

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 9, 2020

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 via teleconferencing in the Frank F. Walterhouse Board Room, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Roelofs.

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

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

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Nye, to approve the regular session minutes of May 26, 2020 as presented. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:03 a.m. Public Input

Lisa Peacock, Local Health Officer, updated the board and public regarding the COVID-19 concerns; Executive Orders 2020-114 and 2020-115 were issued by the Governor on Friday; Regions 6 & 8 have moved to stage 5 of the Stay Safe Plan; the number of people in a gathering has increased to 50 people inside and 200 outside, still maintaining social distancing and wearing facemasks; they are continuing with more testing and monitoring the risk; a new Public Health Advisory is being worked on at this time.

9:12 a.m. Public Input Closed

2020 Tax Public Hearing

Truth in Taxation Resolution: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Farrell, to adopt Resolution 2020-018 to Adopt the Millage Rate as presented, authorizing the chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

9:20 a.m. Open Public Hearing – Setting Tax Rate – No comments; Public Hearing Closed

Approve L-4029: Motion by Nye, seconded by Taylor, to adopt the L-4029 setting the tax rate at 3.4334 mills, authorizing the Chair and County Clerk to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Sheriff Schendel stated he is seeking assistance for the renewal/reset of the jail millage; he is asking the Board members to spread the word.

Susan Boyd, Finance Manager, provided financial reports for the quarter ending March 31, 2020. These reports were: 1) Revenue and Expenditure Report for General Fund; 2) Millage funded departments; and 3) Other funds not covered by in the General Fund.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 2 of 5

June 9, 2020

Rebecca Hubers, 911 Director/Emergency Management Coordinator, provided a written report.

10:00 a.m. Break

10:04 a.m. Reconvene

Cameron Clark, Child Care Fund Budget

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Farrell, to approve the Child Care Fund Budget for FY October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 as presented, authorizing the chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Sheriff Patrol Agreement: Motion by Taylor, seconded by Warsecke, to adopt the Sheriff Patrol Agreement with Lake Township for the summer 2020 period. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

2020-019: Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Jeannot, to adopt resolution 2020-019 to transfer \$130,000 from the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund to the General Fund as presented, authorizing the chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Taylor, authorize the transfer of the \$130,000 of DTRF to the Capital Improvement Fund within the General Fund. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Ratify TA with FOPLC: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Nye, to ratify the Tentative Agreement (TA) with the FOPLC General Unit dated April 23, 2020. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Sheriff Food Service Contract: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Taylor, to enter into contract with Canteen Services, Inc for food services to the Benzie County Jail as presented, authorizing the chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COVID-19 – Plan, Prepare & Respond Guidelines: Motion by Farrell, seconded by Jeannot, to approve version 3 of the Benzie County Policy Guidelines for COVID-19, Plan, Prepare and Respond as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Sauer reported that the Maples are at 95% occupancy; DHHS is required to take one day off per week; attended a workers comp meeting – the fund is doing well; COVID is a w/c claim, however the burden is on the employee to show that they got it at work. Attended the Betsie River Zoning Board of Appeals meeting and heard two appeals with both being for Manistee County properties. Road Commission reported that the MTF fund are down 12% which is equal to \$340,000. Elmer's have nearly completed all projects. Blaine Twp held their meeting outside, also a public meeting on the water issue on Lower Herring Lake was held outside. The Village of Thompsonville meeting went well.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 3 of 5

June 9, 2020

Comm Warsecke provided a written report (attached); also stated, regarding the issue at the last meeting regarding Hazard Pay, he is in solidarity with the BOC on the denial, he didn't feel as a group, they can't bring something back to this board. Comm Jeannot explained that another request could be brought forward, however the same request cannot per Roberts Rules of Order.

Comm Taylor reported that the Homestead Township meeting was held via teleconference and stated that the park is now open, and they are hoping to hold their July meeting at the township hall. The township sexton has resigned so a new one has been hired. Village of Honor held an in-person meeting and passed a resolution for a Notice of Intent for sewer bond.

Comm Nye provided a written report (attached) and also stated regarding the Benzie Central superintendent search, that the Executive Search Services group stated that it would be hard to get another superintendent to come to Benzie County due to the salary/benefit package and candidates will likely be principals and high administrative professionals.

Comm Farrell reported that she attended the Human Services Collaborative meeting and stated that Michigan Works are helping people to apply for unemployment. Grow Benzie stated there will be no farmers markets this year. Census update – we are behind prior reporting periods. Benzie Bus will discontinue their grocery shopping but will continue with delivery of groceries. Other meetings she has attended were Health Department held a special meeting on May 28; Airport Authority; Centra Wellness.

Comm Jeannot provided a written report (attached) and reported that the townships he represents will be open to the public no later than June 15. Will ask the Friends of Point Betsie Lighthouse to come to the board with a presentation of what has happened there and the cost with respect to rising water levels – what, if any, roll the county will play.

Chair Roelofs reported that the Village of Lake Ann guardrail project is complete and asks that any police reports include that there is property damage so the village can file a claim with the insurance company. Veterans Affairs met and they are having discussions about an upcoming outing perhaps Labor Day, since Memorial Day was missed with their event.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mitch Deisch

A written report was provided; attorney interviews discussed – they will be scheduled for June 17 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm; Mitch will talk with Karen Korolenko regarding plexiglass for her office; stated we need to keep the Headlee committee moving forward – will be placed on the June 23 Committee of the Whole meeting for further discussion.

Comm Jeannot asked that a timeline be updated as to how to continue to move forward.

12:03 p.m. Break

12:07 p.m. Reconvene

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Taylor, seconded by Warsecke, to approve payment of the bills from May 26, 2020 thru June 9, 2020 in the amount of \$312,583.08, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 4 of 5

June 9, 2020

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Jeannot, to approve items 1-4 of the May 26, 2020 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

BTA: Interview will be scheduled with applicant for part-term seat. Interview team will be: Comm Roelofs, Warsecke and Nye

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item H of Appendix H in the Plan, Prepare and Respond Guidelines Plan to be revised.

NEW BUSINESS

Comm Farrell stated that the Headlee rollback is important, but so is the census; we need to push the census form as well; asks for it to be placed on the county website.

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Kalkaska County resolution to Move Kalkaska County Forward received.
- Road Commission minutes of May 14, 2020 received.
- Livingston County resolution to Support the Request to Reclassify Livingston County received.
- Census information update.
- Crystal Lake Elevation report for May 2020 received.
- Little Platte Lake Elevation report for May 2020 received.
- Benzie Leelanau Health Dept minutes of May 27, 2020 received.

12:20 p.m. Public Input

Rebecca Hubers stated that item H of the Plan is directly from the Family First Act; she also spoke regarding EO 114. Thank you for adopting the plan.

Amy Bissell, Register of Deeds, stated as a co-employer regarding the Plan, stated that if we don't do something, we can be held liable. We need direction – solid direction.

12:50 p.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Roelofs, to adjourn at 12:50 p.m. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell (phone), Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, Taylor and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Bob Roelofs, Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

INDEX

1. Approved the agenda as revised.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of May 26, 2020 as presented.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 5 of 5

June 9, 2020

3. Adopted Resolution 2020-018 to adopt the Millage Rate as presented.
4. Public Hearing held for setting Tax Rate.
5. Adopted the L-4029 setting the tax rate at 3.4334 mills.
6. Approved the Child Care Fund Budget for FY October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 as presented.
7. Adopted the Sheriff Patrol Agreement with Lake Township for the summer 2020 period.
8. Adopted resolution 2020-019 to transfer \$130,000 from the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund to the General Fund as presented.
9. Authorized the transfer of the \$130,000 of DTRF to the Capital Improvement Fund within the General Fund.
10. Ratified the Tentative Agreement (TA) with the FOPLC General Unit dated April 23, 2020.
11. Approved to enter into contract with Canteen Services, Inc for food services to the Benzie County Jail as presented.
12. Approved version 3 of the Benzie County Policy Guidelines for COVID-19, Plan, Prepare and Respond as presented.
13. Approved payment of the bills in the amount of \$312,583.08, as presented.
14. Approved items 1-4 of the May 26, 2020 Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented.

District 6
Commissioner Report
E. Warsecke

Solid Waste

- There will be a household hazardous waste collection this Saturday the 13th at Frankfort H.S.

No charge for TV's this year

Next meeting 6-24

06-08-20 Inland Township

- Clean up day will be Aug 29th 7a - 11 a at the Inland Twp Park
- Fire Dept will be purchasing a new pick up truck
- Farmers market and art fair to be held the 3rd Saturday of the month from 10a - 3p July Aug Sep
- Inland planning commission to hold its organizational meeting 6-10
- Planning commission to meet 6-18 at 6p for the gravel pit discussion

06-08-20 Benzie Central School Board

- Superintendent Matt Olsen left to become the asst superintendent for the ISD
- The board hired a firm to assist in the search for a new superintendent @14 week time frame
- They narrowed the choice to 3 individuals for interim superintendent
- Brief discussion about a possible graduation ceremony held outside - more to come on that

Colfax Twp will again hold its regular meeting 6-10-20

Conservation District is planning to hold its next meeting in person on 6-11-20

Rhonda Nye
District IV – Benzonia Township
Commissioner Report
June 9, 2020

May 27 – Centra Wellness Planning & Finance Committee:

Committee reviewed balance sheet, income statement, and credit card statement.
Recommendation to full Board to approve a budget amendment for \$30,000 for the purchase of laptop instead of desktop computers, this fiscal year instead of next, to provide employee flexibility. Deferred Revenue (Projected Lapse) line added to the 'Liabilities and Fund Balance Sheet' to indicate Medicaid monies slated to send back to the NMRE at the FY end – monies remain available if needed.

June 4 – Village of Benzonia:

Village Council set the tax rate; remains the same as previous year. Approved payoff of the EDC loan. Planning Commission holding a public hearing on June 25th at 6:30 to inform and receive input on the three new ordinances; call in phone number will be posted on the website: villageofbenzonia.com.

June 5 – Centra Wellness Executive Committee:

All Centra Wellness staff will be back in the office by June 15. Meeting discussion centered on recent defense attorney filings of 'not guilty by reason of insanity'. Once a judge decides to grant a petition for evaluation, defendant then waits for an opening at the forensic center in Ypsilanti; this wait in jail time is sometimes longer than the sentence would have been. Cost to the counties can be excessive. Centra Wellness will attempt to intervene early in these cases with behavioral health care which will mitigate costs.

June 7 – Village of Beulah:

Village Council set the tax rate. Village attorney, Kerrie Zeits, walked the Council through the steps that need to be taken for a Covid-19 Preparedness and Response Plan. Ad hoc committee was established to address the opening of Village public areas; bathrooms will remain closed until plan is in place. Campground tentative opening June 12th. Crystal Lake Business Association Update of summer events:

- All 4th of July events are cancelled – decorations of homes and boats and such is encouraged.
- All Music in the Park is cancelled – the Accidentals are booked for the 2021 event.
- 52nd Beulah Art Fair is cancelled.

Japanese Knotweed is going to be treated at the mouth of the Cold Creek.

AT&T contracts are being re-negotiated at a significant savings.

New street striping in the Village is complete and streets have been swept.

Art Jeannot
Commissioner Report
June 9, 2020

- Participated in 2 meeting since our May 26th meeting.
- **6/8 Headlee Discussion** – Conference call with Ogemaw County officials. The take away from that discussion continues to be communication to the public. I anticipate Mitch will talk about this at greater length.
- **6/8 Almira Township** – Township office will be open to public starting Monday, June 15th.
- **Other –**
 - As most citizens, I have participated in several conference calls regarding the Governor's executive orders and updates on COVID-19.
 - I have stayed in contact with many of my assigned committees and agencies by phone. The purpose is to share information regarding the current situation (COVID-19) and determine if the BOC needs to act on any issues on the group's behalf.
 - Friends of Pointe Betsie – Chuck Clarke has served on the board from the its inception and in the capacity of treasurer for many of those years. He will be term limited at year end 2020. **Cost to repair and shore up base at lighthouse may run into the millions. The cost would be prohibitive for the FPBLH. The BOC and FPBLH will need to consider next steps. As a reminder, the County owns the property.**
 - Platte Township – The Ironman competition slated for later this summer has received the township approvals. I was told that the township hall will re-open Thursday, June 11th.
 - Benzie County Chamber – Office is re-opening week of June 8th. The CVB transition to Traverse City Tourism Bureau was to be completed June 1st.
 - Lake Township – Office will open Monday, June 15th. Safety measures will be followed.

RECEIVED

JUN 09 2020

DAWN OLNEY
BENZIE COUNTY CLERK
BEULAH, MI 49617