

## MINUTES

### BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting  
April 11, 2011, 8:30 a.m.  
Commissioners' Conference Room  
Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA

**Present:** Chairman Leo Bowman  
Commissioner James Beaver  
Commissioner Shon Small  
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; Finance Manager Keith Mercer; Personnel Manager Melina Wenner; Public Works Manager Steve Becken; Planning Manager Mike Shuttleworth; Deputy Treasurer Erhiza Rivera; DPA Ryan Brown; County Engineer Malcolm Bowie; Personnel Manager Melina Wenner; Auditor Brenda Chilton; Nick Kooiker, Treasurer's Office.

#### Workshop Agenda

Commissioner Beaver said he attended the Energy Communities Alliance Conference with Adam Fyall and would provide an outline. He said that DOE was taking away funding from all sites in the complex, including Hanford. Additionally, there was again discussion about Yucca Mountain and that there was no long-term storage facility available for radioactive waste.

Commissioner Small said he would be attending the Emergency Preparedness exercise. Additionally, he said the Mental Health 5531 bill passed and that Emergency Services received the County's letter requesting a refund from leftover funds from the purchase of the 800Mhz system and that they were working through that issue.

Mr. Sparks reported on his attendance at the Administrator Conference and discussed the following issues:

- State actuary pension plan (if State has its way, retirement rates will double in the next couple of years; PERS 1 and TERS 1 are 25% underfunded); need to look at significant increases for county and employees;
- Current expense levies (as levy rate goes down a bigger percentage of the dollars will go to the fixed rate funds i.e. mental health and veterans funds). He said they have asked WSAC to look at fixing this.

Chairman Bowman said he received a call from Deb Heintz and they received \$2 million for the Walter Clore facility. Additionally, he said he received a report from the Coroner that he

followed through to get the autopsy reimbursements and has confirmed the money was received. Coroner John Hansens (via/videoconference) also discussed a bill that was going to be signed to allow competitive bidding for Coroners through funeral homes that would bring down costs and he would provide a summary of that bill.

Chairman Bowman provided a WSAC report and said that transportation fees were going up by \$160 million and the budget seemed to be the only thing on the radar for the Legislature. He also commented that he was very pleased with the appointments of new mental health advisory board members and wanted to write a letter, possibly through Ed Thornbrugh, thanking them for volunteering.

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:00 a.m. for the regular session.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes of April 4, 2011 were approved as corrected.

### **Consent Agenda**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Beaver moved to approve the consent agenda items “a” through “k”, pulling “f”, “g”, and “l”. Commissioner Small seconded and upon vote, the Board approved the following:

#### **Auditor**

- a. Maintenance Agreements w/Comstor Information Management, Inc.

#### **Commissioners**

- b. Letter to Historic Downtown Prosser Association

#### **Fairgrounds**

- c. Lease Agreement w/Atomic City Roller Girls

#### **Human Services**

- d. Mental Health Advisory Board Appointments (5)
- e. Authorization to Purchase Two HP Servers From the Washington State Contract

#### **Personnel**

- h. United Employees Benefit Trust Acceptance Agreement for Juvenile Detention Union
- i. Rescinding Resolution 09 254 Regarding Position Reclassification Requests

#### **Pest Board**

- j. Appointment to the Horticultural Pest and Disease Board

#### **Public Works**

- k. Personal Services Contract w/Burlington Environmental LLC for Hazardous Waste Transport

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:12 a.m.

## **West Richland Economic Development Report**

Ruth Swain, W. Richland Economic Development Coordinator, along with Mayor Donna Noski, thanked Benton County for its support and said it was asking for assistance in helping find ways to fund a Light Industrial Manufacturing Expansion project.

Jerod Shelby, Shelby SuperCars, LLC, gave some background on his education and company and said he had always wanted to build a world-class automobile manufacturing company. He presented a video and said they were just here to educate the County about his product and company. He said he really hoped to get his manufacturing facility all under one roof in the City of West Richland and he was very loyal to them because of their efforts to assist him.

Ms. Swain said his company wanted to step up production and increase the number of cars and that it was the only U.S. Supercar production company. Additionally, Mr. Shelby wanted to build a showroom that would be a wonderful draw for visitors from around the world to this area.

Mayor Noski said this was a very big thing for West Richland and this company meant a lot to them. She said they were looking for support and would be back in touch when this came to fruition because local match funds were needed for the CERB grant.

### **Executive Session**

The Board went into executive session with DPA Ryan Brown at 9:52 a.m. for approximately 10 minutes to discuss pending litigation. Also present were David Sparks, Cami McKenzie, Melina Wenner and Loretta Smith Kely. The Board came out at 10:04 a.m. and Mr. Brown said he gave the Board an update but the Board took no action.

### **Unscheduled Visitors**

Clifford Brown, Richland, said he was involved with Safe Harbor (through a non-profit agency "My Friends Place" that have agreed to use EPIC as an emergency youth shelter). He said they submitted grant applications (including an application for 2060 funds from the County), but received a letter of denial because they did not yet have their business license. He requested the Board allow them to compete for the grant with the condition of getting a license. He said he was also told they might be able to apply for other money (2163 funds) and Mr. Sparks said he should contact Judith Gidley at Community Action Committee about the 2163 funds. The Board said it would look into the matter and get back to him with an answer.

### **Vouchers**

Check Date: 4/5/2011  
Warrant #: 31462-31488  
Taxes #: 10111041-10111043  
Total all funds: \$1,784,586.92

Check Date: 4/5/2011  
Warrant #: 232133-232233  
Direct Deposit #: 62696-63295  
Total all funds: \$2,035,061.02

Check Date: 04/08/2011  
Warrant #: 31606-32028  
Total all funds: \$1,245,490.00

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

**Resolutions**

- 11-234: Maintenance Agreements w/Comstor Information Management, Inc.
- 11-235: Lease Agreement w/Atomic City Roller Girls
- 11-236: Mental Health Advisory Board Appointment of Greg Hess
- 11-237: Mental Health Advisory Board Appointment of Debbie Gottschalk
- 11-238: Mental Health Advisory Board Appointment of Lisa Hamilton
- 11-239: Mental Health Advisory Board Appointment of Thomas F. Hall
- 11-240: Mental Health Advisory Board Appointment of Tom Adams
- 11-241: Authorization to Purchase Two HP Servers From the Washington State Contract
- 11-242: United Employees Benefit Trust Acceptance Agreement for Juvenile Detention Union
- 11-243: Rescinding Resolution 09 254 Regarding Position Reclassification Requests
- 11-244: Appointments to the Horticultural Pest and Disease Board
- 11-245: Personal Services Contract w/Burlington Environmental LLC for Hazardous Waste Transport

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:14 a.m.

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Clerk of the Board

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Chairman