

# WEEKLY REVIEW

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 9, 2022



This document is a weekly review of the Board of County Commissioners meeting, Tuesday, August 9, 2022. Information related to agenda changes, Consent Agenda, and Public Comment are on the [County website](#).

## Scheduled Business

### *Amended Contract w/ Aramark Correctional Services, LLC for Jail Food Services – Chief Guerrero, Corrections*

Per Resolution 2021-717 dated September 28, 2021, the Board entered an Institutional Food Service Contract with Aramark Correctional Services, LLC, with a term expiring December 31, 2022. The First Amendment to the Contract is necessary as both parties wish to extend the current Contract to December 31, 2023. Aramark Correctional Services, LLC has also requested a food service price adjustment due to the unprecedented inflation in food cost, supplier transportation, and labor rates. Aramark has requested a 10.79% price per meal increase for the period of August 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022, and a 4.0% price per meal increase for the period of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the First Contract Amendment between Benton County and Aramark Correctional Services, LLC. Motion carried.**

### *Line-Item Transfer for Accounting Assistant Trainee (Clerk's Office) – Josie Delvin, County Clerk*

The Clerk requested a line-item transfer to utilize funds for training an employee in their new position before the outgoing employee moves to their other position within the office. Funds for this training are currently available in the existing salary line items but will need to be transferred to be utilized as requested. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the resolution to create a training line item for the 2021-2022 budget cycle. Motion carried.**

### *Superior Court Staffing Requests – Superior Court Judge Joe Burrowes & Linda Ivey, Finance Manager*

In August 2021, the Board approved a Court Commissioner position for hearing *Blake* decision cases. The current Superior Court judges are handling these cases, and staff is requesting a line-item transfer to allow the judges' wages to be allocated to the *Blake* decision portion of the budget. Expenses related to the *Blake* decision are reimbursed by the State. To-date, no reimbursements have been charged by Superior Court to the available *Blake* funding. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the line-item transfer in Current Expense, Department 123 to allocate budget for the *Blake* decision from a Court Commissioner line item to a Superior Court Judges line item and to approve the line-item transfer in Current Expense, Department 123 to Department 138 and create a part-time Superior Court Commissioner position. Motions carried.**

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant was received in May 2021 and allows for hiring additional court staff to increase speed of case resolution due to the backlog of cases that accrued during the COVID-19 pandemic. A line-item transfer is proposed to utilize funds currently allocated as Professional Services to fund additional Court Commissioner positions to address the backlog of criminal cases that have not been resolved. The positions are intended to be temporary, through 2023-2024. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the line-item transfer in Current Expense Department 129 for Superior Court Commissioner positions. Motion carried.**

### *Continued Public Safety Tax Discussion – Shyanne Palmus, Communications Coordinator*

On August 2, 2022, the Board discussion an additional Request for Proposals (RFP) being opened for Public Safety Sales Tax funding. Prior applicants that didn't receive full funding or any funding do not need to reapply to be considered for funding in this round, as all proposals received in the original RFP process will automatically be included for consideration. The proposed schedule going forward would be to open the RFP today (August 9, 2022) and close it on Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at 5 PM. **The Board gave staff direction to proceed as presented.**

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