

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 11, 2020

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 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, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor

Excused: Commissioner Warsecke

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

Agenda:

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Farrell, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Farrell, seconded by Taylor, to approve the regular session minutes of January 28, 2020 as amended. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

9:04 a.m. Public Input - None

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Ted Schendel, Sheriff- updating the Board of Commissioners regarding the attempted suicide last Saturday. This matter is still under investigation, but staff did everything by the book. State of Michigan standards requires cells to be checked every hour, we are doing cell checks every 30 minutes. Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority will be here today, and Michigan Sheriff Department will be here tomorrow to go over everything. Looking to present to the Committee of the Whole at the next meeting the need to move Part-time officer to Full-time. Want to thank all the employees of the Sheriff Department who stepped up and assisted that evening. Sgt. Banasiak came back that evening to help, along with Tom King, Greg Hubers and Rebecca Hubers. Everyone stepped up to the plate and worked well as a team.

Comm Roelofs commended Jail Administrator Dan Smith, Deputy Greg Hubers and Rebecca Hubers for stepping up and taking charge.

Rebecca Hubers, Emergency Management and 911 Director, presented a written report. Emergency Management is hosting a Lake Shore Erosion presentation on March 12, 2020, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Garden Theater. Want to commend two of her ECS's for going above and beyond their everyday duties to help in the apprehension of violent subjects. I am very proud of my staff.

Chip Johnson, Central Wellness, thanked everyone who attended the Central Wellness meeting to discuss the Governor's plan. Submitted a potential resolution to Rhonda and Linda, to look at next month. Went to Michigan Association of Counties policy board, explained my views and the concerns of the Chair.

Comm Farrell stated there is one remaining Community Mental Health public information forum February 21, 2020 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Kirkland Community College in Grayling.

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Kyle Mauer, Animal Control, stated the annual report was submitted to the State of Michigan this morning. Will bring to the Board of Commissioners when it is accepted along with his annual report. Water heater and furnace have been replaced. Researching on developing a program on Google earth that will show the location of animals that are picked up, removed or found.

Tom Longanbach, Equalization Director - 2020 tentative Ratios and Factors report.

10:00 a.m. Sara Swanson, Prosecutor, presented the 2019 annual report. Their office is getting way behind and need another person. Concerned we are not servicing the people of Benzie County.

10:19 a.m. Break

10:26 a.m. - Reconvene

ACTION ITEMS:

VA Grant: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Farrell, to support the recommendation of the Veterans Affairs Committee accepting the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency grant in the amount of \$59,452.00 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor
Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Eurasian Watermilfoil Control Program: Motion by Nye, seconded by Farrell, to support the treatment of Railroad Point of Eurasian Watermilfoil for a 3-year period, at no cost to the Benzie County. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer, and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Art Jeannot provided a written report (attached) and spoke regarding Northern Michigan Commissioner Association, Pointe Betsie Light House, Lake Township and Almira Township.

Comm Farrell provided a written report (attached) and spoke regarding Community Mental Health Conference in Kalamazoo.

Comm Nye provided a written report (attached) and spoke regarding EMS Union meeting, Central Wellness Executive Committee Meeting, Village of Benzonia, Community Mental Health Association winter conference and Village of Beulah.

Comm Taylor attended the Homestead Township and Village of Honor meetings.

Comm Sauer attended Road Commission, Maples, Blaine Township, Joyfield Township and Village of Thompsonville meetings. Commented there is 7 or 9 counties adopting a 2nd Amendment Sanctuary County resolution.

Chair Roelofs attended the Veterans Affairs, Area Agency on Aging, EMS negotiations and 2% grant allotment award ceremony.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT -- Working on Headlee reset committee #1 and setting up meetings with other counties. Working on attorney RFP's. Working with Chair Roelofs and Commissioner Nye on a tentative agreement with POAM EMS. Commend Maridee on the benefit

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comparison document she prepared for EMS. Handed out a flyer on Opioid Symposium at Little River Casino Resort conference center on April 2, 2020. Contact me if you want to attend. Comm Sauer stated he would like a copy of the EMS comparison document. Mitch stated he would have Maridee e-mail it to all Commissioners.

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Taylor, to approve payment of the bills from January 29, 2020 thru February 10, 2020, in the amount of \$441,942.05, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

Michelle Thompson, County Treasurer stated she attended the Michigan Association of County Treasurer's conference in Muskegon. There was much discussion of the class action lawsuit regarding the General Property Tax Act. Treasurer's office is continuing to work on items relating to the audit. Much interest in properties owned by the Land Bank in the Village of Thompsonville. Discussion held regarding the county's liability if the closed schools were to become the property of the County or Land Bank Authority.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Jeannot to approve the Committee of the Whole consent calendar items 1 through 6 as presented. Roll call Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Planning Commission: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Sauer, to re-appoint Vince Edwards to the Benzie County Planning Commission for the appropriate term (3-year expiring 12/1/2022). Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Inland Township ordinance to withdraw from the Homestead and Inland Joint Planning Committee
- Letter from Chrissy Iverson, Assistant Scoutmaster for Troop 1225
Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Farrell for Administration to draft a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Board of Commissioners acknowledging the accomplishments of Tyler Iverson, authoring chairman to sign. Roll call Ayes: Farrell, Jeannot, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Taylor Nays: None Exc: Warsecke Motion carried
Ceremony will be February 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Blaine Christian Church. Comm Sauer will present letter.
- Benzie-Leelanau Board of Health Meeting minutes of 1/23/2020
- Menominee County Resolution 2020-04 – regarding Great Lakes Shoreline
- Cheboygan County Resolution 20-01 Second Amendment Sanctuary County
- Mackinac County Resolution Second Amendment Sanctuary County
- Benzie County Road Commissioner minutes of 1/09/2020
- Letter from the DNR to the Betsie River Interested Parties of 1/29/2020
- Sanilac County Resolution affirming the Second Amendment of the United State Constitution

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

12:37 p.m. Public Input - None

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

Bob Roelofs, Chair

Tammy Bowers, Chief Deputy County Clerk

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1. Approve the agenda as presented.
2. Approve the regular session minutes of January 28, 2020 as amended.
3. Support the recommendation of the Veterans Affair Committee accepting the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency grant in the amount of \$59,452.00 as presented.
4. Support the treatment of Railroad Point of Eurasian Watermilfoil for a 3-year period, at no cost to the Benzie County.
5. Approve payment of the bills from January 29, 2020 thru February 10, 2020, in the amount of \$441,942.05, as presented.
6. Approve the Committee of the Whole consent calendar items 1 through 6 as presented.
7. Re-appoint Vince Edwards to the Benzie County Planning Commission for the appropriate term.
8. Administration to draft a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Board of Commissioners acknowledging the accomplishments of Tyler Iverson, authoring chairman to sign.

Art Jeannot
Commissioner Report
February 11, 2020

- Attended 4 meetings on behalf of the county since January 28th.
- **2/3** Northern MI Commissioners Association – Discussions included 2nd amendment rights, road funding and how to restrict bond funds if the Governor chooses to go that direction, collection of court fees ends this year and revenue sharing.
- **2/4** Pointe Betsie Light House - I spoke with Dick Taylor, President of the Pointe Betsie Lighthouse. They held their annual meeting on January 22nd. He was re-elected as president for 2020. This group is in the process of exploring the hire of an executive director.
- **2/6** Lake Township – I was introduced to some new staff at the National Park Service (NPS). NPS will do another prescribed burn on Peterson Rd (900 Acres) this Spring. Township will seek renewal of their fire millage in August (.3559 mills).
- **2/10** Almira Township – A presentation for Ironman was made. The event is scheduled for August 30th. There was a good deal of conversation on the route through Almira and what benefit if any does the Township receive. Four employees were promoted to the rank of lieutenant for the fire department.
- **Other –**
 - I attended the January 30th ribbon cutting for the new Traverse City VA medical facility. I anticipate Bob Roelofs will report on this. It was well attended.
 - On February 6th I participated in a discussion organized by Housing North. The subject was Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) and how we can influence MI State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) to allocate more monies to rural communities.
 - I compliment administration for the development of financial reporting tools as well as employee year end document outlining their total compensation package.

Commissioner's Report to BOC

February 11, 2020

Linda Farrell

District #3 – Frankfort and Crystal Lake Township

February 4 & 5 - I attended the Community Mental Health Association (CMHA) Conference in Kalamazoo with Commissioner Nye. Among opportunities to learn about different aspects of behavioral health, there were several sessions regarding the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) proposed changes to behavioral health system. Sarah Esty from MDHHS was the final speaker. There were break-out sessions that gave conference attendees an opportunity to voice their opinions and to offer suggestions about the proposal. She indicates that MDHHS is listening to the critiques they have received so far from the CMH's and other stakeholders state-wide. They have made a few changes and continue to want additional feedback.

There is one remaining public input forum scheduled for Friday, February 21, from 2:30-4:00pm at Kirtland Community College in Grayling. Commissioner Nye and I plan to attend. I urge anyone else who is interested to attending. Registration is through *Eventbrite*. You can find the link to register by searching: "MDHHS Future of Behavioral Health Forum #6".

Rhonda Nye
District IV – Benzonia Township
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February 3rd EMS Union Meeting

Collective bargaining working toward a tentative agreement.

February 3rd Centra Wellness Executive Committee Meeting

Governmental Entity Tax Status Discussion

Reviewed results of CMH and PIHP CEOS survey regarding MDHHS system design proposal

Resolution – Preserve the Public Mental Health System (opposing any CMHSP system redesign that removes control from the local communities and reduces input from persons served and local elected representatives)

Approved full Board agenda

February 3rd Village of Benzonia

USDA Water Project Update – Advertised for bids; bid opening February 27th

Coordination has occurred between Fleis & VandenBrink and MDOT to have US 31 water line replaced prior to the start of the MDOT US 31 Project

Dollar General Moratorium exemption request Tabled to March Regular Meeting

FY 2020/21 Budget Workshop Meeting scheduled for February 28th 11:00 a.m.

February 4th and 5th Community Mental Health Association of Michigan Annual Winter Conference

Elder Abuse and Financial Exploitation – Michigan Office of Attorney General

Keynote: Eric Hipple, Real Men Do Cry – A Guide to Mental Fitness

Developing Michigan's First Recovery High School – Wellspring Lutheran Services

Breaking the Stigma of Addiction – Families Against Narcotics/Hope Not Handcuffs

MAT in Michigan's Prisons: Assisting Incarcerated Individuals in their Recovery

Conversation continues regarding the changes to behavioral health proposed by MDHHS – updates will be provided as situation evolves.

February 6th Village of Beulah

Representative of Fives Shores Brewing requests Special Use Permit to close Kelly Alley 12 times/year for outdoor events. Request will be considered – Noise Ordinance provided for review

New BS&A Software being purchased; transition to new system around October

Residents ask for updates and beautification at Northway Park (playground equipment and tennis court)