

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Special Board Meeting
Thursday, December 1, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Commissioners' Conference Room
Justice Center, Kennewick, WA

Present: Chairman Shon Small
Commissioner Jerome Delvin
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; DPA Ryan Brown; DPA Ryan Lukson; Linda Ivey and Lisa Small, Sheriff's Office; Shyanne Faulconer, Community Programs/PR.

Short Term Agreement for Use of Jail with Cities

Commissioner Delvin said he met with the cities and David Sparks and Loretta Smith Kelty to discuss this issue. He summarized the issues as follows:

- Governance – the Commissioners were not interested in running the jail. He talked about an advisory group and the Sheriff needed to buy-in to this issue and would address that with the cities separately.
- Operating Budget – Ms. Smith Kelty had provided that to the cities. There were concerns regarding medical costs and whether it was correct and being properly reviewed and that will be worked through the Sheriff's office.
- Administrative Fee – from 5% to 7% - still being negotiated.
- Contract Term – cities wanted a 1-2 year contract to see how the new contract was working without being locked into a longer term.
- Month to month charge based on prisoners; 3-5 year rolling average - the cities wanted a 3-year rolling average. Mr. Sparks indicated it was a .16% difference to the County one way or the other.
- The cities requested a 4-month extension; he recommended sending a letter extending the contract for 3 months to March 31, 2017 (with the month of December, 2016 it would be 4 months).

Ryan Brown discussed the short term agreement and said it was 95% identical to the current contract except the term, the current estimated payment (he recommended bed day rate) with a flat rate per prisoner per day for short term plus medical expenses and no truing up.

Commissioner Beaver said he supported their efforts and would agree to extend the contract to March 31, 2017. He said there was a lot of time arguing about the bed day rate when the bottom line number was associated with the cost to run the facility. He didn't want to spend the next 4 months arguing about the small stuff.

Chairman Small said he also appreciated their efforts and was agreeable to March 31.

The Board recessed at 9:30 a.m. so Mr. Brown and Ms. Smith Kelty could finalize the letter and agreements for the Board's approval.

The Board reconvened at 9:43 a.m. and Mr. Brown recommended adding language to the compensation section to address the current contract payments.

The Board recessed, reconvening at 10:10 a.m.

Mr. Brown presented four separate short term agreements for each city with the language for the bed day rate in addition to any payments due under the current agreement, expiring on March 31, 2017.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the Short Term Agreement for Use of Jail Facilities with the cities as presented until they finalized a new contract. Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

MOTION: Commissioner Delvin moved to approve the letter to the cities as presented explaining the terms of the Short Term Agreement. Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Resolutions

- 2016-933: Short-Term Agreement for Use of Jail Facilities with City of Prosser
- 2016-934: Short-Term Agreement for Use of Jail Facilities with City of West Richland
- 2016-935: Short-Term Agreement for Use of Jail Facilities with City of Richland
- 2016-936: Short-Term Agreement for Use of Jail Facilities with City of Kennewick

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

Clerk of the Board

Chairman