

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting
Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA
Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

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

Present: Chairman Shon Small
Commissioner Will McKay
Commissioner Jerome Delvin
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; Robert Heard, IT Manager; DPA Ryan Brown; Clerk Josie Delvin; Treasurer Ken Spencer, Kirsten Yniguez, Deputy Treasurer.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of January 4, 2022 were approved.

Agenda Review

The following discussion was added to Other Business:

- Approving Administrative Leave - Inclement Weather

Consent Agenda

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

Human Resources

- a. 2022 Bi-County General Increase of Wages for Juvenile Justice & Superior Court
- b. 2022 General Increase of Wages for Non-Bargaining, Managers and Administrators

Human Services

- c. First Amended Agreement w/Elijah Family Homes for the Five-Year Homeless Housing Plan

Juvenile

- d. Contract w/Tri-Cities Chaplaincy for Chaplain Services
- e. Interagency Agreement w/WA State Administrative Office of the Courts for Interpreter Funding

Office of Public Defense

- f. Superior Court Public Defense Agreement w/Angel Betancourt for “Blake” Case Vacations & Resentencing

Public Works

- g. Interlocal Agreement w/City of Kennewick for Road Maintenance in Dove Ridge Subdivision
- h. Interlocal Agreement w/City of Kennewick for Road Maintenance in Highland Vineyards Phase 1 & Phase 2 Subdivision

Purchasing

- i. Purchase of Bulk Diesel Fuel From Christensen, Inc.
- j. Contract w/Superior Tree Service for Tree Trimming @ the Fairgrounds & Prosser Courthouse
- k. Accepting Work Performed by Apollo Mechanical Contractors for Jail Boiler Replacement Project
- l. Contract w/CP Mechanical for the Replacement of Jail Condensing Units
- m. Contract w/Knutzen Consulting Engineering for Engineering & Design Services for New Red Mountain Radio Tower Site Access Road

Risk Management

- n. Appointing PayneWest Insurance as the Broker/Agent of Record for Insurance Policies and/or Bonds

Superior Court

- o. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 123

Public Comment

None.

Request to Waive Service Time for OPD Employee

Lexi Wingfield via/WebEx presented a resolution requesting to waive service time to allow use of vacation for an OPD employee that had previously worked for the County for over two years and left for less than nine months.

MOTION: Commissioner McKay moved to approve the Resolution allowing Luis Cisneros to utilize annual leave prior to the completion of six months due to his previous service with the County. Commissioner Delvin seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Resolution Opposing Imposition of Local Income Tax

Commissioner McKay presented a resolution prohibiting a local income tax showing Benton County’s support to oppose a local income tax.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the resolution in support of prohibiting a local income tax in Benton County. Commissioner McKay seconded.

Discussion

Commissioner Delvin said the voters have been clear and the constitution was clear on this issue, so the timing was good to restate this.

Commissioner McKay said he was impressed with Benton County's conservativeness and baffled at the State's implementation of tax increases that were forced on local jurisdictions.

Upon vote, the motion carried.

Other Business

Resolution Approving Administrative Leave for Inclement Weather Conditions

Matt Rasmussen presented a resolution ratifying the Board's decision to delay the start of shift by two hours on the morning of January 6, 2022 due to inclement weather conditions and pay Administrative Pay. The Resolution outlined the employees that were eligible to receive the Administrative Pay.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Resolution approving Administrative Leave for Employees Impacted by Inclement Weather Conditions on January 6, 2022 as presented. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Legislature - SB 5514

Commissioner Delvin said he testified on SB 5514 about allowing counties to hold monthly meetings outside the county seat. He said it was now on the Executive Calendar for Thursday.

Crisis Recovery Center

Commissioner Delvin said they received a list of excluded and included services from Lifepoint and Kyle Sullivan was reviewing the list. He said it was pretty exhaustive and currently prohibited the County from doing what it needed to do. If it was unacceptable, they might have to look at another option for a building or location. He said he would keep the Board updated.

Vaccine/Masking Requirements

Commissioner McKay expressed his frustration about the masking and vaccine requirements for schools and hoped the rules changed and it could be voluntary.

Executive Session – Pending Litigation

The Board went into executive session at 9:19 a.m. for up to 15 minutes with DPA Ryan Brown to discuss pending litigation. Also present were Jerrod MacPherson, Matt Rasmussen, and Cami McKenzie.

The Board came out at 9:34 a.m. No decisions were made in executive session.

Commissioner Delvin recommended the County meet with the Sheriff's Office to review the lawsuits that were pending from assisting other jurisdictions. The Board requested Admin to meet with DPA Brown and the Sheriff's office to discuss the mutual aid agreements and indemnification clauses.

Tort Claim

CC 2022-01: Received January 11, 2022 from Adrian Ponce-Velasco

Payroll

Check Date: 01/05/2022

Payroll Checks

Total all funds: \$2,444,352.29

Warrant #: 243453-243484

Direct Deposit #: 167762-168350

Payroll Draw Deductions/Transfers

Total all funds: \$2,194,459.15

Taxes #: 101220101-101220113

ACH #: 2100-2106

Payroll Deduction Warrants

Total all funds: \$117,352.68

Warrant #: 226171-226180

Accounts Payable

Check Date: 01/07/2022

Warrants #: 226181

Total all funds: \$26,593.31

Warrants #: 226182

Total all funds: \$931.04

Check Date: 01/10/2022

P-Cards #: 0122

Total all funds: \$333,921.44

Resolutions

- 2022-032: 2022 Bi-County General Increase of Wages for Juvenile Justice & Superior Court
- 2022-033: 2022 General Increase of Wages for Non-Bargaining, Managers and Administrators
- 2022-034: First Amended Agreement w/Elijah Family Homes for the Five-Year Homeless Housing Plan
- 2022-035: Contract w/Tri-Cities Chaplaincy for Chaplain Services
- 2022-036: Interagency Agreement w/WA State Administrative Office of the Courts for Interpreter Funding
- 2022-037: Superior Court Public Defense Agreement w/Angel Betancourt for “Blake” Case Vacations & Resentencing
- 2022-038: Interlocal Agreement w/City of Kennewick for Road Maintenance in Dove Ridge Subdivision
- 2022-039: Interlocal Agreement w/City of Kennewick for Road Maintenance in Highland Vineyards Phase 1 & Phase 2 Subdivision
- 2022-040: Purchase of Bulk Diesel Fuel From Christensen, Inc.
- 2022-041: Contract w/Superior Tree Service for Tree Trimming @ the Fairgrounds & Prosser Courthouse
- 2022-042: Accepting Work Performed by Apollo Mechanical Contractors for Jail Boiler Replacement Project
- 2022-043: Contract w/CP Mechanical for the Replacement of Jail Condensing Units
- 2022-044: Contract w/Knutzen Consulting Engineering for Engineering & Design Services for New Red Mountain Radio Tower Site Access Road
- 2022-045: Appointing PayneWest Insurance as the Broker/Agent of Record for Insurance Policies and/or Bonds
- 2022-046: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 123
- 2022-047: Allowing Luis Cisneros to Utilize Annual Leave Prior to Completion of Six Months Due to his Previous Service with the County
- 2022-048: Opposing a Local Income Tax on Wages, Salaries, Investments, the Sale of Goods or Services, or Any Other Income Source
- 2022-049: Approving Administrative Leave for Employees Impacted by Inclement Weather Conditions on January 6, 2022

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:36 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman