



Minutes – Board of County Commissioners

Regular Board Meeting
Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA
Tuesday, October 3, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Meeting provided in-person, by Video Live-Broadcast and Telephonically via/WebEx

Present: Chairman Will McKay
Commissioner Jerome Delvin
Commissioner Michael Alvarez

Deputy County Administrator Matt Rasmussen
Clerk of the Board Amanda Pearson

Absent: County Administrator Jerrod MacPherson (excused)

Benton County Employees Present During All or a Portion of the Meeting: Robert Heard, IT Manager; Tim Brown, IT; Carlee Nave, HR Manager; Public Works Manager Matt Mahoney; Clerk Josie Delvin; Treasurer Ken Spencer; Human Services Manager, Kyle Sullivan; Cristina Woods, Public Works; Steve Caughey, Risk Management

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of September 26, 2023 were approved.

Public Comment

In Kennewick via/WebEx, a resident from Finley spoke about concerns regarding Benton County Code Enforcement relating to unmarked vehicles and recording on private property.

Consent Agenda

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

Auditor

- a. Accounts Payable ~ Check Posting List for 09/22/2023
- b. Accounts Payable ~ Check Posting List for 09/25/2023

Commissioners

- c. Surplus and Disposition of Personal Property; Rescinding Resolution 2023-640

d. Appointment of Andrew Wirkkala to the Mid-Columbia Libraries Board
Office of Public Defense

e. District Court Public Defense Service Agreement w/Dawn Hickman

Public Works

f. Coding Correction Within the Benton County Road Fund 1010

g. Line-Item Transfer, Fund No. 1010, Dept. No. 500 for Salaries & Benefits

Purchasing

h. Accepting Work Performed by Construction Ahead, Inc. for 2021 Crack Seal Project

i. Purchase Agreement w/Brutzmans Furniture for Office Furniture for the Administration
Tenant Improvement Project

Treasurer

j. Second Contract Amendment with The Master's Touch LLC for Preparation of
Property Tax Statements

Workforce Development

k. Contract w/Career Path Services for Youth Services

l. Contract w/Career Path Services for Adult Services

m. Contract w/Career Path Services for Dislocated Worker Services

Public Hearing – Kennewick Irrigation District Franchise Renewal

Cristina Woods explained that Benton County received an application for a Franchise Order and Agreement for an irrigation distribution system and all facilities from the Kennewick Irrigation District.

In accordance with RCW 36.55.040 and RCW 36.55.050, a public hearing must be held to allow public comment to the proposed franchise agreement prior to the final determination of the Board of County Commissioners. After the public hearing, the Board may, upon its finding that the franchise agreement is in the best interest of the County, enter said agreement by resolution. The public hearing was advertised in the newspaper of record on September 20th and September 27th, 2023, in accordance with RCW 36.55.040, and a public hearing was held on October 3rd, 2023, in accordance with RCW 36.55.050.

Commissioner Delvin had questions regarding the \$1,000,000 liability insurance.
Commissioner McKay inquired about how often this agreement gets renewed.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Franchise Order and Agreement with the Kennewick Irrigation District as presented. Commissioner Alvarez seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

National Disability Employment Awareness Proclamation

Human Services Manager, Kyle Sullivan, shared that October 2023 marks the 78th anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The purpose of National Disability Employment Awareness Month is to educate disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of American workers with disabilities.

The Proclamation was read out loud and observes October as Disability Employment Awareness Month. Anthony Contreras-Sanchez, a manager with WISE, Washington Initiative for Supported Employment, was also present.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Proclamation recognizing October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Commissioner Alvarez seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Work Crew Program w/City of Kennewick

Corrections Department Chief Guerrero presented on the work crew program. He indicated that work crews provide an effective, alternative to incarceration, punishment option for offenders convicted of minor crimes. Alternatives to incarceration are cost effective, help reduce jail populations, provide benefit to the community, and reduce recidivism. The courts concur the sentencing of offenders to work crew is an effective punishment, and the implementation of a work crew concept in Benton County has proven to be in the best interest of the taxpayers of Benton County and presented the following for Board consideration:

- Interlocal Agreement
 - The City of Kennewick wishes to enter into an agreement with Benton County for the provision of a work crew program as an alternative option to incarceration for offenders convicted of minor crimes.
- Line-Item Transfer, Fund No. 0010, Dept. 115 to 120, for the start of Work Crew #1.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Interlocal agreement with the City of Kennewick for the provision of a work crew program, as well as the Line-item Transfer in the amount of \$167,890 from General Fund, Dept. 115-Non-Departmental to Department 120-Corrections for the start of Work Crew #1. Commissioner Alvarez seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Grant Application with Department of Commerce for Law Enforcement Pursuit Technology

Lieutenant Clark and Katie Gillies via WebEx presented on a grant opportunity from the Department of Commerce seeking applications from law enforcement agencies as defined in RCW 10.116.010(1), or consortium of law enforcement agencies that are interested in a project to provide law enforcement with modern vehicle pursuit management technology, including, but not limited to, global positioning system tracking equipment, automated license plate reading technology, aircraft, and nonarmed and nonarmored drone technology.

The Benton County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) received grant funding in FY2022 and FY2023 in collaboration with the City of Kennewick from the Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority to purchase and install 10 Flock Falcon Automatic License Plate Readers throughout the County. To maintain the Flock ALPR program, there is an annual subscription fee of \$30,000 that is currently unfunded in the Benton County Sheriff's Office budget. The Benton County Sheriff's Office currently utilizes both nonarmored and nonarmed drone technology for apprehension and identification of fleeing suspects. The Sheriff's Office needs upgraded drones due to advancing technology. The cost associated with the necessary drones and required vehicle storage equipment is \$60,000.

The Benton County Sheriff's Office is also looking to advance pursuit technology by purchasing Clearview software to assist in the identification of suspects in criminal investigations. The

approximate cost of this software ranges from \$7,500 to \$10,000 to include necessary computer equipment to operate the software efficiently.

Commissioner Delvin expressed some concern regarding this application indicating that it was his thought that using some of the equipment from the grant would constitute a violation of a person's 4th Amendment rights; but would support the grant application at this time.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Grant Application with the Department of Commerce for Law Enforcement Pursuit Technology as presented. Commissioner Alvarez seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Other Business

Miscellaneous

Matt Rasmussen shared that a Special meeting will be held on October 5th to share a presentation on the Public Safety Sales Tax.

Tort Claim

CC 2023-18: Received on 10/3/2023 from Sherry Elizabeth

Accounts Payable

Check Date: 9/22/2023

Warrants #: 249487-249578
Total all funds: \$2,170,189.60

EFT's #: 606-610
Transfers #: 1161-1165, 1168-1169, 1172-1179, 1182-1183, 1185-1188, 1189-1193
Total all funds: \$46,735.95

Check Date: 9/25/2023

Warrants: #249579
Total of all Funds: \$75.00

Resolutions

2023-669	Surplus and Disposition of Personal Property; Rescinding Resolution 2023-640
2023-670	Appointment of Andrew Wirkkala to the Mid-Columbia Libraries Board
2023-671	District Court Public Defense Service Agreement w/Dawn Hickman
2023-672	Coding Correction Within the Benton County Road Fund 1010
2023-673	Line-Item Transfer, Fund No. 1010, Dept. No. 500 for Salaries & Benefits
2023-674	Accepting Work Performed by Construction Ahead, Inc. for 2021 Crack Seal Project
2023-675	Purchase Agreement w/Brutzmans Furniture for Office Furniture for the Administration Tenant Improvement Project
2023-676	Second Contract Amendment w/The Master's Touch LLC for Preparation of Property Tax Statements

- 2023-677 Contract w/Career Path Services for Adult Services
- 2023-678 Contract w/Career Path Services for Youth Services
- 2023-679 Contract w/Career Path Services for Dislocated Worker Services
- 2023-680 Granting a Franchise to the Kennewick Irrigation District to Place an Irrigation Water Distribution System and all Facilities in County Road Rights of Way
- 2023-681 Service Agreement Between Benton County and the City of Kennewick for the Provision of a Work Crew Program
- 2023-682 Authorizing the Benton County Sheriff's Office to Submit an Application for the Department of Commerce Law Enforcement Pursuit Technology Grant Program Application for FY2023
- 2023-683 Proclamation; Recognizing October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month
- 2023-684 Transfer of Funds within Current Expense Fund Number 0010, Department Number 115 to 120

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:25 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman