

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 23, 2018

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 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, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke

Excused: Commissioner Griner

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

Agenda:

Motion by Carland, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the agenda as amended, adding scheduling of Special Meeting for interviews for District V, Road Commission Vacancy and Committee of the Whole discussions all under New Business. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke
Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Carland, to approve the regular session minutes of January 9, 2018 as presented. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner
Motion carried.

9:03 a.m. Public Input

Eric VanDussen stated that he was appointed Chair of the Building Authority, ask him if you need some information; asks to amend the Articles of Incorporation of the Building Authority regarding Section 7 to allow the BA to hire someone to do the minutes, agenda, etc.

9:07 a.m. Public Input Closed

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS:

Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resources, presented a written monthly report and spoke regarding snow removal. Their federal dollars are being held back so they are down almost \$7,000 so far, because there has been no pass through for the 2018 budget, but we will be fine; the federal shutdown has zero impact to services.

Comm Roelofs asked about snow removal vouchers – Mr. Durand stated they allow 14 per season. Chairman Sauer asked if they are looking to purchase a 15 passenger van. Mr. Durand responded that they have a 15 passenger van and bus that are used for day trips only.

Comm Jeannot inquired of Mr. Durand regarding challenges finding drivers during the course of the week – the more you task them with the more difficult will be.

Mr. Durand stated that they have five new volunteers that are being trained now.

Emergency Management monthly report for December 2017 received.

Emergency Action Guidelines to be carried over to the next meeting.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Warsecke has attended both Colfax and Inland Township meetings together with the Conservation District and they are all plugging along. He spoke regarding some type of honoring of Frank Walterhouse for his 37 years of service and being the longest serving Commissioner in the state; something to honor Frank.

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Comm Jeannot suggests an ad hoc committee be appointed to discuss and bring a recommendation back to this board; also ask the groups in Lansing to do a resolution as well.

Ad Hoc Committee: Chairman Sauer, Comm Warsecke, Comm Carland, Judge Mead and County Administrator Mitch Deisch.

Comm Jeannot stated he has met two times recently with the Housing committee and we were able to take care of two emergency requests for furnaces; Eric spoke briefly about his new role with the BA and Lisa Vogler was appointed as Secretary; sat through the Jan 18 meetings and will acknowledge that Eric took a leadership role and was decisive in his role; they have approved an attorney use policy; they are in the process of getting documentation to review for the arbitration defense; they will meet on the third Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. Himself, Roger and Gary had been summoned to court with an attorney to defend an action regarding an unsigned affidavit; they filed an emergency injunction, and the court struck it from being used, and sanctioned Ed Roy for causing him to address his own actions. January 18 attended the Community Action Agency meeting, the home delivered meals was addressed and Wexford County has a contract with NMCAAA to deliver meals for \$20,000 per year. EDC met on January 19 – there seems to be a disconnect as to how we use AES; we need to allow AES to report directly to EDC and be solely accountable to them with dotted line responsibilities to BOC; Benzie County Chamber of Commerce is holding a get together tonight after the State of the State address at the Platte River Inn at 7:00.

Comm Roelofs reported on development in the Village of Lake Ann; someone is doing site condos, 12 – 15 sites; was invited to view the movie 12 Strong last Friday, Doug Stanton, a local author had written a book and the movie came from that, glad that he was invited to attend. Grand Traverse Veterans Affairs – he attended the new director's first meeting, as well as their organizational meeting.

Comm Carland reported that Patti Roth is spearheading letters of support for formation of a local post-secondary education college access here in Benzie County, trying to qualify for a grant to access the college network. Attended the Planning Commission meeting – Rocky is Chair, Betsy Evans is Vice Chair and he is Secretary; On February 8 @ 6 p.m. they will have the first community dialog program to discuss projects along the US 31 corridor; he was unable to attend the BA meeting at short notice, because he was going to Grayling for Zoning Administrator training.

Comm Sauer reported that the Village of Elberta wants to apply for Healthy Community Grant with stations having exercise equipment that can be used and they are seeking letters of support that are due this Friday. Their main target is on the senior end.

Comm Jeannot says these both sound good, but don't see anything before us to see what it is going to say; perhaps we should each do a letter of support; don't know how we can take action on something we do not have in front of us.

Mr. Deisch says you could authorize Chairman Sauer to draft a letter of support and leave it up to his discretion as to what the language would be.

Comm Sauer stated he also went to the Planning Commission review of the land use permits for the marina in Elberta. Scott Gest is trying to redo the permits; he stated he would not develop the projects, just want to sell it. They village has decided not to proceed, there are a lot of unanswered questions. They still have the Betsie Valley Trail through the property and to the Light Saving Station. Road Commission passed a resolution regarding antenna and right of way. He said he

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doesn't say it enough, the amount of professional people that work here, I appreciate their professionalism and appreciate the way they work with the public.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mitch Deisch

- Provided the Administrator's update.
- Currently working with the EMS Director on 30-60-90 day goals.
- January 29 the MERS presentation at 5:30 p.m. here. Will send out the December 31, 2016 actuarial out to everyone.
- Received a call from Greg Grant with Cummings, McClorey that they have received a check from Ed Roy and it will be credited to our account.
- Budget at a Glance for 2017-18.
- Committee of the Whole (COTW) agenda request form – trying to streamline the process.
- The COTW for today was not posted, so we will need to reschedule.
- Comm Jeannot asked about the EMS billing practices and if they have been corrected – we are working on policies to correct those practices.
- Comm Roelofs asks Mr. Deisch to talk about the Rotary trip: he stated that this is the 11th year that he has gone to the Dominican Republic with a group of students. This year he is taking five ladies from Benzie County Central.

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to approve payment of the bills from January 10, 2018 to January 23, 2018 in the amount of \$593,329.13, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer, Walterhouse and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, stated that she will be attending the Michigan Association of County Treasurer's conference next week at Shanty Creek and while there, she will also attend a Land Bank Association meeting. March 1 begins forfeiture of the 2016 taxes and foreclosure of the 2015 taxes by March 31. She also reported on the Land Bank Impact Study.

10:20 a.m. Break

10:27 a.m. Reconvene

HR AND PERSONNEL – No Report.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Planning Commission: Interviews to be scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, 2018 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Commissioners Carland, Sauer and Jeannot, Mitch Deisch and Chair of the Planning Commission will be the interview team.

EMS: One interview to be scheduled for Tuesday, January 30, 2018 after the Planning Commission interviews. Commissioners Roelofs, Sauer and Jeannot, Mitch Deisch and Chair of the EMS Advisory Board will be the interview team.

Committee of the Whole (COTW) will not be held today as it was not posted. The meeting will be rescheduled to Thursday, February 1, 2018 beginning at 1:00 p.m.

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Interviews for District V Board of Commissioners will be held on Thursday, February 1, 2018 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

County Administrator and Chairman Sauer will work on interview questions.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution 2018-004: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Jeannot, to approve resolution 2018-004 in Opposition to Michigan House bills 5096-5098 as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

FEMA Public Alert and Warning System: to be rescheduled after legal review of the Agreement.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Road Commission minutes of December 14, 2017 and December 21, 2017 received.
- Veterans Affairs minutes of December 4, 2017 received.
- Solid Waste Advisory minutes of January 3, 2018 received.
- Alger County resolution regarding HB 5096-5098 received.
- Letter from MMRMA with net assets distribution.
- Benzie Transportation Authority December 2017 Financial Report received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Filling of Road Commission vacancy: By statute, the Board of Commissioners will fill the vacancy. We will advertise in the Record Patriot and the Traverse City Record Eagle with a deadline of Friday, February 9, 2018 at 12:00 noon for letters of interest. Letters will be sent to all municipalities in Benzie County announcing the receiving of letters of interest. Interviews will be conducted Friday, February 16, 2018 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

10:59 a.m. Public Input

Mitch Deisch stated that he appreciates the memos that Frank Post prepares when he brings things forward to this board.

Comm Carland informed the Board of former Administrator Karl Sparks' health and that he is not doing well.

11:00 a.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Carland, to adjourn until February 13, 2018 or the call of the chair. Ayes: Carland, Jeannot, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Griner Motion carried.

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1. Approved the agenda as amended.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of January 9, 2018 as presented.
3. Approved payment of the bills from January 10, 2018 to January 23, 2018.
4. Scheduled Planning Commission interviews for Tuesday, January 30, 2018 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Commissioners Carland, Sauer and Jeannot, Mitch Deisch and Chair of the Planning Commission will be the interview team.
5. Scheduled EMS interview for Tuesday, January 30, 2018 after the Planning Commission interviews. Commissioners Roelofs, Sauer and Jeannot, Mitch Deisch and Chair of the EMS Advisory Board will be the interview team.
6. Committee of the Whole (COTW) will be rescheduled for Thursday, February 1, 2018 beginning at 1:00 p.m.
7. Interviews for District V Board of Commissioners will be held on Thursday, February 1, 2018 beginning at 9:00 a.m.
8. Adopted resolution 2018-004 in Opposition to Michigan House bills 5096-5098 as presented.
9. Set schedule for filling of Road Commission vacancy: Set a deadline of Friday, February 9, 2018 at 12:00 noon for letters of interest. Interviews will be conducted Friday, February 16, 2018 beginning at 9:00 a.m.