

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 12, 2022

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, July 12, 2022 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, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke
Excused: Tim Markey

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

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Miller, to approve the regular session minutes of June 28, 2022, as amended, changing the date to June 28, 2022. Ayes: Jeannot, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Markey Motion carried.

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the closed session minutes of June 28, 2022, as presented. Ayes: Jeannot, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Markey Motion carried.

9:03 a.m. Public Input

Annie Browning, Benzonia Township, wanted to share what she is working on in the Village of Beulah regarding the Planning Commission and Master Plan. She will be getting back to making people aware of individuals with disabilities.

9:04 a.m. Public Input Closed

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Miller, to approve payment of the bills from June 24, 2022, thru July 07, 2022, in the amount of \$116,182.50, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Markey Motion carried.

Commissioner Jeannot requested that the trial balance be reviewed and discussed once a quarter.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Jesse Zylstra, Solid Waste and Recycling Coordinator, was present and gave an update. June 18, 2022, collection event had 678 tires, 10191 pounds of electronics and 18 mattresses. This Saturday is tire only event in Thompsonville. Working with Conservation District and EGLE regarding old tires being in the water along the Betsie Valley Trail.

Paula Eberhart, Register of Deeds was present and gave an update on her office. Office is busy with housing sales, and it has not slowed down.

Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resources – provided written report.

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

ACTION ITEMS

Budget Amendment – Prosecuting Attorney Office: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Miller, to amend the 2021/22 budget in the amount of \$1,000 to increase the Prosecuting Attorney's departmental budget as presented:

Increase:

101-267-727.00	Office Supplies	\$1,000.00
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Increase:

425-267-674.00 101-253-699.03	Contributions and Donations	\$1,000.00
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Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke

Nays: None Exc: Markey Motion carried.

Budget Amendment – ACO Reimbursement Grant: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to amend the 2021/22 Animal Control budget in the amount of \$19,876.57 for the purchase of cat condos, with funds to be reimbursed by the Two Seven Oh grant as follows:

Increase:

247-000-691.00	Budget Use of Fund Balance	\$19,876.57
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Increase:

247-265-935.00	Building Repairs	\$19,876.57
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Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None

Exc: Markey Motion carried.

Budget Amendment – Building Department Revenue and Expenditures: Motion by Nye, seconded by Jeannot, to approve the Building Department Revenue and Expenditures budget amendments up to \$60,000.00 as needed for the remainder of the fiscal year. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Markey Motion carried.

Commissioner Sauer stated that Bert Gale needs to attend and report to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Nye stated he at least needs to give a monthly report.

Commissioner Jeannot stated that he has individuals contacting him about the slow response from the Building Department.

Child Care Fund – Approval for the State: Connie Krusniak, 19th Circuit Court Friend of the Court/Juvenile Referee, introduced Carly Bailey, Director of Youth Services. Referee Krusniak is requesting that the Board of Commissioners approve the 292 Child Care Fund Budget today as she must submit it to the State of Michigan by August 15, 2022. Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the 292 Child Care Fund budget of \$169,836.00 as presented, authorizing the Chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Markey Motion carried.

10:02 a.m. Break

10:10 a.m. Reconvene

~~10:00~~ 10:10 a.m. Jennifer Berkey – MSU Extension, presented 2021/2022 annual report. Went over the services that MSU is providing and introduce the individual overseeing the different programs.

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ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED:

CBS CSB Industries regarding transfer station in Thompsonville: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Miller, to concur with the Solid Waste Advisory Council regarding a solid waste transfer station and authorize the County Administrator to sign a letter to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy in support of the project. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Markey Motion carried.

Surveyor Remonumentation Contract: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Jeannot to approve the Remonumentation Contract as presented, authorizing Chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Markey Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Chair Roelofs, attended Veterans Affairs, met with 103rd Representative Jack O'Malley, Agenda Review meeting, and Corrective Action Plan meeting for Equalization with Department of Treasury.

Comm Jeannot, provided written report

Comm Miller, attended Frankfort School Board meeting.

Comm Nye, attended Agenda Review meeting, Land Bank meeting, Corrective Action Plan meeting for Equalization with Department of Treasury, Village of Benzonia meeting, and Benzie Central School Board meeting.

Comm Markey, Excused

Comm Warsecke, attended Solid Waste meeting and Inland Township meeting.

Comm Sauer, attended the Betsie Valley Trail meeting, The Maples meeting, Joyfield Township meeting, Blaine Township meeting, and Village of Thompsonville meeting.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Katie Zeits stated her office is working on the budget. The County received a \$45,000.00 grant to help with the baseline environmental on the old Benzie High School in Benzonia. Reported that we have not received any of the OPOID money yet. Computers are gradually being replaced with laptops and docking stations. Working on agreements for the Iron Man. Need to have a discussion on the School Resource Officer, as Frankfort Officer has left that position. MSU has developed a draft survey for the ARPA money. Will have the Commissioners review it before it is put out to the public.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - None

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: Benzie Transportation Authority: Schedule interview with applicant.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

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PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Allegan County Resolution
- Letter from Department of Health and Human Services re: detention rate
- Berrien County Resolution
- Betsie Valley Trailway Management Council May 3, 2022, minutes.
- Crystal Lake Elevation
- Little Platte Lake Elevation
- EGLE and FEMA Website Updates – Flood Ways
- Gogebic County Resolution 2022-8
- Jackson County Resolution 06-22.14
- Kalkaska County Resolution 2022-29
- Lake County Resolution 2022-06
- Leelanau County Resolution #2022-008
- Benzie-Leelanau Board of Health meeting May 25, 2022
- Northern Michigan Counties Association meeting notice and agenda July 18, 2022.
- Northern Michigan Counties Association April 18, 2022, minutes

11:32 a.m. Public Input

Michelle Thompson, Benzie County Treasurer, commented that there have been issues with laptop hard drives. It was stated that it is normal for the hard drives to fail, and to make sure you get the 3-year warranty. There is a shortage of Assessors. Updated the Chart of Accounts and is ready to send it to BS&A this week.

11:36 a.m. Public Input closed.

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Miller, to adjourn at 11:37 a.m. Ayes: Jeannot, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Exc: Markey Motion carried.

Bob Roelofs, Chair

Tammy Bowers, Benzie County Clerk

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1. Approve the agenda as presented.
2. Approve the regular session minutes of June 28, 2022, as amended, changing the date to June 28, 2022.
3. Approve the closed session minutes of June 28, 2022, as presented.
4. Approve payment of the bills from June 24, 2022, thru July 07, 2022, in the amount of \$116,182.50, as presented.
5. Amend the 2021/22 budget in the amount of \$1,000 to increase the Prosecuting Attorney's departmental budget as presented.
6. Amend the 2021/22 Animal Control budget in the amount of \$19,876.57 for the purchase of cat condos, with funds to be reimbursed by the Two Seven Oh grant.
7. Approve the Building Department Revenue and Expenditures budget amendments up to \$60,000.00 as needed for the remainder of the fiscal year.

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8. Approve the 292 Child Care Fund budget of \$169,836.00 as presented, authorizing the Chair to sign.
9. Concur with the Solid Waste Advisory Council regarding a solid waste transfer station and authorize the County Administrator to sign a letter to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy in support of the project.
10. Approve the Remonumentation Contract as presented, authorizing Chair to sign.

Art Jeannot
Commissioner Report
July 12, 2022

- Participated in 3 meetings on behalf of the County since our June 28th meeting.
- **7/5 Platte Township –**
 - Township is committing their ARPA funds for building and grounds improvements.
 - The Morgan School has sold to a private buyer.
 - Number of emergency service runs performed by Homestead Township Fire Department is up considerably from previous years.
- **7/7 Lake Township –** The board is considering using some of their ARPA funds to support local entities such as libraries and community destination points.
- **7/11 Almira Township –** I will report on any relevant information at the BOC meeting.
- **Other –**
 - **6/28 –** I attended a meeting with the State of Michigan to discuss broadband funding opportunities. The panel was comprised of various providers. My take away was the following:
 1. Need a dedicated team to manage the project lead by a paid professional. Include someone from the road commission on this team.
 2. The State is going to validate our survey from Merit by late October 2022.
 3. Private/public partnerships will greatly improve scores on any grant requests.
 4. Stop talking about the need and take action.
 5. Grant applications should be available about December 1st or January 1st. There will be a large demand. Be ready to apply. Window for this trounce of money will be about 45 days.
 - **6/29 –** Matt McCauley, CEO at Networks Northwest has resigned effective August 2022. He has taken a position with MI EDC as Senior Vice President of Regional Prosperity. Although his talents and longevity will be missed, northwest Michigan will benefit from having a “home town boy” working in Lansing.
 - **7/5 –** The EDC/BRA applied for a grant to do a phase 1 and potentially a phase 2 environmental study at the old Benzie High School in the amount of \$45K. The property is owned by a private investor. A prospective buyer had requested help with the “soft costs”. If the sale does not go through, the County will own the study for future opportunities. We learned today that the grant will be funded.