

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Board Meeting
November 23, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
Commissioners' Conference Room
Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA

Present: Chairman Max E. Benitz, Jr. Chairman
Commissioner Leo Bowman
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; Finance Manager Linda Ivey; Facilities Manager Roy Rogers; District Court Judge Terry Tanner; Steve Becken, Norm Childress, and Malcolm Bowie, Public Works; Dixie Jameson and Jacki Lahtinen, District Court; Clerk Josie Delvin and Jacki Hill; Deputy Auditor Brenda Chilton; Rosie Sparks, Auditor's Office; Erhiza Rivera and Nick Kooiker, Treasurer's Office; Mike Shuttleworth, Planning; DPA Ryan Brown; Steve Brown, Building Department; Marianne Ophardt, WSU Extension.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of November 16, 2009 were approved as corrected.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: Commissioner Bowman moved to approve the consent agenda items "a" through "o" Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the Board approved the following:

Auditor

- a. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 102

Commissioners

- b. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 115
- c. Appointment of C Gray to Benton County Mosquito Control District

District Court

- d. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 111

Fairgrounds

- e. Lease Agreement w/Benton-Franklin Marine Corps League, Toys for Tots

Juvenile

- f. Interagency Agreement, #IAA10160, w/State of WA, Administrative Office of the Courts

Office of Public Defense

- g. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 136

Parks

- h. Purchase of Debris Blower Attachment

Personnel

- i. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0504-101, Dept. 000

Planning

- j. Travel Expense Reimbursements

Public Works

- k. Authorization for Public Hearing on Application for a Franchise by Benton Irrigation District

Sheriff

- l. Contract Amendment for Department of Corrections Jail Usage
- m. Surplus of Personal Property / Retirement of K-9
- n. Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000101, Dept. 121

Treasurer

- o. Lease / Purchase Agreement for Copiers from Konica from State Contract

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

Public Hearing – Adoption of 2010 Budget

Linda Ivey presented final resolutions for adoption of the 2010 budget.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Bowman moved to approve the resolution making a declaration of substantial need or purposes of setting the limit factor for the regular property tax levy for 2010. Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion was approved.

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to approve the resolution making a declaration of substantial need or purposes of setting the limit factor for the county road levy for 2010. Commissioner Bowman seconded and upon vote, the motion was approved.

MOTION: Commissioner Bowman moved to approve the resolution certifying the current expense levy for 2010 collection. Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion was approved.

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to approve the resolution certifying budgeted taxes for collection in year 2010 for Benton County. Commissioner Bowman seconded and upon vote, the motion was approved.

MOTION: Commissioner Bowman moved to approve the resolution certifying the county road levy for 2010 collection. Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion was approved.

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to approve the resolution adopting the final 2010 Benton County budget. Commissioner Bowman seconded and upon vote, the Board approved the following:

Total Current Expense Revenues	\$ 51,854,063
Total Current Expense Expenditures	\$ 51,666,816
To Balance	\$ (187,247)
Total Road Fund Revenues	\$ 17,159,281
Total Road Fund Expenditures	\$ 19,839,283
To Balance	\$ 2,680,002
Total Other Funds Revenues	\$ 52,951,015
Total Other Funds Expenditures	\$ 71,819,376
To Balance	\$ 18,868,361
Total Revenues	\$121,964,359
Total Expenditures	\$143,325,475
To Balance	\$ 21,361,116

The Board briefly recessed, reconvening at 9:35 a.m.

Report on Roza Intersection Safety Study

Mike Murray, Ross Kelly, and Don Sims, HDR Engineering, Inc. gave a Powerpoint presentation on the Roza Safety Study and briefly discussed the following:

- Process: public meetings; interviews; citizens advisory committee; collection and analysis data (crash reports, road inventories, traffic counts); field interviews
- Public meetings: areas of concern; crashes by location and type and identify intersections and road sections of concern
- Total crashes, people injured, and total deaths (significant area of fatalities in the Roza area)
- Major problem is people not stopping and passing intersections (intersection awareness)
- Statistics: crash rates and associated fatality rates (in line with state, average for similar types) however, significant fatality rate (up to 10-times higher than state average)
- Mitigation options: oversize stop signs; advance warning signs; pavement markings; rumble strips (raised or grooved); all-way stops; flashing beacons; splitter islands; intersection illumination
- Recommendations based on rating criteria
- Funding Options: state funding (county road administration board); public works trust fund; Washington Traffic Safety Commission (Target Zero and Corridor Safety Program); Federal Funding – High Risk Rural Road Program; Highway Safety Improvement Program

Public Comment

Jim Willard said he really appreciated what had been done, believed it was a good study, and requested the Board to accept the recommendations and move forward with implementation.

Gayle Wheeler asked the County to consider rumble strips in the interim at an intersection that was being constructed.

Bill denHoed thanked the Board for the study, said he believed the money required was reasonable, and urged the Board to start implementation.

Mike Hogue said he felt a lot was accomplished in a short amount of time and thanked everyone.

Norm Childress said Public Work anticipated work to be done and it was included in the budget to begin the process and he asked for endorsement of the study. He added that the study was a start point because it focused on only 20 intersections and they would be doing an exhaustive research on funding opportunities.

Chairman Benitz asked about putting in rumble strips on the OIE/Johnson construction and Mr. Becken said they were looking at that right now.

MOTION: Commissioner Beaver moved to accept the report and mitigation option recommendations and move forward with the implementation plan as presented. Commissioner Bowman seconded.

Discussion

Commissioner Bowman said the Board might be able to use the recommendations in other areas in the County as well. Chairman Benitz said he was in favor of moving forward. Commissioner Beaver said he was hopeful the Roza area could be a model of how to solve this kind of problem.

Upon vote, the motion carried.

Building Fee Increase – Workshop

Steve Brown presented increases to the building permit fees and requested the Board approve the increases as submitted. Additionally, he discussed some additional savings in the Department that would take effect in 2010.

Commissioner Bowman asked if these proposed increases and savings were factored into the budget. Mr. Sparks said they were not, however, the Building Department would now be able to fully function without a mid-year restructuring.

MOTION: Commissioner Bowman moved to approve the building permit fees increases as proposed and move forward with the public meeting. Commissioner Beaver seconded and upon vote, the motion carried.

Other Business

WSU Benton County Extension Update

Marianne Ophardt stated that Jean Smith would be retiring effective December 31, 2009 (after 29 ½ years of service). She said they would be advertising for her position and asked the Board if a member wanted to sit on the search committee. Chairman Benitz said that he would.

WSAC Conference

Commissioner Bowman reported on his attendance at the WSAC conference and provided written information on bylaws, the legislative agenda and discussed U.S. Communities' implementation of a personal insurance program that would be available to county employees.

County Claims

CC 09-25: Received on November 23, 2009 from BNSF Railway

Vouchers

Check Date: 11/16/2009
Taxes #: 10109115-10109116
Total all funds: \$35,535.59

Check Date: 11/16/2009
Warrant #: 226033-226263
Total all funds: \$110,671.88

Check Date: 11/20/2009
Warrant #: 938138-938368
Total all funds: \$477,567.30

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

Resolutions

9.758 Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 102
9.759 Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 115
9.760 Appointment of C Gray to Benton County Mosquito Control District
9.761 Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 111
9.762 Lease Agreement w/Benton-Franklin Marine Corps League, Toys for Tots
9.763 Interagency Agreement, #IAA10160, w/State of WA, Administrative Office of the Courts
9.764 Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000-101, Dept. 136
9.765 Purchase of Debris Blower Attachment
9.766 Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0504-101, Dept. 000

- 9.767 Authorization for Public Hearing on Application for a Franchise by Benton Irrigation District
- 9.768 Contract Amendment for Department of Corrections Jail Usage
- 9.769 Surplus of Personal Property / Retirement of K-9
- 9.770 Line Item Transfer, Fund No. 0000101, Dept. 121
- 9.771 Lease / Purchase Agreement for Copiers from Konica from State Contract
- 9.772 Declaration of Substantial Need or Purpose of Setting the Limit Factor for the Regular Property Tax Levy
- 9.773 Declaration of Substantial Need or Purpose of Setting the Limit Factor for the County Road Levy
- 9.774 Certifying the Current Expense Levy for 2010 Collection
- 9.775 Certifying Budgeted Taxes for Collection in Year 2010 for Benton County
- 9.776 Certifying the County Road Levy for 2010 Collection
- 9.777 Adoption of the Final 2010 Benton County Budgets

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman