

**THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**June 28, 2022**

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, in the Frank Walterhouse Board Room, 448 Court Place, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Rhonda Nye.

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

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

**Agenda:**

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

**Minutes:**

Motion by Markey, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the regular session minutes of June 14, 2022, as amended by adding the ACO Grant name; Two-Seven Oh Inc, and to strike the language “for 3 years” under the Advantage Benefit Group heading. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Sauer, and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Roelofs Motion carried.

9:03a.m. Public Input - None

**FINANCE**

Bills: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Miller, to approve payment of the bills from June 10, 2022, thru June 23, 2022, in the amount of \$429,478.20, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Sauer, and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Roelofs Motion carried.

Maples Capital Improvement Projects Update: Nate Loop and Karen Felty were present and gave an update regarding their current and upcoming projects. Discussion held

**ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS**

Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resources – was present and gave an overview of written report.

Jesse Zylstra, Solid Waste and Recycling Coordinator – was present and gave an overview of written report.

**ACTION ITEMS**

DTRF Surplus Resolution 2022-019: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Miller, to adopt Resolution 2022-019, declaring a surplus in the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund can be transferred into the Benzie County General Fund, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Sauer, and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Roelofs Motion carried.

Budget Amendment – CPL Equipment: Motion by Miller, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the budget amendment to increase the budgeted use of fund balance and increase the CPL Equipment line in the amount of \$900.00 for costs related to the CPL Printer:

Increase:

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260-000-691.00                      Budgeted Use of Fund Balance                      \$900.00  
Increase:  
260-000-970.00                      CPL Equipment                      \$900.00  
Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Sauer, and Warsecke    Nays: None    Exc: Roelofs  
Motion carried.

Animal Control – Two Seven Oh, Inc Grant – Cat Condos: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Miller, to authorize the Two Seven Oh Inc. Grant application for the purchase of 3 Raintree Cat Condos from Midmark Corporation, per quote for project #AH220573-1, as presented, authorizing Vice Chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Sauer and Warsecke    Nays: None    Exc: Roelofs Motion carried.

## COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Chair Roelofs - Excused

Comm Sauer – attended Village of Elbert meeting; school safety wrap-up with Tiffany (SRO); LEPC meeting, Benzie Leelanau Health Department meeting; Benzie County Road Commission meeting; Collaborative Transportation meeting.

Comm Miller – attended City of Frankfort meeting; Crystal Lake Township meeting; Airport Authority meeting; Collaborative Transportation meeting.

### **Closed session:**

Motion by Markey, seconded by Warsecke that the Benzie County Board of Commissioners enter closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) for purposes of discussing settlement with legal counsel in the matter of Lasecki v Benzie County and the County Administrator, Sheriff, Chief Deputy County Clerk, and Attorney Allan VanderLann be included in the closed session discussion, because discussing the matter in open session would be detrimental to the settlement. Roll Call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Sauer and Warsecke    Nays: None    Exc: Roelofs    Motion carried

**Entered closed session at 10:00am**

**Entered open session at 10:14am**

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Jeannot that the settlement agreement in connection with Lasecki v Benzie County as discussed in closed session on June 28, 2022, be approved and that the Board Chair and County Administrator be authorized to sign. Roll Call: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Sauer and Warsecke    Nays: None    Exc: Roelofs Motion carried

## CONTINUED COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Comm Markey – attempted to attend Benzie Senior Resources Board meeting but had to respond to an emergency; LEPC meeting; LPT meeting

Comm Warsecke – attended Conservation District meeting; Benzie Bus meeting; Parks and Recreation meeting

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Comm Jeannot – provided written report

Comm Nye – attended Agenda Review meeting; Benzie Leelanau Health Department meeting; EDC meeting

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT** – Katie Zeits attended the Collaborative Transportation meeting; received actuarial report from MERS; handed out draft pamphlet need input by Friday for educating the community on property taxes, Proposal A, and Headlee; working on rap cards to educate community regarding mileages; upcoming talks regarding ARPA money and OPOID settlement money; goals accomplished by Administrator’s office

Dan Kelly – Crystal Lake Watershed presentation:

Provided a handout to the Board supporting presentation.

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to approve items 1 of the June 14, 2022, Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Sauer and Warsecke Exc: Roelofs Nays: None Motion carried

**COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS** - None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS** - None

10:54a.m. Public Input

Dave Wenn, president of the Crystal Lake Watershed Association, regarding milfoil, their treatment and education to the community.

Dennis Wyant, owns company that does environmental data collection, has worked with CLWA and the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians in Leelanau County for Lake Leelanau milfoil.

Sarah Alexander, resident of Crystal Lake Township, degree in environmental studies and women’s studies glad to hear CLWA is looking into alternative treatments of milfoil.

Jim Barnes, of Frankfort, concerned with chemicals used in homes and environment and please look into alternative measures.

Bob Sissell, Crystal Lake Township in Frankfort, made a statement regarding fertilizer on lawns and runoff going into the Lake feeding milfoil.

Ed Hoogterp, Benzie County Drain Commissioner and author Crystal Lake Watershed Management Plan, issue of milfoil is mainly boating, continue discussions of management of milfoil. Doing nothing is not an option.

Tad Peacock, Conservation District, not proponent of chemicals but proponent of eradicating invasive species. Need to use knock it down and then try to manage it.

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Sue Brown, Crystal Lake Watershed Association board member, done extensive outreach, yet to find perfect solution and need to move forward so it is not a large problem.

11:20am Public Input closed

### PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Berrien County Resolution regarding Michigan No-Fault Auto Insurance Reform
- Berrien County Resolution regarding Juneteenth
- Calhoun County Resolution 118-2022 Re: HB 4730 – Zillow Bill
- Cheboygan County Resolution 2022-13 Re: HB 4729, 4730, 4731 & 4732
- Eaton County Resolution 22-6-69 Re: HB 4730
- Gogebic County Resolution 2022-7 Re: HB 4729, 4730, 4731 & 4732
- Iron County Resolution 2002-009 Re: HB 4729, 4730, 4731 & 4732
- BLHD June 22, 2022, agenda
- Livingston County Resolution 2022-06-069 Re: Optimizing Election Integrity
- Ontonagon County Resolution 2020-04 Re: HB 4729, 4730, 4731 & 4732
- EGLE Public Notice for HPH-M6BF-1Q69A

Motion by Miller, seconded by Markey, to adjourn at 11:22. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Sauer and Warsecke Exc: Roelofs Nays: None Motion carried

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Bob Roelofs, Chair

Kim Childs, Benzie County Chief Deputy Clerk

### INDEX

1. Approve the agenda as presented.
2. Approved the regular session minutes of June 14, 2022, as amended.
3. Approve payment of the bills from June 10, 2022, thru June 23, 2022, in the amount of \$429,478.20, as presented.
4. Adopt Resolution 2022-019, declaring a surplus in the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund can be transferred into the Benzie County General Fund, as presented.
5. Approve the budget amendment to increase the budgeted use of fund balance and increase the CPL Equipment line in the amount of \$900.00 for costs related to the CPL Printer.
6. Authorize the Two Seven Oh Inc. Grant application for the purchase of 3 Raintree Cat Condos from Midmark Corporation, per quote for project #AH220573-1, as presented.
7. Benzie County Board of Commissioners enter into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(c) for purposes of discussing settlement with legal counsel in the matter of Lasecki v Benzie County and the County Administrator be included in the closed session discussion, because discussing the matter in open session would be detrimental to the settlement.
8. Settlement agreement in connection with Lasecki v Benzie County as discussed in closed session on June 28, 2022, be approved.

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9. Approve items 1 of the June 14, 2022, Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented.

**Committee of the Whole**

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**June 14, 2022**

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as follows:

1. Adoption of the Benzie County ACH and Electronic Funds Transfer Policy and authorizes the Chair to sign.

**Art Jeannot**  
**Commissioner Report**  
**June 28, 2022**

- Participated in 1 meeting on behalf of the County since our June 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- **6/24 – EDC/BRA –**
  - We held an informational work shop regarding current broadband initiatives. Cherry Capital Communications explained their current plans to begin build out of their acquired market within Benzie County. Eclipse Communication also gave a brief up date. The manager of Connecting Michigan Taskforce also joined the conversation. All of this continues to help the committee make a recommendation to the BOC for a solution outlined by Merit’s survey. Without a dedicated staff, this process will be slow. One take away from the discussion was that potentially up to 17% of the community may still be underserved even after all current approaches are implemented.
- **Other –**
  - **6/28 –** I am attending a meeting sponsored by Senator Peter’s office to discuss potential funding for broadband in rural communities.