

Benton County Commission
March 9, 2026

Convene

Presiding Commissioner Steve Daleske called the meeting of the Benton County Commission to order at 9 a.m. on March 9, 2026, in the Board 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 3/2/2026; Presiding Commissioner Steve Daleske seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

David Malecki/Paul Venable

David Malecki and Paul Venable are present at today's meeting.

Bid Opening – Cold Mix Asphalt

The bid opening was held for cold mix asphalt. The following bids were received:

- Leo O'Laughlin bid \$54.70 per ton delivered to District #1 shed, \$57.42 per ton delivered to District #2 shed, and \$52.31 per ton delivered to Capital Materials Warsaw Quarry
- Vance Brothers bid \$57.70 per ton delivered to Capital Materials Warsaw Quarry and \$65.40 per ton delivered to District #1 and District #2 sheds
- Superior Bowen bid materials cost at \$118 per ton for standard material and \$133 per ton for premium material, plus \$22.93 per ton delivery cost to District #1 shed and \$21.90 per ton delivery cost to District #2 shed.

Upon discussion of the bids received, District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms made the motion to accept the bid from Leo O'Laughlin for cold mix asphalt, District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes).

Paul Venable

Paul Venable, chairman of the Constitution Party of Missouri, met with Commissioners seeking input regarding the adoption of a proposed gross receipts tax in lieu of sales and property taxes. He asked if Missouri counties would be interested in combining efforts to fund large projects without using the sale of bonds and further questioned if voters are more interested in the cost of a project or the amount of taxes they would need to pay. Commissioners agreed that voters are probably more concerned about their tax liability than the cost of a project. Discussions also included information about Kaysinger Regional Planning and the MoDOT BRO (bridge) program.

Mr. Venable exited the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Benton County Economic Development

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

Big Turkey Creek Bridge

Bob Martin, a resident in the area of Big Turkey Creek bridge, met with Commissioners to express concerns of the condition of that bridge, stating that repairs are necessary. District #1 Commissioner Larry Berry stated that he will visit the area and determine what needs to be done.

Benton County Master Gardeners

Benton County Master Gardeners representative Linda Nelson met with Commissioners to report that this organization plans to dissolve, and it will be the County's responsibility to maintain the flower garden at the Courthouse. Commissioners expressed their gratitude to this group for their longtime service to the County.

Treasurer and County Clerk Reports

The Treasurer presented her weekly financial report. The County Clerk presented monthly tax abatements for approval and signature; bills were submitted for approval and payment.

Adjourn

District 2 Commissioner Scott Harms ordered that Commission adjourn until March 16, 2026; District 1 Commissioner Larry Berry seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote: Larry Berry (Yes), Scott Harms (Yes), and Steve Daleske (Yes). Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Signature

Steve Daleske
Presiding Commissioner