



**Benton
County**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

Office: (541) 766-6819

4500 SW Research Way
Corvallis, OR 97333
<https://cd.bentoncountyor.gov>

HISTORIC RESOURCES COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 30, 2025 | 6:30 PM

**4500 SW Research Way, Corvallis
2nd Floor Conference Room, Kalapuya Building
Or via Teams**

The meeting started 6:30pm.

Those present at the meeting included:

HRC Commissioners: Adrienne Fritze

Staff: Morgan Driggs, HRC Liaison

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) staff: Kirsten Straus

A. Welcome & Introductions

Commissioner Fritze led the meeting remotely.

B. Minutes Review and Approval

No quorum so minutes were not approved.

C. Van Buren Bridge Interpretive Station Presentation from ODOT

Kirsten Straus from ODOT gave a presentation on the progress of the Van Buren Bridge project that included the themes and topics, the construction drawings of the bridge, and the history of the bridge. The recording of the meeting and supplemental materials were provided to the Historic Resources Commissioners to view.

D. Items from the Public - None

E. Items from County Commissioner Liaison Gabe Shepherd

County Commissioner Gabe Shepherd shared a memo with staff to include at the meeting. Morgan Driggs read it into the record.

On Friday, July 18th, Commissioner Shepherd attended a tour of the College of Philomath building with Morgan Driggs led by Scott Ramsey. Scott has a great vision for the building, including architectural designs to restore it. He is looking for more members to join his board.

Commissioner Shepherd is hosting a series of town halls in every city across the county every year. This year, the town halls have been scheduled for this summer. He has already had two Corvallis town halls and one in Monroe. The schedule for the upcoming town halls



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is Saturday, August 2nd, at 1:00 PM at the Adair Community Center. On the same day, Saturday, August 2nd, at 3:30 at the North Albany Park and then Saturday, August 9th at 4:00 PM at the Alsea Community Library, and he invites everyone to come and join.

Public Works Director Gary Stockhoff has been assigned as Interim Community Development Director in addition to his duties with the Public Works Department.

Congratulations on the successful completion of Historic Preservation Month. While playing trivia, he received questions about Benton County History!

The County Commissioners directed staff to prepare orders of appointment for Alexandra Kirschbaum and Janet Nishihara to the two vacant positions on the HRC. The official appointment of these positions will not take place until the August 5, 2025, board meeting. Commissioner Fritze would love to hear what he's learning and what he's hearing, the feedback he's getting from the public during these town halls. Especially anything that has to do with historic preservation, restoration history in general.

F. Items from the HRC Commissioners

- a. Remarkable Arts and Conundrum House Experiences is presenting to the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce about Spectres Season 4 and its potential. The presentation is August 12th at 8:30 AM at the Corvallis Museum. There will be snacks.

Adjournment at 7:05 PM

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 27th, 6:30 PM