

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
August 23, 2022

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, in the Frank Walterhouse Board of Commissioners 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 Secondary Road Patrol and Traffic Accident Prevention Program grant application. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Markey, seconded by Nye, to approve the regular session minutes of August 09, 2022, as presented. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Input – None

PUBLIC HEARING – SETTING OF THE 2022-2023 BUDGET

Katie Zeits presented the draft 2022-2023 budget to be adopted at the September 13, 2022, Board of Commissioners meeting. After reviewing the request from Dan Smith, Jail Administrator, to move a Correction Officer position to a Sergeant position and eliminating one Correction Officer position, it can be done within the budget.

9:10 a.m. Open public hearing - None

9:11 a.m. Close public hearing

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Miller, to approve payment of the bills from August 05, 2022, thru August 18, 2022, in the amount of \$547,097.82, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS:

Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resources, provided written report. Health Ride has 46 seniors utilizing it for medical appointments in Traverse City. Have seen an increase in riders since May.

Greg Hubers, Undersheriff, stated that there are 28 inmates as of this morning. There has been an increase in COVID cases, and we are keeping a close eye on it.

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

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ACTION ITEMS

Point Betsie Shore protection system change order: Chuck Clarke and Ed Hoogterp were present to answer any questions. Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, to approve Change Order #2 to the agreement for Point Betsie Shoreline Protection System Design in the amount of \$82,500.00, authorizing Chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Authorization of Balance Budget: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Markey, to authorize the County Administrator to make budget transfers between departments to balance the 2021/2022 budgets for all funds. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Road Commissioner Vacancy – Ted Mick: 5 letters of interest were received prior to the deadline and 2 letters of interest were received after the deadline but prior to today's meeting. Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Jeannot to accept the 2 letters of interest that were received after the deadline, but prior to today's meeting. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Sauer, and Warsecke Nays: Nye and Roelofs Motion carried.

A Special Meeting will be noticed and posted for the Road Commissioner interviews.

Maples Capital Expenditures - MOU consideration of releasing funds: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Miller, to approve payment in the amount of \$325,000 to the Maples for capital expenditures in accordance with the Document of Understanding dated October 26, 2021. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Secondary Road Patrol and Traffic Accident Prevention Program Grant: Motion by Miller, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the Secondary Road Patrol and Traffic Accident Prevention Program grant application as presented, authorize Chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Chair Roelofs, attended the Village of Lake Ann meeting, Area Agency on Aging meeting, Agenda Review meeting, and Charter Spectrum presentation.

Comm Jeannot – provided written report.

Comm Miller – attended Friends of Point Betsie Lighthouse Shoreline Protection Committee meeting, Frankfort Housing Commission meeting, Benzie Housing Collaborative Board meeting, special City of Frankfort meeting, City of Frankfort council meeting, Crystal Lake Township meeting, and Friends of Point Betsie Lighthouse regular meeting.

Comm Nye – attended EDC meeting, two special Benzie Leelanau Health bylaw review meetings, Benzie School Board meeting, Central Wellness Board meeting, Benzonia Township meeting, and Land Bank special meeting.

Comm Markey – attended Central Wellness Network Board meeting, LEPC meeting, and Benzie Senior Resources meeting.

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Comm Warsecke - attended the Colfax Township meeting, Colfax Township special meeting, Benzie Bus meeting, and Inland Township meeting.

Comm Sauer – Road Commissioners meeting, LEPC meeting, Ironman update meeting, Village of Elberta meeting, Spectrum meeting.

Comm Sauer wanted to give a special thank you to Jesse Zylstra for going above and beyond regarding the tire clean up in Elberta.

Comm Roelofs commented that the Benzie County recycling sites are spotless compared to other counties recycling areas.

10:06 a.m. Break

10:16 a.m. Reconvene

Jennifer Berkey and Remington Rice, MSU, provided a handout and gave a presentation regarding the Farm Stress Management Program.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Katie Zeits reported that updates will be given this afternoon. 5 people in our building are out with COVID right now. Will be receiving the first round of Opioid dollars soon. Will be talking about those funds later.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Markey, to approve item #1 of the August 09, 2022, 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: Art Jeannot, Gary Sauer, Andy Miller, Benzie County Housing Chair Jean Bowers, and Katie Zeits will interview Sally Bobek for the Benzie County Housing Committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

ACTION ITEM CONTINUED:

School Resource Officer and relationship with City of Frankfort: JoAnn Holwerda was present for the City of Frankfort and discussion was held. Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke, recommends that for the next 4 years the School Resource Officers will fall under the responsibility of the Benzie County Sheriff with understand that ways to show accountability to Frankfort Community will be looked at. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Sauer, and Warsecke Nays: Miller and Roelofs Motion carried.

Rebecca Hubers stated that the School Safety Work Group currently in place is advisory in nature. If this is to be a more formal meeting, there will need to be bylaws, who should be on the committee, what their tasks are and what the goals are moving forward.

Katie Zeits will work with the City of Frankfort to refund to Benzie County all money and property held by the City of Frankfort, that is remaining regarding the School Resource Officer.

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PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Benzie Leelanau Health Department Agenda
- Benzie Transportation Authority July 2022 Statement of Activities
- Van Buren County Auto Insurance Reform Resolution
- Benzie Leelanau Health Department Minutes June 22, 2022

11:36 a.m. Public Input - None

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

Bob Roelofs, Chair

Tammy Bowers, Benzie County Clerk

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1. Approve the agenda as amended.
2. Approve the regular session minutes of August 09, 2022, as presented.
3. Approve payment of the bills from August 05, 2022, thru August 18, 2022, in the amount of \$547,097.82, as presented.
4. Approve Change Order #2 to the agreement for Point Betsie Shoreline Protection System Design in the amount of \$82,500.00, authorizing Chair to sign.
5. Authorize the County Administrator to make budget transfers between departments to balance the 2021/2022 budgets for all funds.
6. Accept the 2 letters of interest that were received after the deadline, but prior to today's meeting.
7. Approve payment in the amount of \$325,000 to the Maples for capital expenditures in accordance with the Document of Understanding dated October 26, 2021.
8. Approve the Secondary Road Patrol and Traffic Accident Prevention Program grant application as presented, authorize Chair to sign.
9. Approve item #1 of the August 09, 2022, Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented.
10. Recommends that for the next 4 years the School Resource Officers will fall under the responsibility of the Benzie County Sheriff with understand that ways to show accountability to Frankfort Community will be looked at.

Committee of the Whole

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

1. A three-year contract with Start Fresh Cleaning, Kathy Helene, be approved in the monthly amount of \$5,600 for cleaning services in the Sheriff's Office and the Governmental Center, with contract subject to approval by legal counsel, and the Board Chair be authorized to sign.

Art Jeannot
Commissioner Report
August 23, 2022

- Participated in 3 meetings on behalf of the County since our August 9th meeting.
- **8/15 – Northern MI Counties Association**
 - There was some discussion about the possibility of additional ARPA funding during the next fiscal year. More to come on that subject.
 - I learned that counties cannot provide child care exclusively. This requires either assisting the private sector through grants and tax incentives or partnering with a non for profits. Obstacle continue to be number of regulations and cost.
 - Claire County is working on a juvenile detention center.
 - Annual dues of \$80 will be invoiced in the next 60 days.
 - I have been asked to chair the nominating committee for this upcoming year.
- **8/18 - Northern MI Community Action Agency**
 - Child care solutions were a big part of the conversation this month. No outcome from that discussion.
 - The agency will be conducting a new strategic plan next year. An RFP will be sent out to hire a facilitator.
- **8/19 – EDC**
 - We have agreed to hire Mitch Shapiro as the consultant for the next steps for broadband. He is highly qualified for the task. Dan Barcheski a committee member helped bring Mitch to our attention. I anticipate a full presentation on this subject will be made at our BOC meeting.
 - An ad hoc committee has been formed to keep this initiative moving between meetings.
 - In an effort to better serve the community, Eclipse Communications, Cherry Capital and Peninsula Fiber Network have established a consortium. This will better equip each entity to acquire grants and help pricing the service on a competitive level.
- **Other**
 - Participated in a number of discussions regarding broadband. The task was to secure a relationship with a qualified consultant to guide the County through the next steps. I have spoken with Commissioner Markey about his potential role in this step. I believe he has a more appropriate background to help us make better decisions.
 - **8/11** – Participated in a discussion with the Benzie Housing Collaborative. This group is in the discussion stages. At this point there is limited participation from the community.
 - **8/22** – I will be participating in a presentation from Spectrum at Grow Benzie and will report on any relevant information.