



Minutes – Board of County Commissioners

Special Board Meeting
Benton County Administration Building
Commissioners' Hearing Room, Kennewick, WA
Wednesday, March 28, 2024, 3:30 PM
Meeting provided in-person, by Video Live-Broadcast and Telephonically via/WebEx

Present: Chairman Jerome Delvin
Commissioner Michael Alvarez
Commissioner Will McKay
County Administrator Jerrod MacPherson
Deputy County Administrator Matt Rasmussen
Clerk of the Board Amanda Pearson

Benton County Employees Present During All or a Portion of the Meeting: Information Technology Supervisor, Cody Shelton; Human Resources Manager, Carlee Nave; Community Development Director, Greg Wendt; Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Ryan Brown; Office of Public Defense Manager, Charlie Dow; Communications Coordinator, Glenn Vaagen

Case Load Standards for Public Defenders Presentation and Discussion Office of Public Defense, Charlie Dow

Office of Public Defense Manager, Charlie Dow, provided updates on caseload limits for Public Defense, specifics of monthly assignments within their office, and information related to the recent Board of Governors decision.

The goal of the presentation is as follows:

- Become familiar with the issues confronted by OPD generally
- Become familiar with various court operations and case assignments and how they impact OPD operations
- Become familiar with current contract conditions and regional "competition" factors
- Discuss "75% Proposal" contract changes and potential budget cycle impact
- Develop questions from the Board and either receive immediate answers or set plan to address those questions in future

Discussion and comments from the board. No action taken.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:01 p.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman