

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 27, 2015

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Vance Bates at 4:00 p.m.

Present were: Commissioners Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke
Absent: None

The invocation was given by Commissioner Griner followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Bates explains the purpose of Public Input and asks the public to be sure and state their name and address; time will be limited to 3 minutes. The Board will not respond during public input.

Agenda:

Motion by Griner, seconded by Walterhouse, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Carland, to approve the regular session minutes of December 16, 2014, January 6, 2015 and January 20, 2015 as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Griner, seconded by Tucker, to approve the closed session minutes of January 20, 2015 as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

4:04 p.m. Public Input - None

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:

Sheriff Schendel, welcomes the new commissioners, chairman of the board, and members of the public; presented an award to Beth Baesch for her negotiation skills in the incident of December 12, 2014; there are three employees retiring within the next two months and he is working on having the positions filled within the next two to three months; server at the sheriff office could crash at any time, it has been brought to the finance committee and it will be discussed later in the meeting; He will be leaving for Washington DC tomorrow for a conference to craft model laws for all the states for delivery of Narcon by officers.

Steve Houghton, Building Department, passed out the December 2014 Building and Safety Enforcement Report.

Craig Johnson, EMS, provided the 2014 EMS Annual Report; New Ambulance proposal was taken to the finance committee and will be discussed later in the meeting; The EMS Advisory committee has an opening as DeAnn Mosher was the representative from the Thompsonville area. Her term expired and she no longer has an interest to stay on the board. Jim Franke was appointed to the board as a citizen at large position and he is the EMS Coordinator for Thompsonville Ambulance and lives there. The EMS Advisory committee is requesting that he fill the vacancy of Thompsonville Resident.

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Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Griner, to appoint Jim Franke to EMS Advisory committee as the Thompsonville Resident. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Bates, seconded by Walterhouse to appoint Charlie Thompson to the EMS advisory committee as the area Fire Chief, for a three year term (January 2015 to December 2018). Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

There are a citizen at large and Paramedic non-voting position open and would like to have those advertised for.

Comm Bates says the clerk will advertise for the two EMS positions

Doug Durand, Council on Aging, provides a written report; Dental task force meeting was held January 22, 2015. There is dental hygienist on board. Goal is to establish a mission statement for the task force; passed out new Council on Aging Brochure.

Marlene Wood, Recycling Coordinator, stated that the Solid Waste Advisory committee met in January; RFP's were put out for electronics collection and she hopes to have a contract by February 10, 2015 for the board, Mr. Figura is reviewing it right now; a survey went out and they are getting responses; shipped out a 55 gallon drum of household batteries (850 pounds), this was collected since August; looking at doing more collections and have developed three brochures regarding recycling items; she will be speaking tonight at Grow Benzie and will be presenting a power point. Comm. Griner would like to have the Solid Waste power point placed on the agenda for the February 10, 2015 meeting.

Sara Swanson, Prosecutor, passed out a packet showing charges authorized by location report. The numbers are slightly up from last year; she stated that the office is coming along nicely.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Carland, to accept and place on file the Charges Authorized by Location Report, for the public to review. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Frank Post, Emergency Management, presented the December 2014 activity report; he is working on a new location to stock pile sandbags; he would like to see the chair and vice chair attend the LEPC/LPT meetings -- they are the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Search and Rescue training will be scheduled before June 1, 2015.

Active Shooter Training is scheduled for March 3 and 4, 2015.

He has given the Commissioners a draft copy of the Hazardous Mitigation Plan, and would like you to review it and give him any feedback.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Tucker reported that the Snow Pine Fest is February 7th; she attended the Village of Lake Ann meeting, they are taking donations in Dale Flaherty's name to revamp Burnett Park.

Comm Griner was invited to speak by the League of Woman Voters regarding the transportation issue. He would like to bring a presentation to the board before the May vote regarding the road

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funding tax; he has worked with Maridee and the budget committee and found the funds to go to Washington DC to attend NaCO on February 20 and 21, 2015.

Comm Sauer has nothing at this time.

Comm Carland reported that it has been a busy month; two residences on south side of Big Platte Lake have had on-going flooding issues; Village of Benzonia has an on-going question regarding the ice rink and the burden to maintain it; will speak with Karl regarding volunteer liability with the Benzonia ice rink.

Comm Walterhouse reported that he attended the Homestead Township meeting; the acting fire chief has been moved up to a full-time position; clean-up day is May 16, 2015; working on committees.

Comm Warsecke reported that next year Inland Township would like to host one of the nightly Board of Commissioner meetings.

Comm Bates reported that Lake Ann Snow Pine Fest is February 7, 2015, starting at 9:00 am; On Monday Ray Frantz spoke at the Benzonia Township Hall regarding transportation; Benzie County Chapter of Michigan Township Assoc. meeting will be February 12, 2015 at 7:00 pm, at the Benzonia Township Hall. Almira Township clean-up day is May 2, 2015.

4:54 p.m. Break

5:01 p.m. Reconvene

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT - Karl Sparks

Presented written report along with the finance minutes and recommendations.

Cremation fees will be taken to the Fee Committee and brought back to the Board of Commissioners. Beulah Winter Fest is February 14, 2015 and we have tagged on to that event and will do a Benzie County Showcase. We have 27 to 28 exhibitors, 8 or 10 people who will be sponsors and provide donations.

February 25, 2015, he has been invited to League of Woman Voter to do a presentation as to what services are provided by the county and what is provided by the township. Jim Sheets and Ted Woods will be co-speakers.

In August we adopted the CIC benefit package regarding our health insurance. To date we do not have the policy and contacts signed and need that done.

Open Meetings Act workshop will be March 16, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

Would like to schedule a workshop for the new commissioner to review the County's Strategic Plan proposal that was brought to the board for review. Looking at setting the meeting on February 3, 2015 at 5:00 pm.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Griner to authorize the Board Chair to sign the CIC contracts that were approved in August 2014. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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Interview Committee:

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Carland to adopt the 2015 Committee appointments as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Have received letters of interest for several committees. Interview committees are needed to be named to review and recommend appointments as needed.

Comm Bates: Interview committees are the commissioner that currently sits on that committee, if there is a chairperson of that committee, the county administrator and another commissioner. So for:

Airport Authority – Comm. Tucker and Comm. Carland
Brownfield – Comm. Griner and Comm. Sauer
Building Authority – Comm. Tucker and Comm. Carland
CMH – Comm. Griner and Comm. Sauer and Chip Johnston
Land Bank – Comm Walterhouse and the County Treasurer
EMS Advisory Board – Comm. Bates

Finance Committee:

Comm Bates removes items 11 and 12.

Comm Sauer removes item 7.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Griner to approve Finance Consent Calendar items 1–6, 8-10 as presented. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Finance Consent Calendar #7

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Sauer to approve the borrowing from the Revolving Tax Fund not to exceed \$41,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing a new Service Array Network Server as presented, and bring back details to the Board of Commissioners regarding what funds will be paying it back. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Finance Consent Calendar #11

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke to approve the expense from the 911 Emergency Services Reserve Fund in the amount of \$99,000.00 to purchase MDT Hardware for the Sheriff's Department, County Public Safety Department, and Emergency Command van as presented. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Finance Consent Calendar #12

Chairman Bates informed the Board that he works for Michigan First Response, as a contract employee, paid on a 1099 basis. Has checked with the Prosecutor to see if there is a conflict of interest with him in this matter and the Prosecutor has stated that there is not.

Motion by Griner, seconded by Walterhouse to approve the purchase of an ambulance from Michigan First Response in the amount of \$194,642.00, and to finance the purchase through Central State Bank at 2.79% interest over the next five years, as presented. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: Tucker Motion carried.

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FINANCE

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Griner, to approve the bills from December 31, 2014 through January 27, 2015 in the amount of \$689,751.45 as presented. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer reported that she was invited to speak at the Sunrise Rotary regarding the County Treasurer foreclosure fund, Land Bank and Brownfield; they are collecting taxes.

Comm Tucker requested that the bills to be approved be given to the Commissioners at the same time they receive their Commissioners packet. It is hard to review the material when you get it the same day as the meeting.

HR AND PERSONNEL -None

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS - None

ACTION ITEMS

Appointment of Counsel – BC/BS vs Benzie Co Inmates:

Lisa Vogler was present and stated that she will take the same pay that the county pays Richard Figura or Peter Cohl to represent them. The firm she was with before is on the County list of Contract attorneys, she is now on her own.

Motion by Griner, seconded by Tucker to appoint Lisa Vogler as counsel to represent Benzie County in the BC/BS v Benzie County Inmate case. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Fee Increase for the County Clerk's Office:

Karl will take this fee increase request to the Fee Committee and bring it back to the board.

Deputy Drain Commissioner Contract:

Motion by Griner, seconded by Carland to approve the Deputy Drain Commissioner contract as presented, authorizing chairman to sign. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Interagency Agreement:

Motion by Griner, seconded by Tucker to approve the Interagency Agreement for Mental Health Services in the Criminal Justice System as presented, authorizing chairman to sign. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Board Rules:

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Carland to approve the Board Rules as amended changing notation of 6:00 p.m. start for all evening meetings to 4:00 p.m. start for some. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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Procedure for Closing the Government Center:

County Administrator will meet with Chief Judge Mead to develop a building closure policy and bring it back to the board.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from Northern Michigan Regional Entity.
- Brownfield Redevelopment Authority minutes September 26, 2014 received.
- Crystal Lake Elevation as received.
- Little Platte Lake Elevation as received.
- Benzie County Veterans Affairs Committee minutes December 1, 2014 as received.
Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Griner to appoint Commissioner Sauer as the Veterans Liaison. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.
- Benzie County Veterans Affairs committee minutes December 19, 2014 as received.
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee minutes June 18, 2014 as received.
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee minutes October 1, 2014 as received.
- Letter from Benzonia Township regarding 911 Director and Emergency Manager.
- Letter for Benzie County Area Fire Chiefs regarding 911 Director and Emergency Manager.
- Benzie County DHS Regular Board Minutes December 16, 2014 as received.
- Benzie County Road Commission minutes December 18, 2014 as received.
- Benzie County Road Commission Organizational minutes January 8, 2015 as received.
- County of Marquette Support of SB 495-498 to Curtail Unfunded Mandates.
- Letter from Inland Township regarding 911 Director and Emergency Manager.

NEW BUSINESS – None

Comm Bates stated he will be out of town for the February 24, 2015 meeting. Comm Griner will also be out of town for the February 25, 2015.

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Griner to change the February 24, 2015 meeting to February 18, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke
Nays: None Motion carried

6:37 p.m. Public Input --

Glen Rineer reported that when he served as commissioner liaison to the Veterans he was also appointed to serve as Liaison for Grand Traverse Veterans Affairs, and it was very informative.

6:39 p.m. Public Input - Closed

Motion by Griner, seconded by Tucker, to adjourn until February 10, 2015 regular meeting or the call of the chair. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

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1. Approved the agenda as presented.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of December 16, 2014, January 6, 2015 and January 20, 2015 as presented.
3. Approved the closed session minutes of January 20, 2015 as presented.
4. Appointed Jim Franke to EMS Advisory committee as the Thompsonville Resident.
5. Appointed Charlie Thompson to the EMS advisory committee as the area Fire Chief, for a three year term (January 2015 to December 2018).
6. Accepted and placed on file the Charges Authorized by Location Report, for the public to review.
7. Authorized the Board Chair to sign the CIC contracts that were approved in August 2014.
8. Adopted the 2015 Committee appointment as presented.
9. Approved Finance Consent Calendar items 1–6, 8-10 as presented.
10. Approved the borrowing from the Revolving Tax Fund not to exceed \$41,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing a new Service Array Network Server for the Sheriff office as presented.
11. Approved the expense from the 911 Services Reserve Fund in the amount of \$99,000.00 to purchase MDT Hardware for the Sheriff's Department, County Public Safety Department, and Emergency Command van as presented.
12. Approved the purchase of an ambulance from Michigan First Response in the amount of \$194,642.00, and to finance the purchase through Central State Bank at 2.79% interest over the next five years.
13. Approved the bills from December 31, 2014 through January 27, 2015 in the amount of \$689,751.45.
14. Appointed Lisa Vogler as counsel to represent Benzie County in the BC/BS v Benzie County Inmate case.
15. Approved the Deputy Drain Commissioner contract as presented.
16. Approved the Interagency Agreement for Mental Health Services for the Criminal Justice System.
17. Approved the Board Rules as amended
18. Appointed Commissioner Sauer as the Veterans Liaison.
19. Changed the February 24, 2014 meeting to February 18, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.