

WEEKLY REVIEW



BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 13, 2022

This document is a weekly review of the Board of County Commissioners meeting, Tuesday, December 13, 2022. Information related to agenda changes, Consent Agenda, and Public Comment are on the [County website](#).

Scheduled Business

Setting the 2022 Salary for Exempt Employee in Prosecutor's Office – Carlee Nave, HR Manager

In 2016, Washington voters approved Initiative 1433 which, among other things such as mandating paid sick leave, raised the state's minimum wage to \$13.50 by January 1, 2020 after which time the minimum wage would be calculated based on increases to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). In order for an employee to be exempt from the minimum wage and overtime, in accordance with the federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and RCW 49.46 (formerly the Washington Minimum Wage Act), employees must meet both a salary and job duties test for the exemption to be applied. In both salary and job duties, the Washington state tests are more stringent than the federal tests. During a review of current salaries, it was discovered that one position on the current non-bargaining salary schedule did not meet the salary threshold for 2022 as outlined in WAC 296-128-545 and per RCW 49.46.010(3)(c). The County must correct the salary of this position to be in compliance with state law. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.**

MOU w/ Benton Franklin Recovery Coalition for Ongoing Support – Matt Rasmussen, Deputy County Administrator & Michele Gerber, Ph.D, President of Benton Franklin Recovery Coalition

The Benton Franklin Recovery Coalition (BFRC) has been at the forefront of the movement in our region to establish a recovery center and has been instrumental in helping the County secure grant funding now being allocated towards the project. BFRC desires to provide on-going support of the recovery center and substantially related programs. They desire a more formal arrangement with the County to provide their supporters with some guarantee of what their contributions will be dedicated towards. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been prepared accordingly. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Benton Franklin Recovery Coalition and Benton County. Motion carried.**

Other Business

Discussion on Recovery Center Request for Proposals – Matt Rasmussen, Deputy County Administrator

The County issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) from behavioral health service providers to develop and operate the Recovery Center to serve Benton and Franklin Counties and surrounding areas. This RFP was issued November 1, 2022 and closed December 9, 2022 at 3 PM. The County received one (1) submission, and staff requested direction from the Board on how to proceed. The Benton Franklin Behavioral Health Advisory Committee also discussed this issue at their last regular meeting (December 8, 2022) and recommended that the RFP be reissued to amend language, allowing services to be provided separately. **The Board gave staff direction to prepare a resolution to be brought forth at the December 20, 2022 meeting for further discussion.**

Contract Amendment w/ PPC Solutions, Inc. – Matt Rasmussen, Deputy County Administrator

The Board approved a contract with PPC Solutions, Inc. (Phoenix Security) per Resolution 2022-773 for nightly security patrols at the former Kennewick General Hospital (KGH). With increased vandalism and theft happening at the KGH site, the need for more frequent security patrols has arisen. As revised, the contractor will provide six (6) patrol checks per night (between 9 PM and 6 AM). **The Board moved and seconded to approve the contract amendment with PPC Solutions, Inc. for increased security patrols at the former KGH site as presented. Motion carried.**

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