

# WEEKLY REVIEW

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
November 10, 2020



*This document is a weekly review of the Board of County Commissioners' meeting, Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Information related to agenda changes, Consent Agenda, and Public Comment are on the [County website](#).*

## Scheduled Business

### *Amended Veterans' Relief Fund Policies & Procedures – Kyle Sullivan, Human Services Manager*

Human Services oversees the Veterans' Relief Fund, which is designed to help veterans in times of need with food vouchers, utility assistance, rental assistance, motel vouchers, bus passes, safety equipment for employment, childcare, and dental and burial assistance. The Advisory Board met in October and requested Benton County add gas vouchers as an allowable expenditure under the policy. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the Resolution amending the Veterans' Relief Fund Policies and Procedures to add gas vouchers to be an allowable expense. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

### *2021 One-Year Road Program & Equipment Purchases – Douglas D'Hondt, County Engineer*

WAC 136-16-010 requires the County Engineer to annually submit a One-Year Road Program to the Board of Commissioners prior to final adoption of the Benton County Budget. The One-Year Road Program includes expenditures of maintenance, administration, capital projects and equipment. **The Board moved and seconded to adopt the 2021 One-Year Road Program as presented. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

### *Center Parkway Extension Project – Disbursement Agreement – Rural County Capital Fund – Adam Fyall, Sustainable Dev. Manager*

The agreement is for the disbursement of \$980,000 from the City of Richland's allocation of the Rural County Capital Funds, and \$260,000 from Benton County's allocation for the Center Parkway Extension Project. The original request was in the amount of \$2,275,000, but there are not enough funds available in the City's allocation. The City has indicated it will come back in 2021 when the project is about half completed to request any additional funds that have accrued in their allocation to apply toward this project. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the disbursement agreement with the City of Richland for the "Center Parkway Extension" project as presented. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

### *Emergency Declaration for Prosser Railroad Bridge – Adam Fyall, Sustainable Dev. Manager*

During the September 7 wildfire, a 100-year old railroad trestle near Prosser was destroyed. This bridge was heavily used by the agriculture industry and Benton County has been asked by several entities to declare an emergency. Because the bridge is privately owned, it is not eligible for many forms of public funds, but this emergency declaration by the County may help the bridge owners to access funding and other resources to rebuild the trestle more easily. **The Board moved and seconded to declare a state of emergency regarding railroad infrastructure due to destruction caused by a wildfire. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

### *2021-2022 Budget Update – Linda Ivey, Finance Manager*

The budget was previously approved by the Board to go to public hearing on November 17, 2020 and was to be published in the November 4 and November 11 editions of the Prosser Record Bulletin. However, the Prosser Record Bulletin failed to publish on the first date and so the public hearing date was revised to November 24 and would be published on the November 11 and November 18 editions.

### *RFQ – Professional Medical Services in Corrections Department – Chief Scott Souza*

The Benton County Corrections Department currently has a contract in place for professional medical services that is set to expire March 31, 2021. Even though this is a service contract, the Corrections Department would like to formally solicit these services to reach as much interest as possible. **The Board moved and seconded**

to authorize the solicitation for the Request for Qualifications for Professional Medical Services for the Benton County Corrections Department. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

*Certificate of Good Practice – Matt Rasmussen, Deputy County Administrator*

The County Road Department is required to submit annually to the County Road Administration Board (CRAB) certification of expenditures to continue to be eligible to receive state road funding and distributions for motor fuel tax. The CRAB presented Benton County with a Certificate of Good Practice for 2019, which will be presented later to the Road Department.

*Proclamation – Jazzy Guillen Day*

A proclamation was presented to the Board to honor Prosser High School student Jazlynn Guillen in her fight against cancer for her strength, courage, and faith, which has been an inspiration in the community and around the world. **The Board moved and seconded to proclaim November 11, 2020 as “Jazzy Guillen Day” in Benton County. Upon vote, the motion carried.**

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