

MEETING SUMMARY
BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, December 19, 2023
9:00 a.m.

****Please note: the meeting summary is not the formal meeting record
and does not replace official Board Meeting minutes.****

- 1. Opening:**
 - 1. Call to Order**
 - 2. Introductions**
 - 3. Announcements**

No announcements were made.

2. Review and Approve Agenda

Item 4.1 Monthly Health Update was not heard due to staff absence.

3. Comments from the Public – Please see meeting minutes for details.

The following community members expressed concerns about the temporary suspension of the Disposal Site Advisory Committee (DSAC), and disputed statements about DSAC activities made by Community Development Director Darren Nichols at the December 5, 2023 Board Meeting:

- Mark Yeager, Benton County resident
- Marge Popp, Corvallis resident
- Bill Gellatly, Corvallis resident.

4. Work Session

4.1 Monthly Health Update – *April Holland, Health Services*

The item was not heard due to staff absence.

5. Consent Calendar

5.1 Reappointments to the Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACT) of Pat Malone and Gary Stockhoff

5.2 Approval of the November 7, 2023 Tuesday Board Meeting Minutes

5.3 Approval of the following Appointments and Reappointments:
Board/Committee: Order: Appointees:

5.3.A. Reappointment to #D2023-094 Elizabeth Irish
Budget Committee

5.3.B. Reappointment to #D2023-095 Deb Merchant, Chris Andersen,
Environment, Natural Robert Swan, Jason Schindler,
Resources Advisory Mike Hughes
Committee

- | | | |
|--|-------------------|---|
| 5.3.C. Reappointment to Fair Board | #D2023-096 | Rick Freeman |
| 5.3.D. Appointment to Natural Areas & Parks Board | #D2023-097 | Duncan Rothe |
| 5.3.E. Appointment to Planning Commission | #D2023-098 | Sara Cash |
| 5.3.F. Reappointments to Planning Commission | #D2023-099 | Nick Fowler, Evelyn Lee, Elizabeth Irish |

Malone noted that item 5.2 had been corrected to indicate an adjournment time of 11:08 a.m.

MOTION: Wyse moved to approve the Consent Calendar of December 19, 2023. Augerot seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

MOTION: Augerot moved to appoint Sharon Thornberry to the Community Services Consortium Community Action Advisory Council. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

6. Public Hearings

PH 1 In the Matter of a Public Hearing Regarding Supplemental Budget 240601, Resolution #R2023-024 – Jenn Ambuehl, Rick Crager, Financial Services

Malone noted that Resolution #2023-024 should be updated to reflect a 12/19/23 adoption date.

Crager summarized the changes in the Supplemental Budget.

Public Comment

No comment was offered.

MOTION: Augerot moved to adopt Resolution R2023-024 in the matter of Supplemental Budget 24061 with the correction of the active date to December 19, 2023. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

PH 2 Continuation of the November 28, 2023 Public Hearing Regarding Solid Waste Collection: Annual Rate Increase Request, Order #D2023-092 – Darren Nichols; Community Development; Julie Jackson, Republic Services

Malone noted that Order #D2023-092 should be updated to reflect a 12/19/23 adoption date.

Nichols summarized the context of the rate increase request.

Augerot noted that the Board had not yet received the annual report from Republic Services.

Jackson explained how rates are calculated based on the Refuse Rate Index.

Augerot objected to the residential fee discount for a larger waste container, which could incentivize producing more waste.

Wyse requested documentation on how discounting a certain can size affects the amount of waste generated.

Public Comment

Mark Yeager, resident, requested that the Chair continue the Public Hearing until the Board receives the requested information from Republic Services. Yeager asked the Board to examine the rate structure holistically and make it easier for the public to understand.

Marge Popp, resident, asked that if a rate change provided more revenue, the revenue be used to benefit Benton County residents rather than Republic Services.

After Board deliberation, the Chair continued the Public Hearing to the 1/16/2024 Board Meeting to allow the Board to review the Republic Services annual report.

PH 3 Continuation of the December 5, 2023 Public Hearing Regarding an Amendment to Benton County Code, Chapter 9, Ordinance #2023-0322 – Tomi Douglas, Natural Areas, Parks, and Events

Chair Malone continued Public Hearing 3 from the 12/5/23 Board Meeting. (The record for this Hearing was closed on that date.)

Counsel clarified that the final corrected redline version of the Code on packet pages 77-80 reflected the corrections that the Board requested on 12/5/23.

The Board deliberated on a possible change to the Ordinance.

MOTION: Wyse moved to enact Ordinance #2023-0322 and conduct a first reading. Augerot seconded the motion, which **failed 2-1 (Augerot and Malone opposed).**

MOTION: Augerot moved that the Board accept this redline version of the Ordinance with the addition of the word ‘only’ in Benton County Code 9.810(2)(d). Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried, 2-1 (Malone opposed).**

Counsel clarified that the word ‘only’ goes in subsection d, second sentence, after the word ‘using’ and before the word ‘animals.’ Counsel conducted the first reading (short title). Second reading to occur January 2, 2024. Counsel noted that the Ordinance dates should be updated accordingly.

7. Departmental Reports & Requests

7.1 In the Matter of Changing the Name of the Board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA) to the Property Value Appeals Board (PVAB) and Increasing the Terms of Members to Two Years, Order #D2023-100 – James Morales, Records and Elections

Morales explained that the changes were mandated by the Oregon legislature.

MOTION: Augerot moved to adopt revisions to the Board of Property Tax Appeals By-Laws to reflect the name change from the Board of Property Tax Appeals to the Property Value Appeal Board and to increase the term served by appointed board members from a one-year to a two-year term, in accordance with the statutory changes adopted by the 2023 Oregon Legislature in House Bills 2031 and 2237. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

7.2 Discussion Regarding a Resolution to Support Establishment of a Continuum of Care for the Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties Region and Registering with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2024 – Board of Commissioners

MOTION: Augerot moved to approve Resolution #R2023-028 supporting the establishment of a Continuum of Care for Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties and registering said unit with the Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2024. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

8. Other

No other business was discussed.