

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting
Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA
Tuesday, March 29, 2022, 9:00 a.m.
Meeting provided in-person, by Video Live-Broadcast and Telephonically via/WebEx

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; Robert Blain, Operations & Capital Programs; Cristina Woods, Public Works; Clerk Josie Delvin; Undersheriff Jon Law via/WebEx; Matt Mahoney, Public Works; Jackie Mayfield, Public Works.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of March 22, 2022 were approved.

Agenda Review

The following item was added to Other Business:

- Hill International Contract/Construction Manager Position Request

Consent Agenda

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

Auditor

- a. Surplus & Disposition of Personal Property ~ Corrections Weapons

Commissioners

- b. Notification to the Governor’s Committee on Disability Issues & Employment of Appointed Members of the Benton County Accessible Community Advisory Committee

- c. Amending the Benton County Accessible Community Advisory Committee; Rescinding Resolutions 2017-109, 2018-545, 2019-588, 2020-259, 2021-054, 2021-352 & 2021-896

Human Resources

- d. Agreement w/Fraternal Order of Police, Representing the Corrections Lieutenants

Human Services

- e. Contract w/Tanya Logston for the Community Prevention Coordinator Services
- f. First Amended Contract w/Columbia Industries for Employment Services
- g. Agreement w/Washington State Department of Commerce for Eviction Rent Assistance Program
- h. Amendment A to Agreement w/WA State Dept of Commerce for Shelter Program Grant
- i. Amendment B to Contract w/WA State Dept of Commerce for Consolidated Homeless Grant

Information Technology

- j. Purchase of a 12-Month Graykey Mobile Device Forensic Software License From Grayshift for the Sheriff's Office
- k. Purchase of HP Printer from Southern Computer Warehouse for the Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- l. Purchase of Two Cisco Meraki Wireless Access Points from CompuNet for Juvenile Justice

Purchasing

- m. First Amended Contract w/Superior Tree Service for Tree Trimming Services at the Fairgrounds & Prosser Courthouse
- n. Contract w/Safe Boats International for Refurbishment Repairs & Services on the 23' TT Hull #1165 for the Sheriff's Office
- o. Contract w/Budget Blinds for Window Roller Shades at the Courthouse & Administration Building
- p. Agreement w/Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson for Collection Services
- q. Contract w/EnviroTech Services for Furnishing Magnesium Chloride Used by Public Works

Risk Management

- r. Authorization and Release of Claims for Benton Fire Protection District #2 and Enduris

Public Comment

None.

Public Hearings – Franchise Applications

Cristina Woods, Public Works requested the Board allow her to combine the two public hearings. The Board agreed.

Zayo Group LLC Franchise / Wholesail Networks, LLC Franchise

Ms. Woods stated that Benton County received the following applications:

- Franchise order and agreement for a fiber optic telecommunications facility from Zayo Group, LLC
- Franchise order and agreement for a telecommunications network from Wholesale Networks, LLC

She said that Benton County Public Works recommended approval subject to the six items listed in the report to the Commissioners as follows:

1. The term of the franchise shall be for a ten (10) year period.
2. The Grantee shall carry liability insurance with Benton County named as an insured with a minimum limit of \$1,000,000.00. A copy of the proof of insurance is to be provided to Benton County.
3. Placement of facilities within the right of way shall meet all requirements of Benton County as to location and repair of roads and right of way.
4. Should Benton County require utility relocation work because of road reconstruction, maintenance, or any other reason, said work shall be at the Grantee's expense.
5. The franchise will be nonexclusive.
6. The Grantee will sign the Order and Agreement for Nonexclusive Franchise, which will be prepared based upon the requirements set forth at the public hearing.

As there was no one present to testify, public testimony was closed.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Franchise Order and Agreement with Zayo Group, LLC, subject to the six items listed in the report to the Commissioners. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Franchise Order and Agreement with Wholesail Networks, LLC subject to the six items listed in the report to the Commissioners. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Setting Salaries for Elected Officials for Years 2025 and 2026

Matt Rasmussen said that every other year the Board looked ahead for the next four years at setting salaries for elected officials so there were no changes during the current term of any elected official. He said they were proposing a 2.25% increase for 2025 and 2026 and if the Board agreed, would finalize at a later date in April.

There was a discussion regarding the salaries all being the same, except for the PA and judges, and in the past the Sheriff's salary was higher. However, the Board changed that once the jail was removed from the responsibility of the Sheriff. Commissioner Small discussed recognizing the added responsibility and liability to the Sheriff with the limited commissions in the jail. Commissioner McKay said he didn't see why the Commissioners' salaries matched the other elected officials, because he did not see it as a full-time job versus the other positions. Chairman Small said the Commissioner positions could be as much or as little as a Commissioner wanted. Commissioner Delvin said the responsibilities of the Commissioners should be considered as well.

Mr. Rasmussen said the salaries for Commissioners varied widely county by county, with some being \$15,000 per year. He said what was currently in place encouraged a wide spectrum of potential applicants to run for office.

Mr. Rasmussen said he would take a look at restoring some of the Sheriff's salary, taking into consideration the limited commission liability and also would reach out to various elected officials to get their input. He said it would need to be set before May and so would bring it back in a couple of weeks for the Board's review.

Other Business

Hill International Contract

Robert Blain presented a proposal on what a construction manager position would look like compared to having that responsibility as part of the Hill International contract. He discussed the position having a duration of four years.

Commissioner Delvin said the hybrid position made sense (signing the Hill International contract and hiring a county employee for the construction management portion). Commissioner McKay agreed that bringing on an employee was a better idea versus a contract so they had better access to the employee and that projects would go smoother having someone in-house. He said it made sense to advertise and find someone with a degree and experience.

Chairman Small said he did not see it as being a cost savings but was in favor of going forward.

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:34 a.m.

Executive Session – Evaluate Qualifications of Applicant for Public Employment

The Board went into executive session at 9:34 a.m. for up to 10 minutes with Undersheriff Jon Law via/WebEx to evaluate qualifications of an applicant for public employment. Also present were Jerrod MacPherson, Matt Rasmussen, and Cami McKenzie.

The Board came out at 9:37 a.m. No decisions were made in executive session.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the salary request form as presented for Brandon DeMyer. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Other Business – Continued

Lifepoint Discussion

Mr. Rasmussen said they were expecting a response this week and if everyone was agreeable, they would be signing a "term sheet", which was a precursor to a purchase and sale agreement.

Accounts Payable

Check Date: 03/25/2022

Warrants #: 229695-229916
Total all funds: \$1,519,317.84

EFT's #: 2200-2224
Transfers #: 03252201-03252205
Total all funds: \$784,292.89

Resolutions

- 2022-222: Surplus & Disposition of Personal Property ~ Corrections Weapons
- 2022-223: Notification to the Governor's Committee on Disability Issues & Employment of Appointed Members of the Benton County Accessible Community Advisory Committee
- 2022-224: Amending the Benton County Accessible Community Advisory Committee; Rescinding Resolutions 2017-109, 2018-545, 2019-588, 2020-259, 2021-054, 2021-352 & 2021-896
- 2022-225: Agreement w/Fraternal Order of Police, Representing the Corrections Lieutenants
- 2022-226: Contract w/Tanya Logston for the Community Prevention Coordinator Services
- 2022-227: First Amended Contract w/Columbia Industries for Employment Services
- 2022-228: Agreement w/Washington State Department of Commerce for Eviction Rent Assistance Program
- 2022-229: Amendment A to Agreement w/WA State Dept of Commerce for Shelter Program Grant
- 2022-230: Amendment B to Contract w/WA State Dept of Commerce for Consolidated Homeless Grant
- 2022-231: Purchase of a 12-Month Graykey Mobile Devise Forensic Software License From Grayshift for the Sheriff's Office
- 2022-232: Purchase of HP Printer from Southern Computer Warehouse for the Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- 2022-233: Purchase of Two Cisco Meraki Wireless Access Points from CompuNet for Juvenile Justice
- 2022-234: First Amended Contract w/Superior Tree Service for Tree Trimming Services at the Fairgrounds & Prosser Courthouse
- 2022-235: Contract w/Safe Boats International for Refurbishment Repairs & Services on the 23' TT Hull #1165 for the Sheriff's Office
- 2022-236: Contract w/Budget Blinds for Window Roller Shades at the Courthouse & Administration Building
- 2022-237: Agreement w/Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson for Collection Services
- 2022-238: Contract w/EnviroTech Services for Furnishing Magnesium Chloride Used by Public Works
- 2022-239: Authorization and Release of Claims for Benton Fire Protection District #2 and Enduris

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:38 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman