Benton County Commission
November 2, 2026

Convene

Presiding Commissioner Steve Daleske called the meeting of the Benton County Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, November 2, 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 October 26, 2026. District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

Visitors

The following citizens were present: David Malecki, Patty Richardson, Sharon Guess, Kat Tye, Jeff Sims, George M. Hall, Mike McGhee, Rosa Valentine, and Peggy Berry.

Patty Richardson/J. D. Richardson/George Hall

A draft ordinance was given to Commissioners, and the group asked the Commissioners to immediately adopt this ordinance. J. D. Richardson advised that he had reviewed the document and added specific language for Benton County. He stated that Dent County had adopted it as well as Camden County. He said there was a third county, but he could not recall the name of that county today. There is a concern that the penalty amounts for violation may exceed the ability of a 3rd Class-county to assess. Mr. Hall stated to the attendees that the Commissioners must seek legal advice before proceeding with this ordinance. If they do not seek that advice, they may become personally responsible if a lawsuit is filed. There was a brief discussion about the Judge's ruling to stop enforcement of the moratorium. The Commissioners stated that they would not take any action on this issue today.

Visitors exited the meeting at 10 a.m.

Sheriff Eric Knox

Sheriff Eric Knox met with Commissioners to discuss maintenance at the shooting range. Commissioners indicated that there is some surplus gravel available that can be added at the range to make the area more usable during wet weather. He also indicated that he had several personnel issues to discuss.

Executive Session

At 10 a.m., District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry made the motion to enter executive session, pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1) and 610.021(3), District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

At 10:20 a.m., District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms made the motion to reconvene in regular session, District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

Jeff Sims

Jeff Sims met with the Commissioners, again requesting that a planning and zoning question be put on the April 2027 ballot. He presented a draft memo and petition sign-up form. Discussion was given to citizens drafting a petition for this purpose. He requested that a Board be established to begin the process and asked for Commission support. Commissioners will discuss this issue further.

County Clerk

County Clerk Susan Porterfield submitted monthly budget reports for each department; bills were presented for approval and payment.

Collector

Collector David Brodersen met with Commissioners to present letters outlining the financial impact on various funds from the SB190 changes. The impact is minor now but will grow larger in the future.

Adjourn

District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms ordered that the Commission adjourn until November 9, 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