

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 14, 2021

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 in the Frank Walterhouse Board Room, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bob Roelofs.

Present were: Commissioners Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke

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

Agenda:

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Miller, to approve the agenda as amended, adding FOIA Appeal to New Business. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the regular session minutes of November 23, 2021 as presented. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Miller, to approve the closed session minutes of November 23, 2021 as presented. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:03 a.m. Public Input – None

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Miller, seconded by Markey, to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$553,947.68, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Kathy Dube, former Director with the Maples, introduces the new Administrator, Nathaniel “Nate” Loop. She says thank you to all for your assistance during her time at the Maples. Nate Loop introduced himself and the board welcomed him; look forward to working with you.

U/S Hubers reported that staff is doing well and with their health also; Promoted Cody Kastl to Detective/Lieutenant; during the recent power outage he reported that some of the toilets did not work with the generator on – will be working to get everything hooked to the generator.

Rebecca Hubers, 911/Emergency Mgt, reported that during the power outage they could still function, but lost the internet – she has a ticket into IT Right to review and get issues resolved; offer of employment for 911 open position was given last Friday and she has successfully filled her roster. On the Emergency Management side, David Hanchett, the CERT Coordinator, has contracted COVID in Arizona and is in ICU and on a ventilator since Thanksgiving. He is a very vital part of our CERT program. Prayers to his family.

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ACTION ITEMS

2021-025 Allocation of Settlement Proceeds re Opioid Litigation: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Sauer, to adopt resolution 2021-025 Authorizing Entry of State Local Government Intrastate Agreement Concerning Allocation of Settlement Proceeds in the National Opioids Litigation, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

2021-026 Authorize Participation Agreements re Opioid Litigation: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Miller, to adopt resolution 2021-026 Authorizing Entry of Participation Agreements in Partial Settlement of the National Prescription Opiate Litigation, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Livescan Palm Scanner: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Markey, to accept the quote from ID Networks in the amount of \$9,995.00 for a LSCAN 500 Palm Scanner and authorizes its purchase with funds available in General Fund Contingency, with fund to be reimbursed by the State of Michigan, Michigan State Police. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Chair Roelofs reported on Buildings/Grounds; Networks Northwest for Eclipse Grant; Veterans Affairs.

Comm Jeannot provided a written report (attached).

Comm Miller reported on Human Services Collaborative; Point Betsie Lighthouse; Frankfort Housing Commission; Frankfort Area Land Trust; Village of Elberta; Frankfort Elberta School Board; Toys for Tots.

Comm Nye reported on MAC transportation; Land Bank; Village of Benzonia; Benzonia Township; Centra Wellness Board; Village of Beulah; Parks/Rec; Township of Benzonia, Village of Benzonia and Village of Beulah has all passed resolution showing collaboration for a sewer feasibility study.

Comm Markey reported on Centra Wellness; Village of Honor.

Comm Warsecke reported on Conservation District; Inland township; Benzie Central Christmas Concert this Thursday; Bill Kennis is making his rounds with his Annual Report.

Comm Sauer reported on Joyfield Twp; Building/Grounds; Blaine Twp; Court security; Road Commission; Elberta project; Village of Thompsonville.

Chris Spence, Chief Lozowski, JoAnn Holwerda, present information to the Board regarding the Frankfort portion of the School Resource Officer funding.

10:20 a.m. Break

10:27 a.m. Reconvene

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10:27 a.m. Tad Peacock, Conservation District, 2021 Annual Report

10:50 a.m. Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resources, provided the 2021 Annual Report

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – No report

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Jeannot, to approve items 1 & 2 of the November 23, 2021, Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Construction Board of Appeals: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Markey, to reappoint Roger Papineau and Rodney Moore to the Construction Board of Appeals for a 2-year term to expire on December 31, 2023. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

EDC/BRA: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Nye, to suspend the board rules and appoint Betsy Evans to the EDC board to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2022. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Land Bank Authority: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Miller, to suspend the board rules and appoint Jason Barnard to the Land Bank Authority to fill a vacancy with a term to expire April 5, 2022. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Parks & Recreation: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Jeannot, to reappoint Charles Kraus to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a 3-year term to expire on December 31, 2024. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to reappoint Marlene Wood, Annie Browning and Christopher Cote to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for a 2-year term to expire on December 31, 2023. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Veterans Affairs: Motion by Roelofs, seconded by Jeannot, to reappoint Gary Fender and Kirt Giddis to the Veterans Affairs for a 4-year term to expire on December 31, 2025. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

2022 Organizational Meeting: January 4, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

FOIA Appeal: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Sauer, pursuant to MCL15.240(2)(d) this board is requesting an extension. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Alpena County resolution Supporting ARP State Match Programs received.
- Alpena County resolution Supporting American Rescue Plan State of Michigan programs.
- Benzie-Leelanau Health Dept minutes of November 17, 2021 received.
- Benzie Transportation Authority financial report for October 2021 received.
- Cheboygan County resolution Opposing Senator Shirkey's Gearing Toward Integration Proposal and Supporting Pathways Community Mental Health Services Program received.
- Crystal Lake and Little Platte Lake Elevation Reports for November 2021 received.
- NMRE Response to SB 597 & 598 received.
- Ogemaw County resolution to Oppose Senate Bills 597 and 598 received.

11:28 a.m. Public Input – None

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Markey, to adjourn at 11:29 a.m. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Bob Roelofs, Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk

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1. Approved the agenda as amended.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of November 23, 2021 as presented.
3. Approved the closed session minutes of November 23, 2021 as presented.
4. Approved payment of the bills in the amount of \$553,947.68, as presented.
5. Adopted resolution 2021-025 Authorizing Entry of State Local Government Intrastate Agreement Concerning Allocation of Settlement Proceeds in the National Opioids Litigation, as presented.
6. Adopted resolution 2021-026 Authorizing Entry of Participation Agreements in Partial Settlement of the National Prescription Opiate Litigation, as presented.
7. Accepted the quote from ID Networks in the amount of \$9,995.00 for a LSCAN 500 Palm Scanner and authorizes its purchase with funds available in General Fund Contingency, with fund to be reimbursed by the State of Michigan, Michigan State Police.
8. Tad Peacock, Conservation District, 2021 Annual Report
9. Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resources, provided the 2021 Annual Report
10. Approved items 1 & 2 of the November 23, 2021, COTW Consent Calendar as presented.
11. Reappointed Roger Papineau and Rodney Moore to the Construction Board of Appeals for a 2-year term to expire on December 31, 2023.
12. Suspended the board rules and appointed Betsy Evans to the EDC board to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2022.
13. Suspended the board rules and appointed Jason Barnard to the Land Bank Authority to fill a vacancy with a term to expire April 5, 2022.
14. Reappointed Charles Kraus to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a 3-year term to expire on December 31, 2024.

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15. Reappointed Marlene Wood, Annie Browning and Christopher Cote to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for a 2-year term to expire on December 31, 2023.
16. Reappointed Gary Fender and Kirt Giddis to the Veterans Affairs for a 4-year term to expire on December 31, 2025.
17. 2022 Organizational Meeting: January 4, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.
18. Pursuant to MCL15.240(2)(d) this board is requesting an extension of the FOIA Appeal from Mr. Jim Meredith.

Art Jeannot
Commissioner Report
December 14, 2021

- Participated in 6 meetings on behalf of the County since our November 23rd meeting.
- **11/24 EDC Business Retention –**
 - Discussed working through EGLE to have one or two sites in Benzie County be project ready for developers/investors. This may have the potential to use grants from the State for brownfield clean up.
 - Consider hiring a professional to guide us through the complexities of brownfield requirements. This has been done previously with the County's first project. There may be two opportunities for projects in the near future.
 - Developing a plan to partner with the Benzie County Chamber on business development efforts. This includes a job description, goals for the first 3 years and a budget to make this investment.
- **12/2 Platte Township –**
 - I meet monthly with the Supervisor and Clerk to discuss local events. No issues or concerns. Next scheduled trustee meeting is January 4th.
- **12/2 Lake Township –**
 - Bill Kennis gave an update for Benzie Bus. He represented the authority well.
 - Discussion regarding the local match from the BC Road Commission that was re-instated in 2019. Local match has not been announced yet.
 - Discussion regarding their master plan and the need to work with Crystal Lake Township. Both units of government have properties around Crystal Lake and the need/desire to be consistent is important.
- **12/6 Northern MI Counties Associations –**
 - Senator VanderWall, Representative John Roth, Chip Johnson and Don Tanner participated in the meeting.
 - A lengthy discussion regarding SB 597/598. This has been in Lansing legislation for some time and discussed multiple times locally. The bills would change funding for mental health providers and affect Centra Wellness negatively. In summary, it would take money from community mental health agencies and potentially put them with private providers. In northern MI we do not have private sector providers. The bills should have exclusions for rural communities.
 - \$50M will be available for the next fiscal year to help fund school resource officers. We will want to consider applying for the funding right after January 1st.
- **12/6 Networks Northwest –**
 - Council of Governments – Discussed use of ARPA funds. It appears other counties are taking the same strategy as Benzie, waiting to develop strategy and fully understand rules.
 - Approved a resolution to help Thompsonville and northern Manistee Townships apply for converting and improving historical rail corridors in the Manistee County Trail system.
- **12/13 Almira Township –** I will share any relevant information at our meeting.

- **Other –**

- **December 3** – I attended the Counties “Holiday Feast”.
- **December 8** – Attended update from BLDH via remote access. Lisa Peacock, Michelle Klien and Betsy Hardy gave reports.
- Worked with the County Administrator regarding the Maples “Document of Understanding”. This is a trailing task from several months ago to document the use of surplus from the Maples bond mileage. This should be ratified at the next board meeting for the Maples (DHHS).