

## Benton County Council December 7, 2023

The Benton County Council were set to meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Benton County Courthouse. Those in attendance were Council members: Jim Schoen, Mike Connor, Trina Schutter, Brent Cox, Jack Duncan, Angie Glotzbach, Jackie Steinmetz and Auditor, Audrey Freeland

Others in attendance were –Latisha Provo, Mike Freeland and John Cox

### **Business:**

The minutes from the October 10.26.2023 minutes were approved with a motion by Councilman, Jack Duncan, seconded by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach and motion carried.

The minutes from the 11.16.2023 minutes were approved with a motion by Councilman, Brent Cox, seconded by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach and motion carried.

The amended Rainy-Day resolution was reviewed and approved as presented with a motion by Councilman, Mike Conner, seconded by Councilman, Jack Duncan and motion carried.

The 2024 meeting schedule was approved with a motion by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach, seconded by Councilman, Brent Cox and motion carried.

Year end department head transfers and year end clean up transfers were presented and approved with a motion by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach, seconded by Councilman, Jack Duncan and motion carried.

Auditor Freeland then presented on behalf of Assessor, Kelly Balensiefer, the list of potential PTABOA members that need to be appointed by the County Council. The board of Commissioners have already appointed the 3 required by them and also voted to waive the political party due to lack of interest/qualified individuals. The following two people were appointed by the Council with a motion by Councilman, Brent Cox, seconded by Councilwoman, Trinia Schutter and motion carried.

1. Kristine Huston
2. Jamie Elston

### **John Cox – Sheriff**

John presented the annual jail commissary fund resolution for approval. This was approved with a motion by Councilman, Jack Duncan, seconded by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach and motion carried.

John shared a power point to provide the year recap/overview. He spoke about the department's accomplishments for the year and thanked the board for their support. He then talked briefly about the 2024 items he will be looking at incorporating or upgrading. His biggest concern is getting all road deputies vehicle cameras for the safety of his staff. The board thanked him for all that he has accomplished and look forward to seeing what he is able to make happen.

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There was a brief discussion on the safety and security of the courthouse and employees not being screened. Sheriff Cox said that he has a lot of items he would like to address in the upcoming years on this matter.

## Latisha Provo – Economic Development

She asked the board what they would like to see what they want/expect from her

She provided an update on the READI grants and other items she is working on.

- READI 1.0 – money has been awarded
  - Right steps – 40 seats available for state licensing available
- KIRPC – Ag strategy – (4 key areas) - food systems, food supply chains, ag work force and regulatory streamlining. Benton County is set to benefit from this and they are looking at locations, signage and other things
- Invets – they will be making a website and overhauling Benton County's. they will have all of the Benton County websites linked through theirs as well
- READI 2.0 – meetings have begun. 4<sup>th</sup> Economy is working with all of the LEDO's to gather information.


Councilwoman Glotzbach asked if she was questioned how the funds are used/allocated and then discussed the traffic issues at the elevators during the recent harvest. Latisha said that they could write a plan to describe why those funds are needed and then submit it to see if they are awarded any funding.

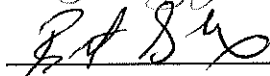
## Business continued:

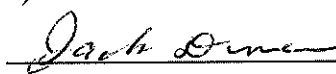
Auditor Freeland gave a brief update on the 1782 notice and finalization of the 2024 budgets.

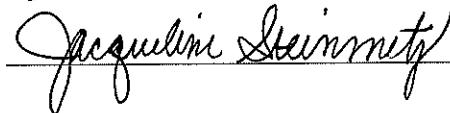
The group discussed the December 21<sup>st</sup> scheduled meeting and if there was a need to meet, after some discussion the board voted to cancel the meeting with a motion by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach, seconded by Councilman, Jack Duncan

**The group closed out the meeting at 9:23 a.m. with a motion by Councilwoman, Angie Glotzbach, second by Councilman, Jack Duncan, motion carried.**

  
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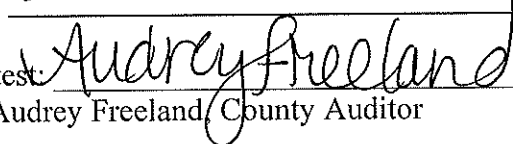
  
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Attest:   
Audrey Freeland, County Auditor