

Benton County Commission

April 11, 2022

Convene

Presiding Commissioner Steve Daleske called the meeting of the Benton County Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. on April 11, 2022 at the Board Room. Attendance: Larry Berry, Present: Scott Harms, Present: Steve Daleske, Present.

Approval of Prior Minutes

District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry made the motion to accept prior minutes dated 4/4/2022. District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

Concerned Citizens

Gerry and Cynthia Smith, Steve and Debbie Swerline, and Kathy Sullins met with Commissioners with various questions pertaining to county-wide broadband, E-911 and Sheriff's Office systems, and other taxing entities.

Bid Opening - Audit Services

The bid opening was held for audit services for Benton County for fiscal year ending December 31, 2021. One bid was received for this service, from Stopp & VanHoy CPA's, in the amount of \$17,000.00. District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms made the motion to accept the bid as submitted, District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

Benton County Economic Development

Benton County Economic Development Director Jo Ann Lane met with Commissioners to provide a report of economic development efforts throughout the County.

Sheriff

Sheriff Eric Knox and Administrative Assistant Joy Burkhart met with Commissioners to discuss the current salary schedule for detention officers at the Benton County Jail. Sheriff Knox does not believe that longevity should be a factor in determining salary for employees, and indicates that State law gives him the right to set salaries for employees in his department as he sees fit, regardless of any agreement that he made with Commissioners at the beginning of the year during budget preparation. Commissioners agreed to table this topic pending further discussion.

Treasurer and County Clerk Reports

The Treasurer gave his weekly financial report. The County Clerk submitted bills for approval and payment.

Collector's Annual Settlement

County Clerk Susan Porterfield presented the Collector's Annual Settlement report showing collections and distributions for fiscal year 2021, as submitted by Collector David Brodersen on March 21. This report has been verified by the County Clerk and will be filed as required by Statute.

National Public Safety Telecommunications Week

Commissioners recognized the week of April 10, 2022 as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week. Commissioners wish to thank the 911 dispatchers in Benton County, recognizing their service and dedication to the citizens of Benton County.

Travis Elliott

A telephone conference call was conducted with the County's legal counsel, Travis Elliott, to discuss various personnel issues and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Adjournment

District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms Ordered that the commission adjourn until 4/18/2022. Larry Berry seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), Steve Daleske (Yes). Meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Signatures



Steve Daleske
Presiding Commissioner