

# **THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**June 11, 2019**

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, in the Frank F. Walterhouse Board Room, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gary Sauer.

Present were: Commissioners Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke

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

## **Agenda:**

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

## **Minutes:**

Motion by Nye, seconded by Farrell, to approve the regular session minutes of May 25, 2019 as amended on page 4. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:03 a.m. Public Input – None

## **PUBLIC HEARING – 2019 TAX RATE**

Tom Longanbach, Equalization Director, spoke regarding the process for setting the tax rate with the Headlee Rollback. It was discussed that the publication for the public hearing had an incorrect date listed so this matter will need to be re-advertised and the public hearing held on June 25, 2019.

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Roelofs, to repost and republish the Notice of Public Hearing on Increasing Property Taxes for June 25, 2019 at 9:00 a.m., adding CORRECTED to the title and change the date to be levied in 2019. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Tom Longanbach will send all township treasurers an email regarding the delay.

9:36 a.m. Open Public Hearing – No comments

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Farrell, to close the public hearing. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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

Frank Post, Emergency Manager, provided a written May 2019 activity report. He also spoke regarding the Frankfort Independence Day Incident Action Plan.

Comm Farrell stated that they do a terrific job on July 4 and asked if there was any way to keep the cars out of the alleys for those people that walk to town and use the alleys when leaving.

Mr. Post also stated that they have 20 water-filled barricades to use.

Comm Roelofs inquired of his activity with the Rolling Thunder Ride? Mr. Post stated that he has just a few traffic control areas that he handles.

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Susan Boyd, Finance Manager, reported that she has received the final bill from Municipal Analytics and it was \$1,450 less than the quote. She inquired regarding the scheduling of budget hearings. She will send out an email to all commissioners to determine dates and times of availability.

911 Central Dispatch May 2019 report received.

State 911 Financial Statement for January 1, 2018 – May 4, 2018 received.

## COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Taylor stated that Homestead Township will have the township property surveyed to determine the boundaries of the easement to the ball fields and the Lions Club; the school will be deeding the ballpark over to the township. Village of Honor's street maintenance employee has given his two-week notice. The village is looking to pave some roads and have sent the bids back for further clarification regarding gravel on the edge of the roads. Ms. Taylor attended a meeting of the Animal Control regarding the Strategic Plan.

Comm Warsecke reported that Inland Township raised about \$3,000 with the propane tank refill event and collected 24 units of blood. Windsonnett Stables also donated \$2,000. Inland Township will hold a Public Hearing on June 25 at 6:00 p.m. regarding withdrawing from the Joint Homestead Inland Planning Commission. Inland approved a Medical Marijuana Ordinance. June 22 they will hold a Community Day in the Park at the Lake Ann Park on Lake Ann Road.

Comm Roelofs reported that they welcomed Tyson Burch as the newest member of the Veterans Affairs Committee. Last week Mr. Roelofs and the Byce & Associates team met with all departments regarding the space needs -- Thank you to all. June 23 – 28 he will be out of town. June 15 will be the Rolling Thunder event; 1 p.m. will be their arrival at the Veterans Memorial. Reported on the progress of the VA Clinic in Traverse City – should be completed mid-November 2019.

Comm Nye reported that the Village of Benzonia is continuing to update their Master Plan and Parks & Recreation Plan. Village of Beulah is making their final payment on the water project. Beulah Boosters held a clean-up day last weekend in the Village of Beulah. June 5 and 10 the EDC had presentations from Merit, Eclipse and Aspen regarding broadband.

Comm Farrell attended the Frankfort Elberta school board meeting last evening and they approved the operational budget for next year; they also set their school calendar, is September 3, 2019 as their first day and June 9, 2020 as their last day. The SRO has been introduced to all of the students.

Comm Jeannot reported that on June 4 he and Roger Griner were in Lansing to meet with Rep O'Malley regarding rail freight and they also attended a transportation committee meeting while they were there. Reported that there is a minimum of two years to get ready for road repairs. Attended the annual Venture North luncheon. ~~Lake Township is having discussions regarding how many dispensaries will be allowed.~~ Almira Township will be holding two fire and EMS interviews next week.

Chairman Sauer commented on the Traverse Connect and they are trying to get people into the program but are only focusing on Traverse City. Blaine Township Clerk, Courtney Gillison, is leaving effective June 30. He will be meeting with the Village of Beulah and the DNR regarding the

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trail on June 13 at 8:00 a.m. Will be interviewing 2 people on Thursday for the Emergency Manager position. MAC is concerned about the Indigent Defense funding – we pay then they refund – not the way it started out. Chairman Sauer has asked Comm Jeannot to head up the County Administrator's review. Road commission says that local road paving will begin June 12 – Elmer's were awarded the bids.

10:40 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. Reconvene

## **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- Mr. Deisch provided a written report.
- MERS letter – reducing the investment assumption from 7.75% to 7.35% and will be reducing the wage inflation assumption from 3.75% to 3.00%.
- Will have a follow-up phone conversation tomorrow regarding the space needs with Byce and Associates.
- Community Forum regarding Blight on Thursday, June 13.
- Will discuss the finance review tomorrow with the department heads and set priorities to bring back to this board.
- The sidewalk/parking lot is being redone for handicap accessibility.
- Paving of the parking lot will start Friday at 1 p.m. and continue to Saturday. Striping will be done on Sunday.

## **FINANCE**

Bills: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Nye, to approve payment of the bills from May 29, 2019 thru June 11, 2019 in the amount of \$317,873.70, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, spoke regarding the Land Sale Proceeds Report and would suggest that we not transfer funds this year and wait for the lawsuit to be completed.

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Roelofs, to approve item 1 of the May 28, 2019 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – None**

## **ACTION ITEMS – None**

## **PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE**

- Betsie Valley Trailway Management minutes of May 14, 2019 received.
- Letter received from the Dept of Agriculture & Rural Development regarding St. Ambrose Cellars dated May 16, 2019 received.
- Road Commission minutes of May 16, 2019 received.
- Health Department minutes of May 23, 2019 received.

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- Wexford County resolution regarding Funding the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative received.
- Crystal Lake and Little Platte Lake lake level report received for May 2019 received.
- Gratiot County resolution regarding Veterans Services Grant Funding received.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

11:12 a.m. Public Input

Ron Berns, 911 Central Dispatch Director, reported on the tower top amplifier; audit is from the surcharge from the state – 2018 figures are used.

Dave ~~Garner~~ Gardner, local contractor, reported that the building department is dragging their feet on a project of his.

11:18 a.m. Public Input Closed

Comm Farrell reported that she will be out of town June 15 – 22.

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to adjourn at 11:20 a.m. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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Gary Sauer, Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

## INDEX

1. Approved the agenda as presented.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of May 25, 2019 as amended on page 4.
3. Approved payment of the bills in the amount of \$317,873.70, as presented.
4. Approved item 1 of the May 28, 2019 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented.

**Committee of the Whole**

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**May 28, 2019**

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Roelofs, to approve the Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as follows:

1. To discuss internally at the department head meeting and prioritize and bring back to this board the recommendation no later than four (4) weeks out.