

Benton County Commission
July 27, 2026

Convene

Presiding Commissioner Steve Daleske called the meeting of the Benton County Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, July 27, 2026, in the County Commission Room. Attendance: Larry Berry, Present; Scott Harms, Present; and Steve Daleske, Present.

Approval of Prior Minutes

District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry made the motion to approve prior minutes dated July 13, 2026. District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

David Malecki/Rebecca Minks

David Malecki and Rebecca Minks are present at today's meeting.

Data Centers Discussion

A concerned citizen met with Commissioners to present information about data centers, noting such things as energy demand, water consumption, and pollution associated with such facilities and requested that Commissioners act on this subject before a data center locates here. Presiding Commissioner Daleske stated that Commissioners are currently reviewing what can be done, noting Statute must be followed; he also suggested that contact be made with officials in Jefferson City.

Collector

Collector David Brodersen met with Commissioners, noting that he has received documents from Bent Tree Harbor Homeowners Association, outlining an order they have received from the Department of Natural Resources. This order specifies that new holding tanks in this development are prohibited and would make future development of full-time residences no longer viable. Collector Brodersen stated that there are several lots in this development that are on the 2026 tax sale, and this information will be passed along at the tax sale, which could make these lots unsaleable. Contact can be made to the Bent Tree Harbor Homeowners Association at (660) 438-7163, for further information.

Co-Mo Connect

Co-Mo Connect representative Janie Biggs met with Commissioners to present information about telephone and internet connectivity options; discussion will continue in this matter.

E-911

E-911 Director Brenda Hilburn and Ron Cobb met with Commissioners to provide an update on recent tower and radio upgrades.

Benton County Board of Equalization

The Benton County Board of Equalization convened at 10 a.m. Those present for the Board were: Steve Daleske, Scott Harms, and Larry Berry, Commissioners; Jim Hansen, County Assessor; Susan Porterfield, County Clerk; and Pam Grobe and Michael Schnakenberg, Appointed Members. No appeals were heard. There being no further business for the Board of Equalization, District 2

Commissioner Scott Harms made the motion to adjourn the 2026 Benton County Board of Equalization, District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry seconded the motion, all aye, motion carried.

Mike Keith Insurance, Inc.

Mike Keith Insurance, Inc. representatives Christian DeLozier and Jake Farnsworth met with Commissioners to discuss property and liability insurances, and to present a mid-year review of claims that have been presented to insurance.

Cintas Services

Cintas Services representative Emma Baynham met with Commissioners to introduce products and services available through the Cintas company.

County Clerk

The County Clerk submitted bills approval and payment.

Clyde Bridge

Commissioners discussed the condition of Clyde Bridge, which has been damaged by flood waters during recent storms. District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry has contacted companies to complete this work due to the emergency nature of this necessary repair and made the motion to accept the bid for repairs from Bruce Woods Construction. District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

Data Centers

Ava Aabak met with Commissioners for follow-up discussion of the status of data centers locating, or planning to locate, within the confines of the County. Commissioners again stated that they have no knowledge of data centers being located here at this time. Rosa Valentine was also scheduled on the agenda but was unable to attend. Visitor Kat Tye was present.

Treasurer

The Treasurer presented her financial report for July. She also presented her responses to the draft audit that has been received and a corrective plan, as well as her recommendation for a corrective action plan/checklist for future reference.

Adjourn

District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms ordered that the Commission adjourn until August 3, 2026; District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), Steve Daleske (Yes). Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Signature



Steve Daleske
Presiding Commissioner