

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 26, 2016

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 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, Walterhouse and Warsecke

Excused: Commissioner Tucker

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

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Motion by Carland, seconded by Sauer, to approve the regular session minutes of January 12, 2016 as presented. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Input

Eric VanDussen, Benzonia, spoke regarding his FOIA appeal; closed sessions and listing on the agenda; Comm Tucker recusing herself from the closed session was only stated by Chairman Bates. Curt VanderWall, Ludington, introduced himself as a candidate for the 101st State Representative District.

Betsy Evans, Benzonia, spoke supporting this Board entering into agreement with the Alliance for Economic Success of which she is Director of Business Development – this would be very exciting for EDC and Benzie County.

Mike Worden, Chair of the EDC and supports the proposal before you today and would encourage you to support the agreement with the Alliance for Economic Success.

9:10 a.m. Public Input Closed

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:

Ted Schendel, Sheriff, received a letter yesterday which requires a signature of the Chairman for the termination of health care for the jail – they will be switching carriers effective February 1, 2016.

Doug Durand, Council on Aging, presented the December 2015 Directors' report; he wrote four grant for senior needs and the last one was successful; they are looking out for the health, safety and welfare of the seniors; they are working with churches in the Frankfort area to better serve the seniors – community dinners, evening events, etc.

Frank Post, Emergency Management, provided the December 2015 activity report; the final figures for the Fire Chief's grant application is \$531,000; they are working with the National Park Service in Empire for storage of 50,000 sandbags for use in an emergency; completed an after-action review following a small hazardous materials spill at a business in Gilmore Township; LPT and LEPT will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. in the EOC; he has reapplied to MMRMA for a building security grant; purchase requests for an 800 MHz Bi Directional Amplifier and Cellular Bi-Direction Amplifier for the Sheriff Office – Region 7 has approved it.

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Motion by Bates, seconded by Carland, to amend the 2015-16 budget for Emergency Management as follows:

Increase:

101-426-539.06	Homeland Security Grant	\$10,998.00
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Increase:

101-426-967.00	Region 7 Homeland Security Grants	\$10,998.00
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Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Motion by Bates, seconded by Walterhouse, to adopt the Updated Emergency Action Guidelines Certification, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Motion by Bates, seconded by Walterhouse, to authorize the purchase of the Cellular and 800MHz Bi-Directional Amplifier System from Grand Traverse Mobile of Traverse City in the amount of \$10,998.00 as requested. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Tom Longanbach, Chair of the Building Authority, gave an update on the Maples – the intumescent undercoating is complete; January 11, 2016 they started the dry sprinkler system; after that, they will be scheduling inspections; hopefully looking at the end of March for occupancy; Edmund London is back on track working with us.

Benzie Home Health Care report for December 2015 received.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Carland stated that he attended the Airport Authority meeting and they are pursuing a part time administrative assistant, he informed the interim chairman that he would organize a meeting with the township of Crystal Lake, City of Frankfort and the county for those discussions; he attended the Road Commission meeting for Gary – there was a public hearing regarding Haze Road near Thompsonville and the road commission has reversed itself and put Haze Road back to a public road and will be plowed; he met with Sarah Lucas at Networks Northwest and discussed the internet program for April.

Comm Bates said that his townships meet the first part of the month except Platte that only meets quarterly; he stated he just returned from Boston from seeing his third grandchild.

Comm Walterhouse stated that he has attended the Buildings & Grounds meeting and heard a presentation on the public health department building; attended the 911 meeting; Animal Control Advisory meeting; had a good meeting with the Land Bank; Council on Aging and Parks & Rec.

Comm Sauer reported that he attended the Weldon Township and the Village of Elberta meetings; Elberta has cleaned up the library from the mold and will try and sell it; he attended the second VCAT meeting in Traverse City at Michigan Works one speaker talked about the opportunity for veterans looking for work having preferential treatment to seek jobs; in March they will hold a job fair for veterans at the Hagerty Center; he attended a program sponsored by the Historical Society

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with Bill Kennis from the Benzie Bus as the moderator; they are looking for ideas for future programs; there was a good turnout at the event; they have about 60 volunteers at the Historical Society and work at different times.

Comm Warsecke had nothing to add.

Comm Griner stated that he will comment on the Benzie Health Dept & EDC issues when they come up later in the meeting; there will be a session on the National Geographic Channel at 9:00 tonight on The Boonies on Beaver Island.

9:44 a.m. Break

9:52 a.m. Reconvene

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mitch Deisch

- Will hold off doing the benchmark presentation until the end of the meeting.
- IRS mileage rate change; to be carried over to February 9 to follow up with Manistee.
- Three and six month goals – review at your leisure.
- Alliance for Economic Success – broadband would fit; Brownfield; Township Zoning; they are now assisting the City of Frankfort on projects so they are already in Benzie County and doing work on our behalf; this agreement would formalize it; a 3 year agreement is proposed; the contribution from Benzie County would be \$40,000 – 50% from the private sector or non-profits and 50% from Benzie County governmental entities.

Betsy Evans stated that she has been working with Venture North on the Sleeping Bear Apiaries project.

Mike Worden, Chair of EDC, stated that we need to try and do something different.

Chairman Griner says he is very excited and they would give us seats on their board.

Comm Carland says he still has questions; this is the first time some of the commissioners have been briefed on it.

Motion by Bates, seconded by Walterhouse, to refer the Alliance for Economic Success Agreement to the Finance Committee to determine funding. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Lisa Peacock, Benzie Resource Center Building

Lisa requests a resolution to turn the building back over to NMHSI; and stated that they have had an architect come into the building and have three options for the proposed renovation to add the dental services to the building and for potential growth; they will look for the best interest rate and financing terms; the building will continue to be managed by Benzie Leelanau Health Dept as it has been in the past 20 years; funds will be set aside for maintenance; they will have a contingency/capital improvement fund and spread out to the renters; the cost will be spread across all renters depending on the space they have; security of the loan is based on non-cancellable leases to bear the risk of the financing.

Kirk Myers, Chair of NMHSI, says thank you to the Board for allowing them to come here; it is the intent to become a long-term partner here and to have a long-term lease; they are not planning on going anywhere; the mission is to give quality health and dental care to the under- and non-insured.

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Ingemar Johansen, Centra Wellness, says they are excited to have dental services in the building.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Walterhouse, to adopt the January 13, 2016 Buildings & Grounds Consent Calendar items 1 and 2 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Bates, to adopt Resolution 2016-004 to Approve Sale of the Benzie Family Resource Center as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nay: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Sauer, to enter closed session to discuss pending litigation Cole vs Benzie County with legal counsel as discussions in open session would have an adverse impact the County, to include County Clerk Dawn Olney, County Administrator Mitch Deisch, Attorneys Richard Figura and Timothy Figura. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

10:41 a.m. Enter Closed Session

11:25 a.m. Re-Enter Open Session

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Carland, to authorize legal counsel to proceed in accordance with the recommendation discussed in closed session. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Carland, seconded by Warsecke, to approve payment of the bills from January 13, 2016 to January 26, 2016 in the amount of \$403,241.19, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, provided a list of Land Bank Properties and the status of each.

Budget Amendment: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Bates, to amend the 2015-16 budget for the Betsie Valley Trail as follows:

Increase:

230-000-539.00	State Grants	\$10,000.00
230-000-691.00	Budgeted Use of Fund Balance	\$ 8,316.00

Increase:

230-000-957.30	Landscape/trail maintenance	\$18,316.00
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Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the January 12, 2016 Finance Committee Consent Calendar items 1, 2 and 3 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker

HR AND PERSONNEL – None

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COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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

SWAC: Motion by Carland, seconded by Walterhouse, to appoint David Schaffer to the Solid Waste Advisory Board for a two-year term expiring December 31, 2017. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Bates, to accept the resignation of Michelle Thompson from the EDC and the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority committees as requested. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Workforce Development: Motion by Carland, seconded by Warsecke, to reappoint Art Jeannot to the Workforce Development board at the request of Networks Northwest, for a two-year term expiring December 31, 2017 and refer the mileage issue to the finance committee. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Postage Meter Lease: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Carland, to approve the Lease Agreement with Pitney Bowes for lease of the postage meter for a five-year period, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

FOIA Appeal: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Walterhouse, to deny the FOIA Appeal of Eric VanDussen in part and grant in part. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Jail Camera: Motion by Bates, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the expenditure to ASC in the amount of \$18,271.96, to be offset by \$3,347.50 grant from MMRMA, for a final cost of \$14,924.46 as requested. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Marine Grant: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the Marine Safety Grant Application for 2016, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Tucker Motion carried.

Benchmarking presentation to be rescheduled.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Solid Waste Advisory minutes of October 7, 2015 received.
- Road commission minutes of December 17, 2015 received.
- 1st quarter Child Care Fund Report provided.

NEW BUSINESS – None

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12:03 p.m. Public Input – None

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Carland, to adjourn until the February 9, 2016 Regular meeting or the call of the chair. Ayes: Bates, Carland, Griner, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None
Exc: Tucker 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 12, 2016 as presented.
3. Amended the 2015-16 budget for Emergency Management as presented.
4. Adopted the Updated Emergency Action Guidelines Certification, authorizing the chairman to sign.
5. Authorized the purchase of the Cellular and 800MHz Bi-Directional Amplifier System from Grand Traverse Mobile of Traverse City in the amount of \$10,998.00 as requested.
6. Referred the Alliance for Economic Success Agreement to the Finance Committee.
7. Adopted the January 13, 2016 Buildings & Grounds Consent Calendar items 1 and 2 as presented.
8. Adopted Resolution 2016-004 to Approve Sale of the Benzie Family Resource Center as presented.
9. Entered closed session to discuss pending litigation Cole vs Benzie County with legal counsel as discussions in open session would have an adverse impact the County, to include County Clerk Dawn Olney, County Administrator Mitch Deisch, Attorneys Richard Figura and Timothy Figura.
10. Authorized legal counsel to proceed in accordance with the recommendation discussed in closed session.
11. Approved payment of the bills in the amount of \$403,241.19, as presented.
12. Amended the 2015-16 budget for the Betsie Valley Trail as presented.
13. Approved the January 12, 2016 Finance Committee Consent Calendar items 1, 2 and 3 as presented.
14. Adopted the Commissioner Committee Appointments as presented.
15. Appointed David Schaffer to the Solid Waste Advisory Board for a two-year term expiring December 31, 2017.
16. Accepted the resignation of Michelle Thompson from the EDC and the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority committees as requested.
17. Reappointed Art Jeannot to the Workforce Development board at the request of Networks Northwest, for a two-year term expiring December 31, 2017 and refer the mileage issue to the finance committee.
18. Approved the Lease Agreement with Pitney Bowes for lease of the postage meter for a five-year period, authorizing the chairman to sign.

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19. Approved to deny the FOIA Appeal of Eric VanDussen in part and grant in part.
20. Approved the expenditure to ASC in the amount of \$18,271.96, to be offset by \$3,347.50 grant from MMRMA, for a final cost of \$14,924.46 as requested.
21. Approved the Marine Safety Grant Application for 2016, authorizing the chairman to sign.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

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Motion by Sauer, seconded by Walterhouse, to approve the Buildings and Grounds Consent Calendar as follows:

1. To proceed to turn the Resource Center building over to the Northern Health Foundation and add a clause to revert back to the county at the end of the term.
2. To have evergreens removed in the Spring and get a work crew from the jail to assist with removal.

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

1. To the Board of Commissioners to amend the 2015-16 Budget as follows:

Increase:

101-862-725.01	FICA Social Security	\$2,488.97
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Increase:

101-852-687.00	Refunds & Rebates	\$2,488.97
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2. To schedule the finance meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the commissioners' room at 1:00 p.m. following the Board meeting.

3. To create a budget for the Ice Rink fund 218 as follows:

Increase:

218-751-674.00	Contributions & Donations	\$4,000
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218-751-585.00	Local Match	\$1,000
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Increase:

218-751-800.00	Contracted Services	\$5,000
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