

WEEKLY REVIEW

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
November 9, 2021



This document is a weekly review of the Board of County Commissioners meeting, Tuesday, November 9, 2021. Information related to agenda changes, Consent Agenda, and Public Comment are on the [County website](#).

Public Hearing

Adopting Legislation to Authorize Sales & Use Tax Ordinance for Chemical Dependency, Mental Health Treatment Services and/or Therapeutic Courts – Matt Rasmussen, Deputy County Administrator

This ordinance provides for the collection of a 0.1% sales and use tax on qualifying taxable events in Benton County, with the resulting revenue pledged to the delivery of chemical dependency and mental health treatment services, and/or the operation of therapeutic courts, all as authorized by [RCW 82.14.460](#). The ordinance also authorizes the creation of a special revenue fund into which the revenue collected pursuant to the ordinance will be placed. The resolution that accompanies the ordinance establishes the fund and specifies that it will be identified as the Behavioral Health Fund (0160101). **The Board moved and seconded to adopt the resolution and ordinance to implement the sales and use tax for chemical dependency and mental health treatment services and therapeutic courts, to be collected beginning July 1, 2022, and authorizes the creation of the Behavioral Health Fund. Motion carried.**

Scheduled Business

Change Order No. 6 w/ V K Powell Construction for Courthouse Upgrades Project – Robert Blain, Director of Operations & Capital Programs

On September 1, 2020 the Board approved Resolution 2020-600 and executed a contract with V K Powell Construction, LLC for the Courthouse Upgrades project in the amount of \$1,435,000.00 plus WSST. The Board previously approved Change Order Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 for a reduction of \$486,125.00 plus WSST, bringing the total contract amount to \$948,875.00. The following changes need to be made to the contract, constituting Change Order No. 6: 1) Removing the remaining terrazzo work from the project scope. The contractor has not been able to match the existing historic terrazzo to be able to complete the needed repairs. The cost of this change is a deduction of \$15,645.00 plus WSST; and 2) Removing the remaining electrical work from the project scope which includes the installation of the chandelier on the first floor. The cost of this change is a deduction of \$2,723.00 plus WSST. These changes are combined into Change Order No. 6 with a total deduction of \$18,368.00 plus WSST bringing the total contract amount to \$930,507.00. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the Chairman to sign Change Order No. 6 with V K Powell Construction, LLC for the Courthouse Upgrades project, decreasing the contract by \$18,368.00 plus WSST for a new contract amount not to exceed \$930,507.00 plus WSST. Motion carried.**

2022 Benton County Legislative Agenda – Shyanne Palmus, Communications Coordinator

Benton County's 2022 Legislative Agenda outlines and articulates the primary policies, projects, and programs that the County will emphasize during the upcoming 2022 Washington State legislative session and throughout the year. This document represents the County's top legislative priorities, and was compiled with input from managers, administration, and our consultants from Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs. A meeting with local legislators, including those recently elected, is scheduled for November 22, 2021 to discuss these priorities and begin dialogue with legislators about the upcoming session. This year will look different in Olympia, as COVID-19 restrictions continue to impact our state and the nation. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the resolution adopting the 2022 Benton County Legislative Agenda as presented. Motion carried.**

State Governmental Affairs Consulting Agreement w/ Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs – Shyanne Palmus, Communications Coordinator

Benton County has contracted with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs to provide the County with Washington State governmental affairs and lobbying services since 2017. Benton County staff believes it is in the best interest of the County to maintain its contract with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs to provide continuing governmental affairs and lobbying consultant services in 2022, as detailed in the included Scope of Work. This contract begins January 1, 2022 and terminates on December 31, 2022, unless amended by the parties. This consulting agreement is for a total amount not to exceed \$51,000, to be billed to the County monthly in the amount of \$4,166.66, with a total annual amount not to exceed \$1,000 for additional expenses including, but not limited to, communication and travel. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the Consulting Agreement between Benton County and Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs for 2022 governmental affairs services as presented. Motion carried.**

Federal Governmental Affairs Consulting Agreement w/ Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs – Shyanne Palmus, Communications Coordinator

Staff is presenting, for the Board’s consideration, a continuing contract with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Government Affairs (GTH) for the 2022 calendar year for federal lobbying services (Washington DC). Staff believes it is in the best interest of the County to maintain its contract with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs to provide continuing federal governmental affairs and lobbying consultant services in 2022, as detailed in the included Scope of Work. This contract begins January 1, 2022 and terminates on December 31, 2022 unless amended by the parties. This consulting agreement is for a total amount not to exceed \$72,000, to be billed to the County monthly in the amount of \$6,000, to be paid from the Capital budget. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the Consulting Agreement between Benton County and Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs for 2022 federal governmental affairs services as presented. Motion carried.**

Other Business

Contract w/ Gram Northwest, LLC for Cultural Resource Survey at Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility – Robert Blain, Director of Operations & Capital Assets

Resolution 2020-275 authorized the design of a new shooting range at Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility. During the SEPA Review/Permitting process, a Cultural Resource Survey was requested on the proposed site of the new shooting range at Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility. Benton County entered into an agreement with Gram Northwest, LLC to perform the Cultural Resource Survey via Resolution 2021-422. Gram Northwest, LLC completed the work as detailed in the contract, but the requesting agency wasn't satisfied with the survey results and requested additional work to be performed. Gram Northwest, LLC put together a proposal for the additional work requested. A Service Contract has been prepared, reviewed, and approved as to form by our departmental deputy prosecuting attorney and signed by Gram Northwest, LLC. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the contract with Gram Northwest, LLC as presented. Motion carried.**

Cancelation of December Meeting - Commissioners

The Board canceled the December 28, 2021 regular meeting, immediately following the Christmas holiday.

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