

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Special Board Meeting
Thursday, July 2, 2020, 5:00 p.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: Deputy County Administrator Matt Rasmussen; IT Manager Robert Heard; Adam Fyall, Sustainable Development; Finance Manager Linda Ivey; Clerk Josie Delvin; Robert Blain, Director of Operations/Capital Assets; DPA Ryan Brown.

Covid-19 Update

County Administrator Jerrod MacPherson said the special meeting was to consider moving Benton County from Phase 1 to modified Phase 1 (1.5), known as the Benton County Road to Recovery Plan and Moving Benton County to a Modified Phase 1.

Additionally, the Board of Health had a meeting to approve the road to recovery plan and adopted it at today's special meeting.

He requested the Board approve the resolution as presented and authorize him to submit the Resolution to the Washington State Board of Health by email today.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Benton County Road to Recovery Plan Moving Benton County into a Modified Phase 1 (1.5) of the Safe Start Washington Plan in Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic, as presented, with authorization from the Secretary of Health. Commissioner Small seconded.

Discussion

Commissioner Delvin said they had been working toward this for some time and during the Governor's visit, he heard compelling reasons from the health care agencies, community and business leaders, law enforcement, and mental health agencies, to allow Benton County to open under the modified phase 1. He heard the community was committed and also put a two week pause on moving into next phases. Commissioner Delvin said the modified phase 1 (1.5) included the following:

- a. Construction as permitted in Phase 2 guidance (new construction projects can occur);

- b. Manufacturing as permitted in Phase 2 guidance (non-essential manufacturing);
- c. Restaurants for outdoor seating only_at 50% of existing outdoor capacity;
- d. In-store retail at 15% indoor capacity with indoor activities limited to 30 minutes;
- e. Personal services at 25% indoor capacity
- f. Dog groomers at 25% indoor capacity;
- g. No gatherings with people outside of the household except for small behavioral health support groups of ≤ 5 people.

Commissioner Delvin added this would take effect immediately and businesses under those conditions needed to have their plans submitted and guidance on site.

Mr. MacPherson stated the County had an email set up for businesses to submit their plans to the County and a drop box in front of the Health District building (painted in yellow) so anyone could drop off plans in person. He added that the electronic submittal was open now and would suffice to meet the requirements of the Governor.

Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution

2020-439: Approving the Benton County Road to Recovery Plan and Moving Benton County to a Modified Phase 1 of the Safe Start Washington Plan in Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman