

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 25, 2019

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, June 25, 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, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke

Excused: Commissioners Nye and Roelofs

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

Agenda:

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Farrell, to approve the agenda as amended, by moving resolution 2019-016 following the first Public Input and adding adoption of L-4029 following Public Hearing. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Nye and Roelofs Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Farrell, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the regular session minutes of June 25, 2019 as amended on page 2 and 4. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Nye and Roelofs Motion carried.

9:04 a.m. Public Input – None

2019-016: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Farrell, to approve resolution 2019-016 as corrected changing the last Whereas to "...a public hearing will be held, and, ..." Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Nye and Roelofs Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – Tax Rate

Tom Longanbach, Equalization Director, reported that this public hearing pertains to the county operations millage and that the county intends to levy the maximum allowable. If a homeowners' taxable value has gone up, then they will see an increase in their taxes.

County Commissioners – No comments

9:10 a.m. Chairman Sauer opens the Public Hearing – No Public Comments

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

L-4029: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to adopt the L-4029 as presented, setting the tax rate at 3.4479 mills. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Nye and Roelofs Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resources, provided a written report and reported that the dental program has served 100 people with a total of 249 visits; Project Fresh has over 60% of the coupons handed out; participated in the Senior Expo which was held; have entered into a Letter of Understanding with Pace North for services to seniors who are on both Medicare and Medicaid and have chosen to remain in their homes rather than a nursing home.

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COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Warsecke attended the Colfax Township meeting where they discussed a marijuana ordinance with no action being taken; they held their clean-up day. Conservation District – no meeting will be held in July and the September 19 meeting has been changed to September 25. Benzie Bus meeting reported ridership up by 8% for May. July 16 the BTA will hold a special meeting to discuss the director's contract. Tonight, is a special meeting at Inland Township regarding the Joint Planning Commission with Homestead Township.

Comm Farrell reported that the Crystal Lake Township audit went smoothly; they contributed \$2,000 to the Conservation District for the aquatic program. Attended the Centra Wellness meeting where it was reported that suicide was ranked 2nd cause of death in 2017.

Comm Jeannot reported that on June 13 he attended the Planning Commission's public forum regarding blight – it was well attended. Attended the Northern Michigan Commissioner Association meeting where there was talk about the Gift of Life and whether we are compliant at time or not. They also talked about the State Sanitary Code – Benzie has a Point of Sale code. June 20 he attended the Building Authority meeting where a new completion date has been set for the Maples – end of July. He continues to attempt to set a meeting with the Maples regarding an operating agreement. NMCAA will continue the weatherization program through next year. The last EDC meeting was cancelled. Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau continue to review options of leadership with the resignation of the current executive director.

Comm Taylor reported that she was unable to attend the HARP meeting on June 13; on July 11 at 4:00 p.m. HARP will be holding an open house and may include recognizing of Benzie County's 150th Anniversary. She attended the MAC summit in Frankenmuth. MMRMA is looking at better training courses for jails. She attended the June 19 Benzie Senior Resources meeting and reported that August 3 is the Walk A Thon and July 4 they will walk in both Frankfort and Beulah parades.

Chairman Sauer reported that he as well attended the Blight Forum hosted by the Planning Commission. The Maples is at 93% occupancy; the Director of Nursing position has been filled. Spoke briefly about the courts and reimbursement for legal fees for the child care portion and the requirement for a court safety committee.

Comm Nye is out of town but provided a written report.

10:09 a.m. Bob Schlueter, Area Agency on Aging

Mr. Schlueter stated that in 2021, every one in three people will be over 60 years of age in the 10-county area; and in 2024 all the baby boomers will be eligible for senior services. He stated that all Commission on Aging's in the 10-county area are the front door to the Area Agency on Aging. He also spoke about the Area Agency on Aging FY 2020-2022 Multi Year Plan.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Written report provided.
- Mr. Deisch also spoke regarding the receipt of the MERS valuation – we remain at 68% funded and any changes will have an impact in 2021.

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- Building Department – he has spoke with Mr. Gale regarding issues residents are having and it has all been taken care of and permits will be going out.
- Judge Thompson has spoken with him regarding the lack of attorneys available when NA cases come through our system.

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Farrell, to approve payment of the bills from June 12, 2019 thru June 25, 2019 in the amount of \$296,337.86, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Nye and Roelofs Motion carried.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Chairman Sauer removed #1

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to approve items 2-4 of the June 11, 2019 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Nye and Roelofs Motion carried.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – None

ACTION ITEMS:

2019-017 Area Agency on Aging: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Jeannot, to adopt Resolution 2019-017 in support of Fiscal Year 2020-2022 Multi Year Plan of Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Nye and Roelofs Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Cheboygan County Resolution Supporting US House of Representatives Bill 530 the Accelerating Wireless Broadband Development received.
- Road Commission minutes of May 30, 2019 received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

11:10 a.m. Public Input – None

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

Gary Sauer, Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

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1. Approved the agenda as amended.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of June 25, 2019 as amended.

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3. Approved resolution 2019-016 as corrected.
4. Public Hearing held regarding tax rate.
5. Adopted the L-4029 as presented, setting the tax rate at 3.4479 mills.
6. Approved payment of the bills in the amount of \$296,337.86, as presented.
7. Approved items 2-4 of the June 11, 2019 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented.
8. Adopted Resolution 2019-017 in support of Fiscal Year 2020-2022 Multi Year Plan of Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan, authorizing the chairman to sign.

Committee of the Whole

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

1. Removed from Consent Calendar.
2. To approve the use of a debit card program for flex spending. The Board acknowledges that this activity may take place prior to the next meeting.
3. To authorize replacement of the projector in the Frank Walterhouse Meeting Room in the next fiscal year (2019-2020).
4. To amend the 2018-19 budget as presented to cover the cost of the Byce & Associates report in the amount of \$30,750.00.