

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 13, 2017

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 13, 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 Roelofs, seconded by Walterhouse, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the regular session minutes of May 23, 2017 as corrected, page 3 Tight Line not Timeline. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Input – None

PUBLIC HEARING – 2017 Tax Rate

Tom Longanbach, Equalization Director, spoke regarding the Truth in Taxation – it only applies to the General Operating Millage, not the Maples, Jail, ALS, etc. The operating millage the county levied last year will be the same or less this year due to Headlee millage reduction. The state limits each taxing authority to the revenue that was generated in the prior year, without a public hearing. For the County, convention and cigarette tax revenue must be deducted from the tax revenue collected the year before. That Adjusted Revenue is the maximum allowable without a tax hearing. The purpose of this meeting is to notify the public of the County's intent to levy the maximum allowable under Headlee.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Griner, to open the public hearing. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Public Input on Tax Rate – None

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to close the public hearing. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

L-4029: Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the L-4029 as presented with a July 1 millage levy of 3.4692, authorizing the chairman and clerk to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:

Craig Johnson, EMS Director, stated that the new ambulance is here and is up and working – you will be able to view it when you take a break; one of the other ambulances blew an engine and they need to look at options to replace it; they now have four trucks up and running for the summer; he reported

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on the Community Paramedic program; Thompsonville now has a new intercept agreement with Manistee.

Kathy Dube, Administrator at the Maples, says the open house at the facility last week on Monday had 300 – 400 people attend; the next day they moved the residents into the new building – all were moved within 2-1/2 hours; thank you to those that helped with the move.

Frank Post, Emergency Management, provided his April and May activity reports; June 8 they had the first meeting of the Government Center Security Committee – it was well attended; Comm Warsecke asked to be added to that committee; Wildfire Training was held last Wednesday.

Kyle Maurer, ACO, stated that they received the software program about a month ago and it works great – they like it; they are getting a lot more calls now, 4 to 5 per day; still working to reseal the floor, he has three bids and expect to receive two more; he also provided the monthly report.

David Schaffer, Recycling, stated that the Honor site has been moved, but that property does not meet with the Village zoning for that use; the Village council has issued a temporary permit for the summer and then a new site will need to be found; the village planning commission says it is not a part of the vision of Honor, so they are on the hunt again.

Benzie Transportation Authority financial reports for July 2016 – April 2017 received.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mitch Deisch

- Strategic Plan has been placed on the county web site.
- Thank you to Michelle Thompson regarding the talk she gave to Manistee County regarding the Land Bank.
- Thank you to Kathy Dube for allowing him to help move residents into the Maples new building.
- He will begin the process of starting to compile Attorney Opinions into one place.
- Phone lines – there will be an additional expense for fax lines. Comm Sauer is concerned about the way this is going with the phones – he feels it is an Abilita issue – Mitch says it should have been Millenia not Abilita. Maridee stated it starts with AT&T.

Laura Galbreth, Venture North – Crystal Mountain Project Update

This project has a project cost of this expansion is close to \$11 million; it will create 48 new positions of which 15 have been hired and 20 positions will be hired, trained and retained for 90 days by July 2017; the project is 75% completed; the chair of this board has been authorized to sign extension requests and then it will go to MEDC to decide if they want to grant that extension or not.

Kirk Davidson, Crystal Mountain Project Engineer, there were some ADA concerns that needed to be redesigned and so it sat for a little while to rethink and thus it was delayed a little; the market and coffee shop will be the last to open; the hotel rooms will open in August 2017.

10:00 a.m. Elaine Wood, Networks Northwest

Elaine gave the FY 2016 Annual Report for Networks Northwest – she will be retiring at the end of 2017 and Matt McCaully will be the new Executive Director. She stated that it has been a pleasure to serve Benzie County for the last 43 years.

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10:34 a.m. Ron Gillison, Blaine Township

Mr. Gillison is concerned about the "Mystery Spot" on Putney Road and that it is being advertised; there are several people backing down at the road and it is dangerous; there are large trucks that travel that road often and feels it is a liability for the county.

Comm Sauer stated that the county is working on that road and the county doesn't advertise it.

Mr. Gillison stated that Joyfield Township is not a very friendly area for Benzie County – it doesn't help us out; we need county zoning.

Comm Griner stated that the comments are important.

10:41 a.m. Chip Johnston, Centra Wellness

2017-021: Motion by Griner, seconded by Carland, to adopt resolution 2017-021 to Preserve the Public Mental Health System, as amended. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

11:08 a.m. Motion by Carland, seconded by Sauer, to go into closed session to consult with our attorney regarding trial strategy in connection with the case of Christopher Woods vs Benzie County and Benzie County Sheriff's Department, File No. 1:16-cv-01285-RJJ-RSK, pending in the U.S. Western District Court, State of Michigan, pursuant to Section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act since discussion in an open meeting will have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating position of the County. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

12:33 p.m. Re-enter Open Session

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to suspend the Board of Commissioner reports to the June 27, 2017 board meeting. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Buildings & Grounds minutes of June 7, 2017 received.

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Walterhouse, to approve payment of the bills from May 23, 2017 to June 13, 2017 in the amount of \$624,964.37, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, reported on the Land Bank Authority; Land sale proceeds reports provided.

HR AND PERSONNEL – Minutes of May 23, 2017 received.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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

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Airport Authority: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Carland, to appoint Kenneth J. Laurence to the Frankfort City County Airport Authority to fill a vacancy, with a term to expire March 1, 2019.

Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Jury Board: Motion by Griner, seconded by Jeannot, to appoint Janice Robinson Mick to the Jury Board to fill a vacancy with a term to expire April 30, 2021, based upon the recommendation of Circuit Court Judge David Thompson. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to reinstate the board rules. Motion carried. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Road Patrol Contract: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Jeannot, to enter into contract with the Crystal Beach Cottager's Association for road patrol services as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Road Patrol Contract: Motion by Griner, seconded by Jeannot, to enter into contract with Lake Township for road patrol services as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

2% Grant Application: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to authorize 2% grant application to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians on behalf of Benzie Area Christian Neighbors (BACN), authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Boilers: Motion by Griner, seconded by Sauer, to award to Sheren for installation of four new boilers (two in Government Center and two in Sheriff/Jail), as identified in the RFP for a not to exceed cost of \$128,500 and to award to Hurst Mechanical the annual preventive maintenance agreement in the amount of \$5,800, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: Jeannot Motion carried.

Benzie Transportation Authority: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the Amended Articles of Incorporation for the Benzie Transportation Authority as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

2017-019: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Roelofs, to adopt Resolution 2017-019 amending the Article of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Benzie Transportation Authority as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

2017-020: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Carland, to adopt Resolution 2017-020 authorizing Acceptance of Quit Claim Deed from the Benzie County Building Authority and authorizing of a related Affidavit Affecting Real Property, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Motion

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carried. Ayes: Carland, Griner, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None
Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Veterans Affairs minutes of April 3, 2017 received.
- Health Department minutes of May 23, 2017 received.
- Little Platte Lake and Crystal Lake elevation reports for May 2017 received.
- Parks & Recreation Commission minutes of April 24, 2017 received.
- MMRMA letter regarding RAP grant requests not being addressed at their May 16, 2017 meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

1:25 p.m. Public Input – None

All items on the agenda having been taken care of, the chair adjourns this meeting.

Custer C. Carland – Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

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1. Approved the agenda as presented.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of May 23, 2017 as corrected, page 3 Tight Line not Timeline.
3. Public hearing held regarding 2017 Tax Rate.
4. Approved the L-4029 as presented.
5. Adopted resolution 2017-021 to Preserve the Public Mental Health System, as amended.
6. Entered closed session to consult with our attorney regarding Woods vs Benzie County and Benzie County Sheriff's Department.
7. Suspended the Board of Commissioner reports to the June 27, 2017 board meeting.
8. Approved payment of the bills.
9. Suspended the Board Rules regarding committee appointments.
10. Appointed Kenneth J. Laurence to the Airport Authority to fill a vacancy.
11. Appointed Janice Robinson Mick to the Jury Board to fill a vacancy.
12. Approved to reinstate the board rules.
13. Approved to enter into contract with the Crystal Beach Cottager's Assoc for road patrol services.
14. Approved to enter into contract with Lake Township for road patrol services.
15. Authorized 2% grant application to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians on behalf of BACN.

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16. Approved to award to Sheren for installation of four new boilers (two in Government Center and two in Sheriff/Jail), as identified in the RFP for a not to exceed cost of \$128,500 and to award to Hurst Mechanical the annual preventive maintenance agreement in the amount of \$5,800.
17. Approved the Amended Articles of Incorporation for the Benzie Transportation Authority as presented.
18. Adopted Resolution 2017-019 amending the Article of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Benzie Transportation Authority as presented.
19. Adopt Resolution 2017-020 authorizing Acceptance of Quit Claim Deed from the Benzie County Building Authority and authorizing of a related Affidavit Affecting Real Property.