

**THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**January 12, 2016**

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by County Clerk Dawn Olney at 9:10 a.m.

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

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

**Election of Chairman:**

Commissioner Walterhouse nominates Roger Griner

Commissioner Sauer nominates Vance Bates

No further nominations.

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Walterhouse to close nominations. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Secret ballot is used for election together with a voice vote by Comm Warsecke who is present by phone; tallied by clerk.

Commissioner Bates received 2 votes

Commissioner Griner received 5 votes

Commissioner Griner assumes the chair.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Bates, to name Roger Griner as chair for 2016. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

**Election of Vice Chair:**

Commissioner Griner nominates Frank Walterhouse.

Commissioner Tucker nominates Gary Sauer.

No further nominations; Nominations are closed.

Voice vote for Vice Chair: Griner – Walterhouse; Sauer – Sauer; Tucker – Sauer; Walterhouse – Walterhouse; Warsecke – Walterhouse; Carland – Walterhouse; Bates – Sauer

Commissioner Walterhouse received 4 votes

Commissioner Sauer received 3 votes

Commissioner Walterhouse will be vice chair for 2016.

9:20 a.m. Comm Warsecke is excused from the remainder of the meeting.

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Walterhouse, to excuse Comm Warsecke from the remainder of the meeting. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: Bates, Sauer and Tucker Motion carried.

**Board Rules:**

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Bates, to approve the Board Rules for 2016 as printed.

Comm Sauer asks to consider a possible stipend to the commissioner that reviews accounts payable on behalf of the finance committee which seems to be a considerable amount of time to review.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Walterhouse, to amend to add #5 to Board Practices as follows: Per diem to be paid for weekly Accounts Payable (A/P) review by a designated board member.

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

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Vote on original motion as amended: Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

### **Board Meeting Schedule:**

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Bates, to approve the meeting dates and times as presented with the exception of April 26, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m. at Almira Township; July 26, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Village of Thompsonville and October 25, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m. at Inland Township Hall. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

### **Agenda:**

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Carland, to approve the agenda as amended, removing closed session. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

### **Minutes:**

Motion by Tucker, seconded by Bates, to approve the regular session minutes of December 22, 2015 as amended changing page 5 Sheriff 2% grant application to note that that there was discussion about the match not being budgeted for. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Bates, seconded by Sauer, to approve the closed session minutes of December 22, 2015 as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer and Walterhouse Exc: Warsecke Abstain: Tucker Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Bates, to approve the organizational meeting minutes of January 5, 2016 as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

9:45 a.m. Public Input

Eric VanDussen, Benzonia, spoke regarding closed session items and the way they are listed on the agendas and his FOIA appeal.

Ryan King, Benzonia, spoke regarding the possibility of an ice hockey rink in the county.

9:52 a.m. Public Input Closed

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:**

Marlene Wood, Recycling Coordinator, presented the January 2016 Coordinator's Report; stated that there has been an operational change in single stream and glass – American Waste has asked to have everything in one dumpster; we have bins that are beyond their life expectancy of 7 – 10 years – what do we do with excess property; she asks the board to consider selling old bins to the National Park Services (two oldest) for \$500.00 each; she says the National Park Service is interested; she would also like to pursue another recycling site in Benzie County.

Motion by Bates, seconded by Carland to allow Marlene Wood to pursue talks with the National Park Service to dispose of the two oldest recycling bins at a cost of \$500.00 each, and if they are not interested, to proceed with disposal of county property. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

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10:05 a.m. Laura Galbraith, Venture North

She is here requesting a resolution for Sleeping Bear Apiaries application for a CDBG loan; a public hearing was held on December 22, 2015.

Motion by Bates, seconded by Carland, to adopt Resolution 2016-003 Community Development Block Grant Loan Fund Application – Sleeping Bear Apiaries, as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Craig Johnson, Emergency Services, stated Benzie EMS was featured on Fox News this morning; there was some water damage to one of the EMS stations and they have been doing some painting, cabinets, etc; Thursday night there will be a free CPR class at Homestead Twp Hall at 6:00 p.m. and on February 11 at the Thompsonville Community Center at 6:00 p.m.

Frank Post, Emergency Management, presented a 2015 Emergency Management Preparedness Supplemental application; this was signed by 2015 Chairman Bates due to the deadline and is coming to the board for approval at this time; the flood mitigation application for the M-115 property is still in the process; Assistance to Fire Fighter Grant is being reviewed by Josh Mills now.

Motion by Bates, seconded by Walterhouse, to approve the Supplemental 2015 Emergency Management Preparedness Grant in the amount of \$1,109.70, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Animal Control report for December 2015 received.

10:17 a.m. Break

10:31 a.m. Reconvene

## COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Carland reported that he attended the Village of Beulah meeting and they are in the process of finalizing their streetscape grant application – Beulah is getting a facelift; received an email from Sarah Lucas with Network Northwest regarding a broadband conference at the Garden Theater in Frankfort and they also talked regarding energy; he will attend the Road Commission meeting tomorrow for Gary.

Comm Tucker reported that she attended the Almira Township meeting and they are having discussions regarding fire station boilers; one firefighter has been promoted from Lieutenant to Captain; Mutual Aid with Long Lake Township; she is glad we have a chair and vice chair and looks forward to 2016; Almira Township has an ice rink.

Comm Walterhouse spoke regarding mutual aid – we always just worked it out, we would get a call and we went, you take care of the people.

Comm Sauer stated that he attended a MERS meeting with Mitch – there are some options with more research to be done; he attended the Blaine, Joyfield and Thompsonville meetings; Veterans benefits meeting to be held in Traverse City and he will attend.

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Comm Bates reported that he attended the Lake Township meeting; Platte Township holds quarterly meetings and he attended that one as well; Platte Township denied the request for funding for snowmobile patrol.

Comm Griner spoke regarding mutual aid and said it is evolving and changing; he says thank you for electing him chair and he will try his best; he went to California by train and stated that Los Angeles has no water – everything is dry; they are desalting the ocean water; Agriculture is important.

### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mitch Deisch

- January 26 he will present the Benchmarking information.
- Joyfield Township sign issue.
- Letter of Understanding re CPL licenses will be presented at the next meeting.
- VanDussen appeal – received today – you have 10 days after receipt to respond in writing; he asks to approve the additional 10 days to respond.
- Motion by Bates, seconded by Sauer, to grant the 10-day extension for the VanDussen FOIA appeal to be decided at the January 26, 2016 board meeting. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

### FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Carland, seconded by Tucker, to approve payment of the bills from December 30, 2015 to January 12, 2016 in the amount of \$190,190.08 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, presented the cash summary by fund report and reported on the 2015 winter taxes being in collection at the township level; Dog licenses are also being collected at area veterinary offices; Auditors are here this week; Land Bank Authority – the Bud's property has been sold and they are continuing discussions on the Question Mark property.

HR AND PERSONNEL – Next meeting January 26, 2016 @ 1:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – None

### ACTION ITEMS

BS & A Support Agreement: Motion by Bates, seconded by Tucker, to approve the Support Agreement with BS & A for the Fixed Assets software, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

BS & A Licensing Agreement: Motion by Bates, seconded by Tucker, to approve the Licensing Agreement with BS & A for the Fixed Assets software, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Postage Meter: Comm Sauer asks to carry this over to the next meeting to allow him time to contact the Postal Service regarding this procedure.

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### CORRESPONDENCE

- Resolution received from Oceana County regarding HB 4947 through 4966.
- Benzie-Leelanau Health Dept minutes of December 15, 2015 received.
- Letter received from the DNR – referred to Parks & Recreation to come up with a resolution for the Board of Commissioners in support of the DNR.
- Road Commission minutes of November 18, 2015 received.
- Crystal Lake & Platte Lake elevation reports received for December 2015.
- Veterans Affairs minutes of December 7, 2015 received.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Comm Carland stated that January 20, 2016 the Master Plan Update Committee focus group with transportation as the topic, will meet here from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

11:28 a.m. Public Input – None

Motion by Bates, seconded by Tucker, to adjourn until the January 26, 2016 Regular meeting or the call of the chair. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Tucker and Walterhouse Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

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Roger L. Griner – Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

### INDEX

1. Commissioner Griner elected chair for 2016.
2. Commissioner Walterhouse elected vice chair for 2016.
3. Approved to excuse Comm Warsecke from the remainder of the meeting.
4. Approve the Board Rules for 2016 as amended to add #5 to Board Practices as follows: Per diem to be paid for weekly Accounts Payable (A/P) review by a designated board member.
5. Approved the meeting dates and times as presented with the exception of April 26, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m. at Almira Township; July 26, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Village of Thompsonville and October 25, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m. at Inland Township Hall.
6. Approved the agenda as amended.
7. Approved the regular session minutes of December 22, 2015 as amended.
8. Approved the closed session minutes of December 22, 2015 as presented.
9. Approved the organizational meeting minutes of January 5, 2016 as presented.
10. Approved to allow Marlene Wood to pursue talks with the National Park Service to dispose of the two oldest recycling bins at a cost of \$500.00 each, and if they are not interested, to proceed with disposal of county property.
11. Adopted Resolution 2016-003 Community Development Block Grant Loan Fund Application – Sleeping Bear Apiaries, as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.
12. Approved the Supplemental 2015 Emergency Management Preparedness Grant in the amount of \$1,109.70, authorizing the chairman to sign.
13. Granted the 10-day extension for the VanDussen FOIA appeal to be decided at the January 26, 2016 board meeting.

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14. Approved payment of the bills from December 30, 2015 to January 12, 2016 in the amount of \$190,190.08 as presented.
15. Next meeting of the HR Committee is January 26, 2016 @ 1:00 p.m.
16. Approved the Support Agreement with BS & A for the Fixed Assets software, authorizing the chairman to sign.
17. Approved the Licensing Agreement with BS & A for the Fixed Assets software, authorizing the chairman to sign.