



## Minutes – Board of County Commissioners

Regular Board Meeting  
Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA  
Tuesday, January 30, 2024, 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  
County Administrator Jerrod MacPherson  
Clerk of the Board Amanda Pearson

**Benton County Employees Present During All or a Portion of the Meeting:** Deputy County Administrator, Matt Rasmussen; Information Technologies Manager, Robert Heard; Human Resources Manager, Carlee Nave; Community Development Director, Greg Wendt; Sustainable Development Manager, Adam Fyall; Public Works Manager, Matt Mahoney; Clerk, Josie Delvin; Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Ryan Brown; Treasurer, Ken Spencer; Chief Deputy Treasurer, Kirsten Yniguez; Auditor, Brenda Chilton; Security Program Director, Steve Caughey; Information Systems Analyst III, Tim Brown

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes of January 23, 2024 were approved.

### **Review Agenda**

None.

### **Public Comment**

Rommy, from Kennewick, made a comment via WebEx, to inform the Commissioners of concerns regarding the ClearView AI facial recognition system and the potential for misidentification and racial bias.

Jim Atkins, from Prosser, had questions via WebEx, regarding Winco purchases of \$10,000 and requested acronyms such as, BFCOG and ARPA be spelled out. He also asked that titles be added to signature lines.

## **Consent Agenda**

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

### **Auditor**

- a. Accounts Payable ~ Check Posting List for 01/19/2024
- b. Accounts Payable ~ Check Posting List for 01/22/2024

### **Commissioners**

- c. Request for Proposals for Behavioral Health Field Responder Team

### **Corrections**

- d. Contract with ARC Services, LLC for Defensive Tactics Training

### **Fairgrounds**

- e. Contract with Unruh Management and Consulting, LLC for Providing Alcohol Services

### **Information Technology**

- f. Statement of Work with Journal Technologies, Inc. for eProsecutor Software for Prosecuting Attorney’s Office
- g. Copier Lease Agreement with Ricoh USA, Inc. for the Sheriff’s Office
- h. Purchase of One Laptop, Dock Station and Two Monitors from Dell, Inc. for Human Services
- i. Approving 1-year OnBase Maintenance Invoice to Renew OnBase Support Services Including TruFiling Subscription Costs for Clerk’s Office and District Court from i3-ImageSoft, LLC

### **Public Works**

- j. Line-Item Transfer, Fund No. 1010, Dept. No. 500 for Interfund Professional Services

### **Purchasing**

- k. Ratifying Change Order Proposal No. 4 to Hummel Construction and Development Contract for Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility Training Center Project

### **Sheriff**

- l. Extension of Contract with Department of Energy for Law Enforcement Services
- m. Authorization for the Advertisement and Bid Process for New Jet Boat – CB 24-06

### **Sustainable Development**

- n. Amending the Urban Area in North Richland for Property Tax Exemptions

### **Treasurer**

- o. Cancellation of Uncollectible Personal Property Taxes

## **Scheduled Business**

### **2024 Benton County Legislative Agenda**

#### **Adam Fyall**

In recent years, Benton County has taken to adopting an official “Legislative Agenda”, which is a specific shortlist of goals and priorities that we hope to see advanced during a given year’s legislative session. This can include requests for state funding, policy and law changes, addition or modification of programs, and so-called “fixes” to existing laws. We use this Legislative Agenda to share our priorities with legislators, partner agencies, our lobbyists, and the public. Staff and elected officials have developed the 2024 Legislative Agenda over the past several months, and draft versions of it have already been shared with District 8, 15, and 16 legislators, as well as our County lobbyist, Gordan Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs. Staff will briefly present the 2024 Legislative Agenda as drafted, then sought commissioner adoption by resolution.

Commissioner discussion regarding items presented on the update.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Alvarez moved to approve the 2024 Benton County Legislative Agenda. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried as presented.

**Benton-Franklin Council of Governments Semi-Annual ARPA Report to the Board**

Adam Fyall and Zach Ratkai

Zach Ratkai, Local Government Programs Director for the Benton-Franklin Council of Governments, gave an update on economic resiliency activities related to their American Rescue Plan Act contracts with Benton and Franklin counties.

As required in the MOA, the BFCOG must provide semi-annual updates to each County in June and December. Because the agreement was signed in May 2023, a single December report is provided for 2023. Semi-annual reporting will begin in 2024.

**Grant Funding with Washington State Park and Recreation Commission for the Federal Financial Assistance Grant and Boating Safety Programs**

Commander Mathew Clarke

The Benton County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) submitted the grant application for the Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission (WSPRC) 2024 Federal Financial Assistance Grant Program for the Recreational Boating Safety Program. The BCSO received a Letter of Award for FY2024 stating the WSPRC is awarding the BCSO the Recreational Boating Safety Federal Financial Assistance Grant in the amount of \$11,825.57.

This is the first year that WSPRC issued a formal contract between the Federal Financial Assistance Grant (at the Federal level) and Benton County Sheriff's Office as a Subrecipient. A different Intergovernmental Agreement will be issued to outline the relationship between the State Parks and BCSO for this same grant.

WSPRC is requiring Benton County to sign the attached Subrecipient Grant agreement first. They will return a fully executed copy to us for our records.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Alvarez moved to approve Grant Funding with Washington State Park and Recreation Commission for the Federal Financial Assistance Grant and Boating Safety Programs. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried as presented.

**Washington State Office of Public Defense Grant for Simple Possession Advocacy and Representation Program (SPAR)**

Charlie Dow

WA State Office of Public Defense provides a grant to cities and counties in Washington for the cost of providing defense counsel consultation and representation for defendants facing charges or charged with simple possession or public use offenses under RCW 69.50.4011(1)(b) or (c), RCW 69.50.4013, RCW 69.50.4014 or RCW 69.41.030(1), or under local ordinances involving allegations of possession or public use of a controlled substance, counterfeit substance, or legend drugs.

After having applied, Benton County OPD has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$191,500. A Grant Agreement, in the form attached to the proposed Resolution, needs to be signed for the grant funds to be disbursed.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Alvarez moved to approve Washington State Office of Public Defense Grant for Simple Possession Advocacy and Representation Program (SPAR). Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried as presented.

**Line-Item Transfer in Treasurer’s Office for Prosser Office Supervisor  
Ken Spencer**

To improve efficiencies and enhance operations within the Prosser Treasurer’s Office, the County Treasurer is requesting a Line-item transfer for a Prosser Office Supervisor. This is a non-bargaining, non-exempt position and is a current classification and grade. The request is budget neutral and would take effect February 1, 2024.

- Position 51505 – will not be filled for 6 months. Wages and benefits during that time will be transferred to this line in the amounts indicated below.  
Wages – \$30,921  
Social Security – \$2,365  
Paid Family Leave – \$67  
Retirement – \$3,927  
Medical Insurance – \$6,800
- 2025-2026 – the Treasurer’s office is working on a reorganization in conjunction with the current salary study.

The intent is to eliminate one current Full-Time Employee (FTE) in the reorganization and reduce the Supplies and Misc. Bank Fees line items to offset the difference.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Alvarez moved to approve a Line-Item Transfer in the Treasurer’s Office for Prosser Office Supervisor. Commissioner McKay seconded and upon vote, the motion carried as presented.

**Other Business**

Commissioner discussion relating to concerns about the use of the ClearView AI facial recognition technology in the Sheriff’s Office.

Commissioner Delvin also shared that he provided legislative testimony relating to county business.

**Executive Session –4th Quarter 2023 Litigation Update**

The Board went into executive session at 9:54 a.m. for up to 20 minutes with Ryan Brown. Also present were Jerrod MacPherson, Matt Rasmussen, and Amanda Pearson.

The Board came out at 10:15 a.m. No decisions were made in executive session.

**Accounts Payable**

Check Date: 1/19/2024

Warrants #: 252887-253065  
Total of all funds: \$1,159,052.13

EFT #: 770  
Transfers #: 1488, 1490, 1496-1500  
Total of all funds: \$48,163.90

Check Date: 01/22/2024

Warrants #: 253066  
Total all funds: \$5,500.00

**Resolutions**

- 2024-0075 Request for Proposals for Behavioral Health Field Responder Team
- 2024-0076 Contract with ARC Services, LLC for Defensive Tactics Training
- 2024-0077 Contract with Unruh Management and Consulting, LLC for Providing Alcohol Services
- 2024-0078 Statement of Work with Journal Technologies, Inc. for eProsecutor Software for Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- 2024-0079 Copier Lease Agreement with Ricoh USA, Inc. for the Sheriff's Office
- 2024-0080 Purchase of One Laptop, Dock Station and Two Monitors from Dell, Inc. for Human Services
- 2024-0081 Approving 1-year OnBase Maintenance Invoice to Renew OnBase Support Services Including TruFiling Subscription Costs for Clerk's Office and District Court from i3-ImageSoft, LLC
- 2024-0082 Line-Item Transfer, Fund No. 1010, Dept. No. 500 for Interfund Professional Services
- 2024-0083 Ratifying Change Order Proposal No. 4 to Hummel Construction and Development Contract for Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility Training Center Project
- 2024-0084 Extension of Contract with Department of Energy for Law Enforcement Services
- 2024-0085 Authorization for the Advertisement and Bid Process for New Jet Boat – CB 24-06
- 2024-0086 Amending the Urban Area in North Richland for Property Tax Exemptions
- 2024-0087 Cancellation of Uncollectible Personal Property Taxes
- 2024-0088 2024 Benton County Legislative Agenda
- 2024-0089 Grant Funding with Washington State Park and Recreation Commission for the Federal Financial Assistance Grant and Boating Safety Programs
- 2024-0090 WA State Office of Public Defense Grant for Simple Possession Advocacy and Representation Program
- 2024-0091 Line-Item Transfer in Treasure's Office for Prosser Office Supervisor

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:15 a.m.

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Clerk of the Board

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Chairman