

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
March 1, 2021

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a special meeting on Monday, March 1, 2021, in the Frank Waltherhouse Meeting Room, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Roelofs at 9:00 a.m.

Present were: Commissioners Markey (Beulah via Zoom), Miller (Board Room), Nye (Board Room), Roelofs (Board Room) and Sauer (Board Room)

Excused: Commissioners Jeannot and Warsecke

The invocation was given by Commissioner Roelofs followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda: Motion by Markey, seconded by Sauer, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call.

Ayes: Markey (zoom), Miller, Nye, Roelofs and Sauer Nays: None Exc: Jeannot and Warsecke
Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Input – None

Purpose of this meeting: Continue with Strategic Planning

Mitch provided an updated plan based on our first meeting and we continue today on page 8 – Areas of Focus. Four items will be discussed as possible additions to this area: 1) Workforce Housing; 2) Privatizing of the Maples; 3) Expanding Broadband; and 4) Benzie County students obtaining in district tuition at NMC.

Credibility of County Board & Building Trust:

Goal 1: Mitch stated that the board has worked hard on this.

Goal 2: We are working toward offering Zoom capabilities.

Goal 3: All BOC are committed to attending individual township/village/city meetings.

Goal 4: Zoom concept fits here too; Mitch will rework the wording and bring it back; move a portion of this goal to Section 5.

Collaboration & Partnerships to Achieve Shared Goals:

Facilitation will be added to the title.

Improved Institutional Capacity:

Goal 2: To be reworded.

Goal 3: Add: FOIA and OMA training to be held annually and Robert's Rules training to be offered. This is an Exploration of Options, not a definitive answer.

Financial Health of County Government:

Municipal Analytics have completed their review of the county finances; add Headlee issue to this header.

10:26 a.m. Break

10:31 a.m. Reconvene

Create an Environment to Support Business and Job Creation:

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Goal 1: Ok

Goal 2: Remove housing which was brought to #5 from #1.

Goal 3: Exploration of options related to the Maples.

Goal 4: NMC – Clerk to pull last ballot proposal information regarding NMC and provide to the board.

Enhancing and Protecting Natural Resources of the County:

Goal 1: Continues

Goal 2: remove last part of sentence: To support access for people of all ages, needs and abilities to enjoy our abundant and diverse water resources, including Lake Michigan, rivers and streams, inland lakes, wetlands and more ~~under an Explore the Shores Program for Benzie County.~~

Goal 3: Ok

Goal 4: Add – advocate for improved water quality.

Goal 5: Remove (included above)

Mitch will incorporate today's changes and provide a new document to the Board.

11:11 a.m. Public Input

Rebecca Hubers stated regarding college that front liners also include store clerks as well.

11:13 a.m. Public Input Closed

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Miller, to adjourn this special meeting at 11:13 a.m. Roll call. Ayes: Markey (zoom), Miller, Nye, Roelofs and Sauer Nays: None Exc: Jeannot and Warsecke Motion carried.

Bob Roelofs – Chair

Dawn Olney, Benzie County Clerk