

**MINUTES OF THE BENTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Session**  
**April 28, 2025**  
**City Hall**

**The Benton City Council was called to order at 5:41 p.m.**

**The invocation was given by Bro. Walt Garrett**

**Council Member Hamm led the pledge of allegiance.**

**Roll was called.**

**The following people were in attendance:**

**Council Member Frank Baptist  
Council Member Ann Spencer-Cole  
Council Member Bill Donnor  
Council Member Judd Hart  
Council Member Steve Lee  
Cindy Stracener, City Clerk  
Tom Farmer, Mayor**

**Council Member Steve Brown  
Council Member Evelyn Reed  
Council Member Jeff Morrow  
Council Member Trevor Villines  
Council Member Jeff Hamm  
Baxter Drennon, City Attorney – by Phone**

**When the roll was called ten (10) council members were present. A quorum was declared.**

**The Mayor recognized Council Member Steve Lee for 20 years of service on the council.**

**Council Member Hamm made a motion to approve March 17, 2025, city council meeting minutes. Second, by Council Member Reed. The Mayor called for a voice vote. All council members voted in the affirmative. The March 17, 2025, minutes were approved with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Morrow made a motion to approve the March 17, 2025 public hearing minutes. Second, by Council Member Hamm. The Mayor called for a voice vote. All council members voted in the affirmative. The March 17, 2025 public hearing minutes were approved with 10 affirmative votes.**

**There was not a report from the Advertising and Promotion Commission, the Commission Committee, Personnel/Health & Safety; Street Committee or the Animal Service Committee.**

**Council Member Reed was recognized for a report from the Community Service Committee. Council Member Reed made a motion to read and adopt Ordinance 20 of 2024 – An Ordinance Approving the Annexation of Certain Real Property; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Lee. The ordinance was read. This property is located at 7120 Alcoa Road and 1049 Elenore Road behind Holiday Inn Express. They filed a petition to be detached from Bryant and want to be annexed into Benton. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments. Council Member Lee asked if the property floods. He was told no. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member**

**Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 20 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Reed made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 21 of 2025 – A Resolution Authorizing the City to Enter into a Non-Exclusive Pole Attachment Agreement with UPN; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Baptist. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor asked for any comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 21 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Reed made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 22 of 2025 – A Resolution to Condemn the Structure Located at 4106 Faye Circle and For Code Enforcement to Raze Said Property in Accordance with Arkansas State Law and City Ordinance; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Baptist. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor asked if anyone was here to represent this property. No one came forward. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 22 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Reed made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 23 of 2025 – A Resolution to Request the Saline County Tax Collector Place a Certified Lien Against Real Property Located at 1908 West Lakeview Drive as a Result of Incurred Expenses by the City of Benton in Accordance with State Law and City Ordinance; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Hamm. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor asked if anyone was here to represent this property. No one came forward. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments. Council Member Hart asked what was done. Mr. Thomas told him that the property was cleaned up. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 23 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Reed made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 24 of 2025 – A Resolution to Request the Saline County Tax Collector Place a Certified Lien Against Real Property Located at 4121 Brandy Drive as a Result of Incurred Expenses by the City of Benton in Accordance with State Law and City Ordinance; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Spencer-Cole. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor asked if anyone was here to represent this property. No one came forward. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments. Council Member Hart asked if this was a cleanup also. He was told yes. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 24 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Brown was recognized for a report from the Finance Committee. Council Member Brown made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 25 of 2025 – A Resolution Declaring Certain Property as Surplus; and Authorizing the Sale of the Surplus Property to Wildman Arms; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Donnor. The resolution was read by title. The surplus property are 4 night scopes and 2 sniper rifles for a total of \$5,000. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 25 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Brown made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 26 of 2025 – A Resolution Declaring Certain Property as Surplus; and Authorizing the Sale of the Surplus Property At Auction; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Spencer-Cole. The resolution was read by title. The surplus property is 2 Segway Personal Transports. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 26 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Brown made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 27 of 2025 – A Resolution Expressing the Willingness of the City of Benton to Utilize Federal-Aid Funds for the Following Project; Benton Saline River Greenway PH. 4 (S) Saline County. Seconded by Council Member Lee. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor stated that this is from the Saline River to Southwest Trail, it is in different phases. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments. A citizen asked how it runs. The Mayor stated that Phase 4 is from the Saline River to Hwy 229. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 27 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Brown made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 28 of 2025 – A Resolution Approving a Contract with Heritage Engineering, PLLC for Geotechnical Services, Topographic Survey, Overall Site Layout Plan and Structural Design of the Foundation of the New Fire Training Facility and Amending the 2025 Public Safety Budget to Increase the Appropriation in the Amount of \$11,500 for the Build of a Fire Training Facility Using Cash on Hand; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Spencer-Cole. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor stated that this was below the Mountain Bike Park, opposite the animal service facility we are building in that curve. This is for engineering and making sure the concrete slab is done to specifications. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes,**

**Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 28 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Hart was recognized for a report from the Parks Committee. Council Member Hart made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 29 of 2025 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and City of Benton to Apply for Great Strides/Trails for Life Grant Through the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism; and For Other Purposes. Second, by Council Member Hamm. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor stated that this grant is for \$250,000 and it completes the lights around Sunset Lake. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 29 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Hart made a motion to read and adopt Resolution 30 of 2025 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Parks Director to Utilize Federal-Aid Transportation Alternatives Program or Recreational Trails Program Funds. Seconded by Council Member Morrow. The resolution was read by title. The Mayor stated that this was Phase 1 of the trails, it is an 80/20 matching grant. The trail runs from the Saline River Bridge to the Hooked On Fishing lake. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Resolution 30 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Spencer-Cole was recognized for a report from the Planning and Zoning Commission. Council Member Spencer-Cole made a motion to read and adopt Ordinance 21 of 2025 – An Ordinance Accepting the Annexation of Certain Territory to the City of Benton, Arkansas; Approving the Schedule of Services To Be Extended to Said Area; Assigning Such to a Ward; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Reed. The ordinance was read. This property is located at 1514 and 1526 Hwy 5 North; it will be zoned C3 service commercial. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 21 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**Council Member Spencer-Cole made a motion to read and adopt Ordinance 22 of 2025 – An Ordinance Rezoning 1601 Hudson Street in the City of Benton, Saline County, Arkansas, From R2 Single Family District Detached Housing to R7 Multi Family Residential District; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Reed. The ordinance was read. The Mayor asked if anyone was here for this property. Jennifer Williams representing the property stated that no negative comments were received from the public or the Planning Commission. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist no, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee**

yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 22 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 negative vote.

Council Member Spencer-Cole made a motion to read and adopt Ordinance 23 of 2025 – An Ordinance Rezoning 1712 Thomas Road in the City of Benton, Saline County, Arkansas, From R2 Single Family District Detached Housing to C3 Service Commercial; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member Reed. The ordinance was read. The Mayor asked if anyone was here for this property. Jennifer Williams representing the property stated that no negative comments were received from the public or the Planning Commission. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments. Council Member Hart asked how the property was being accessed. Ms. Williams stated that Folsom's was expanding, and it would be through the current property. The residence was taken out of the rezone. Mr. Thomas asked if they were manufacturing mulch at that location. Ms. Williams stated that she could not answer that. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist no, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 23 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 absent vote.

Council Member Hart was recognized for a report from the Public Utility Commission. In the agenda meeting Council Member Baptist made a motion to amend Ordinance 15 of 2025 and change the effective date to be July 1, 2025 and decrease the large power service energy charge to \$0.0475 per KWH. Seconded by Council Member Morrow. The Mayor asked for a roll call vote which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. The motion to amend Ordinance 15 of 2025 was approved with 10 affirmative votes.

Council Member Hart asked for the third reading of Ordinance 15 of 2025 – An Ordinance Establishing Electrical Rates for Customers of the City of Benton, Arkansas; Repealing Electrical Rate Structures Adopted by The City in Ordinance No. 59 of 2022; and For Other Purposes as amended in the agenda meeting for an effective date of July 1, 2025 and decreasing the large power service energy charge to \$0.0475 per KWH. Seconded by Council Member Morrow. Council Member Hart stated that this could be positive for a decrease in your rates and the rates will be adjusted on a power cost adjustment. It does have some potential benefits for the customers in the long term. The ordinance was read. The Mayor asked for any public comments, an individual stated she was having issues with her electric provider, it was determined that she lived off Crossroads which is not in Benton Utilities service area. Council Member Hart stated that this ordinance does away with the CPI. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist no, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 15 of 2025 was adopted with 9 affirmative votes and 1 negative vote.

Council Member Hart made a motion to read and adopt Ordinance 24 of 2025 – An Ordinance Waiving Competitive Bidding and Authorizing Benton Utilities To Purchase Flygt 3153 20 HP, 3 Phase Pump with Installation; and For Other Purposes. Seconded by Council Member

**Lee. The ordinance was read. The Mayor asked for any questions or comments, none. Roll was called which resulted in Council Member Baptist yes, Council Member Brown yes, Council Member Spencer-Cole yes, Council Member Reed yes, Council Member Donnor yes, Council Member Morrow yes, Council Member Hart yes, Council Member Villines yes, Council Member Lee yes, and Council Member Hamm yes. Ordinance 24 of 2025 was adopted with 10 affirmative votes.**

**The Mayor asked for public comments. A resident of Longhills Village stated that they had a flood in his neighborhood on April 5<sup>th</sup>. I live at 4802 Shoal Creek Drive. On the golf course is a pond which drains under the street into a creek. The opening in the canal part is 20 ft wide but the opening under the street is 12 ft wide and 3 ft deep, the water runs across the field and under Hwy 5 N. When we have a hard rain it overflows the culvert and under the street and floods my neighbors house. She has been flooded twice in the last year. The last time water was 6 inches deep on her front porch. We would like someone to look at this and increase what goes under the street. The Mayor stated that a Street Committee meeting will be held on May 13<sup>th</sup>, that you are welcome to come to and discuss this. Mr. Richey is working with the Lindsey people because they own the holding pond, which they are supposed to keep cleaned out and maintained.**

**Ms. Adkins asked about getting a revision or new resolution for the naming of the Second Street Overpass. She was told to come to the Street Committee meeting.**

**The committee meetings will be on May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The next council meeting will be on May 19<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor stated that we have had two groundbreakings this past month, Bu-ces with a record attendance of 805 and the one here for our new city hall.**

**The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.**

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**Tom Farmer, Mayor**

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**Cindy Stracener, City Clerk**

# **Benton Advertising & Promotion Commission**

## **Agenda**

**April 9, 2025**

**3:30 pm at the new Benton City Hall in Council Chambers  
(410 River Street)**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Frank Baptist	_____	_____
Steve Brown	_____	_____
Alison Burch	_____	_____
Bill Eldridge	_____	_____
Elgin Hamner IV	_____	_____
Luke Moody	_____	_____
Greg Shinn	_____	_____

**III. Minutes from March Meeting**

**IV. Financial Reports**

A. Profit and Loss Reports – Jordan Woolbright

B. Bank Balances and Collections Report – Mandy Spicer

**V. Administrative**

Delinquency Report – Mandy Spicer

**VI. Funding**

A. Saline County Comic Expo – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Vote

B. Saline River Canoe Inc. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Vote

**VII. Report from Benton Event Center – Nikki Chumley**

**VIII. Report on the Development of Exit 114 Property – Bill Eldridge**

**IX. Old Business**

A&P Marketing Committee – Steve Brown

**X. New Business**

Next Meeting Date – May 14

**XI. Other Business**

**XII. Adjournment**

# **BENTON ADVERTISING & PROMOTION COMMISSION**

## **Minutes**

**March 12, 2025**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bill Eldridge called the meeting of the Benton Advertising & Promotion Commission to order on March 12, 2025, at 3:30 pm at Benton City Hall in Council Chambers.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Commissioners in attendance include Bill Eldridge, Frank Baptist, Steve Brown, Alison Burch, Luke Moody and Greg Shinn. Elgin Hamner was absent.

**III. MINUTES**

Luke Moody made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2025 meeting. Steve Brown seconded. Motion carried.

**IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**A. Profit & Loss Reports**

Financial reports were presented by Jordan Woolbright. The A&P Commission bank accounts show the following balances as of February 28, 2025:

Bank OZK – Focus Group Project	\$643,477.72
Bank OZK – A&P	\$140,975.10
Bank OZK – Event Center	\$464,718.45
Bank OZK – Savings	<u>\$380,238.67</u>
Total Checking/Savings	\$1,629,409.94

There is a liability of \$213.00 owed to the Arkansas Department of Finance for sales tax and to the City of Benton for sales tax.

A&P profit and loss statement: for the month of February 2025 total income of \$32,465.78 and total operating expenses of \$9,333.33 resulting in net income of \$23,132.45. For the year to date as of February 2025 total income of \$32,888.35 and total operating expenses of \$19,486.89 resulting in net income of \$13,401.46.

Event Center profit and loss statement: for the month of February 2025 total income of \$76,443.45, total operating expenses of \$37,752.46 and capital expenditures of \$6,592.22 resulting in net income of \$32,098.77. For the year to date as of February 2025 total income of \$121,810.81, total operating expenses of \$88,650.63 and capital expenditures of \$36,999.27 resulting in a net loss of (\$3,839.09).



Focus Group profit and loss statement: for the month of February 2025 total income of \$16,155.58 and total operating expenses of \$0 resulting in net income of \$16,155.58. For the year to date as of February 2025, total income of \$35,962.81, total operating expenses of \$0 and total special project expense of \$50,000.00 resulting in a net loss of (\$14,037.19).

#### B. Bank Balances and Collections Report

Mandy Spicer presented the bank accounts with the following balances as of February 28, 2025:

	Statement Balance	Prev. Month's Balance
A&P Collections General	\$5,985.10	\$9,571.21
Bond Account	Closed	Closed
A&P Large Project Checking	\$1,770,626.71	\$1,707,466.24
A&P Small Project Checking	\$1,318,681.72	\$1,289,032.36
A&P General Operating Checking	\$140,975.10	\$127,511.81
Benton Focus Group Checking	\$643,477.72	\$635,417.71
Benton Event Center Gen Operating Checking	\$473,133.08	\$442,002.12
Benton Event Center Savings	<u>\$380,238.67</u>	\$382,140.48
	<u>\$4,733,118.10</u>	

#### V. ADMINISTRATIVE

Collections received in the month of February 2025 were \$139,469.77 which is 8.8% less than February 2024. The collections received in February are for the month of January.

Below are the amounts collected in February of this year along with February of the previous six years:

February 2025 Collections:	\$139,469.77
February 2024 Collections:	\$152,869.71
February 2023 Collections:	\$167,462.05
February 2022 Collections:	\$129,638.16
February 2021 Collections:	\$109,322.08
February 2020 Collections:	\$117,613.40
February 2019 Collections:	\$107,528.57

Luke Moody made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented by Jordan Woolbright and Mandy Spicer. Alison Burch seconded. Motion carried.

#### VI. FUNDING REQUESTS

A. Saline County Art League – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Vote – The request is for \$7,270. Alison Burch made a motion to approve funding up to \$7,270. Frank Baptist seconded. Motion carried.

- B. Royal Players – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading and Vote – The request is for \$136,475 (\$15,475 in advertising, \$6,000 for costume house signage and \$115,000 for marquee refurbishment). Luke Moody suggested the three parts of the request be considered separately and the commissioners agreed. Jennifer Wells and Susan Dill were recognized and confirmed the \$15,475 was to advertise shows and events throughout the year (posters, Playbills and general advertising).

Luke Moody made a motion to approve funding up to \$15,475. Steve Brown seconded. Motion carried.

Costume house signage for \$6,000 – Jennifer and Susan confirmed that funds generated by this business will benefit the Royal Players which is a non-profit. They also confirmed refurbishing the marquee is a priority and temporary signage or a banner could be used at the costume house.

Marquee refurbishment of \$115,000 – When asked whether sponsorships or private funds have been solicited for this project, Jennifer and Susan answered no. They also stated grants have not been solicited as of this time. The commissioners expressed concern about setting a precedent using A&P tax funds for this type of project (historical building that is owned privately). Being good stewards of the tax funds and using them on projects/events that bring people to Benton is the priority. Replacing part of the marquee and obtaining new letters would be approximately \$6,000. This would allow the Royal to advertise its events properly but Susan stated this is just a small part of what needs to be done. The commissioners expressed support of the project and of the Royal Players and what it means to the community. Luke Moody made a motion to give up to \$25,000 to finish the refurbishment of the marquee if the other funds are raised through sponsorships, private funds, grants or other means. This would be considered a special project. Steve Brown seconded. Motion carried.

- C. Saline County Comic Expo – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – The request is for \$3,704. Mike Tinnel was recognized and thanked the commission for the opportunity. This is the 18<sup>th</sup> year for the show and it continues to do well. Mike would like funding to work with a promotion company for signage that would be displayed in Jacksonville, Maumelle, Malvern and all cities between. The promotion company would also put the signs out, pick them up and store them to be used again. Mike said he has dealers, special guests and attendees from all over Arkansas as well as other states.
- D. Saline River Canoe Inc. – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – The request is for \$5,000. Tonya Sacomani was recognized and said the funds would be used to advertise outdoor recreation in Benton and to bring people here. She said the company organizes four clean up events of the Saline River per year and works with the Benton Parks & Recreation Department for events. Discussion by the commissioners included: the funds would

need to be used for the advertising of specific events and not the company, the Saline River is a treasured asset and needs to be promoted and if funds were approved, the ads would have to be carefully done to not advertise the company. Tonya said she would be glad to discuss how this can be done.

VII. REPORT FROM BENTON EVENT CENTER

Nikki Chumley reported about seven events that have been hosted in the building since the last meeting, including a consignment sale, two banquets, a conference and an expo. There were only three days in the period of February 10 to March 11 without an event. Attendance since the building opened on October 1, 2013 is 993,705.

VIII. REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF EXIT 114 PROPERTY

Bill Eldridge reported the Buc-ees groundbreaking has been re-scheduled for April 16, 2025 at 2:00 pm.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A&P Marketing Committee – Steve Brown reported the committee met this week to review and provide feedback on logos and tag lines received from Sells Agency. The creation of the website continues. Representatives from A&P, the Benton Chamber and the Benton Event Center will meet soon to finalize the job description for the marketing position and start the process of hiring someone to fill the position.

X. NEW BUSINESS

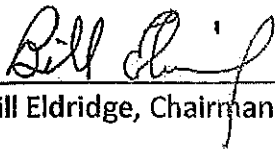
The next meeting of the A&P Commission will be April 9, 2025.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Luke Moody made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Brown seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 pm.



Bill Eldridge, Chairman



Amy McCormick, Recording Secretary

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Statement of Assets, Liabilities & Equity - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**As of March 31, 2025**

	<u>Mar 31, 25</u>	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Checking/Savings</b>		
Bank OZK - Focus Group Project	663,404.17	643,417
Bank OZK - A&P	145,903.76	140,925
Bank OZK - Event Center	478,946.60	464,718
Bank OZK - Savings	380,947.07	380,238
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>1,669,201.60</u>	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>1,669,201.60</u>	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>1,669,201.60</u></u>	
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>		
Sales Tax Payable	545.00	
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<u>545.00</u>	
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>545.00</u>	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>545.00</u>	
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained Earnings	1,633,671.76	
Net Income	34,984.84	
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u>1,668,656.60</u>	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>1,669,201.60</u></u>	

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - A&P - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**March 2025**

	<u>Mar 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Interest	431.20	350.00	81.20	123.2%
Sales Tax Revenue	17,858.95	16,808.00	1,050.95	106.25%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>18,290.15</u>	<u>17,158.00</u>	<u>1,132.15</u>	<u>106.6%</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>18,290.15</u>	<u>17,158.00</u>	<u>1,132.15</u>	<u>106.6%</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
Accounting Services	600.00	600.00	0.00	100.0%
Advertising Expense	0.00	72.10	(72.10)	0.0%
Comp. for Commissioners	750.00	750.00	0.00	100.0%
Funding	4,142.06	4,166.00	(23.94)	99.43%
Legal Counsel	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	100.0%
Office Expense	11.10	0.00	11.10	100.0%
Service Agreement	6,658.33	6,658.33	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>13,361.49</u>	<u>13,446.43</u>	<u>(84.94)</u>	<u>99.37%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>4,928.66</u>	<u>3,711.57</u>	<u>1,217.09</u>	<u>132.79%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>4,928.66</u>	<u>3,711.57</u>	<u>1,217.09</u>	<u>132.79%</u>

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - A&P - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**January through March 2025**

	<u>Jan - Mar 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Interest	1,232.79	1,050.00	182.79	117.41%
Sales Tax Revenue	49,945.71	51,421.00	(1,475.29)	97.13%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>51,178.50</u>	<u>52,471.00</u>	<u>(1,292.50)</u>	<u>97.54%</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>51,178.50</u>	<u>52,471.00</u>	<u>(1,292.50)</u>	<u>97.54%</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
Accounting Services	1,975.00	1,915.00	60.00	103.13%
Advertising Expense	0.00	200.70	(200.70)	0.0%
Comp. for Commissioners	2,100.00	2,250.00	(150.00)	93.33%
Funding	4,142.06	12,499.00	(8,356.94)	33.14%
Legal Counsel	3,600.00	3,600.00	0.00	100.0%
Office Expense	11.10	0.00	11.10	100.0%
Postage	224.92	225.00	(0.08)	99.96%
Repairs & Maintenance	820.31	825.00	(4.69)	99.43%
Service Agreement	19,974.99	19,974.99	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>32,848.38</u>	<u>41,489.69</u>	<u>(8,641.31)</u>	<u>79.17%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>18,330.12</u>	<u>10,981.31</u>	<u>7,348.81</u>	<u>166.92%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>18,330.12</u>	<u>10,981.31</u>	<u>7,348.81</u>	<u>166.92%</u>

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - Event Center - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**March 2025**

	<u>Mar 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Interest	2,727.41	2,300.00	427.41	118.58%
Sales-Revenue	39,291.66	50,912.00	(11,620.34)	77.18%
Sales Tax Revenue	17,858.95	16,808.00	1,050.95	106.25%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>59,878.02</u>	<u>70,020.00</u>	<u>(10,141.98)</u>	<u>85.52%</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	59,878.02	70,020.00	(10,141.98)	85.52%
<b>Expense</b>				
Alcohol Expense	696.12	0.00	696.12	100.0%
Bank Service Fees	353.67	489.13	(135.46)	72.31%
Building Alarm System	292.15	147.61	144.54	197.92%
Cable TV	197.00	186.35	10.65	105.72%
Cleaning Service	1,181.25	1,345.00	(163.75)	87.83%
Contract Labor	4,033.00	4,000.00	33.00	100.83%
Dues & Memberships	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.0%
Health Insurance	1,364.53	1,364.53	0.00	100.0%
Internet/IT	551.95	2,193.00	(1,641.05)	25.17%
Labor Expenses	14,059.52	14,090.83	(31.31)	99.78%
Laundry Expense	613.20	1,303.05	(689.85)	47.06%
Linen & Supplies	556.28	0.00	556.28	100.0%
Office Expense	268.46	643.95	(375.49)	41.69%
Pest Control Expense	76.56	70.00	6.56	109.37%
Repairs & Maintenance	2,075.13	8,200.00	(6,124.87)	25.31%
Supplies	1,460.81	469.84	990.97	310.92%
Telephone Expense	0.00	117.00	(117.00)	0.0%
Trash Pickup	611.42	460.60	150.82	132.74%
Utilities	6,279.91	5,900.00	379.91	106.44%
Website	69.95	69.95	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>34,740.91</u>	<u>42,050.84</u>	<u>(7,309.93)</u>	<u>82.62%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	25,137.11	27,969.16	(2,832.05)	89.87%
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Expense</b>				
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>				
Network Improvements	10,532.52	0.00	10,532.52	100.0%
Chair Replacement	0.00	10,337.00	(10,337.00)	0.0%
<b>Total Capital Expenditures</b>	<u>10,532.52</u>	<u>10,337.00</u>	<u>195.52</u>	<u>101.89%</u>
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>10,532.52</u>	<u>10,337.00</u>	<u>195.52</u>	<u>101.89%</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>(10,532.52)</u>	<u>(10,337.00)</u>	<u>(195.52)</u>	<u>101.89%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>14,604.59</u>	<u>17,632.16</u>	<u>(3,027.67)</u>	<u>82.83%</u>
 Transfer to BEC Savings	 (10,000.00)			
Transfer from BEC Savings	10,532.52			

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - Event Center - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**January through March 2025**

	<u>Jan - Mar 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
Income				
Interest	7,817.11	6,900.00	917.11	113.29%
Sales-Revenue				
Alcohol Sales-Beer/Wine	344.69	2,700.00	(2,355.31)	12.77%
Alcohol Sales-Mixed Drinks	937.96	2,500.00	(1,562.04)	37.52%
Sales-Revenue - Other	122,643.36	142,511.00	(19,867.64)	86.06%
Total Sales-Revenue	123,926.01	147,711.00	(23,784.99)	83.9%
Sales Tax Revenue	49,945.71	51,421.00	(1,475.29)	97.13%
Total Income	181,688.83	206,032.00	(24,343.17)	88.19%
Gross Profit	181,688.83	206,032.00	(24,343.17)	88.19%
Expense				
Alcohol Expense	4,902.97	4,422.20	480.77	110.87%
Bank Service Fees	1,939.64	2,033.12	(93.48)	95.4%
Building Alarm System	724.09	442.83	281.26	163.51%
Cable TV	569.70	559.05	10.65	101.91%
Cleaning Service	3,385.71	4,035.00	(649.29)	83.91%
Contract Labor	12,618.00	11,825.00	793.00	106.71%
Dues & Memberships	375.00	1,175.00	(800.00)	31.92%
Health Insurance	3,868.91	3,868.91	0.00	100.0%
Internet/IT	1,199.85	6,579.00	(5,379.15)	18.24%
Labor Expenses	48,602.90	49,443.90	(841.00)	98.3%
Laundry Expense	5,223.15	8,117.20	(2,894.05)	64.35%
Linen & Supplies	1,233.60	1,020.83	212.77	120.84%
Office Expense	2,065.21	1,569.82	495.39	131.56%
Pest Control Expense	229.68	210.00	19.68	109.37%
Repairs & Maintenance	11,121.35	26,627.33	(15,505.98)	41.77%
Supplies	3,831.68	3,177.92	453.76	114.28%
Telephone Expense	215.68	351.00	(135.32)	61.45%
Trash Pickup	1,586.12	1,479.12	107.00	107.23%
Utilities	19,688.49	18,500.00	1,188.49	106.32%
Website	209.85	209.85	0.00	100.0%
Total Expense	123,391.58	145,667.08	(22,275.50)	84.71%
Net Ordinary Income	58,297.25	60,364.92	(2,067.67)	98.58%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Expense				
Capital Expenditures				
Network Improvements	10,532.52	0.00	10,532.52	100.0%
Security Cameras	23,959.14	23,959.14	0.00	100.0%
LED Lights Change Out	13,040.13	6,447.91	6,592.22	202.24%
Chair Replacement	0.00	10,337.00	(10,337.00)	0.0%
Total Capital Expenditures	47,531.79	40,744.05	6,787.74	116.66%
Total Other Expense	47,531.79	40,744.05	6,787.74	116.66%
Net Other Income	(47,531.79)	(40,744.05)	(6,787.74)	116.66%
Net Income	10,765.46	19,620.87	(8,855.41)	54.87%
Transfer to BEC Savings	(20,000.00)			
Transfer from BEC Savings	47,531.79			

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.



**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - Focus Group - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**March 2025**

	<u>Mar 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Interest	2,078.60	1,500.00	578.60	138.57%
Sales Tax Revenue	17,858.95	16,808.00	1,050.95	106.25%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>19,937.55</u>	<u>18,308.00</u>	<u>1,629.55</u>	<u>108.9%</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>19,937.55</u>	<u>18,308.00</u>	<u>1,629.55</u>	<u>108.9%</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
Office Expense	11.10	0.00	11.10	100.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>11.10</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>11.10</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>19,926.45</u>	<u>18,308.00</u>	<u>1,618.45</u>	<u>108.84%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>19,926.45</u>	<u>18,308.00</u>	<u>1,618.45</u>	<u>108.84%</u>

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

**Benton A&P Commission**  
**Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - Focus Group - Modified Cash Basis**  
**Substantially All Disclosures Required by the Modified Cash Basis of Accounting Omitted**  
**January through March 2025**

	<u>Jan - Mar 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Interest	5,954.65	4,500.00	1,454.65	132.33%
Sales Tax Revenue	49,945.71	51,421.00	(1,475.29)	97.13%
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>55,900.36</u>	<u>55,921.00</u>	<u>(20.64)</u>	<u>99.96%</u>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<u>55,900.36</u>	<u>55,921.00</u>	<u>(20.64)</u>	<u>99.96%</u>
<b>Expense</b>				
Office Expense	11.10	0.00	11.10	100.0%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>11.10</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>11.10</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<u>55,889.26</u>	<u>55,921.00</u>	<u>(31.74)</u>	<u>99.94%</u>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Expense</b>				
Special Projects	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>50,000.00</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>(50,000.00)</u>	<u>(50,000.00)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>5,889.26</u>	<u>5,921.00</u>	<u>(31.74)</u>	<u>99.46%</u>

NO ASSURANCE IS PROVIDED ON THESE STATEMENTS.

Benton Advertising & Promotion Commission Bank Account Balances  
March 31, 2025

Account Name		Acct #	Statement Balance	Previous Month's Balance
<b>Cash Accounts:</b>				
A&P Collections General		***1584	8,981.27	5,985.10
				0.00
A&P Large Project Checking	50%	***0318	1,848,619.43	1,770,626.71
A&P Small Project Checking	20%	***0348	1,358,048.93	1,318,681.72
A&P General Op Checking	10%	***3297	148,125.82	140,975.10
Benton Focus Group Checking	10%	***2274	663,404.17	643,477.72
				0.00
Benton Event Center General Op Checking	10%	***2640	480,209.06	473,133.08
Benton Event Center Savings		***9832	380,947.07	380,238.67

TOTAL OPERATING CASH & INVESTMENTS

4,888,335.75

## COLLECTIONS - FY2025 - NET

[illegible]

% Increase from 2024 to 2025

## **Benton Event Center-Event Report**

**March 12, 2025 to April 9, 2025**

**October 1, 2013 to March 11, 2025**

**993,705**

	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b># of Attendees</b>
AAEA- AACIA Conference	3/12-3/13/2025	400
Second Jurisdiction Women Conference	3/14-3/15/2025	1100
AR AIMS AP English Spring Workshop	3/16-3/18/2025	120
CHI/STVI Leadership Development	3/18-3/19/2025	210
Hurricane Creek FCU Annual Meeting	3/20/2025	280
Burkhalter Reception	3/20/2025	40
Evergreen Living Staff Meeting	3/21/2025	40
Barnes Family	3/22/2025	120
Sportscard Show/ Vinyl Con	3/22/2025	500
Green Birthday Party	3/23/2025	40
Mondelez Mid Delta Sales Rally	3/31-4/1/2025	150
Entergy Chairperson's Training	3/31/2025	0 rescheduled
Chamber Bingo	4/2-3/2025	950
Sweet Arts Fundraiser	4/5/2025	0 rescheduled to September
FCA Banquet	4/6/2025	400
New Beginnings Banquet	4/7/2025	450

**# of Events: 16**

**TOTAL: 4,800**

**TOTAL: 998,505**

CITY OF BENTON UTILITY COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025, 6:00 P.M.,  
ELECTRIC UTILITY BUILDING  
1827 DALE AVENUE

The City of Benton Utility Commissioners met in regular session Monday, April 7, 2025, at the Electric Utility Building, 1827 Dale Avenue.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Commission Chairman Johnston.

The invocation was given by Commission Member Ponder.

Commission Chairman Johnston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

When the roll was called, Commissioners present were:

Brad Johnston, Chairman  
Jerry Ponder, Commission Member  
David McCollum, Commission Member  
Skylyr Stott, Commission Member

A quorum was declared with four members present.

Commission Chairman Johnston asked if everyone had read the regular meeting minutes of March 3, 2025, and if so, is there a motion. Commission Member McCollum made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and be filed for future reference. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Ponder. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote. All commission members present voted in the affirmative. March 3rd minutes were approved.

#### Departmental Reports

##### A. Safety/Personnel Update

Mrs. Terrie Sossamon, Human Resources Manager gave the monthly update on employee numbers, both budgeted and actual, workers' comp claims, safety classes and new employees. She also told the commission that Benton Utilities Electric Department had received a diamond designation from American Public Power Association. She said this was the highest award from APPA for safety.

##### B. October Financials

Mr. Todd Pedersen, GM, went through the financials for February. In February, revenues were over expenses by \$811,987. He then went through the cash balances, franchise fees, revenues versus expenditures by department, bad debts, Capital Outlay Budget VS Actual 2025 and billing statistics for February in all three departments. Commission Member McCollum made a motion to approve the February financials as presented. Commission

Member Stott seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote. All commission members present voted in the affirmative. February financials were approved.

## Old Business

### A. Update on Purchase of Water Line from Water Users

Mr. Pedersen told them that he had spoken to Southwest Water Users and they have agreed to sell Benton Utilities the water line for \$900,000. They have to check with the USDA loan department to see what needs to be done.

## New Business

### A. Proration of Cost-Of Service Fees

Mr. Pedersen reminded the commission that they had previously decided not to prorate the cost-of-service fees but he would like to request that they allow the prorating. He explained that currently if a customer moves out and the current bill is only for two days then they have to pay the full fee. Then the person moving in again pays the full fee. He would like to be able to charge them for the amount of days they use the service when they move in or move out. Commission Member Ponder made a motion to approve the staff's request. Commission Member McCollum seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote. All commission members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

### B. Surplus Items for Auction

Mr. Pedersen said he was going to handle this for Miss Mollie Wright, Procurement/Dispatch Manager. Each commissioner had a list of items that Miss Wright would like to put up for auction and she needs a motion from the commission to allow her to proceed. Commission Member Ponder made a motion to approve the request. Commission Member Stott seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote. All commission members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

### C. Request to Waive Bidding-Caldwell Lift Station 3<sup>rd</sup> Pump

Mr. Greg Becker, Wastewater Treatment Manager, told the commission that he needs to waive competitive bidding for the purchase of a new Flygt Pump for the Caldwell

Lift Station. He showed the commissioners slide of where the pump will go and explained why it was needed. The purchase price of the pump with installation was \$73,916.23 and it was from J. Tyler Construction LLC out of Little Rock. The bidding has to be waived because J. Tyler is a sole source supplier. Commission Member Ponder made a motion to allow Mr. Becker to move forward with an ordinance to waive bidding. Commission Member Stott seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

#### D. Alcoa Substation Breaker Bid

Miss Anna Pesaresi, Electric Manager explained the quote for the breaker and the need. She told them the low bidder was Siemens Industry Inc., with a bid of \$28,393.00 and she would like them to approve the bid. Commission Member Ponder made a motion to approve the bid as presented. Commission Member Stott seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote. All members in attendance voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

#### E. Presentation on Pre-Pay Policies

Mrs. Dorothy Self, Billing Department Manager, explained how the prepay policy would work as well as the minimum amount to start the service. She said this would allow people to pay as they go. She also presented them with a prepaid participation service agreement that she would like to see approved but she would like to add to the agreement that the current inclement weather policy does not apply to prepay. She then went through the current inclement weather policy. Commission Member Ponder approved the request and the prepaid participation service agreement with the addition to the agreement regarding the inclement weather policy. Commission Member McCollum seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote. All members in attendance voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

#### F. Roof Bids

Mr. Pedersen told the commission that he had put money in his budget to move the warehouse across the street to the old Coortek building and then use the current warehouse area for office space and for the crews working area. The first thing that needs to be done for these changes was to fix the roof. He said the electric warehouse leaks as well as the old Coorstek building. He said they went out for bids and the lowest bid was from Harold Hall Roofing. He then went through the bids and explained the difference in each one. Commission Member Ponder made a motion to approve the lowest bid from Harold Hall Roofing at staff's recommendation. Commission Member McCollum seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.



## G. Power Supply Discussion

Mr. Pedersen explained how things would change when the current Constellation contract expires and how he was working to purchase energy for Benton. He told the commission about what Constellation would be providing and what would have to be purchased as well as what was already purchased. He said this was just for their information and he would keep them updated as things progressed.

## H. Request to Order Bucket Truck

Mr. Darren Prysock, Electric Manager, asked for permission to order a new bucket truck for the electric department. He said the payment will come out of the 2027 budget but in order to get the truck he has to order it now. It will take 2 years to get to Benton. Commission Member Ponder made a motion to allow Mr. Prysock to order the truck at a cost of \$617,934. Commission Member Stott seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

## Announcements

Commission Chairman Johnston said the next regular meeting date would be Monday, May 5, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. He said he had one other thing. As many may know he has taken a job in Colorado and will be moving the first of May so this will be his last meeting. He thanked everyone for the work they have done since he has been here and that he would miss each one. Mr. Pedersen presented him with a plaque for his service to the commission. Everyone applauded his service. Mr. Pedersen said he would like the commissioners to give him the authority to publish an ad for the open position. Commission Member Ponder made a motion to allow staff to post the open commissioner position. Commission member McCollum seconded the motion. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote. All members present voted in the affirmative. Motion passed.

Commission Liaison Alderman Judd Hart thanked all of the employees who worked through the storms.

## Executive Session

### A. None

Commission Member McCollum made a motion to adjourn with a second by Commission Member Ponder. Commission Chairman Johnston called for a voice vote.

All commission members present voted in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

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Brad Johnston, Commission Chairman

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Madeline Wilson, Recording Secretary