

# BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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448 COURT PLACE – BEULAH, MI 49617 – (231) 882-9671  
[www.benzieco.net](http://www.benzieco.net)

## AMENDED MEETING AGENDA February 28, 2023

Frank F. Walterhouse Board Room, Governmental Center, Beulah, Michigan

### Join Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:  
[www.youtube.com/@BenzieCounty](https://www.youtube.com/@BenzieCounty)

### PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES OR SWITCH THEM TO VIBRATE

- 9:00 a.m.      CALL TO ORDER  
                  ROLL CALL  
                  INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
                  APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
                  APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 2/14/2023  
                  PUBLIC COMMENT  
                  FINANCE –  
                    A) Approval of Bills
- 9:13 a.m.      PUBLIC HEARING – Eclipse Communications Close Out CDBG Loan  
                  ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPT HEAD COMMENTS  
                    A) Cory Ellis, 911 Director – 2022 Annual Report
- ACTION ITEMS –  
                  A) 2024/2025 Ambulance purchase  
                  B) Solid Waste HHW/Electronic 2023 contacts  
                  C) Consider resolution adopting ballot language for county roads  
                  D) Consider vehicle purchase from Watson Benzie for Sheriff’s office use  
                  E) Adoption of Directory of Charges  
                  F) Approve Comfort Dog Program and related Sheriff’s Office Policy  
                  G) Approve three part-time Bailiff positions and budget amendments  
                  H) Approve State surcharge for Central Dispatch Operations  
                  I) Approve Letter of Understanding – Leelanau County emergency switch service on radio
- COMMISSIONER REPORTS –  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – Katie Zeits  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – None  
COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS –  
UNFINISHED BUSINESS –  
NEW BUSINESS –  
PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE  
PUBLIC COMMENT  
ADJOURNMENT

**Times Subject to Change**

## PUBLIC COMMENT

**Purpose:** The Benzie County Board of Commissioners is a public policy setting body and subject to the Open Meetings Act (PA 267 of 1976). The Board also operates under a set of “Benzie County Board Rules (section 7.3)” which provides for public comment during their meetings. It continually strives to receive comment from the residents of the county and reserves two opportunities during the monthly scheduled meeting for you the public to voice opinions, concerns and sharing of any other items of common interest. There are however, in concert with meeting conduct certain rules to follow.

**Speaking Time:** Agenda items may be added or removed by the board but initially at least two times are devoted to Public Comment. Generally, however, attendees wishing to speak will be informed how long they may speak by the chairman. All speakers are asked to give their name, residence and topic they wish to address. This and the statements/comments will be entered into the public record (minutes of the meeting). Should there be a number of speakers wishing to voice similar opinions, an option for a longer presentation may be more appropriate for the group and one or more speakers may talk within that time frame. The Board will not be accepting public comment via zoom/online.

Group Presentations – 15 minutes  
Individual Presentations – 3 minutes

**Board Response:** Generally, as this is an “Comment” option, the board will not comment or respond to presenters. Silence or non-response from the board should not be interpreted as disinterest or disagreement by the board. However, should the board individually or collectively wish to address the comments of the speaker(s) at the approval of the Chair and within a time frame previously established, responses may be made by the board. Additionally, the presenter may be in need of a lengthier understanding of an issue or topic and may be referred to a committee appropriate to address those issues.

Public Comment is very important in public policy settings and is only one means for an interchange of information or dialogue. Each commissioner represents a district within the county, and he/she may be individually contacted should greater depth or understanding of an issue be sought. Personal contact is encouraged and helpful to both residents and the board.

**Commissioner Contacts:**

- District I – Bob Roelofs (Almira East of Reynolds Road).....231-645-1187
- District II - Art Jeannot (Almira Twp West of N. Reynolds Road, Platte Twp, Lake Twp East of Sutter Rd, and Inland Twp section 1-6, section 7 lying west of Maple City Hwy, north of US-31) .....231-920-5028
- District III – Karen Cunningham (Crystal Lake, Frankfort and Lake Twp, at Sutter Road going West) .....231-822-4067
- District IV – Rhonda Nye (Benzonia Twp, except for sections 31, 36 and 35 East of Case Road).....231-822-4068
- District V – Tim Markey (Homestead and Benzonia Twp sections 31, 36 and 35 West of Case Road).....231-822-4066
- District VI - Evan Warsecke (Colfax, Inland except sections 1-6, section 7 lying west of Maple City Hwy and North of US-31).....231-822-4065
- District VII - Gary Sauer (Blaine, Gilmore, Joyfield, Weldon) .....231-651-0647