

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
February 13, 2024

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, in the Frank Waltherhouse Board of Commissioners Room, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Roelofs.

Present were: Commissioners Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke

The invocation was given by Commissioner Roelofs and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda:

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Markey, to approve the agenda as amended, adding Commissioners Comments to the first meeting agenda of the month. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Nye, seconded by Cunningham, to approve the regular session minutes of January 23, 2024, as presented. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:03 a.m. Public Comment

Deb Frisbie, Human Services Collaboration Coordinator of Thompsonville Summer Fest, gave information about what the Summer Fest is and the services it provides. It is held on the third Monday in June.

Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resource Director, is here in support of the funding to the Benzie County Human Services Collaboration that is on the agenda later this morning.

9:07 a.m. Public Comment closed.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner Roelofs read the letter from Michigan Association of Counties (MAC), celebrating 125 years, has prepared for all the counties of the state a framed copy of the Michigan Counties Seals poster.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Judge Mead stated that he has made his appointment for the Tax Advisory Committee and explained his thought process behind this appointment.

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Cunningham, to approve payment of the bills from January 28, 2024, through February 12, 2024, in the amount of \$716,242.23, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, stated that she has been selected to become the Executive Director of the Michigan Land Bank Associations, effective March 4, 2024. Wants to thank the Board of Commissioners for paying attention to her suggestions and ideas over the past years. Is pleased to announce that Kelly Long has been appointed to replace her when she retires. There will

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be a open house to celebrate her retirement from the County on Friday, March 1, 2024 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Roelofs thanked Michelle for her commitment to Benzie County.

CONSENT CALENDAR APPROVAL

The purpose of the consent calendar is to expedite business by grouping non-controversial items together to be dealt with by one Commission motion without discussion. Any member of the Commission or staff may ask that any item on the consent calendar be removed therefrom and placed elsewhere on the agenda for individual consideration by the Commission; and such requests will be respected. If an item is not removed from the consent calendar, the action noted in the minutes will approve the entire consent calendar.

Commissioner Sauer removed Items A, B and D.

The following actions as recommended on the amended Consent Calendar portion of the agenda were approved:

- A. Removed from Consent Calendar
- B. Removed from Consent Calendar
- C. Consider accepting a scrap tire grant and authorize the Chair to sign: The Board of Commissioners accept the scrap tire grant award in the amount of \$12,000 and authorize the Chair to sign the Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant Agreement with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and approves the necessary budget amendments, payment and reimbursement related to grant award.
- D. Removed from Consent Calendar.
- E. Step 3 Grievance: The Board of Commissioners designates the County Administrator to act on its behalf to hear and respond to the Step 3 Grievance for the Police Officers Association of Michigan Emergency Communications Specialists Unit involving Christa Ketz, Grievance #24-24.

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Nye, to approve items C and E, on the Consent Calendar.

Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None
Motion carried.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Consider approving amendment to jail services mental health contract: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Markey, to authorize an amendment to the letter of agreement with Manistee Benzie Community Mental Health Organization, also known as Centra Wellness, for mental health services within the Benzie County jail, to allow for a bachelor's level clinician in the jail to act as a conduit between an inmate and a master's level clinician, and authorize the Chair to sign, with minimum quarterly reports to the Board of Commissioners. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, and Warsecke. Nays: None
Motion carried.

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- B. Consider approving an LOU with FOPLC Deputies unit – 12-hour shifts: Undersheriff Greg Hubers was present to answer any questions. Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to authorize a Letter of Agreement with the Michigan Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council, Deputies Unit, which allows for 12-hour shift rotations, and moves the Sheriff's office closer to 24-hour road patrol and authorizes the Chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, and Warsecke. Nays: None Motion carried.
- D. Authorize additional credit card for accounts payable operational purposes: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Cunningham, to amend the Credit Card Use policy to include an additional credit card for Accounts Payable in the credit limit not to exceed \$20,000. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, and Warsecke. Nays: None Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Consider allocating Funds to Benzie County Human Services Collaboration: Sarah May, Coordinator of the Humans Services Collaborative was present to answer any questions. Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Cunningham, to authorize a \$3,000 contribution to the Benzie Human Services Collaborative, with funds available from general fund contingency. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, and Warsecke Nays: Sauer Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS:

9:57 a.m. Tim Maylone, Cherry Capital Connections LLC, presented an update regarding the Internet for All Benzie County and was available to answer any questions. Mitch Shapiro was available on zoom to answer any questions.

10:25 a.m. Break

10:34 a.m. Reconvene

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Adopt resolution approving the Hazard Mitigation Plan.: Rebecca Hubers, Emergency Management, was present to answer any questions. Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Markey, to adopt Resolution #2024-008, Authorizing the Adoption of the 2023 Benzie County, Michigan Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, 5-year update. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.
- B. Discussion regarding three additional requests for Opioid related fundings:
1. Judge Mead was present to answer any questions. Motion by Sauer, seconded by Nye, to allocate \$4,465 of the Opioid settlement funds to the joint request from the Benzie County District Court and Central Wellness for substance abuse assessment, testing and monitoring programs. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried
 2. Brad Drury, Almira Township Fire and EMS Chief was present to answer any questions. Motion by Markey, seconded by Jeannot, to allocate \$6,900 of the Opioid settlement funds to Almira Township Fire and EMS for the purchase of 1 Airway trainer and 2 full

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sets of CPR/AED training manikins, along with training of one additional instructor to help with classes. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

3. Katie Zeits, County Administrator, was present to answer any questions. Motion by Nye, seconded by Cunningham to allocate \$9,200 of the Opioid settlement funds to the School and Youth Resource Officers to have Tony Hoffman go into the schools for two speaking engagements with the students regarding mental health, addiction, and recovery challenges. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

- C. Approve Budget Amendment of \$3,000 – Treasurer’s Office: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Cunningham, to approve a budget adjustment in the amount of \$3,000 for wages for the Treasurer’s Office from Contingency. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to accept the recommendation from Hon. David A. Thompson, Circuit Court Judge, that Dawn Olney be appointed to the Benzie County Jury Board, to fill the unexpired six-year term vacancy. Term will expire on April 30, 2027. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – Katie Zeits

Parole/Probation renovations have started and are moving right along. She spoke at the Chamber Summit last Friday on what the County has been doing over the last year and what we are looking at for the next year. Have advertised for the Tax Advisory Committee member that is needed. The Township Supervisors have chosen Jason Barnard to represent them on the Tax Advisory Committee. Have reached out to the ISD for their member to be on the Tax Advisory Committee.

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Michigan Economic Development Corporation - CLP Program Report January 19, 2024.
- Networks Northwest – Village of Thompsonville Parks and Recreation Plan 2024-2028.
- Benzie-Leelanau Health Department November 29, 2023, minutes.
- State Representative Betsy Coffia letter of February 7, 2024.

11:09 a.m. Public Comment

Annie Browning, Village of Beulah, appreciates what the Board of Commissioners are doing. Gave an update on what is happening in the Village of Beulah and what she is involved in.

11:11 a.m. Public Comment closed.

It was the consensus of the Board of Commissioners to move the Study Session scheduled for 1:30 p.m. to start at 11:25 a.m.

Motion by Markey, seconded by Warsecke, to adjourn at 11:11a.m. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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4. To approve items C and E, on the Consent Calendar.
5. To authorize an amendment to the letter of agreement with Manistee Benzie Community Mental Health Organization, also known as Centra Wellness, for mental health services within the Benzie County jail, to allow for a bachelor's level clinician in the jail to act as a conduit between an inmate and a master's level clinician, and authorize the Chair to sign, with minimum quarterly reports to the Board of Commissioners.
6. To authorize a Letter of Agreement with the Michigan Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council, Deputies Unit, which allows for 12-hour shift rotations, and moves the Sheriff's office closer to 24-hour road patrol and authorizes the Chair to sign.
7. To amend the Credit Card Use policy to include an additional credit card for Accounts Payable in the credit limit not to exceed \$20,000.
8. To authorize a \$3,000 contribution to the Benzie Human Services Collaborative, with funds available from general fund contingency.
9. To adopt Resolution #2024-008, Authorizing the Adoption of the 2023 Benzie County, Michigan Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, 5-year update.
10. To allocate \$4,465 of the Opioid settlement funds to the joint request from the Benzie County District Court and Central Wellness for substance abuse assessment, testing and monitoring programs.
11. To allocate \$6,900 of the Opioid settlement funds to Almira Township Fire and EMS for the purchase of 1 Airway trainer and 2 full sets of CPR/AED training manikins, along with training of one additional instructor to help with classes.
12. To allocate \$9,200 of the Opioid settlement funds to the School and Youth Resource Officers to have Tony Hoffman go into the schools for two speaking engagements with the students regarding mental health, addiction, and recovery challenges.
13. To approve a budget adjustment in the amount of \$3,000 for wages for the Treasurer's Office from Contingency.
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