

December 27, 2024

The Benton County Board of Supervisors met in regular session with Supervisors Primmer, Bierschenk and Seeman present. Supervisor Primmer called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. at the Benton County Service Center. Members of the public are invited to join in during open session or watch the livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/bentoncountyiowa>. *Summarized Resolutions will be available in the Auditor's office and at: www.bentoncountyiowa.gov*

Seeman moved/Bierschenk seconded: To approve the agenda. Seeman, Bierschenk and Primmer voting aye. Motion carried.

Seeman moved/Bierschenk seconded: To approve the December 23, 2024 minutes. Seeman, Bierschenk and Primmer voting aye. Motion carried.

Ron Tippett gave the board a handout in regards to his research, one being Iowa Code 5.2 (11) states that members of county boards of supervisors receive an annual salary are covered by the Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (IPERS). This applies to terms of office beginning January 1, 1999. Part-time members who receive an annual salary or are paid per diem are also covered, unless they choose to opt out. Tippett is choosing to opt out of paying into IPERS during his position as supervisor and he would get a letter to IPERS and the Auditor's office in regards.

Tippet also shared that wording in the county handbook needs to be clarified with supervisor position as elected part-time.

Supervisor Primmer stated he would feel more comfortable by treating everyone equal if we are doing it for part-time elected officials, county employees who work part-time and not elected. This would be a heck of a kick to the budget for insurance premiums.

Jerry Grief asked the Board questions regarding how this would affect budgets and if the board will be taking less pay for their salary's with the change from full-time to part-time.

Supervisor Seeman added that Iowa County supervisors are part-time with full benefits, Jones County classifies supervisors as full-time.

Seeman moved/Bierschenk seconded: To approve Resolution #24-110, Clarifying Board of Supervisor's employment terms. Primmer, Seeman and Bierschenk voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #24-110

Whereas, the office of Benton County supervisor is an elected position; and

Whereas, the county wishes to encourage qualified individuals to run for the position; and

Whereas, the hours of a Benton County supervisor fluctuate and are often difficult to predict; and

Whereas, the hours to be worked, and the benefits to be received are not clearly specified in the Counties handbook; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Benton County Board of Supervisors that the office of Benton County supervisor shall be a part time position with the eligibility for full insurance coverage along with benefits available to all full time employees. These changes need to be made in the upcoming revised handbook that will go in to affect January 1, 2025.

Adopted this 27th day of December, 2024.

Rick Primmer, Chairman

Gary Bierschenk

Tracy Seeman

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

Seeman moved/Bierschenk seconded: To authorize cancelling the current Sheriff's Visa Card and issuing a replacement. All members voting aye thereon. Motion carried.

Seeman moved/Bierschenk seconded: To table acknowledgement of Mark Johnson's retirement from the Sheriff's office. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

Bierschenk moved/Seeman seconded: To Adjourn at 11:26 a.m. Seeman, Bierschenk and Primmer voting aye. Motion carried.

Rick Primmer Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor