

WEEKLY REVIEW

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
June 9, 2020



This document is a weekly review of the Board of County Commissioners meeting, Tuesday, June 9, 2020. Information related to agenda changes, Consent Agenda, and Public Comment are on the [County website](#).

Main Topics Discussed

Agreement w/ Washington State Department of Commerce for Coronavirus Relief Funding – Jerrod MacPherson, County Administrator

Washington State Department of Commerce announced that local governments would receive a portion of nearly \$300 million in federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) funds to address COVID-19 related costs. The Washington State Department of Commerce would like to enter into an Interagency Agreement with Benton County to provide \$11,099,000 in funding for costs incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic. Expenditures must be used for necessary actions taken to respond to the public health emergency. These may include: expenditures incurred to allow the local government to respond directly to the emergency, such as addressing medical or public health needs, as well as expenditures incurred to respond to second-order effects of the emergency, such as providing economic support to those suffering from employment or business interruptions due to COVID-19-related business closures. Funds may be used to reimburse for expenditures incurred during the period of March 1, 2020 through October 31, 2020. **The Board moved and seconded to authorize the Chairman to sign the Interagency Agreement with the Washington State Department of Commerce – Contract #20-6541C-003 for \$11,099,000 and to further authorize the County Administrator, or his designee, to sign subsequent A-19 Certifications. Motion carried.**

Other Business: Response Letter to Churches Regarding COVID-19 – Commissioner Delvin

On June 3, 2020 the Commissioners received a letter from Concerned Christian Churches of the Tri-Cities, a group of pastors representing nine Christian churches in the Tri-Cities. This letter addressed concerns these churches have regarding the ongoing restrictions on religious gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic. After receipt of this letter, Commissioner Delvin requested that staff draft a response letter to the churches addressing their concerns. **The Board moved and seconded to sign the letter in response to the Concerned Christian Churches of the Tri-Cities as presented. Motion carried.**

Other Business: Grant Opportunity through Washington State Health Care Authority – Chief Souza

The Corrections Department presented a resolution to authorize the application to Washington State Health Care Authority's Request for Information for the Same Day Visit and Transportation Program, for grant funding up to \$200,000. The grant period is July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. This funding would assist individuals in the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program at the Benton County Jail to continue having access and transportation to treatment after their transition back into the community. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.**

Other Business: Certificate of Recognition

The Board presented a Certificate of Recognition to Rosie Sparks for her 39 years of dedicated service to Benton County, prior to her retirement later this month. **The Board moved and seconded to sign the certificate of recognition. Motion carried.**

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