

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
November 26, 2019

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, November 26, 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 and Taylor
Excused: Commissioner Warsecke

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

Agenda:

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Roelofs, to approve the agenda as amended, adding additional committees to be scheduled to the interview list. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Nye, seconded by Farrell, to approve the regular session minutes of November 12, 2019 as presented. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

9:05 a.m. Public Input

Annie Browning, Benzonia Township, spoke regarding building code violations in rental properties.

9:06 a.m. Public Input Closed

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Connie Krusniak, Family Division of the Circuit Court, Judge Nancy Kida has been working on developing a parenting time program; she has put together a group of volunteers with a format to move forward for Benzie County; will service families on the domestic side and on the neglect abuse side; she is ready with her program to select a coordinator; the Family Division is in support of this endeavor and will support financially with counselling funds from the domestic side in the Family Division budget; they will provide \$5,000 from that fund; DHHS also supports this program.

Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resources, has provided a written report and spoke regarding the Shop N Save "Stuff the Subaru" event was held last week, and they will now pick up donations from nine churches as well. Will celebrate 45 years of service to seniors in 2020.

Chairman Sauer says thank you to Commissioner Taylor for the contribution to BSR to cover an outstanding debt for a deceased individual.

Tom King, EMS, provided a written report and stated that all trucks are all in working order; the Advisory Board has finalized the purchasing of new ambulance for \$193,444.80, includes power cot and lift; down one full-time employee now and covering with a part-time employee.

Rebecca Hubers, Emergency Manager, provided a written report and stated that the Shoreline Erosion meeting has been rescheduled to December 3, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m. at the Little River Casino; Small Business Administration will be offering grants for disaster which includes Benzie County; there is a

COMMISSIONERS

Page 2 of 6

November 26, 2019

meeting scheduled for December 10, 2019 regarding the Ironman 2020 at the Grand Traverse Government Center.

Jesse Zylstra, Solid Waste/Recycling, provided a written report and reported that the vendor contracts have been extended to 2020; need to adopt the site leases for the next 2 years together with the Scrap Tire Grant (during action items).

D/Sgt. Troy Lamerson gave the board an update on the missing person; this is one of the bigger investigations he has worked on; they truly don't know where she is; they have searched hundreds and hundreds of acres around the property with no luck; there is a team from Alpena County with about 30 citizens that want to search about 1,000 acres for her, they would bring 7-8 cadaver dogs as well; one of the things they have asked for is a place to stay overnight and breakfast and lunch for all of the people that will be coming, approximately \$500 - \$800 and asks the board to assist.

Mitch Deisch asks the board to allow Susan and he to look at the budget.

Award is now \$100,000 which expires on November 30, 2019.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Nye that Centra Wellness will be purchasing a handicap vehicle; Benzonia Township has purchase agreements in place for property near Wesco for a future fire building; Blight properties are being looked at by the blight officer; Electronic signs have been approved for Benzie Central High School and Eden Hill Church, with restrictions; EDC – Michigan Manufacturing Association.

Comm Taylor attended 2 meetings – Benzie Senior Resources, which has been reported on; Land Bank – still waiting on approval for the apartments in Honor.

Comm Roelofs reported that EMS is having continued conversations with Munson Healthcare – West Shore Hospital and North Flight ambulance service; NMC contacted him regarding veterans and they have donated 40 meals for veterans for Thanksgiving; he received 3 meals to distribute to Benzie County veterans. NMC will also be opening up the Great Lake Campus Hagerty building on Friday mornings from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. for coffee and fellowship for veterans; asks about code violations on rental properties. Veterans Court – Judge Thompson indicated that they are moving forward with drug court and substance abuse court.

10:00 a.m. Rose Fosdick and Marty Manty, Betsie Valley Community Center

The new project which is a part of the BV Community Center – Progress Report and Mobile Dental Services Van; they will be doing services prior to attempting the capital campaign for a building; we need to build our trust with the community that we can do what we say we are doing.

Rose – Mobile Dental Services – one of the vital services that we need is dental services; oral hygiene and good dental habits are essential for the school aged children. We are excited about the project and welcome questions and ideas. We need to identify the needs and connect those needs with services.

Broadband – is now at Betsie Valley school, some bugs are still being worked out. Recreational programming – there are a lot of kids in Betsie Valley area that go no place for Spring break; they will also be looking at a summer camp.

When asked about where their building would be built, they stated that Benzie schools own 60 acres at the Betsie Valley Schools is located and they will build there -- they are not buying property, they will enter into a ground lease with the schools.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 3 of 6

November 26, 2019

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – continued

Comm Jeannot provided a written report and also stated that the three townships he represents are in support of focusing on Headlee. November 20 he and Rhonda met with Mitch regarding the resource strategy for reviewing our approach on a Headlee ballot initiative.

10:29 a.m. Break

10:35 a.m. Reconvene

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Roelofs, according to MCL 15.268(c) the Benzie County Board of Commissioners is entering into a closed session for strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation for collective bargaining agreements with Attorney Matt Nordfjord. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

11:41 a.m. Re-enter Open Session

Comm Farrell attended the Centra Wellness meeting which Rhonda reported on; attended the Health Dept meeting via phone —it is very hard to hear, they had long discussion on the interim agreement with Leelanau County regarding the support of the Health Dept becoming a partner with their child care and parenting division millage that was passed, they want some money advanced to begin in 2020 – they will have a special meeting on December 12 for more information. They are moving all records digitally on the cloud – getting rid of their server.

Comm Sauer reported that he attended the MAC Tourism/Ag meeting via phone the discussion was Ottawa Counties purchase of development rights through grants with a 25% match; and PA 116. Michigan is losing 1/3 acre per hour to development. Attended the Building Authority for Art and they are doing a good job. Health Dept – Leelanau County passed an early childhood millage and it doesn't start getting revenue until next December, Chet Janik, Leelanau Administrator, was there and stated that they don't have a problem fronting the money – concerned with if it fails, there are at least six employees that they will need to hire; if the millage fails, there could be a large liability. Village of Elberta held a public hearing to apply for DNR Trust Fund grant to improve the parking lot and beach access. Betsie Valley Trail Management Council will receive a \$150,000 grant for the Beulah to Mollineaux Road segment to improve that stretch – it is a Passport Grant.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Maples – two millages, bond debt and operations, Dave Stoker will be sending an email regarding how the bond debt money is spent and that it is up to the Board of Commissioners, not the DHHS, we are talking about the generated overages. There are three options: 1) right size the millage; 2) continue to receive the full amount and pay off the bond debt early; and 3) can use for capital improvements – but that is your decision. Cannot be used for general operating.
- Retention Policy: Adopted in March 2011 and needs to be updated; did meet with Mr. Figura yesterday, this is being done in conjunction with the organizing the information in Room 138; December 5 they will have a work bee in that room.
- BEST Benzie County Coordinator Position – information only.
- Traverse City Record Eagle article written by Matt McCauley on The Longevity Economy.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 4 of 6

November 26, 2019

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Taylor, seconded by Farrell, to approve payment of the bills from November 12, 2019 thru November 26, 2019 in the amount of \$247,225.82, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer, reported that a "Coming Soon" sign has been placed at the Question Mark site in Honor; there have been two applicants for a project that has not even began.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Nye, to approve item 1 of the November 12, 2019 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS -- Interview Schedule: The Clerk will schedule all interviews for December 4, 2019 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Interview committee will be Comm Farrell, Jeannot, Sauer and Mitch Deisch.

ACTION ITEMS:

2019-021 – DTRF Transfer to General Fund: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Sauer, to adopt resolution 2019-021 Resolution Receiving Advice from the Count Treasurer as to a Surplus which can be Transferred from the Benzie County Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund to the Benzie County General Fund. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

2% Application for Jail: Motion by Taylor, seconded by Roelofs, to approve the 2% grant application to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians in the amount of \$42,254.55 to upgrade the jail camera system, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Recycling Site Leases: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Taylor, to enter into a 2-year (1/1/2020 to 12/31/2021~~22~~) Recycling Site Lease with Homestead Township, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Motion by Nye, seconded by Taylor, to enter into a 2-year (1/1/2020 to 12/31/2021~~22~~) Recycling Site Lease with Benzie County Schools, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Roelofs, to enter into a 2-year (1/1/2020 to 12/31/2021~~22~~) Recycling Site Lease with the Village of Thompsonville, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Farrell, to enter into a 2-year (1/1/2020 to 12/31/2021~~22~~) Recycling Site Lease with the Village of Beulah, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 5 of 6

November 26, 2019

Scrap Tire Grant: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Roelofs, to enter into Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant Agreement in the amount of \$8,032.00 between the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and Benzie County as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Copies of letters received from Marquette County request the state approve a Secondary Budget which restores all local funding received.
- Animal Welfare League Winter 2019 newsletter received.
- Letter received from Senator Debbie Stabenow.
- Calendar year 2020 State Ward Chargeback rates set.
- Community Partners Meeting of November 6, 2019 received.
- Otsego County resolution supporting Passage of 4-year terms for County Commissioners received.
- Manistee County resolution requesting to Declare the Great Lakes Coast a Disaster Area and Seeking Assistance received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

12:30 p.m. Public Input -- None

Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Taylor, to adjourn at 12:37 p.m. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Gary Sauer, Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

INDEX

1. Approved the agenda as amended.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of November 12, 2019 as presented.
3. Entered into a closed session for strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation for collective bargaining agreements with Attorney Matt Nordfjord.
4. Approved payment of the bills in the amount of \$247,225.82, as presented.
5. Approved item 1 of the November 12, 2019 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented.
6. Adopted resolution 2019-021 Resolution Receiving Advice from the Count Treasurer as to a Surplus which can be Transferred from the Benzie County Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund to the Benzie County General Fund.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 6 of 6

November 26, 2019

7. Approved the 2% grant application to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians in the amount of \$42,254.55 to upgrade the jail camera system, authorizing the chairman to sign.
8. Entered into a 2-year (1/1/2020 to 12/31/2021) Recycling Site Lease with Homestead Township, authorizing the chairman to sign.
9. Entered into a 2-year (1/1/2020 to 12/31/2021) Recycling Site Lease with Benzie County Schools, authorizing the chairman to sign.
10. Entered into a 2-year (1/1/2020 to 12/31/2021) Recycling Site Lease with the Village of Thompsonville, authorizing the chairman to sign.
11. Entered into a 2-year (1/1/2020 to 12/31/2021) Recycling Site Lease with the Village of Beulah, authorizing the chairman to sign.
12. Entered into Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant Agreement in the amount of \$8,032.00 between the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and Benzie County as presented, authorizing the chairman to sign.

Committee of the Whole

Page 4 of 4

November 12, 2019

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

1. To direct administration to explore a Headlee Reset to include timing of the jail millage and as to when the jail millage is best on the ballot.