

WEEKLY REVIEW

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
September 17, 2019



This document is a weekly review of the Board of County Commissioners meeting, Tuesday, September 17, 2019. Information related to agenda changes, Consent Agenda, and Public Comment are on the [County website](#).

Main Topics Discussed

Classifications & Salary Grades for Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys – Andy Miller, Prosecuting Attorney

Prosecuting Attorney Andy Miller presented to the Commissioners to discuss classifications and salary grades for deputy prosecuting attorneys. Salaries for these positions, as established by Resolution 2008-781, are relatively low and, consequently, the quantity and quality of applications for these positions have been limited. Retaining highly-skilled Deputy Prosecutors is crucial, and the salaries of neighboring and comparably-sized counties throughout the state have surpassed what Benton County is currently paying. As such, the Prosecuting Attorney is requesting that the Commissioners authorize changes to the classifications and salary grades for Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys, increasing the salary of Deputy Prosecutor 1 positions by one grade (from grade 15 to grade 16) and creating an additional classification for the most experienced Deputy Prosecutors. **The Board moved and seconded to approve the salary grade increase of the Deputy Prosecuting Attorney 1 position and the creation of an additional classification for the most experienced Deputy Prosecutors. Motion carried.**

District Court Update – Judge Terry Tanner

District Court has begun to undergo several organizational and operation changes and presented an update to the Commissioners regarding said changes. The District Court office has initiated a series of changes, enhancements, and initiatives to improve service to the public, and to improve efficiency, inclusiveness, communication, and technology. Specific service enhancements include, but are not limited to: improved telephone support, extended open hours (during lunch hour), online records request submission, credit/debit payment at the front counter, small claims court dispute mediation, and more. In addition to improvements to customer service, the department has implemented various initiatives to improve the department's internal efficiency, inclusiveness, and communication. **No Board direction or vote.**

Discussion on Adoption of the Washington State Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Use in Development Projects – Matt Rasmussen, County Engineer

Benton County has been using the Benton County Hydrology Manual for the review and approval of storm drainage design since it was developed in 1979. This manual is unique to Benton County and is not used anywhere else and is severely outdated, failing to consider advancements in technology. Benton County is seeking to adopt the Washington State Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington (SWMMEW) to be used as the basis of design for all private development and public works construction projects requiring engineering or planning approval. The SWMMEW is widely accepted in the engineering and planning communities and provides solid backing for decisions related to stormwater drainage design. Public Works staff recommends that the Commissioners adopt the Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington. **The Board moved and seconded to approve a resolution rescinding Resolutions 79-449 and 79-450 and adopting the most current version of the Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington, and all future updates, as published by Washington State Department of Ecology for use as the basis for design and review for all development projects and roadway construction requiring planning or engineering approval. Motion carried.**

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