

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting
Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA
Tuesday, August 24, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

Meeting provided in-person, by Video Live-Broadcast and Telephonically

Present: Chairman Jerome Delvin
Commissioner Shon Small
Commissioner Will McKay
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; Alex Garcia, IT; Darryl Banks, Juvenile Administrator; Jeff Jones, Facilities Manager; Clerk Josie Delvin; Michelle Cooke, Assistant Planning Manager; Greg Wendt, Community Development Director; Robert Blain, Operations & Capital Programs; Treasurer Ken Spencer; Superior Court Judge Cameron Mitchell.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of August 17, 2021 were approved.

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 17, 2021 were approved.

Agenda Review

Mr. MacPherson added the following discussion item:

- Juvenile Healthcare Contract

Consent Agenda

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

Commissioners

- a. Line Item Transfer, Current Expense Fund 0000-101, Dept. 139

- b. Coding Correction – Capital Projects Fund 0305101 to Current Expense 0000-101, Dept. 139
- c. Line Item Transfer, Current Expense Fund 0000-101, Dept. 139 (Prior Period Adjustment)

Information Technology

- d. Purchase of Device Licensing from CompuNet, Inc. – New Admin Building

Public Safety Tax

- e. Line Item Transfer, Public Safety Tax, 0148101, Dept. 121
- f. Line Item Transfer, Public Safety Tax, 0148101, Dept. 121

Public Comment

None.

Juvenile - Discussion on Program Agreement - Detention Alternatives Initiative

Darryl Banks, along with Superior Court Judge Cameron Mitchell, discussed the Detention Alternatives Initiative grant. Mr. Banks said they started participating in the program in 2007, partly due to an overcrowding issue. He said it had transitioned to legislative dollars of \$25,000 per year and required some reporting and training.

The Board discussed some of the material offered by Cultures Connecting Group as part of the racial and ethnic disparities training. Additionally, that employees should not be required to participate in this training.

Commissioner McKay expressed concern about the sources of material being offered by this group and said he was opposed to the critical race theory material. He said Mr. Banks might have staff that needed training, but he was not in favor of some of the material being offered.

Judge Mitchell said it was his understanding that if they accepted the grant, it did not mean they had to accept the training, but the training was separate. Additionally, if they declined the grant, it did not mean they could not complete the training if they wanted.

The Board said it was in favor of the grant, but not mandatory training and that training should be optional.

Judge Mitchell said he would discuss the matter with the other judges and find out what Franklin County was willing to do.

Facilities - Authorization to Pay River City Environmental for Grease Trap Cleaning

Jeff Jones presented a Resolution authorizing to pay River City Environmental an overage in the amount of \$9,253.50 for grease trap pumping and cleaning at the Jail. The service was originally expected to take one day however, an additional day and special equipment were needed to complete the job to City of Kennewick standards. The additional overage amount was originally \$14,779.24 but negotiated down to \$9,253.50. Mr. Jones said they would be on a new maintenance schedule to be completed every six months.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to approve the Resolution authorizing the additional payment to River City Environmental, Inc. for the grease trap pumping & cleaning at the Benton County Justice Center. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Planning Division - Private Road Petition – PR 2021-001

Michelle Cooke, Planning, presented the application by Aaron and LeAnn Anderson requesting to rename a private access easement located off S. Clodfelter Road. Notice was sent to all affected agencies and comments received from Public Works, GIS, and SECOMM. Based upon the information received, the Planning Department recommended approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to approve Private Road Petition PR 2021-001 to change the private road name of 422 PR SE to Bastian PR SE with the condition that Mr. & Mrs. Anderson have thirty (30) days to pay the required sign fee for the construction and placement of the private road sign(s) to the Benton County Public Works Department. If the fee is not paid within thirty (30) days of approval from the Benton County Commissioners, it will be declared null and void. Written proof that the fee has been paid must be provided to the Planning Department. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Capital – Kennewick General Hospital Building Evaluation Findings

Robert Blain and Mike Corbin of Wave Design Group, along with his team, presented the findings of the Kennewick General Hospital Building evaluation and briefly discussed the following:

- Architectural Assessment
 - Building Façade
 - Building Roof
 - Interior finishes
 - ADA Compliance
- Structural Assessment
 - Foundations
 - Building frames
 - Water damage
 - Recommendations
- Mechanical Assessment
 - HVAC Components
 - Maintenance Costs
 - Service Water
- Electrical assessment
 - Lighting and receptables
 - Utility Service
 - Emergency Back-up power
 - Electrical Power Distribution Equipment
- Estimated costs – could be phased construction and use of the building
 - ADA replacement - \$1,000 per door

- Restrooms - \$25,000 per restroom
- Investigation of water intrusion - \$20,000. They could not give an estimate of the cost of repair until the investigation report was complete
- Structural repairs – minimal - \$10,000 for fire proofing
- Mechanical - \$1.4 million – complete like-for-like replacement - end of life (not necessarily needed to be the same high level as a hospital, but this was “worst case scenario”)
- Electrical – replacement of outdated - \$50,000

The Board discussed next steps, as it was determined the building was structurally sound. Chairman Delvin recommended the Board move forward with hiring an architectural firm to re-design and/or retrofit the existing building to make it usable for the intended use. The Board agreed.

Other Business

Juvenile Healthcare Contract - Update

Darryl Banks said the Health District had been providing medical services for Juvenile Detention. However, they were informed their insurance company was no longer going to cover this service so they provided notice the service would terminate on August 31.

Alternatives were researched, and Ideal Options was able to provide the needed healthcare services. Mr. Banks said he was waiting for a final proposal, however, they were told it would be similar to what they were currently paying. Additionally, Ideal Options indicated they could start on September 1. Mr. Banks indicated that as soon as the proposal was received, he would get the contract reviewed and signed by the PA’s office to present to both Benton and Franklin Counties.

Mr. MacPherson recommended the contract have two separate signature pages so Mr. Banks could get approval by both counties on the same date and that he would work with Keith Johnson at Franklin County to facilitate the process.

Scout Energy Project

Commissioner McKay said he had met with the Planning Department, Scout Energy, and Karl Dye at TRIDEC regarding this project and they had another meeting scheduled in September. He said that if EFSEC approved the project, they were trying to develop other ideas for the project that might be better for the community and he would update the Board as their discussions moved forward.

Ben-Franklin Transit

The Board discussed the last-minute decision by Ben-Franklin Transit to cancel fair transportation. Additionally, the Board discussed the .01 sales tax issue and questions and concerns about their budget, specifically the investment/capital fund, and CARES/ARPA funds.

Commissioner McKay expressed his desire to sit on that Board and Commissioner Small said he was willing to relinquish his appointment. The Board agreed to discuss that further at the next board meeting.

Tort Claim

CC 2021-25: Received from Carrie Runge on August 20, 2021

Payroll

Check Date: 08/16/2021

Payroll Draw Checks

Total all funds: \$115,220.76

Warrant #: 243299

Direct Deposit #: 164616-164766

Payroll Draw Deductions/Transfers

Total all funds: \$21,423.82

Taxes #: 101210812

Accounts Payable

Check Date: 08/20/2021

Warrants #: 220540-220677

Total all funds: \$3,137,350.54

EFT's #: 1897-1900

Transfers #: 08202101-08202105

Total all funds: \$450,310.66

Resolutions

2021-639: Line Item Transfer, Current Expense Fund 0000-101, Dept. 139

2021-640: Coding Correction – Capital Projects Fund 0305101 to Current Expense 0000-101, Dept. 139

2021-641: Line Item Transfer, Current Expense Fund 0000-101, Dept. 139 (Prior Period Adjustment)

2021-642: Purchase of Device Licensing from CompuNet, Inc. – New Admin Building

2021-643: Line Item Transfer, Public Safety Tax, 0148101, Dept. 121

2021-644: Line Item Transfer, Public Safety Tax, 0148101, Dept. 121

2021-645: Authorizing an Additional Payment to River City Environmental Inc. for Grease Trap Pumping and Cleaning Project

2021-646: Naming Private Road - Applicant Aaron and Leann Anderson, PR 2021-001 from 422 PR SE to Bastian PR SE

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:16 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman