

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 9, 2019

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, July 9, 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 Jeannot, seconded by Farrell, to approve the regular session minutes of June 25, 2019 as presented. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Sauer Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Input – None

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Frank Post, Emergency Management Coordinator, provided a June 2019 activity report. He also spoke regarding the lake levels at Herring Lake. Blaine Township is eligible to apply for flood insurance. The water levels are high this year.

Susan Boyd, Financial Manager, provided a report of the electrical use; she stated that we are seeing savings each month, however we are behind in the savings for all buildings: Government Center - \$864.00; Jail - \$1,083.00; Animal Control - \$130.00; she feels this will be made up quickly.

Ron Berns, 911 Director, Chairman Sauer asked for clarification as to a millage vote on the surcharge. Matter was discussed; Mr. Berns would suggest November 2019 but stated that March 2020 Presidential Primary would be OK.

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Farrell, to place the 911 surcharge on the March 10, 2020 Presidential Primary ballot. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: Jeannot Motion carried.

Mr. Berns also reported that the July 4 holiday weekend was very busy; the only shortage that was noted was ambulances.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Nye the executive committee meeting for Centra Wellness – the hot topic is that Lakeshore Regional Entity has received a contract cancellation letter from MDDHHS; stay tuned to see how this goes. Village of Benzonia has been approved for USDA 2020 Water System Improvement Project – new well, lines down 31 will be widened; loop disconnected will be reconnect; tower painted. Master Plan will be updated. MDOT will be holding an open house at Benzonia Township Hall on July 25 from 4 – 7 p.m. for the 2020 plan.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 2 of 4

July 9, 2019

Comm Roelofs reported that he and Kurt Giddis handled the flag raising at the Lake Ann Homecoming; Veterans Affairs will host a thank you get together with the contractors that participated in the Memorial Park; attended the DAV State Convention and Training Seminar – big topic is VA Mission Health Care Act.

Comm Jeannot reported that he and Mitch met with a few members of the Maples Board and had a productive conversation regarding the operating agreement document – his view is that they seem to be in agreement as to the changes with the goal to have it signed by the end of September. Platte Township had discussion regarding changing or to modify frost laws for logging trucks – there is a request to relax the rules, but the township will not support relaxation of the rules. Lake Twp has opted out of recreation marijuana at this time. Almira Township fire chief has resigned; they are developing a job description and pay range for replacement. Dunesville will be held on July 26 – 28 at Lake Ann area. Talked to a group of young professionals – was interested in learning about how they feel about Benzie County; asked them of their career goals and if Benzie County would be their place to return - with the exception of two people, they believed housing was ok, that they could grow here, they were in total agreement about the quality of life in Benzie County.

Comm Farrell reported on the Human Services Collaborative talked about the Benzie Senior Resources Walk A Thon on August 3; she asked that they mention the 150th anniversary Benzie County in their talks with organizations. Also attended the SUD board meeting and Benzie County and Manistee County through Centra Wellness received grants for the Youth Initiative in Benzie County and SEEDS in Manistee County from the liquor tax money.

Comm Warsecke attended the SWAC meeting and talked about a transfer station that has been operating in Inland Township and that they aren't even zoned to do what they are doing in Inland Township; Conservation District Garden Party on July 12 from 6 – 9 p.m. Proceeds to kids' programs. He will be going with Rep O'Malley on July 12 to walk the Zilwaukee Bridge.

Comm Taylor attended the Homestead Twp meeting and there was an interesting event – new sign for the Homestead cemetery made to replace the old one, they called the company to see why it hadn't been install, it was placed on the wrong cemetery; both cemeteries will now have new signs. The village meeting was last night and was pleased with their code enforcer/zoning administrator. LPT was cancelled for last month. Did attend the HARP meeting and on July 11 4- 7 p.m. they will have an event to raise funds to begin Phase 2. Attended the Betsie Valley Community Center meeting and was very impressed with what they are doing. The former Bud's property in Honor has a pending sale.

Chairman Sauer stated that the AGS meeting went well; Village of Elberta is having a flooding problem on River Road into Elberta and the DNR suggested closing the stretch of road trail for now and divert down River Road. Blaine Twp will be holding a special public hearing on July 24 regarding tiny house units for short-term rentals. Road Commission have completed Carmean and Brundage Roads; they are pleased with their investments in the Michigan Class – going very well. He talked with Curt VanderWall regarding the 150th anniversary and he is more than willing to help. Comm Jeannot asked that Chairman Sauer ask the Road Commission to have discussions again this year regarding the allocation of funds to the local street repairs.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 3 of 4

July 9, 2019

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Provided a written report.
- Just finalizing the press release announcing Frank Post's retirement and one regarding the hiring of Rebecca Hubers as the Emergency Management Director.
- Central Dispatch – he is having meetings with surrounding counties regarding the opportunity to collaborate services.
- Met with Bert Gale to discuss issues in the Building Department; they also discussed the need to have annual meetings to discuss the building department; they are working on a Letter of Understanding for operations.
- Discussions were held regarding the MERS conference in October 2019 and the proper paperwork and appointment/election of the Officer Delegate and Employee Delegate together with the matter of payment for attendance; it is believed that the funds should be coming from the Commissioners' Budget.

10:20 a.m. Break

10:25 a.m. Reconvene

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Nye, to approve payment of the bills from June 26, 2019 thru July 8, 2019 in the amount of \$137,104.10, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Taylor, to approve items 1-5 of the June 25, 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:

Door Security Server: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Taylor, to approve amending the 2019 Budget in the amount of \$3,800.00 to complete the duress button project, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Remonumentation Contract: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the Remonumentation Contract with Crystal Surveying, LLC as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Tuscola County resolution regarding support of a State Psychiatric Facility received.
- Bay County resolution opposing the proposed Medicaid Waiver amendment received.
- Bay County resolution regarding Bay-Arenac Behavioral Health received.
- Parks & Recreation minutes of May 20, 2019 received.
- Road Commission minutes of June 13, 2019 received.
- Crystal Lake elevation report for June 2019 received.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 4 of 4

July 9, 2019

- Little Platte Lake elevation report for June 2019 received.
- Three MMRMA RAP grant letters received.
- Benzie Transportation Authority Financial Activity Report of May 2019 received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

10:50 a.m. Public Input

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, spoke regarding the State Land Bank Authority and the changes the Governor is looking to make.

10:53 a.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to adjourn at 10:54 a.m. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Gary Sauer, Vice Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

INDEX

1. Approved the agenda as presented.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of June 25, 2019 as presented.
3. To place the 911 surcharge on the March 10, 2020 Presidential Primary ballot.
4. Approved payment of the bills in the amount of \$137,104.10, as presented.
5. Approved items 1-5 of the June 25, 2019 COTW Consent Calendar as presented.
6. Approved amending the 2019 Budget in the amount of \$3,800.00 to complete the duress button project, as presented.
7. Approved the Remonumentation Contract with Crystal Surveying, LLC as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.

Committee of the Whole

Page 3 of 3

June 25, 2019

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

1. To amend the 2018-19 Budget for TNT fund 205 in the amount of \$1,500.00 as presented.
2. To amend the 2018-19 Register of Deeds Automation Fund 256 Budget as in the amount of \$3,200.00 as presented.
3. To amend the 2018-19 Budget for department 268 Register of Deeds in the amount of \$2,000.00 as presented.
4. To amend the 2018-19 budget for department 648 – Medical Examiner in the amount of \$10,463.00 as presented.
5. To purchase a banner to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Benzie County to be placed on the Government Center lawn by the highway.