

# BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

---

448 COURT PLACE – BEULAH, MI 49617 – (231) 882-9671  
[www.benzieco.net](http://www.benzieco.net)

## MEETING AGENDA May 9, 2023

Frank F. Walterhouse Board Room, Governmental Center, Beulah, Michigan  
Join Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:  
[www.youtube.com/@BenzieCounty](https://www.youtube.com/@BenzieCounty)

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES OR SWITCH THEM TO VIBRATE**

- 9:00 a.m.      CALL TO ORDER  
ROLL CALL  
INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
TRIBUTES PRESENTED BY BOARD CHAIR  
Corrections Appreciation Week May 7-13  
National Police Week May 14 – 20  
APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 4/11/23  
PUBLIC COMMENT  
FINANCE –  
    A) Approval of Bills  
ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS  
ACTION ITEMS –  
    A) Consider Resolution 2023-005 adopting ballot language for County Road Millage  
    B) Consider adopting Per Diem Policy  
    C) Consider adopting Secondary Employment Policy  
    D) Consider allocating \$15,000 to 23/24 Drug Court Program from Opioid Funds  
    E) Approve and accept Scrap Tire Grant Agreement  
    F) Consider authorizing summer road patrol contracts: Lake Township, Village of Beulah, and Crystal Beach Cottager’s Association  
    G) Consider disbanding the EMS Advisory Committee and move forward with County Public Safety Entities workgroup  
    H) Consider disbanding the Housing Committee and authorize agreement with Community Action Agency  
    I) Consider establishing an ad hoc committee to determine repayment of an ambulance bill  
    J) Approve service agreement for EMS training services  
    K) Approve and accept 2023 Marine Safety Program Grant  
  
COMMISSIONER REPORTS –

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Katie Zeits

STUDY SESSION – None

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

NEW BUSINESS –

9:30 a.m. Close Session – consider trial and settlement re Benzie County, Bates, Hasting v Est. of Sena-Richey as authorized by MCL 15.268(e).

**To be immediately followed by** close session to discuss strategy in connection with collective bargaining, as authorized by MCL 15.268(c)

10:00 a.m. Maner Costerisan Audit Presentation

10:30 a.m. Community Action Agency presentation regarding programming

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

**Times Subject to Change**

## PUBLIC COMMENT

**Purpose:** The Benzie County Board of Commissioners is a public policy setting body and subject to the Open Meetings Act (PA 267 of 1976). The Board also operates under a set of “Benzie County Board Rules (section 7.3)” which provides for public comment during their meetings. It continually strives to receive comment from the residents of the county and reserves two opportunities during the monthly scheduled meeting for you the public to voice opinions, concerns and sharing of any other items of common interest. There are however, in concert with meeting conduct certain rules to follow.

**Speaking Time:** Agenda items may be added or removed by the board but initially at least two times are devoted to Public Comment. Generally, however, attendees wishing to speak will be informed how long they may speak by the chairman. All speakers are asked to give their name, residence and topic they wish to address. This and the statements/comments will be entered into the public record (minutes of the meeting). Should there be a number of speakers wishing to voice similar opinions, an option for a longer presentation may be more appropriate for the group and one or more speakers may talk within that time frame. The Board will not be accepting public comment via zoom/online.

Group Presentations – 15 minutes  
Individual Presentations – 3 minutes

**Board Response:** Generally, as this is an “Comment” option, the board will not comment or respond to presenters. Silence or non-response from the board should not be interpreted as disinterest or disagreement by the board. However, should the board individually or collectively wish to address the comments of the speaker(s) at the approval of the Chair and within a time frame previously established, responses may be made by the board. Additionally, the presenter may be in need of a lengthier understanding of an issue or topic and may be referred to a committee appropriate to address those issues.

Public Comment is very important in public policy settings and is only one means for an interchange of information or dialogue. Each commissioner represents a district within the county, and he/she may be individually contacted should greater depth or understanding of an issue be sought. Personal contact is encouraged and helpful to both residents and the board.

**Commissioner Contacts:**

District I – Bob Roelofs (Almira East of Reynolds Road).....	231-645-1187
District II - Art Jeannot (Almira Twp West of N. Reynolds Road, Platte Twp, Lake Twp East of Sutter Rd, and Inland Twp section 1-6, section 7 lying west of Maple City Hwy, north of US-31) .....	231-920-5028
District III – Karen Cunningham (Crystal Lake, Frankfort and Lake Twp, at Sutter Road going West) .....	231-822-4067
District IV – Rhonda Nye (Benzonia Twp, except for sections 31, 36 and 35 East of Case Road).....	231-510-8804
District V – Tim Markey (Homestead and Benzonia Twp sections 31, 36 and 35 West of Case Road).....	231-822-4066
District VI - Evan Warsecke (Colfax, Inland except sections 1-6, section 7 lying west of Maple City Hwy and North of US-31).....	231-822-4065
District VII - Gary Sauer (Blaine, Gilmore, Joyfield, Weldon) .....	231-651-0647