

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting
May 11, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
Commissioners' Conference Room
Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA

Present: Chairman Max E. Benitz, Jr. Chairman
Commissioner Leo Bowman
Commissioner James Beaver
County Administrator David Sparks
Clerk of the Board Cami McKenzie

Benton County Employees Present During All or a Portion of the Meeting: Deputy Administrator Loretta Smith Kelty; Adam Fyall, Community Development Coordinator; Finance Manager Linda Ivey; Personnel Manager Melina Wenner; Facilities Manager Roy Rogers; Steve Becken, Public Works; Marianne Ophardt, WSU; Planning Manager Mike Shuttleworth; Deputy Human Services Manager Ed Thornbrugh; Central Services Manager Randy Reid; Safety/Training Coordinator Bryan Perry; and DPA Ryan Brown.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of May 4, 2009 were approved as presented.

Review Agenda

Consent Agenda Item "I" was pulled for further clarification.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: Commissioner Bowman moved to approve the consent agenda items "a" through "s", pulling "I" (Line Item Transfer, Personnel Office). Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the Board approved the following:

Assessor

- a. Personal Services Contract w/Automatic Funds Transfer Services

Central Services

- b. Benton County Remote Access Policy
- c. Authorization to Purchase Software Upgrades from Jo Bee Company

Commissioners

- d. Red Mountain Interchange Economic Impacts Analysis
- e. Amendment No. 1 to the Benton County Emergency Services Interlocal Agreement

Facilities

- f. Blanket Service Agreement w/Quality Backhoe Services, Inc.
- g. Personal Services Contract w/Industrial Equipment Solutions

Fairgrounds

- h. Standard Service Contract w/Cut Above, Incorporated

Human Services

- i. County Government Certification Form C w/BF Community Action Committee
- j. County Government Certification Form H w/BF Community Action Committee
- k. County Government Certification Form I w/BF Community Action Committee

Personnel

- m. Guest Speaker Contract w/C Poulsen

Road/Engineer

- n. Interlocal Agreement w/Franklin County for Engineering Services
- o. Interlocal Cooperative Purchasing Agreement w/City of Prosser
- p. Approval of Task Assignment for Hanks Road
- q. Contract w/A & B Asphalt, Inc. for Horse Heaven Vista Improvements
- r. Rescinding Resolution 97-252 Establishing Vehicle Usage for Emergency Callouts/Standby

Sheriff

- s. Payment Authorization to Cook's Direct for Purchase of Four Gator Trays

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:05 a.m.

Presentation of WSU Educator for Animal Sciences

Marianne Ophardt said that Jean Smith was out sick and would not be present for the meeting. Additionally, Ms. Ophardt updated the Board on budget reductions announced by the State in the amount of 20.1% (\$3.41 million) for Extension offices. She stated there would not be a reduction of occupied positions in Benton & Franklin Counties, however, Benton County would be affected by a reduction in postage that had been paid by the State and would be asking for that increase in the budget cycle.

Other Business

Letter – Districting Plan

Chairman Benitz said he signed and sent out a letter to the District Court Districting Committee to schedule a meeting on May 12. However, he said he did not have prior authority from the Board to send the letter as Chairman of the Board.

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to authorize the letter signed by the Chairman to the District Court Districting Committee. Commissioner Bowman seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Final Plat – Country Meadow Heights Subdivision – SUB 07-02

Mike Shuttleworth said that all conditions of approval had been satisfied and the final plat was ready for signature.

MOTION: Commissioner Bowman moved to approve the Final Plat of Country Meadow Heights, SUB 0-7-02. Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:20 a.m.

Space Request – Prosecuting Attorney’s Office

Margaret Ault and DPA Scott Johnson requested the Board approve the initial plans to convert the vacated District Court Probation offices into office space for the Prosecutor’s Office. Additionally, the request included converting the old Prosecutor’s Office District Court area into a second conference room.

Mr. Rogers said the Facilities employees would complete the work and the cost was estimated at \$30,000 in construction and \$15,000 in FF&E.

Chairman Benitz said there was money in the capital fund to pay for the project.

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to authorize the Facilities Department to proceed with plans for converting the District Court Probation Department into office space for the Prosecutor’s Office and converting the old Prosecutor’s space into a second conference room. Commissioner Bowman seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Executive Session – Potential Litigation

The Board went into executive session at 9:28 a.m. for approximately 10 minutes with Melina Wenner to discuss potential litigation on a county claim. Also present were David Sparks, Ryan Brown, Bryan Perry, Steve Becken, Melina Wenner, Loretta Smith Kelty and Cami McKenzie. The Board came out of executive session at 9:33 a.m. Ryan Brown stated that no action was taken in executive session.

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:40 a.m.

Health District Discussion

Commissioner Beaver requested the Board move forward with a plan to clarify the issues with the Health District budget and formulate a game plan to fix the problems.

Chairman Benitz said he had worked with Mr. Sparks and Ms. Ivey and put together some areas that could be addressed. Ms. Ivey then reviewed the draft plan that outlined the issues and discussed the following:

1. Benton County's financial contribution to the Health District
2. Per capita contribution by Benton County for 2008
3. Ideas to assist the Health District in 2009 with their financial difficulties:
 - a. Use economies of scale to provide administrative services by utilizing available resources at Benton & Franklin Counties;
 - b. Exercise tighter financial controls, review fund structure, and how services are provided.
4. How administrative staff reductions would affect the Health District budget.
5. Review state budget and its effect on the Health District.

Mr. Sparks said he wanted to look at reducing without cutting services to the public and this would be a great way to streamline administration before looking at the big services.

MOTION: Commissioner Bowman moved to approve the recommendation to give the County Administrator authority to complete a performance analysis and evaluate the efficiencies within the Health Department at a more in-depth level, with the intent to provide the Board an analysis with financial and operational recommendations. Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Claim for Damages

CC 09-13: Received on May 7, 2009 from Mike D. Shaffer

Vouchers

Check Date: 05/05/2009
Warrant #: 223346-223514
Direct Deposit #: 44387-44950
Total all funds: \$2,044,105.95

Check Date: 05/05/2009
Taxes #: 10109051-10109053
Warrant #: 924194-924236
Total all funds: \$1,888,176.31

Check Date: 05/08/2009
Warrant #: 924306-924591
Total all funds: \$7,986.90

Check Date: 05/08/2009
Warrant #: 924592-924804
Total all funds: \$2,561,888.83

Total amounts approved by fund can be reviewed in the Benton County Auditor's Office.

Resolutions

- 9.292 Personal Services Contract w/Automatic Funds Transfer Services
- 9.293 Benton County Remote Access Policy
- 9.294 Authorization to Purchase Software Upgrades from Jo Bee Company
- 9.295 Red Mountain Interchange Economic Impacts Analysis
- 9.296 Amendment No. 1 to the Benton County Emergency Services Interlocal Agreement
- 9.297 Blanket Service Agreement w/Quality Backhoe Services, Inc.
- 9.298 Personal Services Contract w/Industrial Equipment Solutions
- 9.299 Standard Service Contract w/Cut Above, Incorporated
- 9.300 County Government Certification Form C w/BF Community Action Committee
- 9.301 County Government Certification Form H w/BF Community Action Committee
- 9.302 County Government Certification Form I w/BF Community Action Committee
- 9.303 Guest Speaker Contract w/C Poulsen
- 9.304 Interlocal Agreement w/Franklin County for Engineering Services
- 9.305 Interlocal Cooperative Purchasing Agreement w/City of Prosser
- 9.306 Approval of Task Assignment for Hanks Road
- 9.307 Contract w/A & B Asphalt, Inc. for Horse Heaven Vista Improvements
- 9.308 Rescinding Resolution 97-252 Establishing Vehicle Usage for Emergency Callouts/Standby
- 9.309 Payment Authorization to Cook’s Direct for Purchase of Four Gator Trays
- 9.310 Approval of Final Plat of Country Meadow Heights – SUB 07-02

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

Clerk of the Board

Chairman