

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 10, 2015

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Vance Bates at 9:00 a.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.

Agenda:

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Warsecke, 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 Bates, to approve the regular session minutes of February 18, 2015 as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Input

Marcia Stobie stated that she is Vice Chair of Brownfield and felt she should have been contacted when interviews for that committee were done.

Ryan King, Benzonia, commented on water freezing and feels that the ice rink should be fully funded through the county.

9:05 a.m. Public Input Closed

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:

Marlene Wood, Recycling Coordinator, stated that the web site is up to date and she has prepared three brochures explaining the recycling program. She will be gone for 10 days but her sites and the office will be covered. We have received a \$15,000 tire grant from the DEQ.

Craig Johnson, EMS Director, call volume for February was down a few runs; Thompsonville site is doing well; Almira Township received a grant to purchase a LUCAS machine and used it the very day it was put in place. Mike Mead has been involved in the ambulance service here in Benzie County for 42 years and has decided to retire – last Wednesday was his last shift.

Ron Berns, Central Dispatch, stated that the MDT project has been ordered with 4 – 6 weeks shipping – ½ will go to the Sheriff Dept and ½ to ID Networks to be programmed.

Sheriff Schendel, stated that they have two issues that will be discussed during the County Administrator's time and he will be here for questions.

Jennifer Berkey, MSU Extension, she is the Interim District Director and stated that they partner with local counties. She has Deb Laws and Kurt Schindler with her to discuss their programs. Deb Laws is the 4-H Program Coordinator, stated that she has been with MSUE for 20 years and explained the Soccer Program and 4-H volunteers – they do four background checks on all volunteers; there are three reference letters required and an on-line training course.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 2

March 10, 2015

Kurt Schindler is the Senior Educator with MSUE and discussed the Placemaking Strategy Development that will be held at the Oliver Art Center on May 5, 2015 from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. he stated that prior registration is required.

Frank Post, Emergency Management, presented the February 2015 monthly report; he presented a purchase request for Amateur Radios.

Amateur Radios: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Sauer, to authorize the purchase of amateur radio equipment from Ham Radio Outlet, Inc. in New Castle, Delaware for a price not to exceed \$7,490.25 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Emergency Preparedness Grant: Motion by Bates, seconded by Carland, to authorize the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Planning Program Grant Agreement on behalf of Benzie County, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Motion carried.

Jaime Croel, Animal Control, she presented the February 2015 report and states that the Animal Control Advisory Board meets next week.

Received the January 2015 Benzie Home Health Care report.

Received the January and February 2015 Building Dept reports.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Tucker stated that Almira Township adopted their budget and they have set their clean-up day; she attended the Airport Authority meeting and felt that Ken Laurence did a great job; she also attended the Benzie Bus meeting.

Comm Carland reported that he has had a busy month and attended both the Village of Beulah and Village of Benzonia meetings and the run water advisory is still in place; he attended the Public Officials ICS training and it was very helpful -- proper preparation is important. He attended the Networks NW training last week and stated that our 10 county area is the Governor's trial for the regional prosperity zones; he also attended the Planning meeting last Friday in Thompsonville.

Comm Griner stated while he was in Washington he met with a couple people and discussed the return of the cruise ship industry and USDA Rural Development; Michigan works does training for employers that have new employees to be trained; we will get a full refund of his NaCO registration fee of \$515.00 because they moved two of the sessions that he had wanted to be a part of and he had no way of getting there timely.

Comm Walterhouse stated that the Land Bank Authority is out for bids for demo of two buildings in Honor; he attended the Parks & Rec meeting; Homestead Township adopted their budget and approved holding their clean-up day in May; he attended a meeting in Traverse City regarding transportation trying to explain Proposal 1.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 3

March 10, 2015

Comm Sauer stated that he agrees with Coury on the ICS training and also the MDT training; the state is projected to fix M-115 between Benzonia & Frankfort for a 2016 start.

Comm Warsecke reported that he attended the Colfax and Inland Township meetings where Inland adopted their budget and scheduled their clean-up day for May 2; he also attended the Benzie Bus meeting and the food is good.

Comm Bates reported that he attended the Almira Township meeting; the Lake Township meeting was cancelled last week due to frozen pipes; Platte Township's annual meeting is Saturday, March 14 @ 2 p.m.; he has been fielding calls regarding the Deadstream Road project; Region 7 HLS advises regarding frozen pipes – that as it gets warmer outside, the frost line keeps pushing down and pipes can freeze.

9:55 a.m. Break

10:00 a.m. Reconvene

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT - Karl Sparks

Joint Court Meeting: Motion by Bates, seconded by Carland, to adopt the Joint Court Consent Calendar as presented. Roll call. Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke
Nays: None Motion carried.

OMA Workshop scheduled for Monday, March 16 @ 6:30 p.m.

Placemaking workshop scheduled for Tuesday, May 5 in Frankfort

New FOIA laws to be effective July 1, 2015 – will be bringing a draft policy to the board in a couple of months.

BS & A is scheduled to be here on April 8, 9 and 10.

Professional Development: will be moving forward with this and the Leadership Forum has decided to start with Communication and Regulations.

LOU: Motion by Bates, seconded by Tucker, to approve the Letter of Understanding allowing Sergeant Ketz to retain his stipend for K-9 duties as a provision under his new bargaining unit, COAM, authorizing the Board Chair to sign on behalf of the board. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Jail Millage: Chairman Bates stated that this issue needs to go to the Finance Committee prior to coming to this board for any action.

FINANCE

Motion by Griner, seconded by Warsecke, to approve payment of the bills from February 19, 2015 to March 9, 2015 in the amount of \$855,577.16 as presented.

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Sauer, to amend to remove check #48937 in the amount of \$158.10.

Vote on amendment: Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Vote on original motion as amended for a total amount of \$855,419.06. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 4

March 10, 2015

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, stated that they are in the final stages of settlement of the 2014 taxes; Forfeiture of the 2013 taxes began March 1 and lasts one year; Foreclosure of the 2012 taxes also began on March and is final on March 31 at 5:00 p.m.; Land Bank is seeking bids on two Honor village properties for clean-up and development.

Motion by Bates, seconded by Tucker, to place a moratorium on plaques, firearms, CCW, anything that is in question that would affect any member of County Government thinking of retirement, until we have a policy in place as to what can be done, with the County Administrator to prepare a policy. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

HR AND PERSONNEL – Comm Tucker stated that she will not be at the March 24 HR meeting.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – None

ACTION ITEMS

Up North Prevention: Information only.

BVTMC: Motion by Carland, seconded by Walterhouse, to approve the Amendment to the Grant Agreement with the Michigan Dept of Natural Resources and the Betsie Valley Trail Management Council, Grant Number RIF15-03-03. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Road Commission minutes of January 22, 2015 and February 12, 2015 received.
- Letter receive from Cohl, Stoker & Toskey regarding OMA summary.
- Email regarding Point Betsie Board House receiving LEED Gold certification.
- Antrim County resolution Opposing SB 1123 and 1124 regarding energy developments received.
- DHS meeting minutes of February 24, 2015 received.
- Veterans Affairs minutes of February 2, 2015 received.
- Parks & Recreation minutes of January 26, 2015 received.
- Letter received from Eleanor Crawford Blitzer regarding Deadstream Road project – information.

NEW BUSINESS – None

10:52 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Reconvene

11:00 Kathy Dube, the Maples Annual Report

Eric Conway, with Plante Moran presents the Financial Report for the Maples through September 30, 2014.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 5

March 10, 2015

Kathy provides the board with the January 2015 balance sheet. She stated that as of today they have 100% occupancy with a number of people on a waiting list; they have six beds on hold now and will get them back on October 1, 2015. As of today they have \$600,000 cash on hand. They have no outstanding deficiencies.

11:18 a.m. Peg Minster, Planning Commission Chair

She updates the board on what the Planning Commission is doing; they will start the county master plan update by the end of March and will engage the public too.

11:24 a.m. Public Input Closed

Roger Griner talks about a meeting in Washington and a gentleman that builds bridges all over the world.

11:25 a.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Griner, to adjourn until March 24, 2015 regular meeting or the call of the chair. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None
Motion carried

Vance Bates – Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

INDEX

1. Approved the agenda as amended.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of February 18, 2015 as presented.
3. Authorized the purchase of amateur radio equipment from Ham Radio Outlet, Inc. in New Castle, Delaware for a price not to exceed \$7,490.25 as presented.
4. Authorized the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Planning Program Grant Agreement on behalf of Benzie County, authorizing the chairman to sign.
5. Adopted the Joint Court Consent Calendar as presented.
6. Approved the Letter of Understanding allowing Sergeant Ketz to retain his stipend for K-9 duties as a provision under his new bargaining unit, COAM, authorizing the Board Chair to sign on behalf of the board.
7. Approved payment of the bills from February 19, 2015 to March 9, 2015 in the amount of \$855,419.06 as amended removing check #48937 in the amount of \$158.10.
8. Approved to place a moratorium on plaques, firearms, CCW, anything that is in question that would affect any member of County Government thinking of retirement, until we have a policy in place as to what can be done, with the County Administrator to prepare a policy.
9. Approved the Amendment to the Grant Agreement with the Michigan Dept of Natural Resources and the Betsie Valley Trail Management Council, Grant Number RIF15-03-03.

3/4/15

RE: Joint Court Meeting, Manistee (2/10/15)

Motion by Bates seconded by Carland, to approve the Joint Court Meeting item(s) as follows:

1. Attached please find the Joint Court Meeting Minutes where Commissioners Bates and Carland voted in favor of an increased salary for the District Court Recorder, Deborah McGraw and Director of Youth Services, Jim Smogoleski (see appendix A).