

Benton County Commissioner Meeting
June 21st, 2022

The Benton County Commissioners met at 8:15 a.m. in the Commissioners room at the Benton County Courthouse. Those in attendance were Commissioners Mike Freeland, Steve Cox, County Attorney, Jacob Ahler and County Auditor, Audrey Freeland

Others in attendance were: Mike Budreau, Walt Wilson, Lucas Darling, Jason Fisher, Angie Taylor, Ron Shoup, Kelsie Muller and Cherilynn Mundell

Mike Budreau – Highway Supervisor

- Chip & Seal – they have started and began on Division to 100 W then will head to Boswell
- Patching – they continue to work on this as needed
- Mack – do not have yet
- Culverts – they have gotten one installed and Nick is working on the bridge
- Crack seal – Commissioner Cox asked how Mike was doing on supplies for it. Mike said it was ordered last year and did not use much of it so they have plenty
- PT help – would still like to hire one more PT for mowing and crack sealing
- Drags – they are working well. They blew a valve on one of them and the company wanted them to return the entire drag. Mike told them he would not, it can still be used until the new replacement valve comes in.
- Trucks – there are 2 trucks that will be advertised for a seal bid auction. Mike will review the advertisement but they are set to be opened at the July 19th meeting.

Business:

The June 7th, 2022 regular scheduled meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with a motion by Commissioner, Mike Freeland, second by Commissioner, Steve Cox and motion carried.

The pay at once claims were presented and approved with a motion by Commissioner, Mike Freeland, second by Commissioner, Steve Cox and motion carried.

Payroll (PPE 06.17.2022) was approved as presented. They were approved with a motion by Commissioner, Steve Cox, second by Commissioner, Mike Freeland excluding the highway payroll, and motion carried.

The annual covered bridge certificate was signed, and Benton County remains at having zero covered bridges within the county limits.

The two quotes from Data Pit stop for excise taxes and a website/application service. The discussion was tabled again.

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Auditor Freeland presented a service agreement from Peterson Consulting for assistance with the GACB-34 / Fixed Assets for approval. She stated that they have used them for years prior and she is very happy with their service and assistance. The agreement was approved with a motion by Commissioner, Steve Cox, second by Commissioner, Mike Freeland and motion carried.

The next meeting date was discussed since Auditor Freeland stated it was to be held on July 5th. She asked Beth Budreau to bring down the schedule. Upon review she stated she was wrong that it will in fact be held on Wednesday, July 6th as both Commissioner Freeland and Commissioner Cox stated.

Auditor Freeland presented the part time / back up custodian job description and asked the board if they had an idea if they were going to have it be so many days or set hours. She explained that the head custodian felt that 10 hours would be more than plenty except when he was out on PTO. After some discussion Commissioner, Steve Cox motioned to approve the position at a minimum of 16 hours a week with coverage as needed for head custodian, second by Commissioner, Mike Freeland and the motion carried.

Jason Fisher – DHS / EMA Director

- Land Trust Property – Auditor Freeland asked the board to consider waiving the taxing on the property located on 5th street that was gifted to the Town of Fowler now that the tax deed had been recorded. Commissioner, Steve Cox motioned to approve waiving all taxes and fees, second by Commissioner, Mike Freeland and motion carried.
- Lights – Jason provided an update regarding the emergency lights at the County Home and gave a few options to the board to consider
- Air conditioners – Jason presented two quotes for the air unit replacement. The quotes are listed below and the discussion was tabled due to the unit being different sizes. The board would like them to be rebid due to the EOC room might be in need of its own control unit
 - Adwell - \$8,107.46 or \$8,889.94
 - North Mechanical - \$11,999.00 or \$17,195.00 or \$17,175.00
- Haley's – Jason updated the board on the lock assessment and rekeying
- EMT's – Jason is currently down 2 EMT's and 1 Paramedic. We will be down a couple more EMT's as he has two that will soon be taking the Paramedic class

Kelsie Muller – Extension

- Safe Place – Kelsie came before the board to provide more information on the mileage claim for Cherilynn that was denied. Kelsie explained what the project Safe Place was and how it came about. She then stated that Cherilynn traveled to the Otterbein located to facilitate a class and training for those who are employed by the safe place location. After further discussion the board approved the mileage claim to be paid and asked that future claims list if it was for training purposes. It was then approved to be paid out as a

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pay at once claim with a motion by Commissioner, Steve Cox, second by Commissioner, Mike Freeland and motion carried.

- Comp Time – Kelsie then asked the board for approval for her staff during the fair. The board told her that it was to be kept to a minimum of hours. Auditor Freeland stated that it is hour for hour until 40 hours is reached and then it is earned at 1 1/2 hours per hour worked. The comp time sheet is to be sent to the Auditor's office once the fair is complete and the time is to be used within a reasonable timeframe and before and PTO is used.

Business continued:

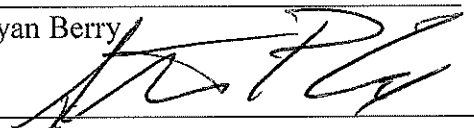
Auditor Freeland presented another sun pass toll invoice. She stated that she has went online to dispute the claim for the 3rd time after receiving a notice that it was removed and no amount was due. The board advised that if anything further is received she will turn it over to Attorney Ahler.

Auditor Freeland then stated that at the last meeting the monthly claims were approved but the docket was not signed. The board signed the claim docket.

Commissioner Cox asked if a translator is called in by the county who is to pay for that service. Auditor Freeland stated that in the past it was paid for by whatever department needed the service. He stated that he would relay the information and make sure that an invoice was presented to the correct department for payment.

With no further business the Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 9:11 a.m. with a motion by Commissioner, Mike Freeland, second by Commissioner, Steve Cox and motion carried.

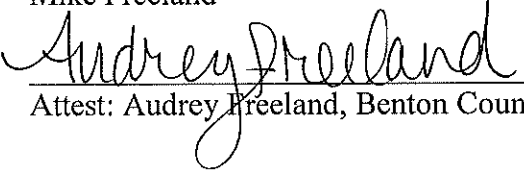
Bryan Berry



Steve Cox



Mike Freeland



Attest: Audrey Freeland, Benton County Auditor