

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 13, 2018

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Sauer at 9:00 a.m.

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

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

Agenda:

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the agenda as amended, adding Recycling Contract with the City of Frankfort to Action Items. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Carland, to approve the regular session minutes of February 27, 2018 as amended per email of March 11, 2018. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Input

Eric VanDussen spoke regarding the FOIA appeal.

9:06 a.m. Public Input Closed

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:

Bert Gale, Building Official, presented the 4th Quarter Report for October, November and December 2017 together with the 2017 Annual Report. He reported that he expects another year of growth. Comm Jeannot asked about the time for completing inspections. Mr. Gale stated that if they are scheduled prior to 3:30 p.m., the inspection is done the next day. Mr. Gale spoke to the board about their space problem – they can't even file things anymore because the cabinets are too full. They will need to archive their records but not sure where they would be stored. He would like the opportunity to talk with the County Administrator regarding this. He stated that they can digitize a large amount, but the actual plans need to be kept. We do need a policy and it would have to be approved by the state.

Frank Post, Emergency Manager, presented the January and February 2018 reports of activities. In February he attended the E-0449 Training in Emmitsburg, Maryland and he will now be able to teach the ICS classes. Comm Jeannot asked if he knows how many people have signed up for CodeRED. Mr. Post stated not until they actually turn the system on. He spoke regarding the CodeRED and stated that everyone with a benzieco email address will be getting an invite to join CodeRED. March 28 will attend damage assessment training. Assisted Fire Fighter Grant – platform that would allow all entities to talk – Fire and EMS. Almira will be the fiduciary for this grant. He will attend the April 18 exercise at POMH for Region 7 Health Care Coalition; MMRMA grants were approved for Benzie County \$15,000 for building security and \$1,000 for EMS stair chair. There remains \$20,000 left at MMRMA for security/improvement fund for our RAP grants. MMRMA has changed some of the guidelines and some grant will be funded Courts are 50/50 and anything else is 1/3 grant

COMMISSIONERS

Page 2 of 6

March 13, 2018

funds and 2/3 us. Have had two meetings with the first responder community and the schools in light of the Florida school shooting. He has no information regarding the Elberta sewer issue.

9:51 a.m. Richard Figura, FOIA Appeal

Mr. Figura presents information and requests that you take certain action; he gives a chronology of events; there are three options presented to you. Least amount liability wise would be option 3 from a legal perspective and option 2 from a practical perspective.

Motion by Carland, seconded by Jeannot, to adopt Option 2 – The BOC would have to rescind its actions taken at the February 27, 2018 meeting and deny Ms. Mallon's FOIA request. Roll call.

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

10:01 a.m. Matt Skeels, Road Commission

Mr. Skeels presents Renewal Millage wording and asks that this be placed on the August 2018 ballot. He provides information with what the millage funds have been used for during the period 2014-2017 – the road commission has improved 49 miles of roads, both primary and local. With the 2018 projects, it will be a total of 61 miles; estimated 2018-2022 Michigan Transportation Funding (MTF) revenue. Other issues they have are that the road commission building was built in 1937 and needs some renovations; 13 of the 17 plow truck were purchased from a company that no longer is in business and it is more difficult to obtain parts.

Comm Jeannot stated that he is encouraged in how the road commission is being managed.

Millage wording will come back to this board after revised by the road commission legal counsel.

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to adopt resolution 2018-006 in Support of an Application for Critical Bridge Funds for Nostwick Road Bridge in Colfax Township, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Money, to adopt resolution 2018-007 in Support of an Application for Critical Bridge Funds for Haze Road Bridge in Weldon Township, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Money, to adopt resolution 2018-008 in Support of Critical Bridge Funds for Reynolds Road Bridge in Colfax Township, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

10:27 a.m. Tad Peacock & John Ransom, Conservation District

Mr. Peacock spoke to the board regarding what the Conservation District has been doing, and invasive species in particular. The grant will be done at the end of 2018 and they used some of the money to purchase a boat washing station to help prevent the spreading of invasive species. They are requesting an increase in their millage amount to assist with this program.

Comm Jeannot asked if they work with Almira Township as well. Mr. Ransom stated that yes, they do. The Ann Lake Association is working to get funds prevent invasive species from coming into Lake Ann.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 3 of 6

March 13, 2018

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Money, to support the millage request for the Conservation District to appear on the August 2018 ballot. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

10:41 a.m. Laura Galbraith, Venture North, Public Hearing – Crystal Mountain CDBG Loan
Ms. Galbraith is present together with Kirk Davidson and John Melcher, CEO, to speak about the CDBG for Crystal Mountain for ~~\$460,000 dollars~~ \$463,370; \$10 million was total project costs; they adding 31,000 square feet to the property of mixed used residential and commercial property. 48 people were hired for this project; at least 51% were low to moderate income individuals. Mr. Melcher updated the board on the end result with photos. There are now 263 units at Crystal Mountain. Conference site can accommodate about 400 individuals.
Mr. Davidson explains the photos that are provided.

10:54 a.m. Motion by Carland, seconded by Roelofs, to open the Public Hearing. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

7 people present in the audience

Amy Bissell stated that in 2017 she brought the Register of Deeds Association to Crystal Mountain for the annual conference; they were fabulous to work with.

10:55 a.m. Public Hearing Closed

10:56 a.m. Bryce Dreeszen – Betsie Valley Trail Grant Application

Mr. Dreeszen stated that they are seeking funds for reconstruction of a section of the trail from the Village of Beulah to County Farm Road. He requests a resolution in support of the grant application. The Friends of the Betsie Valley Trail will be providing the 25% match funds – no county funds.

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Roelofs, to approve resolution 2018-005 for Submission of Application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for Reconstruction of the Betsie Valley Trail from Beulah to County Farm Road, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Money, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding for Betsie Valley Trail Reconstruction from Beulah to County Farm Road in the Village of Beulah, Benzie County as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS – continued:

David Schaffer, Recycling Coordinator, presented a Recycling Site Lease for the Frankfort site; this will be a short-term lease for three months.

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Money, to authorize the lease between Benzie County and the City of Frankfort as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Money reported that he has attended the Homestead Township meeting – they are getting a new rescue fire truck and there was no action on the St. Ambrose matter – they are addressing it. He also attended the Village of Honor meeting.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 4 of 6

March 13, 2018

Comm Warsecke stated that there was a meeting with Frank Post, Mitch, Schools and Sheriff regarding safety issues. Met yesterday regarding the Frank Walterhouse memorial; Inland Township meeting last night – May 18 will be the propane sale from 11 am to 7 pm – 20# propane tank for \$7.00; Inland Clean Up day is May 5.

Mr. Deisch stated that they discussed policies; using each other as resources; Frankfort says they would like 1 school resource officer; Benzie says 1 for the high school and 1 for all other schools. Talked about a joint grant application to the Grand Traverse Band for 2% tribal funds. More meetings will be held.

Comm Roelofs reported that he attended the Human Services Collaborative and Benzie Bus did a presentation; Benzie Bus has their 10 year anniversary this year; annually there are 7595 riders to Traverse City; LOVE Inc also did a presentation. Domestic Violence Tax Force – there are not enough shelters for gals in the event of domestic violence in the home; Opioid do not help the situation either. Almira Township Clean-Up day is May 5. The metal scrap at Almira goes to Almira Township Veteran's Memorial. He will attend the Lake Ann meeting tonight.

Comm Jeannot reported he has attended five meetings: Lake Township is working with the Road Commission to post signs to eliminate trucks on Crystal Drive and get them to go down Platte Road; trying to mark businesses and attractions on the M-22 Bi-way. Almira Township promoted Nick Greszik to Assistant Fire Chief.

Comm Carland reported on the Village of Benzonia working with an engineering firm for a Passport Grant for a pavilion by the Mills Community House. Substance Abuse Disorder meeting – couple of requests for liquor tax money. Central Wellness – will attend an Opioid Symposium on April 5. Planning Commission met last week -- their next topic will be the Trapp Farm, Cold Creek, Crystal Lake Watershed in May. Village of Beulah were just notified by the SOM that the SAW grant applied for in 2013 that they have been awarded \$170,000 for a study on rain water that runs into Crystal Lake. He talked with Dan Smith, President of Beulah, they are planning to build the water tank this Spring. He also attended the Networks Northwest last night.

Comm Sauer reported with regard to the Road Commission, a bill has passed the house and senate awaiting the Governor's signature that funds have been taken out of the General Fund \$175 million and 39.1% of that goes to the MTF for road commissions. Benzie County could receive \$275,000. The Maples had 91% occupancy in January; they are still looking for CENA and housekeepers. Elberta was awarded a Health Dept grant for a walking trail in their waterfront park. Blaine Township – the Land Conservancy has a new approach for invasive species – goats. Village of Thompsonville is looking to extend the Betsie Valley Trail from Thompsonville to Copemish and are applying for Natural Resources Trust Fund grant to do so.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mitch Deisch

- Finance/IT Manager Position has been advertised for.
- Solid Waste/Recycling Coordinator position will need to be filled.
- Opioid Conference on April 5, 2018.
- Comm Jeannot asked about Goals & Objectives and a deep dive into the county finances.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 5 of 6

March 13, 2018

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Carland, seconded by Warsecke, to approve payment of the bills from February 28, 2018 to March 13, 2018 in the amount of \$322,823.85, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, let the board know that they are almost balanced with the townships; end of month the auditors will be coming.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to adopt items 1-6 of the February 27, 2018 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – None

ACTION ITEMS

EMS Shift Premium: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Carland, to adopt the Budget Amendment dated February 20, 2018 for EMS as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- MMRMA notification of RAP grant in the amount of \$1,965.
- Bylaws of the Benzie County Veterans Affairs Committee received.
- Building Authority agenda for 3/8/2018 and attachments.
- Oakland County resolution regarding Indigent Defense.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

12:06 p.m. Public Input

Lori Hill, Homestead Township, spoke regarding the Planning Commission education appointment. Eric VanDussen spoke regarding the FOIA appeal decision; committee openings and advertisement; Building Authority.

12:11 p.m. Public Input Closed

Comm Roelofs stated that he would like to see Mr. VanDussen speak during Department Head time or be placed on the agenda so that the board can have the ability to interact with him.

Motion by Carland, seconded by Warsecke, to adjourn at 12:14 p.m. until March 29, 2018 or the call of the chair. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Money, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.



Gary Sauer – Chair



Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

INDEX

1. Approved the agenda as amended.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of February 27, 2018 as amended.
3. Adopted Option 2 – The BOC would have to rescind its actions taken at the February 27, 2018 meeting and deny Ms. Mallon's FOIA request.
4. Adopted resolution 2018-006 in Support of an Application for Critical Bridge Funds for Nostwick Road Bridge in Colfax Township.
5. Adopted resolution 2018-007 in Support of an Application for Critical Bridge Funds for Haze Road Bridge in Weldon Township.
6. Adopted resolution 2018-008 in Support of Critical Bridge Funds for Reynolds Road Bridge in Colfax Township.
7. Supported the millage request for the Conservation District to appear on the August 2018 ballot.
8. Public Hearing held regarding Crystal Mountain CDBG Loan.
9. Approved resolution 2018-005 for Submission of Application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for Reconstruction of the Betsie Valley Trail from Beulah to County Farm Road.
10. Approved a Memorandum of Understanding for Betsie Valley Trail Reconstruction from Beulah to County Farm Road in the Village of Beulah, Benzie County as presented.
11. Authorized the lease between Benzie County and the City of Frankfort as presented.
12. Approved payment of the bills from February 28 to March 13, 2018 in the amount of \$322,823.85.
13. Adopted items 1-6 of the February 27, 2018 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented.
14. Adopted the Budget Amendment dated February 20, 2018 for EMS as presented.

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to adopt the Consent Calendar items listed below as presented:

1. Transfer \$16,128.00 grant money from 214-655-540.00 to 214-655-970.00 as presented, authorizing chairman to sign.
2. Transfer \$8,000.00 from the General Fund to the 425.301.749.00 fund for purpose to help purchase the new vehicle; with \$7,000.00 coming from the Sheriff's 425 fund; the funding source from the General Fund to be determined later and provided at the next Board of Commissioners meeting, authorizing chairman to sign.
3. Approve up to \$10,000.00 for a budget amendment request within the Solid Waste funds, supported by receipts/invoices, authorizing chairman to sign.
4. Approve the contract with American Waste, as presented, contingent on all errors being corrected, authorizing the chairman to sign.
5. Approve the contract with American Waste for Electronic Waste Collection, as presented, contingent on approval of our attorney, authorizing chairman to sign.
6. Approve the budget amendment regarding Secondary Road Patrol as presented, authorizing chairmen to sign.