

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting

Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA

Tuesday, June 28, 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; Cristina Woods and Matt Mahoney, Public Works; Finance Manager Linda Ivey; DPA Ryan Brown; DPA Reid Hay; Shyanne Palmus, Communications Coordinator; Adam Fyall, Sustainable Development; Auditor Brenda Chilton; Clerk Josie Delvin; Cody Shelton, IT.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of June 14, 2022 were approved.

Consent Agenda

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

Auditor

- a. Surplus and Disposition of Personal Property

Commissioners

- b. Agreement w/Zencity Technologies US, Inc. for Community Engagement Software

District Court

- c. Contract w/Bertha Ramon-Arteaga for Interpreter Services

Human Resources

- d. Agreement w/Teamsters Local Union No. 839, Representing Corrections Officers

Human Services

- e. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0154-101, Dept. 000

Information Technology

- f. One-Year Subscription Renewal from CompuNet, Inc. for WebEx Archiving

Juvenile

- g. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0115-101, Dept. 171
- h. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0115-101, Dept. 173
- i. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0115-101, Dept. 174
- j. Contract w/JRT Mechanical, Inc. for Replacement of the Cooling Tower

Office of Public Defense

- k. Superior Court Public Defense Services Agreement w/Thomas Atwood for UGA Cases
- l. Superior Court Public Defense Services Agreement w/Ian Sinclair for UGA Cases
- m. Superior Court Public Defense Agreement w/Megan Whitmire for Staff Coverage
- n. Interlocal Agreement w/Franklin County for Additional Public Defense Services

Public Works

- o. Badger Mountain Irrigation District Franchise for Domestic & Irrigation Water Transmission

Purchasing

- p. Purchase Agreement w/Safco Products Company for Chairs for Corrections Dept.
- q. Amendment No. 1 to Contract w/WA State Health Care Authority for Opioid Treatment Network @ the Jail
- r. Amendment No. 2 to Contract w/WA State Health Care Authority for Same Day Visit & Transportation Program for Corrections Dept.
- s. First Amendment to Contract w/Envirotech Services for Magnesium Chloride
- t. Contract w/JRT Mechanical for the Jail Water Heater Replacement Project

Sustainable Development

- u. Disbursement to the City of Benton City for the Ninth Street Project From the Rural County Capital Fund

Public Comment

None.

Public Hearing - Northwest Open Access Network Franchise Renewal

Cristina Woods presented the franchise renewal from Northwest Open Access Network for a fiber optic telecommunications and communications system and facilities in Benton County Road right of ways. The Public Works Department recommended approval as presented.

The Board asked if they were requesting a specific area and Mr. Mahoney said most of the franchise was to provide fiber optic telecommunications to the rural areas, which is why they were asking for the whole unincorporated areas and not specific areas. Some will be underground and some overhead, but the goal was to get it out to rural areas.

There was no fiscal impact, other than the applicant would pay the franchise application fee.

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

MOTION: Commissioner McKay moved to approve the Franchise Order and Agreement and Northwest Open Access Network (NOANET), a State of Washington non-profit mutual corporation as presented. Commissioner Delvin seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Benton City Revitalization Organization Presentation

Alex Weber, Chair, Jeff Von Schmauder, Vice Chair, and Sara Funk, Secretary-Treasurer gave an update on the Benton City Revitalization Organization and briefly discussed the following:

- Mission – revitalizing, beautifying
- Information Kiosk at Boat Launch
- Benton City Rails to Trails Project
- Grant proposal of \$2 million by Dan Newhouse to acquire train bridge and turn into pedestrian bridge
- Project Highlights

Contract with Rogers Surveying, Inc.

Matt Rasmussen said that part of the agreement related to purchasing the old KGH building was that TRIOS would retain ownership of the warehouse building requiring a subdivision of the land by a licensed surveyor. Since time was of the essence, the County was allowed to select from the MRSC consultant roster and chose Rogers Surveying as they had recently completed a survey of the same parcel within the last six months.

MOTION: Commissioner McKay moved to approve the Board of Benton County Commissioners sign the Personal Services Contract with Rogers Surveying, Inc. for subdivision of the land known as the old KGH Hospital in the amount of \$29,677.50 excluding WSST. Commissioner Delvin seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Public Safety Sales Tax Requests

Linda Ivey, Shyanne Palmus, and Matt Rasmussen presented the Public Safety Sales Tax Requests and made the following recommendations:

Internal Requests

- \$1,671,272.01 requested; \$654,692.36 recommended (50% more than originally recommended at \$400,000)
- Clerk - Upgrade 3 positions from Grade 4 to Grade 6 - \$ 25,000.00
- Coroner Forensic Pathologist Position – not recommended at this time; will work with them to develop the idea
- OPD - Paid Rule Nine Internship Program (2 Positions) - \$ 73,680.00
- PA - Victim Witness Coordinator, Counseling, Supplies/Training/Technology – partial at \$36,176.00 for technology and portion of supplies
- Sheriff - Six (6) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Drones – not recommended
- Sheriff - SWAT Vehicle Vault Boxes – not recommended
- Sheriff - Crime Scene Evidence Vehicle – not recommended

- Sheriff/Corrections - Jail Detective Position - \$ 275,007.36
- Sheriff - Forensic Software Programs – Revised at \$8,500.00 – 3 are already paid for out of PST
- Sheriff - Training – not recommended
- Superior Court - 3 FTE Bailiff Positions - \$180,752.00 – Benton County’s portion – this is a Bi-County operation, and the Superior Court Team will need to facilitate with Franklin County
- Therapeutic Courts - Misdemeanor Drug Court - \$ 55,577.00

Chairman Small said he wanted to make sure the PA’s office was able to receive whatever it needed for the requested counseling. Mr. Rasmussen said he would review that issue. Commissioner McKay asked about the Coroner and Sheriff’s requests, and it was stated there were other funding ideas and a significant amount of grant funding.

External Requests

- \$3,407,233.00 requested; \$2,392,480.00 recommended
- \$1 million more than allocated – all will go through the contracting this year, start January 1, 2023, and will be based on a reimbursement basis
- Boys & Girls Club - Kennewick Clubhouse - \$ 525,000.00
- Boys & Girls Club - Prosser Clubhouse - \$250,000.00
- Communities in Schools - Site Coordinators – not recommended
- Kiona-Benton City School District - Crime Prevention Program - \$89,000.00
- Benton Franklin Health District - Nurse Family Partnership - \$550,000.00
- Partners for Early Learning Building Resilience Through Family Support - \$375,216.00
- Safe Harbor Support Center - My Friends Place - \$430,000.00
- SARC - Engagement Specialist - \$173,264.00
- United Way - Middle School Mentoring Program – not recommended

Commissioner Delvin said if there was extra, he would like to see the Benton-Franklin Health District fully funded. Commissioner Small said he would not want to see an increase to the Health District. Commissioner McKay said he agreed with the external recommendations and asked if the Health District could tap into other funds.

Ms. Ivey said with the upcoming budget review, these recommendations would be in the “requested” column and when the Board adopted the budget in November, they would be adopted at that point. Additionally, she said they needed to keep some fund balance for cash flow and some until the tax passed, as well as keeping some for transition if it did not pass.

MOTION: Commissioner McKay move to approve the funding recommendations as presented and give staff direction to proceed with the budget process and/or contract process for the approved requests. Commissioner Delvin seconded.

Discussion

Chairman Small said he was really looking at counseling assistance in the PA's office and wanted to find funding for that. Mr. Rasmussen said the amount for counseling was \$40,000 and he would work with the PA's office to see what could be done.

Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:51 a.m.

Executive Session – Potential and Pending Litigation

The Board went into executive session with DPA Reid Hay at 9:52 a.m. for up to 20 minutes to discuss potential and pending litigation. Also present were Jerrod MacPherson, Matt Rasmussen, Cami McKenzie, Ryan Brown, and Brenda Chilton.

The Board came out at 10:13 a.m. and stated no decisions were made in executive session.

The Board went back into executive session at 10:13 a.m. for up to 15 minutes to discuss potential litigation with DPA Ryan Brown. The Board came out at 10:26 a.m. and stated no action was taken.

Tort Claim

CC 2022-13: Received June 30, 2022 from Edward Sandoval

Payroll

Check Date: 06/15/2022

Payroll Checks

Total all funds: \$109,952.87

Warrant #: 243685-243687

Direct Deposit #: 172026-172164

Payroll Draw Deductions/Transfers

Total all funds: \$20,263.91

Taxes #: 101220613

Accounts Payable

Check Date: 06/17/2022

Warrants #: 232926-233336

Total all funds: \$1,981,822.81

EFT's #: 2330-2334
Transfers #: 06172201-06172207
Total all funds: \$458,422.17

Check Date: 06/23/2022

Warrants #: 233463
Total all funds: \$5,000.00

Check Date: 06/24/2022

Warrants #: 233464-233647
Total all funds: \$791,412.39

EFT's #: 2335-2361
Transfers #: 06242201-06242204
Total all funds: \$175,863.48

Resolutions

- 2022-418: Surplus and Disposition of Personal Property
- 2022-419: Agreement w/Zencity Technologies US, Inc. for Community Engagement Software
- 2022-420: Contract w/Bertha Ramon-Arteaga for Interpreter Services
- 2022-421: Agreement w/Teamsters Local Union No. 839, Representing Corrections Officers
- 2022-422: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0154-101, Dept. 000
- 2022-423: One-Year Subscription Renewal from CompuNet, Inc. for WebEx Archiving
- 2022-424: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0115-101, Dept. 171
- 2022-425: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0115-101, Dept. 173
- 2022-426: Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0115-101, Dept. 174
- 2022-427: Contract w/JRT Mechanical, Inc. for Replacement of the Cooling Tower
- 2022-428: Superior Court Public Defense Agreement w/Thomas Atwood for UGA Cases
- 2022-429: Superior Court Public Defense Services Agreement w/Ian Sinclair for UGA Cases
- 2022-430: Superior Court Public Defense Agreement w/Megan Whitmire for Staff Coverage
- 2022-431: Interlocal Agreement w/Franklin County for Additional Public Defense Services
- 2022-432: Badger Mountain Irrigation District Franchise for Domestic & Irrigation Water Transmission
- 2022-433: Purchase Agreement w/Safco Products Company for Chairs for Corrections Dept.
- 2022-434: Amendment No. 1 to Contract w/WA State Health Care Authority for Opioid Treatment Network @ the Jail
- 2022-435: Amendment No. 2 to Contract w/WA State Health Care Authority for Same Day Visit & Transportation Program for Corrections Dept.
- 2022-436: First Amendment to Contract w/Envirotech Services for Magnesium Chloride
- 2022-437: Contract w/JRT Mechanical for the Jail Water Heater Replacement Project
- 2022-438: Disbursement to the City of Benton City for the Ninth Street Project From the Rural County Capital Fund
- 2022-439: Granting a Franchise to Northwest Open Access Network

2022-440: Personal Services Contract with Rogers Surveying Inc.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:26 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman