

## **THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**July 10, 2018**

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, July 10, 2018, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gary Sauer.

Present were: Commissioners Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke

Excused: Commissioner Carland

The invocation was given by Commissioner Griner and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Agenda:**

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the agenda as amended, adding discussion regarding Financial Review RFP. Ayes: Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke  
Nays: None Exc: Carland Motion carried.

### **Minutes:**

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Roelofs, to approve the regular session minutes of June 26, 2017 as corrected. Ayes: Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Carland Motion carried.

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the closed session minutes of June 26, 2018 reference collective bargaining with Attorney Matt Nordfjord, as presented. Ayes: Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Carland Motion carried.

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Money, to approve the closed session minutes of June 26, 2018 reference Benzie County et al vs Cole with Attorney Richard Figura, as presented. Ayes: Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Carland Motion carried.

9:06 a.m. Public Input – None

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

Sheriff Schendel informed the board that they are at a crisis level at the jail; 2 years ago they were at minimum staffing; they are taking in boarders now and have 10 from Grand Traverse so we are over 40 with 47 being maximum capacity. They have various issues with corrections officers (8 of the 13) – retirement, left the facility, medical issues. One corrections officer was assaulted by an inmate last week and will be out for two weeks. Road patrol is picking up the slack. They will be interviewing next week but only received 3 applications and stated that surrounding counties are also hiring. He asks for suggestions from the board and said you might want to look at the starting salary and bump it up to make it competitive. We can't operate the way we are.

Comm Jeannot stated that he appreciates you bring this to us but would say send the inmates back to Grand Traverse County.

Comm Griner suggests that you make connection with some retired military personnel in the area.

County Administrator Mitch Deisch stated that the officers are in collective bargaining units too.

Bert Gale, Building Official, provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter building safety report. Bert introduces Jason Flores, the new Building & Soil Erosion Inspector. Bert stated that we had a slow start this year but feels we will end up the same as last year.

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Comm Jeannot commented that building permits are up over last year. How long are builders waiting for inspections? 2 days top – if they call by 3:30 p.m., they will be done the next day.

Comm Roelofs asked about when plumbing inspections are done. Tuesday and Thursday every week. Comm Roelofs also reminded Bert that we need to address the records retention.

## **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Comm Jeannot reported that he saw Comm Roelofs on the news as being recognized as the Veteran Volunteer of the Year for the 7-county area. He also stated that he attended the HARP meeting in Honor, Sexual Harassment training for employees. Lake Township – Anna Grobe has been appointed Supervisor until 2020, replacing the retiring Bill Robinson. Almira Township continues to elevate the need for staffing for fire and EMS. Regarding the housing project that he is involved in, a public hearing was held at Crystal Lake Township but has no idea where they are at with it.

Comm Roelofs reported that Veterans Affairs has been busy; there was an event at the Garden Theater with Congregational Summer Assembly and they made a \$500 donation to the Memorial. Lake Ann Homecoming event raised another \$400 for the Veterans Memorial. He will attend the Village of Lake Ann meeting tonight.

Comm Warsecke reported that the Solid Waste scrap tire event will be held in Thompsonville July 14 from 9 a.m. – 12:00 noon. He attended Inland Township meeting last night and will be at Colfax tonight. There were no Conservation District or school board meetings.

Comm Griner stated that he went and toured the Pentagon, a lady from Holland gave the tour. They took everything away from them – phones, cameras, etc --- before they went in. The most impressive was the memorial outside.

Comm Money reported that he made a presentation to the Village of Thompsonville regarding the Land Bank. Homestead Township is doing repairs on their building. He attended the Grow Benzie event at St. Ambrose last Friday – there were 1,400 people there and 4 bands – it was not noisy or out of control. It was a very nice event.

Chairman Sauer reported that Blaine Township will have a renew/restore fire millage on the November ballot; he attended the sexual harassment workshop – none of us are experts; a joint meeting with the BOC-DHHS-BA was held yesterday and there was a lot of good information and the project is moving forward. Road Commission – Marshall Road work was started yesterday and there were other local road projects that are being worked on as well.

## **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mitch Deisch**

- Provided his written report dated July 3, 2018.
- Health Insurance – 44North will make a presentation at the July 24, 2018 COTW.
- EMS – Jim Henderson has resigned with August 2 being his last day; a press release went out yesterday; we need to identify an interim director.
- Comm Jeannot asked about the 1% change in the MERS liability. The market went up and 13.07% was their rate of return, thought we would have a better percentage change.
- Ad hoc committee for Financial Review RFP will be discussed later in the meeting.

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- Comm Money stated that we need an exit interview with Jim Henderson with the BOC – also anyone that has left in the last year.

## **FINANCE**

Bills: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Griner, to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$278,262.92 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke  
Nays: None Exc: Carland Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Consent**

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Griner, to approve items 1-3 of the June 26, 2018 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Carland Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – None**

## **ACTION ITEMS**

2018-020: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Roelofs, to adopt Resolution 2018-020 Fair Housing resolution as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Carland Motion carried.

2018-021: Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to adopt Resolution 2018-021 Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan FY 2019 Annual Implementation Plan as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Carland Motion carried.

## **PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE**

- MMRMA RAP grant notification for EMS Stair Chair received.
- Parks & Recreation minutes of May 21, 2018 received.
- Kalkaska County Resolution in Opposition to HB 6049 and SB 1025 received.
- Wexford County Resolution Opposing HB 6049 and SB 1025 received.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Roelofs, to support selecting the Financial Review RFP from Municipal Analytic & Vettraino Consulting as recommended by the Ad Hoc Financial Review Committee to perform the Benzie County Financial Review Report and direct the County Administrator to prepare a contract to be brought back to the full Board of Commissioners. Roll call. Ayes: Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Carland Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS -- None**

10:35 a.m. Public Input

Sherry Taylor stated she was glad to see you will do exit interviews with department heads, but you also need to do exit interviews with employees.

Comm Griner stated we need to come up with some money to keep employees here.

Comm Jeannot stated that the information from the Sheriff was a plea for help.

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Chairman Sauer stated that he was caught off guard; 2 years ago he took a position out of the jail and put another on the road. He said the position wasn't needed. I don't want to do things with a knee jerk reaction.

Comm Jeannot says we need to go to the Sheriff and let him know that we want to help.

Comm Warsecke is the liaison to the Sheriff and will talk with him today.

10:44 a.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to adjourn at 10:45 a.m. Ayes: Griner, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Carland Motion carried.

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Gary G. Sauer, Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

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**Committee of the Whole**

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**June 26, 2018**

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Griner, to approve the Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as follows:

1. To amend the 2017-18 budget for Fund 256 ROD Automation Fund in the amount of \$10,000 as presented.
2. To amend the 2017-18 Budget for Fund 425 Equipment Replacement for Sheriff Office in the amount of \$12,793 as presented.
3. To authorize Mitch Deisch to act on the Robert Hawkins grievance on behalf of the Board of Commissioners.