

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
June 27, 2023

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, 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 Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, 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 Markey, to approve the agenda as amended, removing presentation by Frankfort Area Land Trust. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Minutes:

Motion by Sauer, seconded by Cunningham, to approve the regular session minutes of June 13, 2023, as amended. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

9:02 a.m. Public Comment – None

FINANCE

Bills: Motion by Nye, seconded by Warsecke, to approve payment of the bills from June 9, 2023, through June 22, 2023, in the amount of \$336,476.57, as presented. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

Rebecca Hubers, Emergency Management, gave an update on the lower-level expansion at the Sheriff's Department. She will be meeting with the contractors every 2 weeks as the project moves forward and will be keeping the County Administrator updated. Waiting for all the signatures to be in place and permits right now. The Sheriff's department has been cleaning up the basement. On July 31, 2023, Grand Traverse Construction plans on mobilizing to and declare it a construction site. ~~at that point.~~ On August 7, 2023, will start demolition and excavation.

Commissioner Roelofs stated that he wanted to thank Emergency Management and her team, along with the Benzie County Sheriff's Department for supporting the 5K run in Lake Ann last week.

Doug Durand, Benzie Senior Resource Director, provided a written report, presented an update and answered any questions.

Nate Loop, Maples Director, provided a written report, presented an update and answered any questions.

ACTION ITEMS

Consider approving MCOLES application for grant funding for sponsoring a candidate through the police academy at NMC: Greg Huber was present to answer any questions. Motion by Warsecke,

COMMISSIONERS

Page 2 of 5

June 27, 2023

seconded by Markey, to approve the grant application for the Public Safety Academy Assistance Program and supports the sponsorship of two individuals into a certified police academy facilitated by Northwestern Michigan College, and further approves an agreement memorializing the relationship between Benzie County and the individual selected to complete such police academy and authorizes the Chair to sign, subject to approval as to its form by legal counsel. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Approve selling 2018 Dodge Charger through MIBid: Greg Hubers was present to answer any questions. Motion by Markey, seconded by Warsecke, to approve that a 2018 Dodge Charger vehicle be declared surplus and authorized for sale on the MIBid Internet Auction system, with proceeds to be deposited into the equipment replacement fund, patrol car expenses. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Consider the intergovernmental cooperative purchasing agreement with Omnia Partners for Central Dispatch: Cory Ellis was present to answer any questions. Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Markey, to authorize a master intergovernmental cooperative purchasing agreement with Omnia Partners for procurement and group pricing of equipment. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Consider accepting the Annual Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Planning Grant: Rebecca Hubers was present to answer any questions. Motion by Markey, seconded by Nye, to approve the grant agreement with the Michigan State Police for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Program and authorizes the Chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Approve amendment to Mitch Shapiro's Broadband Consulting Services Agreement: Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Nye, to authorize an amendment to the consultant agreement with Mitch Shapiro, which broadens the scope of work in relation to digital equity, and outside subject matter expert partnerships, and gives Mr. Shapiro the flexibility to work within Benzie County's purchasing policy, as recommended by the Economic Development Committee. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Consider approving the services agreement related to Ironman: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Cunningham to approve the agreement to provide EMS services, Emergency Manager Oversight services, Extra Road Patrol and Central Dispatch services during the Ironman 70.3 Michigan Race, as prepared by County legal counsel and authorizes the Chair to sign. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Consider approving contract for remonumentation with Crystal Surveying LLC: Motion by Sauer, seconded by Jeannot, to approve an agreement with Crystal Surveying, LLC for services related to Benzie County remonumentation in the not to exceed amount of \$30,000 and authorizes the Chair to sign, such agreement subject to approval as to its form by legal counsel. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Consider approving proposal for HVAC replacement and installation of central air at EMS Station 2: Tom King was present to answer any questions. Motion by Cunningham, seconded by Markey, to accept the proposal from Nye Plumbing and Hearing Heating for replacement and upgrades to the heating and cooling system at EMS Station 2, in the not to exceed amount of \$10,000, with funds

COMMISSIONERS

Page 3 of 5

June 27, 2023

available in the EMS fund, building maintenance. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Abstained: Nye Motion carried.

Consider approving the proposal for flooring replacement at EMS Station 2: Tom King was present to answer any questions. Motion by Nye, seconded by Sauer, to accept the proposal from LL Flooring for floor installation at EMS Station 2, in the not to exceed amount of \$8,239, with funds available in the EMS fund, building maintenance. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Consider approving Infant in the Workplace Pilot Program Policy: Motion by Cunningham, seconded by Warsecke, to approve the Infant in the Workplace Policy and Procedures on a pilot program basis for one year at which point a re-evaluation of the program will be made. Roll call. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Sauer, and Warsecke Nays: None Abstained: Roelofs Motion carried.

Opioid funding discussion: Discussion held. It was determined that there have been many presentations but not all had a proposal presented. The County Administrator will send out a request for proposals for projects and ideas on how this money can be spent, to be submitted to her office. After that they will be brought before the Board of Commissioners for additional discussion.

10:24 a.m. Break

10:32 a.m. Reconvene

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Chair Roelofs attended the Village of Lake Ann meeting, the Lake Ann 5K Benefit Run, and Agenda Review.

Comm Jeannot provided a written report.

Comm Cunningham provided a written report.

Comm Nye provided a written report.

Comm Markey provided a written report.

Comm Warsecke attended the Inland Township meeting and the Colfax Township meeting.

Comm Sauer provided a written report.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Katie Zeits

The MI Sparks grant for the Friends of the Betsie Valley Trail has been submitted. The Federal Government has allocated 1.5 billion dollars to Michigan for Internet and is hoping to be awarded some of that money to Benzie County. Later this week they will be sending out budget spreadsheets for your review and this will come before the Board of Commissioners at the July 11, 2023, meeting. The staff picnic last Friday went very well. The website is live in the background. Have ask that staff look at their pages and perform any updates needed. Hoping to go live by the end of July. Received the MERS 2022 Actuarial and will forward it on to the Commissioners to review. Another

COMMISSIONERS

Page 4 of 5

June 27, 2023

thing to keep track of and plan regarding turnover and longevity. There are 2 people eligible to retire this year and 10 people eligible to retire next year.

STUDY SESSION -None

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS -None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -None

NEW BUSINESS - None

PRESENTATION OF CORRESPONDENCE

- Benzie Leelanau Health Department Agenda for June 28, 2023
- Letter from Lisa Pyne regarding WBJPC
- Benzie Transportation Authority Statements of Activities for December 2022
- Benzie Transportation Authority Statements of Activities for January 2023
- Benzie Transportation Authority Statements of Activities for February 2023
- Benzie Transportation Authority Statements of Activities for March 2023
- Benzie Transportation Authority Statements of Activities for April 2023
- Delta County Resolution #23-04, Second Amendment Sanctuary County
- Delta County Resolution #23-05, Changes to Statewide Septic Code
- St. Joseph County Resolution 8-2023

10:58 a.m. Public Comment

Motion by Jeannot, seconded by Markey, to adjourn at 11:58 a.m. Ayes: Cunningham, Jeannot, Markey, Nye, Roelofs, Sauer and Warsecke Nays: None Motion carried.

Bob Roelofs, Chair

Tammy Bowers, Benzie County Clerk

INDEX

1. Approve the agenda as amended.
2. Approve the regular session minutes of June 13, 2023, as amended.
3. Approve payment of the bills from June 9, 2023, through June 22, 2023, in the amount of \$336,476.57, as presented.
4. Approve the grant application for the Public Safety Academy Assistance Program and supports the sponsorship of two individuals into a certified police academy facilitated by Northwestern Michigan College, and further approves an agreement memorializing the relationship between Benzie County and the individual selected to complete such police academy and authorizes the Chair to sign, subject to approval as to its form by legal counsel.
5. Approve that a 2018 Dodge Charger vehicle be declared surplus and authorized for sale on the MIBid Internet Auction system, with proceeds to be deposited into the equipment replacement fund, patrol car expenses.
6. Authorize a master intergovernmental cooperative purchasing agreement with Omnia Partners for procurement and group pricing of equipment.

COMMISSIONERS

Page 5 of 5

June 27, 2023

7. Approve the grant agreement with the Michigan State Police for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Program and authorizes the Chair to sign.
8. Authorize an amendment to the consultant agreement with Mitch Shapiro, which broadens the scope of work in relation to digital equity, and outside subject matter expert partnerships, and gives Mr. Shapiro the flexibility to work within Benzie County's purchasing policy, as recommended by the Economic Development Committee.
9. Approve the agreement to provide EMS services, Emergency Manager Oversight services, Extra Road Patrol and Central Dispatch services during the Ironman 70.3 Michigan Race, as prepared by County legal counsel and authorizes the Chair to sign.
10. Approve an agreement with Crystal Surveying, LLC for services related to Benzie County remonumentation in the not to exceed amount of \$30,000 and authorizes the Chair to sign, such agreement subject to approval as to its form by legal counsel.
11. Accept the proposal from Nye Plumbing and Heating Heating for replacement and upgrades to the heating and cooling system at EMS Station 2, in the not to exceed amount of \$10,000, with funds available in the EMS fund, building maintenance.
12. Accept the proposal from LL Flooring for floor installation at EMS Station 2, in the not to exceed amount of \$8,239, with funds available in the EMS fund, building maintenance.
13. Approve the Infant in the Workplace Policy and Procedures on a pilot program basis for one year at which point a re-evaluation of the program will be made.

Art Jeannot
Commissioner Report
June 27, 2023

- **6/15 – Platte Township**
 - No issues other than working through existing projects with the WBJPC.
- **6/15 – Northern MI Community Action Agency**
 - Business As usual. I did become aware of a program that will be available this Fall for consumers in need of assistance paying their water bill. I will work with Commissioner Nye to share this information with the appropriate community leaders.
- **6/16 – EDC/BRA**
 - A full discussion was held regarding project assistance going forward with our broadband initiative. The BOC will be asked to approve an amendment to Mitch Shapiro's agreement to allow him to contract with resources necessary to complete this project.
 - The State of MI will soon announce the ROBIN grant awards. We fully anticipate that Benzie County will benefit from this award in the amount of \$5M. This money will be used exclusively for broadband access for underserved and unserved properties.
 - We are holding a special meeting on June 29th at 11am to discuss the future of the EDC.
 - A presentation was held by Lean and Green MI to gain our support of this initiative in Benzie County. This would be a tool for future building projects. This should be an agenda item for the June 27th meeting



27 June 23

Commissioner Cunningham, District 3

kcunningham@benzieco.net

231.822.4067

Attended/Presented

- 14 June PBLighthouse, requests place PBLH link on county website. 20 June, "Paint the Point", plein air artists painting onsite. 8 July, Open House, 18 July, Movie Night. Requests an update on qualifications for county insurance. PBLH is seeking a board member to fulfill treasurer duties.
- 20 June Frankfort City, approved all motions, water and sewer rates to increase 3% annually over the next three years. Approved to deny, Haan ARPA Funds. Successful for phase 1 of Rural Readiness Grant and will move onto phase two. Chief Rob Lozowski reported the communications tower location on "hospital hill", is not adequate. Pickleball and city dog park are asking for QR Codes to fundraise. Workforce housing, Jay White stated in Public Comment, two homes on Grove Place valued at 250K, will sell at 205K. Josh Mills, Superintendent, said "we're getting close on moving forward on Homestretch, 12/2BR units, rent \$950 with utilities per month. Mayor Holwerda, Treasurer/Clerk Spence and Josh Mills responded supportively to information about the county proposed, Baby in work place pilot.
- CLTwP, Public Comment concerning "blight" properties affecting safety and property values.
- 21 June Benzie County Chamber, questions concerning commissioner liaison; Chamber is a private organization and not required to follow OMA. Previous liaison was a member and as such opted to stay for the full meeting. Making Benzie Better(Natural Resources and Recreational Assets), TBA August. Discussed Kinship Care.
- 22 June Airport Authority, to be reported.

Community

Frankfort Business Accelerator, to draft a Memo of Understanding- MIHQ/Mark Smith. Housing update, Homestretch/see above/ project cost 2.8 mil, single income 58K, Housing helping to provide for the missing middle. Fisherman's Landing approved in 2009, 30 units higher end condos. Discussed next target group, senior housing(?). Discussed development opportunities.

7&4 TV, VIV23 Art Show interview.

VIV23 Board meetings

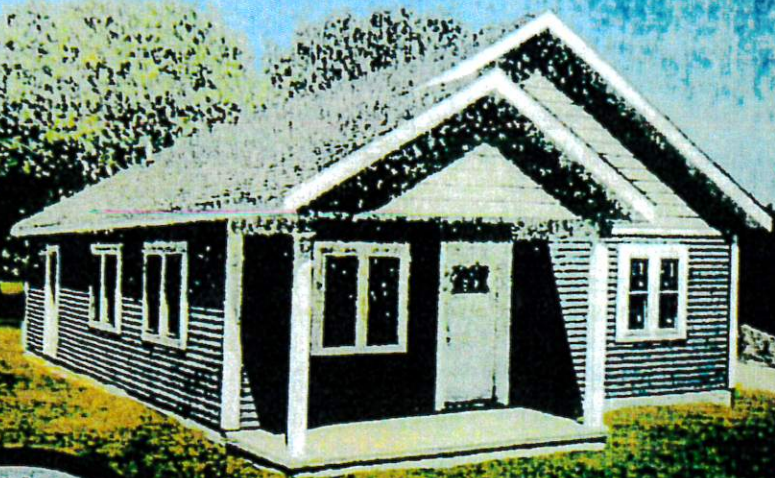
24 June VIVArt Show at TCHShow, 4-8pm, VIVartshow.com

Attended Frankfort Rotary meeting, and assorted meetings with constituents.

To attend Land Trust Fundraiser

Recommended reading: the Strategies document from the 23 May 23 Board of Commissioner packet

NEW COTTAGE STYLE HOMES FOR SALE



THE GROVE PLACE HOMES
(4) are located just off the
east end of Main Street
in the beautiful city of
Frankfort, Michigan

The homes appraised on
the open market for
\$274,000, and will sell for
\$205,500.

#20 / #30 / #40 / #50 GROVE PLACE FRANKFORT

- ① 3 Bedroom / 2 Bath - 1,176 sq. ft.
- ① 6,250 sq. ft. lots with City water & sewer
- ① Low maintenance/high quality vinyl siding & smart-board trim
- ① Durable Mission-style exterior fiberglass doors
- ① Energy efficient homes with zoned heating and air conditioning

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT COMMUNITY LAND TRUST HOMES
HOW TO QUALIFY, PLEASE VISIT

Rhonda Nye
District IV – Benzonia Township
Commissioner Report
June 27, 2023

June 13 – Village of Beulah

- Public meeting will be held for all stakeholders and public, likely at Mills Community House, regarding non-point source grant which will require rain gardens at ends of 2nd, 3rd and 4th streets and a storm drain under the trail.
- Andy Campbell, Baker Tilly Financial Advisors, gave a presentation regarding sewer project funding options.
- Peter Maris & David Rowe requested a zoning change for Eden Brook which would allow for the addition of 14 transient short-term rentals to fall under hotel/motel status. More information requested.
- Sewer rate increase approved.

June 14 – Benzonia Township

- Tim Maylone, Cherry Capital, requested approval of a Metro Act Agreement which would move process to the Road Commission for approval. This agreement would allow use of the roads for broadband fiber to homes. Sample resolution to be provided and considered at July meeting.
- New design and cost for proposed fire barn to be provided soon.
- Crystal Lake Watershed Overlay Ordinance update discussed; still being reviewed by attorney and will be considered at July meeting.
- New grant writer has submitted an application for a 2% grant.

June 16 – EDC

- Presentation given by Lean and Green Michigan. Essentially a public/private partnership for long term financing which would require a special assessment against the property tax roll (no cost to taxpayers); incentivizes energy efficient building choices. Recommendation for BOC approval.
- Recommendation to BOC to amend contract with Mitch Shapiro to allow him to secure professional expertise in areas required in ROBIN and BEADS grant applications to advance broadband for all efforts.
- ROBIN grant award announcement expected this week. ROBIN map released prior to announcement appears to show Benzie County as recipient. Next step is 45 day procedural comment period.

June 16 – 19th Circuit Court, 85th District Court and Manistee Probate Court Security Committee Meeting

- Review of trial: People v. R. Freebold – consensus was that the trial went well.
- Update on Additional Security Personnel and their role in the building.
- End of COVID-19 National Public Health Emergency and what that means for court operations; court services transitioned back to in person.

Tim Markey
Commissioner Report
June 27, 2023

June 14th – Homestead Township Board

- Don Schmid, a private citizen who is a pickleball enthusiast, gave a presentation on pickleball and its popularity. The purpose of the presentation was to encourage the township to install some pickleball courts in the park behind the township hall.
- The township is looking to install security cameras up by the baseball field restrooms and pole barn. The push for the cameras is due to re-occurring vandalism.

June 19th – LPT (No LEPC this Month)

- Approved 2 annex for the Emergency Operations Plan update process.
 - Fire Service Annex C
 - Health and Medical Annex D
- Rest of the meeting was mostly informational

June 20th – Networks Northwest / Northwest Michigan Works!

- The Audit was presented for both originations, Networks Northwest & Northwest Michigan Works. Both audits were found to present fairly, so great audits.
- Had a presentation from TTCI – Traverse Transportation Coordinating Initiative
 - As of December 29, 2022, Areas of Grand Traverse County were designated as Urban per the 2020 census. With the designation on Urban, that region can apply for much larger federal grants for road projects.
 - They are in the process of creating a MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization). For more information, please go to the Networks Northwest TTCI [MPO FAQ Link](#)

June 21st – Benzie Senior Recourses

- Doug usually provides an excellent update and I'll let him deliver his presentation.

June 26th – MAC Judiciary and Public Safety Committee

- Will provide updates as I see necessary

Tammy Bowers

From: Gary Sauer
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2023 4:04 PM
To: Tammy Bowers
Subject: Commissioner Report District 7

6-13 Gilmore Twp. Planning commission public hearing 6-29 at 6 pm. Changes to Article 9 proposed. Approached about an indoor grow operation.

6-13 Weldon Twp. Crystal Commons project ran into difficulties with FAA and MDOT concerns about flight path no action was taken.

6-15 Village of Elberta. Normal business. Still concerns with sufficient employees did hire a new person for the DPW. Still need a deputy clerk.

6-16 Court Security. Discussed the Freebold trial security wise was well handled. Still working on enough deputy's and bailiffs.

6-19 School Safety Committee. Discussed building projects at both schools, have had some boots removed causing some concerns but were handled. Homestead Hills still on schedule.

Will have a Road Commission and Maples meeting before the next board meeting I will discuss any relevant information. Sent from my iPad