

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Special Board Meeting
March 2, 2011, 9:00 a.m.
Commissioners' Conference Room
Benton County Justice Center, Kennewick, 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; Adam Fyall, Sustainable Development Manager; Finance Manager Keith Mercer; Planning Manager Mike Shuttleworth; DPA Ryan Brown; Jackie McWherter and Steve Brown, Building Department; Clark Posey and R.J. Lott, Planning; Fire Marshal Ken Williams.

Code Enforcement Workshop

The Board discussed code enforcement policy and the following recommendations for improvement:

- Elimination of current warning letter system and use of 30 day and/or case-by-case discretion
- Issue citations without sending to PA for prior review
- Request a meeting with initial warning letter in order to formulate a plan
- Establish increased communication with the complainant
- Continue to provide detailed reports to PA for those cases involving citations
- Establish/maintain improved communication with District Court Clerk regarding hearings
- Case-by-case basis/additional civil citations/criminal citations as needed

There was some further discussion regarding the possibility of levels of infractions, stop work orders, and giving the departments some authority to stop certain violations.

The Board agreed to move forward with the steps as outlined by the Building Department and to review the process again in six months. Additionally, the Board requested the Building/Planning Departments to bring forward solutions for the other issues that were discussed at another workshop.

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

Clerk of the Board

Chairman