

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting
Quarterly Board Meeting Outside County Seat
Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Benton County Administration Building
7122 W Okanogan Place, Building E, Room 303
Kennewick WA

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

Present: Chairman Shon Small
Commissioner Will McKay
Commissioner Jerome Delvin
Deputy County Administrator Matt Rasmussen
Clerk of the Board Cami McKenzie

Absent: County Administrator Jerrod MacPherson

Benton County Employees Present During All or a Portion of the Meeting: Robert Heard, IT Manager; Facilities Manager Jeff Jones; Juan Manzo, Facilities/Parks; Matt Mahoney, Public Works Operations Manager; Greg Wendt, Community Development Director; Robert Blain, Operations & Capital Programs; Lorene Roe, Deputy Auditor; Benda Chilton, Auditor; Finance Manager Linda Ivey; Doug D'Hondt, County Engineer; Adam Fyall, Sustainable Development Manager; Clerk Josie Delvin; Treasurer Ken Spencer; Lt. Jason Erickson.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of February 15, 2022 were approved.

The Bi-County Minutes of February 23, 2022 were approved.

Agenda Review

The Chairman announced they would change the order of the agenda to allow a member of the public to speak about masking mandates under "Public Comment", after the first item on Scheduled Business.

The following items were added to Other Business:

- Support Letter for Port of Benton
- WA Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs – Traffic Safety Grant
- Opposing Imports of Crude Oil from Russia

Consent Agenda

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

Animal Control

- a. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 137 for Canine Officer 1 Hourly Rate Change

Commissioners

- b. Setting Dates for Budget Hearings for 2023-2024 Biennium Benton County Budgets
- c. Surplus and Disposition of Real Property; Parcel ID# 1-1997-402-0002-016
- d. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 115 to 106 for Blake ecision Expenses
- e. Adoption of ER&R Fund Vehicle Rates/Assessments for Departments
- f. Establishing Advisory Committee for Behavioral Health Needs

Human Services

- g. First Amended Agreement w/Entrust Community Services for Employment Services
- h. First Amended Contract w/Debra Chapman for Transition Specialist Services
- i. Second Amended Agreement w/Sharon Adolphsen for Parent Coalition Services
- j. First Amended Agreement w/Children’s Developmental Center for Children Services
- k. First Amended Agreement w/ARC of Tri-Cities for Employment Services
- l. First Amended Agreement w/Responding to Autism Services for Employment Services
- m. Agreement w/Columbia Cottages for Partial Purchase of Property Funding

IT

- n. Purchase of Two PowerEdge Servers From Dell Inc. for the Assessor’s Office
- o. Purchase of One Laptop From Dell Inc. for Superior Court Administration
- p. Purchase of One Cisco WebEx Room Kit Mini From Golden Gates Networks for Juvenile Justice
- q. Purchase of One Laptop From Dell, Inc. for Sheriff’s Detective Division
- r. Purchase of One Laptop From Dell, Inc. for Risk Management
- s. Purchase of Two PCs, Four Monitors & Two Laptops From Dell for Human Services
- t. Agreement w/City of Richland for Digital Orthophotography Services

Juvenile

- u. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0115-101, Dept. 172 for Amplifier & Antenna System Installation

Prosecuting Attorney

- v. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 117 for Overtime

Public Safety

- w. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0148-101, Dept. 115 for Red Mt. Radio Tower Road Access Project

Purchasing

- x. Award of Purchase of Carpet Tile & Cove Base to Benjamin's Carpet One for Facilities Dept.
- y. Contract for On-Call Plumbing Maintenance & Repair Services to Mr. Rooter Plumbing
- z. Purchase of Herbicides From Wilbur-Ellis Company
- aa. Purchase of Sign Materials From Traffic Safety Supply Company

Establishing Advisory Committee for Behavioral Health Needs

Chairman Small commented they had a special bi-county meeting on this issue and were moving as fast as they could to assist those most in need, and this resolution was part of that process.

Auditor's Office Reorganization

Brenda Chilton presented a reorganization for her office. She said she worked with Admin and HR and they wanted to downsize their organization to create more efficiencies. She said in lieu of filling a position, they wanted to reclassify two positions and reallocate remaining programs to those positions that were under the Special Programs Coordinator.

Mr. Rasmussen said it looked like an overall budget reduction and they would be bringing a proposal back to the Board regarding that savings.

MOTION: Commissioner McKay moved to approve the Line Item Transfer, Current Expense, Dept. 102 in the amount of \$68,350.00 as presented for the reorganization in the Auditor's Office. Commissioner Delvin seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Public Comment

COVID Research Study Masking Update

Audra Richter, Science Teacher for Richland School District, presented her findings and observations regarding Governor Inslee's press conference and required metrics to lift the masking requirements. Her findings indicated the metrics were projected to be met on March 1. She wanted to ask the Governor if he was prepared to lift the indoor mask mandate effective immediately, with this information.

She added that masks affected children, as seen in schools and with her own children. Additionally, she knew there were genuine concerns in the community and wanted to acknowledge those concerns, but let the public know they could breathe easy.

Commissioner Delvin talked about his experience with the Secretary of State and State Health Doctor and they were relying on UW for their modeling and they ended up resigning. However, Ms. Richter rightly pointed out they were using one set of data for one thing and another set of data for another. He said the State needed to be pushed and he recommended she send her information to the Governor.

Commissioners McKay said he was currently also concerned that suicide rates were up and strongly encouraged everyone to rethink this; and that he wanted to push it to the Governor.

Shelley Burt, via/WebEx, said she appreciated the speaker's comments and hoped to get the mask mandate lifted.

Rural County Capital Fund Disbursement Agreement w/City of Benton City for Ninth Street Project

Adam Fyall commented that the extension of the Rural County Capital Fund (.09 money) was moving through the Legislature and was looking good to be extended to 2054. Mr. Fyall then presented the agreement with the City of Benton City for the Ninth Street Project. It was originally recommended for funding in 2019 but was delayed due to approval of matching funds.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the disbursement agreement with the City of Benton City for the Ninth Street Project as presented. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Agreement w/Tri-City Development Council for Economic Development Services

Adam Fyall presented the annual agreement with TRIDEC in the amount of \$92,000.00 for economic development to be paid from the Rural County Capital Fund.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Agreement with TRIDEC as presented. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Benton County Parks Department Briefing

Adam Fyall gave a Powerpoint presentation on the Benton County Parks and discussed the following:

- History - First park (Columbia Park); Oldest park (Two Rivers Park); Newest Park (Candy Mountain Preserve)
- Park Board and Park Staff
- 10 Parks – Badger Mountain Preserve; Candy Mountain Preserve; Horn Rapids Park; Horse Heaven Vista; Horse Heaven Cemetery; Hover Park; Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Range; Two Rivers Park; Vista Park; Wallula Gap Reserve
- Partners – Friends of Badger Mountain; Miniature Aircraft Association; Native Plant Society; Purple Sage Riders; Rattlesnake Ridge Riders; Tapteal Greenway; Tri-Cities Shooting Association
- Operating budget and Park Development Fund
- Projects
 - Hover Park - Parking/Kiosk
 - Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility - Law enforcement training facility
 - Silhouette Range at Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility
 - Two Rivers - Nature trail boardwalk and replacement of original restroom

- Security cameras/Wi-Fi at several parks
- Candy Mountain - Paving of PR 669
- Summit Viewscape Sign Project
- New comprehensive parks plan – current applications due on Thursday
- Conveyance of land proposals – moving slowly

Other Business

Support Letter for Port of Benton

Adam Fyall presented a letter to the Economic Development Administration in support of the Port of Benton’s application for Phase 2 Washington Maritime Blue Support.

Miles Thomas, Director of Economic Development for Port of Benton, via/WebEx, discussed the project and said they were awarded Phase 1, and now were applying for Phase 2 for the Advanced Energy Innovation and Commercialization Center (a 40,000 square foot facility providing demonstration, training, and jobs for innovative clean energy technologies in Washington state). Port Executive Director Diahann Howard was also present via/WebEx.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the support letter for the Port of Benton as presented. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Traffic Safety Grant

Lt. Jason Erickson presented a resolution to ratify the submittal of the grant application for funding under the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs traffic safety grant application for FY2022 in the amount of \$7,196.15 including WSST. The deadline for applying for the grant was last Friday, so the Sheriff’s office submitted the grant with approval of Admin and were requesting the Board ratify that grant application. The grant would purchase 15 Field Sobriety Tests to be used during normal traffic enforcement.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to authorize the Benton County Sheriff’s Office to apply for funding under the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs traffic safety grant application for FY2022 in the amount of \$7,196.15 including W.S.S.T. and shipping to enhance traffic safety. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Resolution Opposing Imports of Russian Crude Oil

Commissioner McKay requested the Board approve a resolution opposing imports of Russian crude oil into Washington State. If signed, the resolution would be sent to State Representatives and Senators to put pressure on the government to stop the imports.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve resolution opposing imports of Crude Oil and Refine Crude Oil Products from Russia into Washington State as presented. Chairman Small seconded and upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

.09 Money

Commissioner Delvin pointed out this was sales tax revenue collected in Benton County that Benton County was getting back and that it was not collected elsewhere.

Monthly Meeting Outside the County Seat

Commissioner Delvin said they were still working out the details on this issue in the Legislature but were on track with both this and the .09 money.

NACO Western Region Conference

Commissioner Delvin said the next conference would be held in Anchorage and he might want to attend. The Board indicated it did not have a problem with that.

DOE – Environmental Cleanup

Commissioner Delvin said he had a meeting with Ike White, DOE, and Hanford Communities. He said he was very optimistic on the PILT issue being resolved again.

Naming the Coroner Building

Chairman Small discussed Floyd Johnson's years with Benton County Sheriff's Office and the Coroner's office and requested the Board move toward naming the Coroner Building after him. The Board agreed to look at a proposal.

Payroll

Check Date: 02/05/2022

Payroll Checks

Total all funds: \$113,862.34

Warrant #: 243535-243538

Direct Deposit #: 169088-169233

Payroll Draw Deductions/Transfers

Total all funds: \$21,058.75

Taxes #: 101220214

Accounts Payable

Check Date: 02/18/2022

Warrants #: 227832-228273

Total all funds: \$2,180,475.83

EFT's #: 2155-2158
Transfers #: 02182201-02182212
Total all funds: \$264,241.03

Check Date: 02/25/2022

Warrants #: 228383-228728
Total all funds: \$804,096.55

EFT's #: 2159-2182
Transfers #: 02252201-02252207
Total all funds: \$265,603.46

Resolutions

- 2022-142: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 137 for Canine Officer I
- 2022-143: Setting Dates for Budget Hearings for 2023-2024 Biennium Benton County Budgets
- 2022-144: Surplus and Disposition of Real Property; Parcel ID# 1-1997-402-0002-016
- 2022-145: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 115 to 106 for Blake Decision Expenses
- 2022-146: Adoption of ER&R Fund Vehicle Rates/Assessments for Departments
- 2022-147: Establishing Advisory Committee for Behavioral Health Needs
- 2022-148: First Amended Agreement w/Entrust Community Services for Employment Services
- 2022-149: First Amended Contract w/Debra Chapman for Transition Specialist Services
- 2022-150: Second Amended Agreement w/Sharon Adolphsen for Parent Coalition Services
- 2022-151: First Amended Agreement w/Children's Developmental Center for Children Services
- 2022-152: First Amended Agreement w/ARC of Tri-Cities for Employment Services
- 2022-153: First Amended Agreement w/Responding to Autism Services for Employment Services
- 2022-154: Agreement w/Columbia Cottages for Partial Purchase of Property Funding
- 2022-155: Purchase of Two PowerEdge Servers From Dell Inc. for the Assessor's Office
- 2022-156: Purchase of One Laptop From Dell Inc. for Superior Court Administration
- 2022-157: Purchase of One Cisco WebEx Room Kit Mini From Golden Gates Networks for Juvenile Justice
- 2022-158: Purchase of One Laptop From Dell, Inc. for Sheriff's Detective Division
- 2022-159: Purchase of One Laptop From Dell, Inc. for Risk Management
- 2022-160: Purchase of Two PCs, Four Monitors & Two Laptops From Dell for Human Services
- 2022-161: Agreement w/City of Richland for Digital Orthophotography Services
- 2022-162: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0115-101, Dept. 172 for Amplifier & Antenna System Installation
- 2022-163: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 117 for Overtime

- 2022-164: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0148-101, Dept. 115 for Red Mt. Radio Tower Road Access Project
- 2022-165: Award of Purchase of Carpet Tile & Cove Base to Benjamin's Carpet One for Facilities Dept.
- 2022-166: Contract for On-Call Plumbing Maintenance & Repair Services to Mr. Rooter Plumbing
- 2022-167: Purchase of Herbicides From Wilbur-Ellis Company
- 2022-168: Purchase of Sign Materials From Traffic Safety Supply Company
- 2022-169: Transfer of Funds – Current Expense Fund 0000-101, Dept. 102
- 2022-170: Rural County Capital Fund – Disbursement Agreement with the City of Benton City – Ninth Street Project
- 2022-171: Service Agreement for Economic Development Services with Tri City Development Council – TRIDEC
- 2022-172: Authorization for the Benton County Sheriff's Office to Submit an Application for the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs Traffic Safety Grant Application for FY2022
- 2022-173: Opposing Imports of Crude Oil and Refined Crude Oil Products from Russia into Washington State

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman