

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

Meeting provided by Video Live-Broadcast and Telephonically

Present: Chairman Jerome Delvin
Commissioner Shon Small (via/WebEx)
Deputy County Administrator Matt Rasmussen
Clerk of the Board Cami McKenzie

Absent: Commissioner Will McKay (Vacation – Excused)
County Administrator Jerrod MacPherson (Vacation – Excused)

Benton County Employees Present During All or a Portion of the Meeting: Robert Heard, IT Manager; Adam Fyall, Sustainable Development Manager; Michelle Cooke, Assistant Planning Manager; Adam Morasch, Risk Management.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of March 30, 2021 were approved.

Review Agenda

Matt Rasmussen said the Executive Session to Discuss the County's Position in Labor Negotiations was not needed.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to approve the consent agenda items "a" through "q". Chairman Delvin seconded and upon vote, the Board approved the following:

Human Resources

- a. Amended Settlement Agreement w/Benton County Deputy Sheriff's Guild and Jorge Garcia

Human Services

- b. Ratifying Agreement w/Goodwill Industries of the Columbia for Eviction Rent Assistance
- c. Ratifying Fourth Amended Agreement w/WA State Dept of Commerce for Eviction Prevention Services

- d. Ratifying Agreement w/Tri-Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for Eviction Rent Assistance Program
- e. Ratifying Agreement w/Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery for Expansion of Shelter Beds for Youths

Information Technology

- f. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0132-101, Dept. 000
- g. Lease Agreement w/Ricoh for Three Copiers for Corrections Department

Office of Public Defense

- h. Amended Public Defense Investigation Contract w/GT Investigations
- i. Amended Public Defense Investigation Contract w/Columbia Private Investigation
- j. Amended Public Defense Investigation Contract w/Premier Investigation
- k. Compensating Attorney Luis Cisneros for Training Services

Public Works

- l. Approving Construction Plans for a Portion of Orchard View Subdivision & Setting Speed Limit

Purchasing

- m. Agreement w/National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance to Register as a Member
- n. Contract w/Wave Design Group for Architectural & Engineering Services for the Redesign of the Front Entrance of the Justice Center
- o. Purchasing Sign Materials from Traffic Safety Supply Company for Public Works
- p. Accepting Work Performed by Banlin Construction for the Finance Dept. Tenant Improvement & Restroom Project

Risk Management

- q. Contract w/Mid-Columbia Forklift for Training & Employee Certification

Public Comment

None.

Cont. Public Hearing - Ordinance Amendment – BCC 11.15 & BCC 11.17 – OA 2021-001

Michelle Cooke said this was a continued public hearing for proposed ordinance amendments to increase wind turbine setback requirements from property lines, dwellings, and road rights of way for wind turbines located in the Rural Lands 20 Acre and GMA Agricultural Zoning Districts. Additionally, to allow meteorological towers to gather data to assess wind and solar energy potential. Specifically, the ordinance amendment proposes an increase from 1,000 feet to 1,640 feet for the setback to dwellings. The setback from property lines and road rights of way are both a distance equal to wind turbine height, plus 50% of that height.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on March 9, 2021 and voted unanimously to forward a recommendation for approval subject to five (5) findings of fact.

Chairman Delvin said he requested the Planning Department review this matter a year ago and that it had nothing to do with the current proposal by the wind farm.

As no one was present or called in to testify, public testimony was closed.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to adopt the Planning Commission’s Findings and Conclusions as their own and approve the proposed zoning amendment amending Ordinance 611, Chapter 11.15.060, 11.17.040, and 11.17.070 as noted in Casefile OA 2021-001. Chairman Delvin seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Scheduled Business

Designation of Benton County’s Official Associate Development Organization - TRIDEC

Adam Fyall presented a resolution designating TRIDEC as Benton County’s official associate development organization. The ADO is an entity that Benton County would designate to the Department of Commerce.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to approve the Resolution designating TRIDEC as the official associate development organization for Benton County for 2021-2023. Chairman Delvin seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

County Newspaper Bid Opening

Matt Rasmussen said every year the Commissioners were required to advertise for the official county newspaper. The following bids were received and opened:

Tri-City Herald:	<u>Mon-Fri</u>	<u>Sat-Sun</u>
Column-inch rate, first insertion, including online:	\$22.82	\$23.41
Column-inch rate, additional insertions:	\$20.50	\$20.97
Prosser Record Bulletin:	<u>Weekly (Wednesday)</u>	
Column-inch rate, first insertion:	\$18.00	
Column-inch rate, subsequent insertion:	\$26.00	

Mr. Rasmussen said that staff would evaluate the bids based on use and bring back an award at a future meeting date.

Proclaiming April 2021 as National County Government Month

Commissioner Delvin presented a Resolution proclaiming April 2021 as National County Government Month in Benton County.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to approve the resolution and proclamation and declare April 2021 as National County Government Month in Benton County, and in so doing demonstrate how Counties Matter, especially in supporting the health, wellbeing, and safety of our residents and businesses. Chairman Delvin seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Other Business

Hybrid Meeting

Commissioner Small asked about hybrid meetings and whether Benton County would be doing that. Mr. Rasmussen said they were headed in that direction as soon as the board room upgrades in Prosser were complete. It would include a small in-person component and virtual component.

Legislative Issues

- Recovery Center - Chairman Delvin said it looked like they were going to get \$2.7 million for the proposed recovery center and it was approved in both budgets. He recognized Michelle Gerber and Benton County's lobbying organization. If they were not allowed to purchase the proposed building without restriction, he recommended they look into constructing their own recovery center.
- .09 Money - Sales and Use Tax for Public Facilities in Rural Counties - This tax was extended out to the 2054 and looked like it would be approved, so they would still have that money available for economic development.
- Blake Decision - The Board still needed to have a workshop to discuss the impacts of this decision.

Executive Session - Potential Litigation

The Chairman and Deputy County Administrator announced at 9:20 a.m. the Board would go into executive session for up to 30 minutes to discuss potential litigation.

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

Present were Chairman Delvin, Commissioner Small, Matt Rasmussen, Adam Morasch, DPA Ryan Lukson via/WebEx, and Cami McKenzie. The Board came out of executive session and briefly recessed to reconvene back in the Commissioners' Conference Room.

The Board came out at 9:30 a.m. The Chairman announced that no decisions were made in executive session.

Tort Claim

CC 2201-07: Received April 2, 2021 from Austin Alexander Reno

CC 2021-08: Received April 5, 2021 from Jordan Levi Valentine

Accounts Payable

Check Date: 04/02/2021

Warrant #: 216210-216319
Total all funds: \$551,106.05

EFT #: 1715-1717
Transfers #: 04022101-04022102
Total all funds: \$17,025.29

Resolutions

- 2021-284: Amended Settlement Agreement w/Benton County Deputy Sheriff's Guild and Jorge Garcia
- 2021-285: Ratifying Agreement w/Goodwill Industries of the Columbia for Eviction Rent Assistance
- 2021-286: Ratifying Fourth Amended Agreement w/WA State Dept of Commerce for Eviction Prevention Services
- 2021-287: Ratifying Agreement w/Tri-Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for Eviction Rent Assistance Program
- 2021-288: Ratifying Agreement w/Safe Harbor Crisis Nursery for Expansion of Shelter Beds for Youths
- 2021-289: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0132-101, Dept. 000
- 2021-290: Lease Agreement w/Ricoh for Three Copiers for Corrections Department
- 2021-291: Amended Public Defense Investigation Contract w/GT Investigations
- 2021-292: Amended Public Defense Investigation Contract w/Columbia Private Investigation
- 2021-293: Amended Public Defense Investigation Contract w/Premier Investigation
- 2021-294: Compensating Attorney Luis Cisneros for Training Services
- 2021-295: Approving Construction Plans for a Portion of Orchard View Subdivision & Setting Speed Limit
- 2021-296: Agreement w/National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance to Register as a Member
- 2021-297: Contract w/Wave Design Group for Architectural & Engineering Services for the Redesign of the Front Entrance of the Justice Center
- 2021-298: Purchasing Sign Materials from Traffic Safety Supply Company for Public Works
- 2021-299: Accepting Work Performed by Banlin Construction for the Finance Dept. Tenant Improvement & Restroom Project
- 2021-300: Contract w/Mid-Columbia Forklift for Training & Employee Certification
- 2021-301: Adoption of Ordinance 634 Relating to Zoning and Rural Lands Twenty Acre District - RI-20 - and Growth Management Act Agricultural District – GMAAD
- 2021-302: Designation of the Tri Cities Development Council - TRIDEC as Benton County's Associate Development Organization for the 2021-2023 Biennium

2021-303: Proclaiming April 2021 as National County Government Month in Benton County

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:34 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman