

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting
May 16, 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; Adam Fyall, Community Development Coordinator; Finance Manager Keith Mercer; Personnel Manager Melina Wenner; Public Works Manager Steve Becken; Planning Manager Mike Shuttleworth; Deputy Treasurer Erhiza Rivera; DPA Ryan Brown; Susan Walker and Valerie Smith, Planning; Central Services Manager Randy Reid; Undersheriff Jerry Hatcher.

Workshop Agenda

Commissioner Small reported on his attendance at the Park Board meeting at Two Rivers Park; campaign introduction course in the Auditor's office; and thanked the Facilities Maintenance staff for cleaning up the courthouse area for the Prosser historical downtown celebration.

Commissioner Beaver said he also attended the Park Board meeting and reported on the following: canvassing board; Council of Governments (Executive Board meeting); elected officials meeting; rural revolving loan fund meeting; and the Clover Island ceremony. Additionally, he requested approval (per the travel policy) to attend the ECA exchange in New Mexico (airfare, lodging, transfers, and meals to be completely reimbursed). The Board agreed to add it to the consent agenda.

Chairman Bowman said he attended the joint meeting of West Richland City Council and Port of Kennewick; Port of Kennewick Ribbon Breaking; elected officials meeting; toured Red Mountain with a new State Representative; attended PAC (Policy Advisory Committee to Council of Governments) meeting; participated in Red Mountain conference call; meeting w/Andy Miller and Sheriff Keane regarding the gang task force; and Freight Mobility Strategic Board meeting.

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

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of May 9, 2011 were approved.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to approve the consent agenda items “a” through “l”, adding “m” (grant application) and “n” (approval for ECA trip). Commissioner Small seconded and upon vote, the Board approved the following:

Commissioners

- a. Thank You Letter to L Fox, WSU
- b. Letter to US Department of Energy

Facilities

- c. Notice of Completion for Construction of Health District Building Tenant Improvement

Office of Public Defense

- d. Termination of District Court Indigent Defense Agreement w/R Swinburnson

Public Works

- e. Public Hearing Authorization for Antonio Hermosillo Franchise Application
- f. Franchise Approval for Frank Tiegs, LLC and Lewis and Clark Ranch, LLC
- g. Franchise Approval for Company 79

Sheriff

- h. Personal Services Contract w/Bergstrom Aircraft, Inc. for Aircraft Maintenance & Repair
- i. Purchase Authorization from Blac-Rac Manufacturing, Inc. for Vehicle Firearm Racks
- j. Personal Service Contract Amendment w/Columbia Cleaners
- k. Contract w/Straight-Flush, Inc dba Roto-Rooter Sewer Service
- l. Agreement w/WA Asso of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs for WA St Methamphetamine Initiative
- m. Approval to sign Local Records Grant Application
- n. Approval for Commissioner Beaver to Travel to ECA Peer Exchange

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:05 a.m.

Public Hearing – Zoning Ordinance Amendments

Urban Growth Area Residential (UGAR)

Susan Walker said the UGAR district ordinance provided uses and regulations for the development of lands from urban growth areas to eventual annexation by the cities.

Chairman Bowman discussed his concern about the restriction for number of rooms to be rented out for a bed and breakfast and amount of meals to be served and said it appeared to be too limiting. Ms. Walker said the restrictions in this district mostly addressed compatibility issues

(to prevent business traffic/safety issues from popping up in Residential UGA). She said they were not opposed to mixed-use on a small scale and were trying to find a happy medium.

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:25 a.m.

Public Testimony

As there was no one present to testify, public testimony was closed.

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to approve the Urban Growth Area Residential District Ordinance and Official Zoning Map to be effective September 1, 2011 and adopt the Planning Commission's findings of fact as their own. Additionally, direct staff to amend the amount of allowable rooms for a bed and breakfast under definitions from two to five. Commissioner Small seconded and upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Community Commercial District (CC)

Susan Walker said the CC district ordinance provided for small-scale commercial activities that served the retail needs of the rural communities in the county.

Chairman Bowman asked how Red Mountain would be affected by this ordinance and it was stated it was not affected since it was in the GMA Agricultural District (a different use).

Public Testimony

As there was no one present to testify, public testimony was closed.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to approve the Community Commercial District Ordinance and Official Zoning Map to be effective September 1, 2011, and adopt the Planning Commission's findings of fact as their own. Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

General Commercial District (GC)

Susan Walker summarized the district as being designed to provide for a range of retail goods and services that serve the regional, rural, and community trade areas of the county.

Public Testimony

There was no one present to testify so the public hearing was closed.

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to approve General Commercial District Ordinance and Official Zoning Map to be effective September 1, 2011 and adopt the Planning Commission's Findings of fact as their own. Commissioner Small seconded and upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Interchange Commercial District (IC)

Ms. Walker said the IC district applied to areas in the county that have federal highway interchanges and serve the traveling public.

Public Testimony

As there was no one present to testify, the public hearing was closed.

MOTION: Commissioner Small moved to approve the Interchange Commercial District Ordinance and Official Zoning Map to be effective September 1, 2011 and adopt the Planning Commission's findings of fact as their own. Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Employee Transfer Request – Central Services

Mr. Sparks presented an opportunity to consolidate IT services. He said that Human Services had had their own exclusive IT department (with only one person) and that Benton County Central Services had its own consolidated department. He suggested moving this person from Human Services over to Central Services, which would provide additional backup and cross-training (Human Services was currently on the Microsoft exchange) and would make the conversion process from Groupwise/Novell to Microsoft easier. He proposed splitting the position to be paid 50% from Human Services and 50% from Central Services until they were able to get a better track record of where the time was spent. Additionally, Mr. Sparks said that Ed Thornbrugh received concurrence from Franklin County.

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to approve the line item transfer and salary request statement as presented for the position of Information Systems Analyst 3. Commissioner Small seconded and upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Gang Task Force – Supplement Review

David Sparks, Loretta Smith Kelty and Undersheriff Jerry Hatcher reviewed the supplemental request for the Gang Task Force.

Mr. Sparks said they came up with the costs to implement the program and the request was for the remainder of the biennium and the majority would come from the Bond Fund. Mr. Sparks said the County would be paying off bonds at the end of the year and this is money available after the bond payments. Additionally, it included a grant to purchase equipment for the program.

Commissioner Beaver asked if this was an ongoing revenue stream and Mr. Sparks replied it was not (the money came from revenue generated from out-of-county prisoners) and hopefully the Sheriff's Office could continue the revenue stream in the future. Mr. Sparks said the proposal would be to fund this program in future years from out of county revenue bed day rates.

Commissioner Beaver said he supported the program and wanted the team to continue to work together and talk about the bed day rate so all costs were included.

Undersheriff Hatcher said that on January 3 the jail was 67% occupied and it was now at 92% occupancy. Additionally, they were working on contracts with Thurston County and the City of Olympia.

Chairman Bowman said he appreciated the presentation and all the info received and he was not opposed to the project, however, wanted to know how it would all play out with short and long-term goals, along with the PA's concerns.

Mr. Hatcher stated that some parts of the program were not definable. However, through their suppression efforts it was their goal to work with youth to reduce recidivism. He said it was not just a juvenile problem and there would be impacts to other branches, however, hopefully it would be minimal. He said it was their goal to disrupt the gang activities and educate the members. The first three months would allow administration to work on team selection for the gang task force and then as they networked out through the community, they would bring in community members and other team members.

Chairman Bowman again expressed his concern about the other costs (from arresting individuals and how it would impact the juvenile systems). He said he wanted to be thinking about that and prepare for it.

Commissioner Small commented that when Benton County took over Benton City back in 1990 it was a very busy area and took 2 ½ to 3 years to clean up because there was already a huge problem. He said right now there was a huge problem in sister counties and Benton County was very fortunate not to be hit as bad and believed they were fortunate to try and prevent a big problem. He said he wanted to work with employees to see what other costs might be involved and where to come up with the money and believes a message will be sent that Benton County does not want gangs.

Mr. Hatcher said the Sheriff's Office was not asking for employees from the PA (he would have to evaluate that) but looking for individuals to be assigned to these cases from the PA's office.

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to go to public hearing on the supplemental appropriation for the Gang Task Force. Commissioner Small seconded and upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Vouchers

Check Date: 05/13/2011

Warrant #: 34028-34227

Total all funds: \$1,027,567.99

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

Resolutions

- 11-313 Notice of Completion for Construction of Health District Building Tenant Improvement
- 11-314 Termination of District Court Indigent Defense Agreement w/R Swinburnson
- 11-315 Public Hearing Authorization for Antonio Hermosillo Franchise Application
- 11-316 Franchise Approval for Frank Tiegs, LLC and Lewis and Clark Ranch, LLC
- 11-317 Franchise Approval for Company 79
- 11-318 Personal Services Contract w/Bergstrom Aircraft, Inc. for Aircraft Maintenance & Repair
- 11-319 Purchase Authorization from Blac-Rac Manufacturing, Inc. for Vehicle Firearm Racks
- 11-320 Personal Service Contract Amendment w/Columbia Cleaners
- 11-321 Contract w/Straight-Flush, Inc dba Roto-Rooter Sewer Service
- 11-322 Agreement w/WA Assoc. of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs for WA St Methamphetamine Initiative
- 11-323 2011-2013 Local Records Grant Program Application
- 11-324 Approval for James Beaver to Travel – ECA in New Mexico
- 11-325 Approval of Ordinance Adding the Urban Growth Area Residential District
- 11-326 Approval of Ordinance Adding the Community Commercial District
- 11-327 Approval of Ordinance Adding the General Commercial District
- 11-328 Approval of Ordinance Adding the Interchange Commercial District
- 11-329 Line Item Transfer - Central Services Fund - \$47,880

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:11 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman