

MINUTES

BOARDS OF BENTON AND FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Special Bi-County Board Meeting
Thursday, October 24, 2013, 10:00 a.m.
Pasco City Hall
City Council Chambers
525 North Third Avenue
Pasco, WA 99301

Benton County

Present: Chairman Shon Small
Commissioner James Beaver
Commissioner Jerome Delvin
Clerk of the Board Cami McKenzie

Employees Present: County Administrator David Sparks, Deputy Administrator Loretta Smith Kelty, Finance Manager Keith Mercer, DPA Ryan Brown

Franklin County

Present: Chairman Rick Miller
Commissioner Brad Beck
Absent: Commissioner Bob Koch

E911 Consolidation MATRICS Project Report Sciens Consulting: Stephen Gousie and Ernest Pages

Ernest Pages and Stephen Gousie reviewed the draft written report dated October 21, 2013 and gave a Powerpoint presentation. Mr. Pages indicated the report would include the results of the first phase of a four phase project. They briefly discussed the following:

- Project Background – they had been working on this for approximately two years and research included how to best to optimize the two counties operational interactivity between their public safety and emergency services
 - Findings – consolidation would assist all law enforcement agencies on both sides of the river (crime did not stop at the bridge); finding was reinforced as the same as when the project started back in the spring
- Objectives of the Project
 - Improve service delivery
 - Address service limitations
- Objectives of the Presentation
 - Goal is to present the conceptual design and get approval to move forward with detailed design
- Project Phases
 - Conceptual design

- Technology integration – would allow quicker turnaround in the event of a catastrophic event at the primary location; the switchover would be fairly quick to the secondary

Commissioner Peck asked for clarification of definitions of the following:

- Cold - backup takes a long time to recover with that technology
 - Hot - two duplicate environments separate from each other
 - Warm - secondary would be ready; all technology ready to go active, except the 911 and the people
- Benefits of Technology Integration
 - Proposed Implementation Areas
 - Interlocal Agreement Components (Commissioner Peck asked about the change of name to Strategic Advisory Committee); he was advised it was a typo and would be corrected
 - Technical, Asset Valuation
 - Staffing Levels and annual cost comparisons (roughly \$700,000 savings with MATRICS)
 - Initial Costs – one-time investments (with and without consolidation)
 - Cost allocations based on unit charge/tax revenue sources (Commissioner Peck noted that Franklin County had since passed a resolution allowing it to collect the 911 added tax so that number should be rolled into the proposed budget); budget revenue/expenses; impending capital improvements
 - Summary
 - Cost perspective – return of investment in 3-5 years
 - Services perspective – initially the goal was to improve services; cost savings would be secondary

Commissioner Delvin said he wanted to make sure the public was aware this was not being looked at because there was going to be a big cost savings in the end; in government the highest cost was always employees and the cost of benefits and salaries. He wanted to articulate that it was going to be improved services to the public and people who use the system on a daily basis and not get caught up in cost savings and return of investment. He said he was in favor of moving forward with Phase 2.

Commissioner Peck said he agreed with Commissioner Delvin’s comments and if it turned out there were cost savings and efficiencies they should be leaning very hard at banking those for major capital investments as new technology came out. Additionally, he said he appreciated the work on Phase 1 and didn’t have a problem approving it and recommending they move to Phase 2.

Commissioner Beaver said he agreed with the other commissioners.

Benton County

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved on Benton County’s side to direct this organization to move to Step 2 or Phase 2. Commissioner Delvin seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Franklin County

MOTION: Commissioner Peck moved on behalf of Franklin County to follow the lead of their friends across the river to approve Phase 1 and give approval to move into Phase 2 with the understanding that Phase 1 is as described and subject to changes. Chairman Miller seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Chairman Small said he appreciated the work on this and that everyone came to the bi-county meeting, further indicating the importance of the issue and gathering as much information as possible to make the best decision for the community.

Chairman Miller also thanked everyone for attending.

There being no further business before the Boards, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman, Benton County