

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 9, 2016

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2016, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roger Griner at 9:00 a.m.

Present were: Commissioners Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke

The pledge of allegiance was led by Comm Sauer and the invocation was given by Chairman Griner.

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Motion by Bates, seconded by Sauer, to approve the regular session minutes of January 26, 2016 as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Bates, to approve the closed session minutes of January 26, 2016 as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:03 a.m. Public Input

Betsy Evans, Benzonia, spoke regarding her support for AES for economic development services in Benzie County; they do not come in with their own ideas, they would be here to help facilitate the process.

Mary Carroll, Honor, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Vice President of EDC – EDC has seen the presentation from AES and does support them; EDC has no paid staff to do the work; they do support the AES proposal.

Art Jeannot, Lake Township, also speaks regarding the potential partnership with AES – he is curious to know what AES will do for the price tag; is there any consideration for pay for progress; what do you expect from AES; what accomplishments that they have assisted in and what would be the expectation with respect to what we would get for the \$40,000 price tag.

9:08 a.m. Public Input Closed

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:

Craig Johnson, Emergency Services, stated that BACN is holding their annual food drive next week and on Friday, the 19th from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Benzie EMS will be at Honor Family Market; Thursday the 11th from 6 – 9 p.m. they will be holding a Community CPR class in Thompsonville; had a really busy January 2016 with 180 calls; he will set up another trip to visit the Mecosta County morgue.

Bert Gale, Building Dept, presented the December 2015 Building Department report together with the 2015 Annual report for the department; the enforcement action regarding the Joyfield Township billboard has been turned over to the Prosecuting Attorney, he is confident that the Prosecutor will

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not hesitate to ask for additional information if needed; we are concerned that we now have something built without permits.

Mitch stated that he feels the county needs to be more familiar with the township ordinances – we need to assist them.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Bates, to adopt the 2015 Annual Report for the Building Code and Safety Enforcement Department, as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Jaime Croel, Animal Control, presented the January 2016 report; the shelter is doing fine; they are posting for a part-time animal care clerk in the Record Patriot; they do not have a truck at this time – one is having a topper put on and the other is in the repair shop.

Frank Post, Emergency Management, stated regarding the on-going issues with Flint, the reports are that it was Emergency Management – when in fact it is the Emergency Financial Management (which was changed in 2012) – you now have two different functions under the same name; asks the board to table the budget amendment regarding revenue sharing request at this time, until after the presentations are made tomorrow.

Benzie Transportation Authority November 2015 report received.

Buildings & Grounds meeting for tomorrow has been moved to 3:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Carland stated that he attended Networks Northwest last night with Comm Griner for their legislative session; he also attended the Council of Governments earlier yesterday – they had election of officers and he is now the Secretary/Treasurer; Charlevoix County is working on broadband that is the same type of thing that he would like to see here.

Comm Bates stated that he attended the Almira Township meeting last evening and they have set their tentative budget; they also discussed an issue of excessive noise at the Lake Ann Camp in the summer; on the 12th the fire department is holding a spaghetti dinner from 5 – 8 p.m. – any donation would go to the food pantry or baby pantry you would get \$1.00 off the price of the ticket; Lake Township meet last week – Lisa attended for him.

Comm Walterhouse said he went to Big Rapids on the 27th regarding the medical examiner; attended the Homestead Township meeting on February 1 where they worked on their budget and set the salaries at the 2014-15 rate except for the fire chief; February 1 there was a special finance meeting where they discuss the AES contract – there is no money for AES but they are still working on it.

Comm Tucker said she did attend the Lake Township meeting for Vance and they were discussing swimmers itch study; she also attended the Benzie Bus – Bill Kennis does a good job – they do their budget a year ahead and will finalize it toward the end of the summer; they will be reviewing Bill's contract.

Comm Warsecke attended the Inland Township meeting and they have now moved their meetings from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m. and they also have set their tentative budget with no raises except the fire chief;

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Levi Cedarquist will be doing an Eagle Scout project for flag retirement station; chili cook off; tomorrow he will attend Colfax Twp.

Comm Sauer stated that the Village of Elberta is allowing Gilmore Township to use their building on First Street; Veterans Affairs has received a 2% grant from the Grand Traverse Band for the Memorial; proposal to change the Board Rules.

Motion by Bates, seconded by Carland, to add #11 to the Board Practices portion of the Board Rules as follows: All requests must go thru committees, HR, Finance or Buildings & Grounds, unless determined by the Chair and/or County Administrator to require immediate action by the board. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Comm Griner reported that he attended the Council of Governments meeting with the Legislators and talked with Marcia Smith, President of Rotary Charities; closing of the building last week due to sewer issues; Broadband could benefit the work here; he asks the Board of Commissioners all go to Big Rapids and look at the system there – they would like us to be a part of their organization; concerns with AES and getting return on our investment.

Maridee Cutler says the sewer issue is all fixed and Rick Morris did a great job.

9:58 a.m. Break

10:05 a.m. Reconvene

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mitch Deisch

- Sewer backup – thank you to Maridee and Rick.
- Coury and Roger talked about broadband – that is something that AES can help us with.
- Mileage rate will be discussed this afternoon at finance.
- Benchmarking will be presented on February 23.
- Big Rapids visit to the morgue – important for the Sheriff and Prosecuting Attorney.

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Carland, seconded by Walterhouse, to approve payment of the bills from January 17, 2016 to February 9, 2016 in the amount of \$321,623.38, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Tucker, to approve the February 1, 2016 Finance Committee Consent Calendar item 1 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

HR AND PERSONNEL

Comm Bates removes item #4.

Comm Tucker removes item #3.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the January 26, 2016 HR Consent Calendar items 1 and 2 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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#3: Motion by Tucker, seconded by Warsecke, to approve item 3 as follows: To allow Animal Control to hire a Part Time Animal Care Clerk for 20-hours per week as requested. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

#4: Comm Bates inquired regarding section 5.13 Vehicle Use Policy – does the Sheriff have a policy on this; Sheriff Schendel indicated that they do have a policy.
Comm Bates asks the Sheriff to provide a copy of that policy.
Comm Tucker indicated that she would like to bring this back to the February 23 meeting and that the Sheriff Vehicle policy should be made a part of this Staff Policy.
The manual will also update the mileage rate portion.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Betsie Valley Trail: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Sauer, to reappoint William Olsen to the Betsie Valley Trail Committee for a three-year term to expire on April 15, 2019. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

EDC: Motion by Carland, seconded by Walterhouse, to reappoint Ron Harrison and William Merry to the EDC Board for a six-year term, to expire on January 31, 2022. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Proclamation 2016-005: Motion by Bates, seconded by Sauer, to adopt 2016-005 Proclamation Proclaiming March 2016 as March for Meals Month, as amended, authorizing the Chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Road Commission minutes of January 13, 2016 received.
- Parks & Recreation minutes of December 14, 2015 received.
- Veterans Affairs minutes of January 4, 2016 received.
- Benzie-Leelanau Health Dept minutes of January 28, 2016 received.

OLD BUSINESS

Comm Tucker inquired regarding the MERC issue and who signed for the separation of one union into two and the issue of undersheriff being added.

Mitch stated that we do not know who would or did sign off on it. Peter Cohl is researching who signed it.

Comm Tucker asked the Undersheriff if he knows who added the language to include the interim U/S after the vote was taken – he answered no.

Comm Tucker asked the Sheriff if he knew – he answered no.

They are still without a contract and having to pay any additional costs of health insurance.

Comm Tucker would like to know who it got added and asked to continue to investigate this and report back to the board. How did the additional language get added and by who.

NEW BUSINESS – None

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10:44 a.m. Public Input

Art Jeannot stated that the questions he had from earlier regarding AES have been answered.

Ed Kowalski comment on the Consent Calendar items and not knowing what is being voted on.

10:49 a.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Bates, seconded by Warsecke, to adjourn until the February 23, 2016 Regular meeting or the call of the chair. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke

Nays: None Nays: None Motion carried

Roger L. Griner – Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

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1. Approved the agenda as presented.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of January 26, 2016 as presented.
3. Approved the closed session minutes of January 26, 2016 as presented.
4. Adopted the 2015 Annual Report for the Building Code and Safety Enforcement Department, as presented.
5. Approved payment of the bills from January 17, 2016 to February 9, 2016 in the amount of \$321,623.38, as presented.
6. Approve the February 1, 2016 Finance Committee Consent Calendar item 1 as presented.
7. Approved the January 26, 2016 HR Consent Calendar items 1 and 2 as presented.
8. Approved item 3 as follows: To allow Animal Control to hire a Part Time Animal Care Clerk for 20-hours per week as requested.
9. Reappointed William Olsen to the Betsie Valley Trail Committee for a three-year term to expire on April 15, 2019.
10. Reappointed Ron Harrison and William Merry to the EDC Board for a six-year term, to expire on January 31, 2022.
11. Adopted 2016-005 Proclamation Proclaiming March 2016 as March for Meals Month, as amended, authorizing the Chairman to sign.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke to adopt the HR Consent Calendar are follows:

1. To authorize Jaime Croel to receive 39 hours of sick leave as her 2015 earned amount.
2. To approve based on the contingency that, on reviewing with MMRMA that the county isn't exposed to additional liability with the Animal Control and Sheriff Dept volunteers.
3. Removed from Consent Calendar.
4. Removed from Consent Calendar.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Tucker, to approve the Finance Consent Calendar items as follows:

1. To continue to pursue funds to enter into a contract with Alliance for Economic Success.