

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting
March 14, 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
Alt. Clerk of the Board Marilu Flores

Benton County Employees Present During All or a Portion of the Meeting: Deputy Administrator Loretta Smith Keltly; Adam Fyall, Community Development Coordinator; Finance Manager Keith Mercer; Personnel Manager Melina Wenner; Public Works Manager Steve Becken; County Engineer Malcolm Bowie; Human Services Administrator Ed Thornbrugh; RJ Lott, Planning; Treasurer Duane Davidson; DPA Ryan Brown.

Workshop Agenda

Commissioner Beaver reported on his attendance at the Park Board meeting and ERWEB meeting.

Commissioner Small gave a report of the following meetings: code enforcement update with Dan Deckert and meeting W. Richland regarding animal control (still working on that issue).

Chairman Bowman reported on his NACo trip to Washington, D.C and briefly discussed the following: eight appointments with legislators and transportation people; transportation meetings/speakers; new transportation program to be adopted by September (possibly a six-year plan); streamlining process; NACo interim policy resolutions; balancing the budget. Additionally, he said he had written information for the Board's review.

VEBA Letter

Melina Wenner presented a letter to Congressman Hastings regarding a proposed technical change to IRS Code regarding VEBA for the Board to approve.

The Board approved the letter to be added to the consent agenda.

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:06 a.m. for the regular session.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of March 2, 2011 were approved.

The Minutes of March 7, 2011 were approved.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to approve the consent agenda items “a” through “l”, adding “m” (Letter to Congressman Hastings). Commissioner Small seconded and upon vote, the Board approved the following:

Coroner

- a. Authorization to Pay Dr. Wigren for Pathology Services

Fairgrounds

- b. Lease Agreement w/WSU – Rada Rabbits & Cavies 4H Club

Juvenile

- c. Personal Services Contract Amendment w/Tri-Cities Chaplaincy

Office of Public Defense

- d. Professional Services Agreement w/J Lilly
- e. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 136

Parks

- f. Payment Authorization for Septic System Services @ Horn Rapids Park

Planning

- g. Short Plat Vacation – SPV 10-07

Public Works

- h. Final Assessment Roll for County Roads Improvement District #15
- i. Amended Final Assessment Roll for County Road Improvement District #11
- j. Public Hearing Authorization of Franchise Application of Frank Teigs and Lewis & Clark Ranch
- k. Purchase Authorization for Traffic Sign Materials

Sheriff

- l. Authorization to Purchase Tables for the Jail Facility

Personnel

- m. Letter to Doc Hastings

Legislative Priorities

The Board agreed the following issues were legislative priorities for Benton County: SB 5531 (reimbursing counties for mental health); HB 1126 (gang violence); HB 1528 (driving while license suspended III); criminal justice funding; water issues; public safety.

Chairman Bowman said he would meet with Adam Fyall to prepare a letter to send to legislators and provide a copy back to the Board.

Commissioner Beaver said he wanted to send a letter to Franklin County offering to contract with Franklin County for use of the Benton County jail facilities. The Board agreed to have Mr. Sparks prepare a letter.

Commissioner Beaver also asked about a status regarding the gang issue proposal. Mr. Sparks said he asked Undersheriff Hatcher to provide a total cost analysis for this task force to include costs from the PA, Office of Public Defense, etc., as well as the Sheriff's office.

CTR – Commute Trip Reduction

Chairman Bowman said that Benton County previously received an exemption from this requirement but that it would be expiring soon. He said without the exemption, Benton County would be required to implement commute trip reduction. He said he had an appointment with the Secretary of Transportation to discuss options.

Claim for Damages

CC 2011-06(b): Received on March 3, 2011 from Ronnie Owen
CC 2011-06(c): Received on March 4, 2011 from Ronnie Owen
CC 2011-06(d): Received on March 4, 2011 from Ronnie Owen
CC 2011-11: Received on March 4, 2011 from Walter Kerr

Vouchers

Check Date: 3/4/2011
Warrant #: 29766-29792
Taxes #: 10111031-10111033
Total all funds: \$1,783,198.24

Check Date: 3/4/2011
Warrant #: 231995-232100
Direct Deposit #: 61871-62459
Total all funds: \$2,039,740.32

Check Date: 3/11/2011
Warrant #: 29996-30376
Total all funds: \$545,807.67

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

Resolutions

11.183 Authorization to Pay Dr. Wigren for Pathology Services

- 11.184 Lease Agreement w/WSU – Rada Rabbits & Cavies 4H Club
- 11.185 Personal Services Contract Amendment w/Tri-Cities Chaplaincy
- 11.186 Professional Services Agreement w/J Lilly
- 11.187 Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 136
- 11.188 Payment Authorization for Septic System Services @ Horn Rapids Park
- 11.189 Short Plat Vacation – SPV 10-07
- 11.190 Final Assessment Roll for County Roads Improvement District #15
- 11.191 Amended Final Assessment Roll for County Road Improvement District #11
- 11.192 Public Hearing Authorization of Franchise Application of Frank Teigs and Lewis & Clark Ranch
- 11.193 Purchase Authorization for Traffic Sign Materials
- 11.194 Authorization to Purchase Tables for the Jail Facility

With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately at 9:23 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman