

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 23, 2019

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, July 23, 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 Nye, to approve the regular session minutes of July 9, 2019 as amended. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Input – None

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Bert Gale, Building Official, presented the 2nd quarter Quarterly Report; they have had some staff changes with a new secretary; residential permit turn-around is 2-3 days and commercial is 5-7 days.

Frank Post, Emergency Manager, spoke about the events in Frankfort with traffic control for the parade; Paul Oliver Hospital provided nurse stationed at the aid station; Elberta was calm for the second year; an after-action review of the events is planned for August 7 at 7 p.m. in Frankfort. Benzie County received a 2% grant from the Grand Traverse Band for a radio gateway. The storm on Friday and Saturday has some wash outs. Frank introduced Rebecca Hubers, his replacement and she gave the board and public present a bit about her and her background. Frank also stated that he has put together a transition plan for her as well.

Kyle Maurer, Animal Control Officer, reported that they have 26 dogs (some of them are puppies and are not separated from their mother yet) and 8 cats at the shelter at this time; some came from hoarding situations. The shelter has cages for 19 dogs and 25 cats. The new ventilation system will be installed next Monday by Team Bob's. They are splitting the kennel yard into two separate areas. Have received notice of a Spay & Neuter Grant that is offered to us for \$10,000 – no paperwork has been received yet. Attended a regional meeting in Roscommon where they talked about the guidelines for care capacity – more will come later. They are working on a Strategic Plan.

Tom King, EMS Coordinator, provided a written report and gave the board an update on various items: education, ambulance purchase, state inspection, POMH transfers.

10:02 a.m. Matt McCauley, Chief Executive Officer of Networks Northwest
Mr. McCauley presented the 2018 Annual Report.

10:36 a.m. Break

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10:44 a.m. Reconvene

Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resources, presented his June packet of information; he also spoke about the Walk-A-Thon; will be receiving additional funding for Home Delivered Meals and Congregate Meals.

Ron Berns, 911 Director, presented an Open Letter to the board regarding the possible outsourcing of the 911 services; he spoke regarding any expenses with the building will go away and all expenses will then be 100% to the Sheriff. You should know the cost you will need to take on before you act to outsource this service.

Comm Jeannot asked to add this item to the Committee of the Whole this afternoon.

Jesse Zylstra, Recycling Coordinator, presented a written report of his activities for May and June.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Farrell reported that the City of Frankfort is moving forward with a forum to look at bathrooms on the beach; they join with the 911 services regarding exploration; July 9 Crystal Lake Township held a meeting regarding the ballot issue for August and there were seven people there.

Comm Jeannot reported that EDC had a meeting regarding broadband and will enter a Memorandum of Understanding with Eclipse to offer service in the county; he also spoke regarding the retention visits to businesses.

Comm Taylor reported that on July 11` she attended an event for the Platte River Park Phase II for HARP – they had a good turnout. She attended the Land Bank meeting and there have been trees planted at the 669 site. Burr Street property – there continues to be tree and brush removal. Benzie Senior Resources August 3 Walk-A-Thon.

Comm Warsecke attended the Benzie Transportation last week where they did the evaluation of the director; he also attended the Garden Party fundraiser for the Conservation District.

Comm Roelofs reported on EMS and the purchase of a new ambulance – don't buy what is available, but special order to what you need.

Comm Nye reported that Centra Wellness continues conversations regarding the physical health and staffing of their operation; they are considering Platte River Elementary for an autism program; Planning Commission meets August 8; Parks & Recreation has a new secretary; Village of Benzonia is meeting tonight at the Mills Community House regarding their Master Plan; Thursday, July 25 from 4 – 7 pm, MDOT will be at the Benzonia Township Hall for an open house regarding the road project slated for next year.

Comm Sauer stated that the Road Commission local road projects are being rapped up; Act 251 funds continue; the Maples is at 95% occupancy; Weldon Township opted out of recreational marijuana; Elberta is short one trustee.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Provided a written report.

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- Spoke with DA Designs regarding a 150th anniversary banner for the County.
- Did have the first MERS strategy meeting and working to form questions for MERS before having our next meeting.
- Headlee Override – sent an email to the group of County Administrator’s yesterday; we do not have the talent to navigate a millage campaign.

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Nye, to approve payment of the bills from July 9, 2019 thru July 23, 2019 in the amount of \$526,658.07, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, presented a cash summary by fund report; regarding the Burr Street property, she stated that the County Treasurer owns it; provided the board with a copy of the penal fine letter showing the amounts distributed to the libraries.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to approve items 1-6 of the July 9, 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:

MERS Division 22: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Roelofs, to approve the Defined Benefit Plan Adoption Agreement with MERS correcting the employee contribution for Division 22, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Contract for Services with NMCAA: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to enter into agreement with Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency for Administrator Services for the Benzie County CDBG program, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- MMRMA letter regarding grant award for tasers received.
- Northern Michigan Regional Entity Substance Use Disorder May 6, 2019 minutes received.
- Letter received from Centra Wellness.
- Hillsdale County resolution regarding Trial Court funding received.
- Solid Waste Advisory minutes of June 26, 2019 received.
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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

12:05 p.m. Public Input

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Comm Sauer stated that he would like NMRE to attend our board meeting and give a report.

Comm Farrell is the commissioner that serves on the NMRE board and will ask that they attend one of our upcoming meetings.

12:08 p.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Warsecke, to adjourn at 12:08 p.m. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Gary Sauer, Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

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1. Approved the agenda as presented.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of July 9, 2019 as amended.
3. Approved payment of the bills in the amount of \$526,658.07, as presented.
4. Approved items 1-6 of the July 9, 2019 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented.
5. Approved the Defined Benefit Plan Adoption Agreement with MERS correcting the employee contribution for Division 22, authorizing the chairman to sign.
6. Approved to enter into agreement with Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency for Administrator Services for the Benzie County CDBG program, authorizing the chairman to sign.

Committee of the Whole

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July 9, 2019

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

1. To authorize Equalization to hire a part-time 32-hours per week employee and add to the employee roster.
2. To amend the 2018-19 Jail budget in the amount of \$7,868.56 as presented.
3. To complete the Jail Air Conditioning project in the current fiscal year and submit proper Budget Amendment paperwork at the July 23, 2019 Board of Commissioners meeting.
4. To amend the 2018-19 Jail budget in the amount of \$40,141.00 as presented.
5. To amend the 2018-19 budget for department 648 Medical Examiner in the amount of \$34,600.00 as presented.
6. To adopt in this priority: MERS Funding Strategy, Evaluate Health Insurance and Headlee Override as goals to have top priority.