

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 13, 2022

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, December 13, 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 Action Item G SPARKS Grant. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Nye, to approve the regular session minutes of November 22, 2022, as amended. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Nye, seconded by Miller, to approve the closed session minutes of November 22, 2022, as presented. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING – Closeout Report CDBG PI 2020

9:03 a.m. Open Public hearing – no comments

9:04 a.m. Close Public hearing

9:04 a.m. Public Comment

Dan Hawkins, Village of Lake Ann President, was present and introduced himself to the Board of Commissioners.

9:05 a.m. Public Comment closed.

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Warsecke, to approve payment of the bills from November 19, 2022, through December 8, 2022, in the amount of \$621,809.24, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Kyle Mauer, Animal Control, stated that he is still waiting on the vehicle for Animal Control. It should be in at the end of the month. Spoke with the State Inspector regarding the kennel area. Concerns are the rust in the ceiling areas, paint chipping off the wall, and drain issues. Working on getting quotes for upgrades to the kennel. The rust in the ceiling is due to the moisture from cleaning the kennels, not a leak in the roof.

Cory Ellis, 911 Director, wants to acknowledge Dayton and Dusti for their response to a very difficult phone call that came into dispatch. The recent 911 outage was statewide. It was caused by

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equipment failure in the Upper Peninsula. Provided an update on department staffing. Looking at 2 additional people. Will be reviewing and updating current policies and procedures. Spoke with the Sheriff regarding a cost sharing venture to track assets and equipment. Reviewing the letter of understanding with providers regarding radios and pagers.

Paula Eberhart, Register of Deeds, stated that their office has been very busy. Prices are way up on property. While at the Register of Deeds conference, they were advised by legal counsel that the Register of Deeds office should not be handing out forms or helping fill them out. If an individual has a question regarding a form or procedure, they will be directed to seek legal help or contact a title company.

Rebecca Hubers, Emergency Management provided a written report.

ACTION ITEMS

Amended Apportionment Report: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Jeannot, to accept the amended Apportionment Report as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Adopt Appointments and Committees Policy: Motion by Nye, seconded by Miller, to adopt the Appointments and Committees' Policy as included in the December 13, 2022, packet, which includes requirements for attendance and residency and rescinds all related policies. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Budget Amendment – Veterans regarding State Grant: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Markey, to amend the 2022-23 budget in the amount of \$50,000 to increase revenues and expenditures for the Veterans Relief Fund, as follows:

Increase:

293-000-900.00	Printing & Publishing	\$40,000.00
293-000-970.00	Equipment	10,000.00

Increase:

293-000-539.00	State Grants	\$50,000.00
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Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Approval of Reimbursement Grant for Drug Court Services: Ken Hillard was present to answer any question regarding the grant. Motion by Sauer, seconded by Nye, to approve the reimbursement grant for drug court services and authorizing the Chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Resolution 2022-023 settlement agreement from November 22, 2022, closed session: Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Markey, to approve resolution 2022-023 Wayside Church, et al v Van Buren County et al, as recommended by attorney during November 22, 2022, closed session. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Adopt BLDHD Sanitary Code: Eric Johnston was present to answer any questions. Motion by Nye, seconded by Markey to adopt the revised Benzie-Leelanau Health Department District Sanitary Code Draft Version 1.2 as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

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SPARKS Grant: Ed Hoogterp was present to answer any questions. Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Warsecke to support the application for the Michigan SPARKS grant in the amount of \$500,000, with private donor match of \$300,000 for recreational development of the Crystal Lake Outlet site, and authorize the Chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

10:01 a.m. Break

10:09 a.m. Reconvene

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Chair Roelofs attended the EMS Advisory Board interview, met with Benzie Leelanau Health Department, Agenda Review, Veterans Affairs meeting, and met with Senator Bumstead regarding the 911 tower. EMS Advisory Board meeting, and Area Agency on Aging meeting were cancelled.

Comm Jeannot provided a written report.

Comm Miller stated that this would be his last report. His meetings are scheduled for tomorrow and next week. Reported that the Toys for Tots had a great turnout.

Comm Nye attended Benzie Leelanau Health Department Public Hearing, Benzie Leelanau Health Department regular meeting, 2 Benzie Leelanau Health Department Policy meetings, Village of Benzonia meeting, Land Bank meeting, Agenda Review, Centra Wellness meeting, met with Senator Bumstead regarding the 911 tower, Benzie School Board meeting, and Parks and Recreation meeting. Accepted Cory Ellis, 911 Director, invitation to come and see the Dispatch area. Was able to meet with a couple of the dispatchers and it was very informative.

Comm Markey attended Homestead Township meeting, Centra Wellness Network Board meeting, and Northern Michigan Regional Entity (NMRE) substance oversight meeting.

Comm Warsecke attended the Inland Township meeting. Wants to recognize the Benzie County Sheriff Department. His son in law had his vehicle broken into and items stolen. They were able to recover the items and return them. Stated that it has been an honor serving with Commissioner Miller on the Board of Commissioners.

Comm Sauer attended the Benzie Leelanau Health Department meeting, Blaine Township meeting, EMS Advisory Board interview meeting, Joyfield Township meeting, Road Commission meeting, and Village of Thompsonville meeting.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Katie Zeits provided an update on the Equalization Department. Mittens, hats, and scarves from the Government Center Christmas Tree will be delivered to the schools next week. An estimate for the 911 Dispatch expansion plan is coming in around \$1.5 million. Auditors are at the Government Center this week. Have not received any of the OPIOID money. Met with Senator Bumstead yesterday regarding funding for the 911 tower. Homestretch did receive a \$600,000 grant for the housing project. Broadband will be discussed at the EDC meeting this Friday to look over the agreement. Jackie Palfey, Human Resources starts December 19, 2022.

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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Commissioner Jeannot removed items 1 and 2 for discussion.

Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Miller, to approve items 3 and 4 of the November 22, 2022, Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Discussion held regarding Commissioners wages.

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Sauer, effective January 1, 2023, the Board of Commissioners salary shall be set at \$5,800.00 annually, paid over 26 pay periods. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Sauer, effective January 1, 2023, the Chair of the Board of Commissioners shall receive \$1,000 annually in addition to their annual salary, paid over 26 pay periods. Effective January 1, 2023, the Vice Chair of the Board of Commissioners shall receive \$500 annually in addition to their annual salary, paid over 26 pay periods. Roll call. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC): Motion by Warsecke, seconded by Miller, to re-appoint Todd Warren to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, for a 2-year term to expire on 12/31/2024. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

EMS Advisory Board (Almira Representative): Motion by Sauer, seconded by Miller, to appoint Mary Dort to the EMS Advisory Board (Almira Representative), for a 3-year term to expire on 12/31/2025. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

Betsie Valley Trail Management Committee (BVTMC): Jeff Bowley has submitted his letter of interest. Rose will schedule Mr. Bowley for an interview. The interview committee will be Commissioner Roelofs, Sauer and Markey.

Veterans Affairs Committee: Motion by Nye, seconded by Markey, to re-appoint Tyson Burch and Donald Schaffer to the Veterans Affairs Committee, for a 4-year term to expire on 12/31/2026. Ayes: Jeannot, Markey, Miller, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried

EDC – Need to get the word out for applicants for this position.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS- None

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- BLDHD November 28, 2022, agenda
- BLDHD December 7, 2022, agenda
- BLDHD October 26, 2022, minutes
- BLDHD November 30, 3033 minutes

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- Eaton County Resolution re: Auto Insurance Reform Act
- Crystal Lake Elevation Report
- Little Platte Lake Elevation Report
- West Benzie Join Master Plan – Draft Plan Notification
- Letter from EGLE Specific Review Determination Letter
- Letter from EGLE Site-Specific Review (SSR) 8733-202211-18

Commissioner Roelofs thanked Commissioner Miller for the time he has served on the Board of Commissioners and presented him with a certificate.

11:12 a.m. Public Comment

Annie Browning, Benzonia Township, reported on what she has been working on for the Village of Beulah. Yesterday was the first planning meeting. Issues are transportation and parking. She has attended the Village of Benzonia and Village of Honor planning commission meetings to see what they are working on.

Karen Cunningham, Frankfort, stated she will be representing District 3 come January. Thanked Commissioner Miller for helping make the transition really wonderful. He has been a great representative for District 3. Thanked the Commissioners and staff that have reached out and helped.

11:15 a.m. Public Comment closed

Motion by Miller, seconded by Markey, to adjourn at 11:15 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 November 22, 2022, as amended.
3. Approve the closed session minutes of November 22, 2022, as presented.
4. Approve payment of the bills from November 19, 2022, through December 8, 2022, in the amount of \$621,809.24, as presented.
5. Accept the amended Apportionment Report as presented.
6. Adopt the Appointments and Committees' Policy as included in the December 13, 2022, packet, which includes requirements for attendance and residency and rescinds all related policies.
7. Amend the 2022-23 budget in the amount of \$50,000 to increase revenues and expenditures for the Veterans Relief Fund.
8. Approve the reimbursement grant for drug court services and authorize the Chair to sign.
9. Approve resolution 2022-023 Wayside Church, et al v Van Buren County et al, as recommended by attorney during November 22, 2022, closed session.
10. Adopt the revised Benzie-Leelanau Health Department District Sanitary Code Draft Version 1.2 as presented.

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11. Support the application for the Michigan SPARKS grant in the amount of \$500,000, with private donor match of \$300,000 for recreational development of the Crystal Lake Outlet site and authorize the Chair to sign.
12. Approve items 3 and 4 of the November 22, 2022, Committee of the Whole Consent Calendar.
13. Effective January 1, 2023, the Board of Commissioners salary shall be set at \$5,800.00 annually, paid over 26 pay periods.
14. Effective January 1, 2023, the Chair of the Board of Commissioners shall receive \$1,000 annually in addition to their annual salary, paid over 26 pay periods. Effective January 1, 2023, the Vice Chair of the Board of Commissioners shall receive \$500 annually in addition to their annual salary, paid over 26 pay periods.
15. Re-appoint Todd Warren to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, for a 2-year term to expire on 12/31/2024.
16. Appoint Mary Dort to the EMS Advisory Board (Almira Representative), for a 3-year term to expire on 12/31/2025.
17. Re-appoint Tyson Burch and Donald Schaffer to the Veterans Affairs Committee, for a 4-year term to expire on 12/31/2026.

Committee of the Whole

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November 22, 2022

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

1. Removed.
2. Removed.
3. Adopt the Social Media Policy of 11/22/2022.
4. Sheriff and Undersheriff receive a 6½% wage increase, effective the first full pay period in January 2023.

Art Jeannot
Commissioner Report
December 13, 2022

- Participated in 5 meetings on behalf of the County since our November 22nd meeting.
- **12/1 – Northern MI Counties Association**
 - Our Legislators are considering moving presidential primaries in Michigan from March to February.
 - The Mental Health bills moving through the Senate were defeated. This could possibly be re-visited in the new year.
 - Clare County is reviewing the investment to build a juvenile detention center.
 - New officers were elected for 2023-2024. Richard Schmidt, a Manistee County Commissioner was elected Chairman.
- **12/1 – Lake Township**
 - Bob Blank has resigned effective December 31st as the Zoning Administrator.
 - Josh Mills has been appointed to fill the duties of the Zoning Administrator.
 - Dottie Blank has resigned effective December 31st as the Clerk.
 - Anna Grobe has resigned effective December 31st as the Supervisor and effective January 1st will assume the Clerk duties.
 - The Supervisor position will be posted immediately. If the Trustees or the County Election Commissions are not able to appoint a new Supervisor within 45 days of the beginning of the vacancy, the County Clerk will call for a special election.
- **12/6 – Networks Northwest**
 - Continued discussion on the strategic plan.
 - The Council of Governments and the NWNW board meetings for 2023 are changing from 6 meetings to 4 meetings.
- **12/8 – Platte Township**
 - Election turnout was approximately 70%.
- **12/12 – Almira Township**
 - I will report any relevant information at our meeting.
- **Other**
 - Met with Josh Stoltz to discuss activity at Grow Benzie.
 - I am facilitating a round table for the December 12th new commissioner training in Grayling. This is put on by MSU Extension.