CB 20-14 Finance Tenant Improvement and Restroom Addition to Banlin Construction, LLC and approve and execute the contract. Chairman Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Requiring Face Coverings in County Buildings

Matt Rasmussen presented a resolution mandating that face coverings be worn inside Benton County Facilities, to comply with the Governor's order issued on June 24, 2020.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to approve the Resolution mandating that face coverings be worn by all persons when inside Benton County Facilities, as presented. Commissioner Delvin seconded.

Discussion

Commissioner Small said this was just another extension of what was already required of businesses.

Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Corrections Department Grant Award

Chief Scott Souza and Lt. Joshua Combs said on June 9 they sought permission to apply for a grant from the Health Care Authority. They were informed they received funding up to \$200,000 (reimbursable) for the Same Day Visit and Transportation Program for individuals transitioning into the community. Chief Souza said they would work with the Commissioners' office to identify funding sources.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to approve the grant funding for the Same Day Visit and Transportation Program – Contract No. K4667 between Benton County Corrections Department and Washington State Health Care Authority, as presented. Commissioner Delvin seconded and upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Jerrod MacPherson announced the Board would go into executive session for 30 minutes in the executive conference room to discuss potential litigation and review a claim or complaint against an elected official.

The Board briefly recessed to reconvene in the Executive Conference Room.

Executive Session - Potential Litigation/Review Claim or Complaint Against Elected Official

The Board went into executive session at 9:31 a.m. for 30 minutes to discuss potential litigation and review a claim or complaint against an elected official. Present were Chairman Beaver, Commissioners Small and Delvin (via/teleconference), Jerrod MacPherson, Matt Rasmussen, Cami McKenzie, PA Andy Miller, Ryan Brown and Lexi Wingfield. The Board came out at 10:02 a.m. No decisions were made in executive session, but direction was given.

The Board briefly recessed, to reconvene back in the Commissioners' Conference Room.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to approve the letter in support of the Benton County Deputy Sheriff's Guild as presented. Commissioner Delvin seconded.

Discussion

Commissioner Small said the Board had been fairly reserved, waiting to see if there would be a response or change in the department, but hoped it would now stop.

Commissioner Delvin said he was really frustrated that there was nothing they could do to hold another elected official accountable. Chairman Beaver agreed, stating the Board's role was budget

and finance, and the Board should be empowered to protect the citizens. Commissioner Delvin said he wanted a defined process that someone could follow, and he was interested in taking this to a state agency to address.

Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions

- 2020-421: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 106
- 2020-422: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 115
- 2020-423: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 109
- 2020-424: Contract w/Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital for Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Services
- 2020-425: Contract w/Jennifer Dorsett for Implementation of Prevention Programs & Strategies
- 2020-426: First Amended Contract w/Kristi Sharpe for Implementation of Prevention Programs & Strategies
- 2020-427: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0108-101, Dept. 568
- 2020-428: Purchase of Electronic Data Processing Equipment, Telecommunication Equipment & Services from CompuNet, Inc.
- 2020-429: Purchase of Latitude Laptop, Five Docking Stations & Two Monitors for Elections Department From Dell Inc.
- 2020-430: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0115-101, Dept. 173
- 2020-431: Final Plat of Ridge View – SUB 2020-004
- 2020-432: Contract w/All Pro Shop Services to Service the Coats Tire Changing Machine
- 2020-433: Contract w/Double J Excavating Inc for the Roadside Improvements Project
- 2020-434: Contract w/Central Paving for 2020 Crack Seal Project
- 2020-435: Transfer of Funds – Current Expense, Dept. 111, District Court Reorganization
- 2020-436: Awarding Contract for CB 20-14 Finance Department TI/Restroom Addition to Banlin Construction
- 2020-437: Mandating Face Coverings be Worn by all Persons when Inside Benton County Facilities
- 2020-438: Accepting the Grant Award from WA State Health Care Authority for Same Day Visit and Transportation Program

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:07 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman