

Benton County Commission
October 13, 2026

Convene

Presiding Commissioner Steve Daleske called the meeting of the Benton County Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 2026, in the County Commission Room. Attendance: Larry Berry, Present; Scott Harms, Present; and Steve Daleske, Present.

Approval of Prior Minutes

District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms made the motion to approve prior minutes dated October 5, 2026. District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

David Malecki

David Malecki is present at today's meeting.

Visitors

The following citizens were present: Peggy Crabtree Berry, Shawn Guess, Patty Richardson, Baron Pennington Sr, Lisa White, Cynthia Smith, Rosa Valentine, Jeff Sims, Kat Tye, Rich Chiles, and Matt Sargeant.

Rosa Valentine

Rosa Valentine addressed the Commission regarding the July 6 minutes, requesting an amendment to include her previous discussion with Economic Developer Jo Ann Lane. Additionally, she requested that the Commission evaluate transitioning the oversight and management of the county website from the IT department back to the Commission itself.

Patty Richardson

Patty Richardson spoke to Commissioners regarding the presentation from the Benton County Economic Developer's and the findings within the judgement regarding the Data Center

Cynthia Smith

Cynthia Smith spoke to Commissioners pertaining to the condition of Polk Street; Commissioners indicated that this is a county road after the city limits. Commissioner Berry will review the area for maintenance. She also requested speed limit signs on this road due to the high traffic area that this is.

Baron Pennington Sr

Baron Pennington Sr. asked the Commission what the citizens could do, if anything, to try to prevent the Data Center from being built.

Goerge Hall

George Hall discussed with Commissioners regarding the Moratorium and the transparency from the LLC

Cintas

Representative Tyler from Cintas met with Commissioners to present their uniform line for Road District employees and discuss the benefits of the uniform package.

County Clerk

Deputy County Clerk Samantha Corpening presented bills for approval and payment.

Fuel Bid

South District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry made the motion to accept the fuel bid from Warsaw Oil for \$3.79/gal and from MFA Oil Co for Red Diesel for \$5.26/gal. North District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms

seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Barry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

Mariah Williams

Mariah Williams met with commissioners for further clarification regarding the live streaming process, rules and/or regulations, and costs. Hopes to meet with Commissioners again later with more information.

Treasurer

Benton County Treasurer Rebecca Minks presented October reports and sales tax.

Sheriff

Sheriff Eric Knox met with Commissioners to discuss getting stipends for his staff for additional duties that they are tasked with. Due to being short staffed, Sheriff Knox believes his budget can cover the expenses associated with the stipends through the end of this fiscal year. Commissioners will calculate the increase and look at the budget then meet back with Sheriff Knox about his request.

Adjourn

District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms ordered that the Commission adjourn until October 19, 2026; District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes) and Scott Harms (Yes). Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Signature



Steve Daleske
Presiding Commissioner

(Note: visitors come and go at will during Commission session.)