

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 11, 2017

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Coury Carland at 9:00 a.m.

Present were: Commissioners Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke

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 amended, correcting resolution 2017-011 to ACO, add Scrap Tire Grant to Action Items; add Centra Wellness appointments to Committee Appointments. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Griner, to approve the regular session minutes of March 21, 2017 as corrected. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Carland, to approve the closed session minutes of March 21, 2017 regarding Benzie County vs Cole, as presented. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Griner, seconded by Roelofs, to approve the closed session minutes of March 21, 2017 regarding 312 Arbitration, as presented. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:06 a.m. Public Input – None

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:

David Schaffer, Solid Waste, spoke regarding the Scrap Tire Grant – dates scheduled are June 17 with 2 trailers at Frankfort; July 22 with two trailers at Thompsonville and August 5 with 2 trailers at Almira Township; SWAC has discussed a fee increase in the solid waste fee for 2018 of \$3.00; he attended an Early Childhood Fair at Betsie Valley School; Earth Day.

Bert Gale, Building Official, presented the Quarterly Report for January, February and March, 2017 – we are tracking about the same as last year for building permits; electrical, mechanical and plumbing permits are up as well.

Comm Jeannot asks about the turn-around time for inspections (next day) and for applications (about 3-5 days for residential).

Bert stated that they have one Construction Appeal pending and will ask for reappointment of the members.

Frank Post, Emergency Management, presented the March 2017 activity report.

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Dan Smith, Jail Administrator, introduced David April – new employee, he is just finishing the first stage of his training; gave the jail report which included number of arrests, number of jail incidents, average daily total by agency for 2016 and number of arrests for the first quarter of 2017.

Comm Jeannot asked Dan ~~requested Dan to provide numbers for the past 5 years together with what~~ his plan is for the \$100,000 loss that will be coming by not housing Wexford prisoners.

Kyle Maurer, Animal Control Officer, presented the March 2017 report; he stated that the State inspector was at the facility and found a few items that need to be fixed within the next six months.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Roelofs stated that he attended the Grand Traverse Veterans Affairs meeting, but there was not a quorum to take any action on items reviewed; he was asked to sit in on the DHHS monthly meeting when they decided to authorize Kathy Dube to begin the process to start moving people into the building; Benzie County Veterans Affairs is starting the process of finishing the Veterans Memorial and they will hold a ceremony on Memorial Day at 2:00; he attended the Maples Workshop group meeting and will let Comm Sauer report; he also attended the Benzie Bus interviews – went well.

Comm Walterhouse stated the MAC conference was good; at the Homestead Township meeting on April 3 they finalized their budget; three people in the running to run the Homestead Park; he attended the Village of Honor meeting last night and there was standing room only with discussion about their sewer; he also attended the Land Bank Authority meeting.

Comm Griner reported that he had Curt VanderWall here and they met with the Benzie and Frankfort Superintendents regarding skilled trades training, then they went to the Gathering Place for lunch; he attended the Elected Officials Conference organized by Frank Post and was very impressed; he spoke regarding the cruise ship industry and road ownership & easements.

Comm Jeannot reported that he attended the walk-through at the Maples individually ~~last week~~ and feels there is a very minimal amount of work to be done; he has been informed of an industrial company that would like to move their business into Benzie County and will continue those discussions with them.

Comm Sauer reported that the VCAT meeting will be Thursday at the VFW in Manistee from 1 – 3 p.m.; attended the MAC conference and Governor Snyder stated that we have a \$4 billion needs list; Senator Booher had a bill in front of the Governor to allow prisoners back into the jail, however it was vetoed by the Governor; took the medical marijuana webinar; attended the Joyfield Township meeting and they were going to adopt their Zoning Ordinance, however there are a couple of changes to be made; Colfax Township is also being approached about possible medical marijuana; also attended the Village of Thompsonville meeting.

Comm Warsecke reported that he attended the Inland Township meeting last night and someone wants to put in a medical marijuana site; the fire department will be holding a blood drive in memory of Dan Beechraft also a propane refill for \$7.00 at Beechraft Sawmill; Clean-Up day has been scheduled for May 6; new fire truck delivery later this month.

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Comm Carland reported that the Village of Benzonia part-time employee is working out well; Village of Beulah had a water main break last week; MAC conference was pretty good; Governor Snyder is making it a priority to improve indigent defense in the state, conflict of interest, workload and compensation; the Airport is cutting trees down; Council of Government last night and topic for the general board session last night was Adult Education.

10:06 a.m. Joseph "Chip" Johnston, Centra Wellness

Mr. Johnston introduced Dennis Risser, Chairman of the board; he spoke regarding the 2016 Annual Report that was provided to the board; CMH is obligated to serve the most needy, DDD, challenged and severely and mentally ill, crisis services, conduit between the county and the state facilities; and not substance abuse; the cost from the county – Manistee 60% and Benzie 40%; they have a jail worker that is in Benzie 2 days per week; they are trying to get the Veterans Administration to pay for the services to the veterans.

Comm Sauer requests ~~from~~ business cards from Chip to provide to the veterans.

Comm Jeannot asks how many jail inmates are they treating? 10 or 12 per week

10:27 a.m. Ken Talsma, Anderson, Tackman & Company, PLC presented the 2016 Finance Audit for Benzie County, of which Benzie County has received an unmodified opinion, which is the highest.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke, to accept the 2016 Audit Report completed by Anderson, Tackman & Company, PLC as presented, and place on file. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

11:01 a.m. Gary Sauer -- Maples Work Group Presentation (MWG)

They had three meetings; the minutes reflect what they did; they had no authority, just looking for answers; we have a very talented community and appreciate their assistance. We did assign Mr. Luedtke and Mr. Olson to find out some costs and ideas; Mr. Papineau worked on the code and he brought up several things and we still have questions. When it is all said and done, we have a report from Kurt Luedtke with possibilities to replace the roof or not. Recommendation to the Building Authority is – To hire an independent professional construction management (CM) firm to assess the current construction situation and help direct the BA to complete the existing contracts to finish the MCF. In addition the CM needs to evaluate the feasibility of Phase 3 demolition and remodeling of the existing facility. Supported by the full MWG.

Comm Sauer also stated that he is surprised that there are not that many items to be fixed.

Kurt Luedtke, Dr. Olson and Roger Papineau are present today – ~~everything~~ everybody thanks them.

Comm Jeannot says he would strongly encourage the Building Authority to follow the recommendation.

Kurt Luedtke stated he feels there is a lot of work to do to make that a top-notch facility; other phases of the contract that need to be fulfilled.

Comm Walterhouse stated there is a tentative opening of June or July 1.

Comm Jeannot stated the BA needs to look closely at the recommendation, come back and discuss this and share with us that information – quickly.

Chairman Carland spoke regarding an independent assessment of the old building – I assume that this was taken care of before this began.

Comm Griner stated he feels strongly that the assessment was done in 2013 on how the building can be used.

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Dr. Olson says the BOC asked for our opinion and by no means did we want to slow down the process.

Roger Papineau stated he learns some code information every day.

Mitch says thank you to Mr. Hart for the incredible tour Dave Burley gave us last week.

11:17 a.m. Break

11:30 a.m. Reconvene

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mitch Deisch

- Provided his April 6, 2017 Key Projects and Summer 2017 schedule and will prepare quarterly.
- April 5, 2017 CA Update -- met yesterday with the new medical examiner and others regarding process and procedures.
- Indigent defense plan – will be talking jointly with Manistee County; this may be addressed in a joint court meeting on April 20.
- Benzie ME records are being stored at the Grand Traverse Health Dept and will be picked up and returned to Benzie County after being scanned for us.

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Griner, to approve payment of the bills from March 21, 2017 to April 11, 2017 in the amount of \$1,957,280.02, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, reported that March 31, 2017 was foreclosure for the 2014 taxes and they ended with 45 foreclosures; Land Bank meets next week.

HR AND PERSONNEL – None

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Motion by Griner, seconded by Warsecke, to suspend the Board Rules regarding appointment of committee members. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

EDC: Motion by Carland, seconded by Jeannot, to reappoint Blake Brooks to the Benzie County Economic Development Corporation for a six-year term, expiring January 31, 2023. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

EMS: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Carland, to reappoint Marty Bates to the Emergency Medical Services Board for a three-year term, expiring December 31, 2019. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Construction Board of Appeals: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Walterhouse, to reappoint Roger Papineau, Randy Olsen, Rodney Moore, Caleb Luibrand and Richard Krupp to the Construction Board of Appeals for a two-year term, expiring December 31, 2018. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to reinstate the Board Rules regarding appointment of committee members. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke
Nays: None Motion carried.

BTA: Motion by Walterhouse seconded by Sauer, to reappoint Eric VanDussen and Amy Herczak to the Benzie Transportation Authority for a three-year term, expiring April 30, 2020. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Griner, to appoint Jennifer Kolinske and Anne Noah to the vacant positions Benzie Transportation Authority. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Centra Wellness: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to reappoint Frank Walterhouse and Coury Carland to the Centra Wellness Board for a three-year term, expiring March 31, 2020. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

EMS Mutual Aid Agreement with Almira Township: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the Mutual Aid Emergency Medical Service Agreement with Almira Township and Benzie County EMS as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

National Public Safety Telecommunications Week: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke, to approve resolution 2017-009 and recognize National Public Safety Telecommunication Week April 9 – 15, 2017 as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

2017-010 – COA Millage: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke, to approve resolution 2017-010 Submitting to a Vote of the Electorate a Special Millage for County Commission on Aging as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

2017-011 – ACO Millage: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Roelofs, to approve resolution 2017-011 Submitting to a Vote of the Electorate a Special Millage Renewal and Restoration for County Animal Control Services as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Scrap Tire Grant: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Griner, to accept the Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant Agreement between Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Benzie County Solid Waste Department in the amount of \$12,000, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Benzie-Leelanau Health Dept minutes of March 23, 2017 received.
- Little Platte Lake Elevation report for March 2017 received.
- Crystal Lake Elevation report for March 2017 received.

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- Road Commission minutes of March 9, 2017 received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

12:25 p.m. Public Input

Eric VanDussen spoke regarding the Benzie Transportation Authority interviews and stated that one opening should be for a partial term; it was troubling to him that the County Administrator said to him that it was inappropriate for him to remain in the room during the interviews; Eric feels it was inappropriate for him to say that if it was an open meeting.

Roger Griner stated that he was advised, 10 – 12 year ago, when he interviewed for a position on a committee that he shouldn't be there either.

Mitch will ask Mr. Figura to review this issue.

12:32 p.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Griner, to adjourn until the April 25, 2017 Regular meeting or the call of the chair. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke
Nays: None Motion carried

Custer C. Carland – Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

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1. Approved the agenda as amended.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of March 21, 2017 as corrected.
3. Approved the closed session minutes of March 21, 2017 regarding Benzie County vs Cole, as presented.
4. Approved the closed session minutes of March 21, 2017 regarding 312 Arbitration, as presented.
5. Accepted the 2016 Audit Report completed by Anderson, Tackman & Company, PLC as presented, and place on file.
6. Approved payment of the bills as presented.
7. Suspended the Board Rules regarding appointment of committee members.
8. Reappointed Blake Brooks to the Benzie County EDC for a 6-year term, expiring January 31, 2023.
9. Reappointed Marty Bates to the Emergency Medical Services Board for a 3-year term, expiring December 31, 2019.
10. Reappointed Roger Papineau, Randy Olsen, Rodney Moore, Caleb Luibrand and Richard Krupp to the Construction Board of Appeals for a 2-year term, expiring December 31, 2018.
11. Reinstated the Board Rules regarding appointment of committee members.

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12. Reappointed Eric VanDussen and Amy Herczak to the BTA for a 3-year term, expiring April 30, 2020.
13. Appointed Jennifer Kolinske and Anne Noah to the vacant positions BTA.
14. Reappointed Frank Walterhouse and Coury Carland to the Centra Wellness Board for a 3-year term, expiring March 31, 2020.
15. Approved the Mutual Aid Emergency Medical Service Agreement with Almira Township and Benzie County EMS as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.
16. Approved resolution 2017-009 and recognize National Public Safety Telecommunication Week April 9 – 15, 2017 as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.
17. Approved resolution 2017-010 Submitting to a Vote of the Electorate a Special Millage for County Commission on Aging as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.
18. Approved resolution 2017-011 Submitting to a Vote of the Electorate a Special Millage Renewal and Restoration for County Animal Control Services as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.
19. Accepted the Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant Agreement between Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Benzie County Solid Waste Department in the amount of \$12,000, authorizing the chairman to sign.