

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
November 10, 2015

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

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

Agenda:

Motion by Griner, seconded by Carland, to approve the agenda as amended, adding BC/BS Settlement and removing 10:00 Marty Makowski. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Tucker, to approve the regular session minutes of October 27, 2015, as corrected. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Input

Jim Evans, Joyfield Township, spoke regarding the Planning Commission appointments; they should be selected from the best applicants eligible for the position; five people applied for three positions; of the five, one is not eligible for reappointments – the current secretary, she has not attended required training; Happy Birthday to the Marines – 240 years ago.

Mary Howard, Benzonia Township, spoke regarding the Maples – good news; no one ever knows the wonderful job they are doing; a recent evaluation was done by the State and they had only one infraction – the soap was left in the shower; the good report was very uplifting for the staff; we should be very glad to have the Maples here in Benzie County.

Deb Lindgren, Joyfield Township, stated that she hopes this board takes into the consideration the complaint that Mr. Evans has had and spoke about; take the information from Mr. Evans with a grain of salt; she feels this is knit picking on this situation is unbelievable.

9:10 a.m. Public Input Closed

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:

Craig Johnson, EMS, stated that an employee, Sam Miller's wife passed away last week; October has been busy for them.

U/S Lamerson stated that he is exercising the right to bump back to his former position and will no longer be the Under Sheriff; it has been a pleasure working with the board; he is a single father and financially it is not the best; he encourages the Board to do things differently in the future.

Sheriff Schendel stated that it is sad that we are in this position; Kyle Rosa is willing to step up and take the position and is now the Acting Undersheriff.

Bert Gale, Building Official, presented the October 2015 report.

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Frank Post, Emergency Manager, provided the October 2015 monthly report.

Bob Roelofs, Veterans Affairs, presented a 2% tribal grant application.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke, to authorize application to the Grand Traverse Band for 2% allocation for the Veterans Affairs, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

October 2015 Animal Control report received.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Tucker has no report.

Comm Carland stated that both the Village of Benzonia and the Village of Beulah are having water issues; he attended the Summit and said it was good and valuable; he also attended the Airport Authority meeting and they have been downgraded from a general to basic utility airport – due to 6 or 7 trees.

Comm Walterhouse has no report.

Comm Griner stated that he toured the morgue in Mecosta County with the Northern Michigan Counties Association and feels we should get involved in this group; he would propose to dig into this; he feels Craig Johnson, Sara Swanson, Mitch Diesch, Gaylord Jowett, Sheriff and Roger should all be involved in this.

Craig Johnson and the Sheriff both indicated that our current arrangement isn't the best relationship.

Comm Sauer stated that he also attended the Summit; he also attended the Joyfield and Blaine Township meetings; MSUE and AgroBusiness Research is trying to develop future ideas for MSUE to focus on; the Lake Ann Veterans are going to have a ceremony at 6:30 p.m. tomorrow, November 11, if anyone is interested with a light display.

Comm Warsecke stated that he attended the Inland Township meeting; also says Congratulations to the Benzie Central Boys' and Girls' Cross Country Teams, they both came in 2nd at State Finals; his daughter just got done with Navy boot camp and on Saturday she ships out to San Diego.

Comm Bates stated that Lake Township has water issues too; he also attended the Summit in the morning; Trunk or Treat in Lake Ann was fun; Lake Ann Veterans that Gary talked about will be at the Almira Township Park tomorrow where the fire station is at 6:30 p.m.

9:54 a.m. Break

10:01 a.m. Reconvene

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mitch Diesch

- Discussion regarding the Sears Estate money with some purchases that the Council on Aging wishes to make; referred to the Finance Committee this afternoon.

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- Venture North Subrecipient Agreement: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Tucker, to enter into a First Amendment to Subrecipient Agreement between Community Development Block Grant Fund and Benzie County for Michigan Community Development Block Grant Program, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.
- Mitch also presented his 3- and 6-month goals and discusses them with the board.

FINANCE

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke, to approve payment of the bills from October 28 to November 5, 2015 in the amount of \$488,419.02, as presented. Roll Call Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer also informed the board that she will be printing tax bills for the next couple of weeks; dog licenses for 2016 will go on sale soon.

HR AND PERSONNEL

Consent Calendar

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Griner, to approve the October 27, 2015 HR Consent Calendar items 1 and 2 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Planning Commission: Comm Warsecke stated that he and Comm Carland have met several times and would ask that the people that are currently on the committee remain on until the Master Plan is completed in March 2016; then have the committee restructured.

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Carland, to postpone new appointments to the Benzie County Planning Commission until the completion of the County Master Plan, slated to be completed by the end of March 2016, to determine if there is a better organizational structure for the Planning Commission that better meets the needs of Benzie County and the local governmental jurisdictions. Direct Administration to review County Planning Commission organizational models with legal counsel to ensure compliance with State of Michigan Planning Statutes.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Bates, to amend to end April 12, 2016.

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

Vote on Original Motion as Amended: Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: Tucker Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution 2015-022: Motion by Carland, seconded by Tucker, to adopt Resolution 2015-022 regarding the land exchange between Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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BC/BS vs Benzie County Inmates: Motion by Bates, seconded by Griner, to approve the Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release between BC/BS and Benzie County and Benzie County Inmates, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Benzie Transportation Authority September 2015 Statement of Activities received.

NEW BUSINESS – None

10:44 a.m. Public Input

John Zirkel, Lake Township, stated to the board that your benefit programs have run wild on you; you get an audit report every year from the Treasurer; the second half tells you everything you have and it appears that the MERS program keeps running higher. There are ways of changing it – maybe Gary Sauer is the one to look at it.

Jim Evans, Joyfield Township, stated that he is disappointed and but more flabbergasted with the Planning Commission issues; thank you to Gary Sauer to put an end date for this; disappointed that the three people just put back in have valid issues.

10:51 a.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Griner, seconded by Warsecke, to adjourn until November 24, 2015 regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. at the Government Center or the call of the chair. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

K. Vance Bates – Chair

Dawn Olney – Benzie County Clerk

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1. Approved the agenda as amended, adding BC/BS Settlement and removing 10:00 Marty Makowski.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of October 27, 2015, as corrected.
3. Authorized application to the Grand Traverse Band for 2% allocation for the Veterans Affairs, authorizing the chairman to sign.
4. Authorized to enter into a First Amendment to Subrecipient Agreement between Community Development Block Grant Fund and Benzie County for Michigan Community Development Block Grant Program, authorizing the chairman to sign.
5. Approved payment of the bills from October 28 to November 5, 2015 in the amount of \$488,419.02, as presented.
6. Approved the October 27, 2015 HR Consent Calendar items 1 and 2 as presented.
7. Approved to postpone new appointments to the Benzie County Planning Commission until the completion of the County Master Plan, slated to be completed by the end of March 2016, to determine if there is a better organizational structure for the Planning Commission that

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better meets the needs of Benzie County and the local governmental jurisdictions. Direct Administration to review County Planning Commission organizational models with legal counsel to ensure compliance with State of Michigan Planning Statutes, to end April 12, 2016.

8. Adopted Resolution 2015-022 regarding the land exchange between Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy.
9. Approved the Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release between BC/BS and Benzie County and Benzie County Inmates, authorizing the chairman to sign.

HR COMMITTEE

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Motion by Tucker, seconded by Griner, to adopt the HR Consent Calendar are follows:

1. To authorize Marlene Wood to carry over 27 hours of vacation to be used November 3, 4 and 6.
2. To authorize Jackie Randall to carry over 49.5 hours of vacation time to be used within 90 days.