

THE BENZIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 6, 2009

The Benzie County Board of Commissioners met in an organizational meeting on Tuesday, January 6, 2009, in the Commissioners Room, Government Center, Beulah, Michigan, 49617. The meeting was called to order by County Clerk Dawn Olney.

Present were: Commissioners Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse
Absent: None

The pledge of allegiance was given with invocation by Commissioner Kelley.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:

Comm Pitcher nominated Comm Roper.

Comm Hollenbeck nominated Comm Tanner.

A silent vote was taken: Roper – 3 votes

Tanner – 4 votes

Comm Tanner assumes the chair and thanks everyone that supported him.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Pitcher, seconded by Roper, to approve the agenda as amended, adding Linda Wilson & John Daugherty to other business. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse

9:07 a.m. PUBLIC INPUT

Amy Bissell, Register of Deeds, informs the board that she has appointed Paula Eberhart as her Chief Deputy; transition has gone well; working on hiring a part time person.

Tad Peacock, Conservation District & Human Services Collaborative Body, asks that Comm Roper continue as liaison to HSCB; and someone with a passion to support the Conservation District be appointed as the liaison.

Vance Bates, Almira Twp Supervisor, introduces himself and welcomes this new board.

Eric VanDussen asks the board to purchase a recorder; submitted a FOIA regarding the county administrator's evaluation; new commissioners should learn about the CMH and Bob Blank lawsuits; 1/4ly night meetings would be good.

9:13 a.m. Public Input Closed

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN:

Comm Kelley nominated Comm Roper.

Comm Hollenbeck nominated Comm Walterhouse.

Roll call for Roper. Motion denied. Ayes: Kelley, Pitcher and Roper Nays: Damm, Hollenbeck, Tanner and Walterhouse

Roll call for Walterhouse. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Tanner and Walterhouse
Nays: Kelley, Pitcher and Roper

ADOPTION OF MEETING DATES AND TIMES:

Regular Meetings:

Comm Walterhouse proposes to have January, April, July and October meetings in the evening.

Motion by Roper, seconded by Pitcher, to approve the meeting dates as amended, with the day meetings beginning at 9:00 a.m. and the evening meetings of January, April, July and October

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beginning at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

Committee of the Whole:

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Hollenbeck, to approve the meeting dates as amended, with the day meetings beginning at 9:00 a.m. and the evening meetings of January, April, July and October beginning at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

ADOPTION OF BOARD RULES:

Chairman Tanner asks that these rules be forwarded to the regular meeting to allow all commissioners the opportunity to review and comment; also suggests that all committee appointments continue on a temporary basis until January 20, 2009 regular meeting with Kristin Hollenbeck to handle the committees attended by Jeff Sandman & Marcia Stobie.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Pitcher, to postpone the adoption of the board rules until January 20, 2009 with commissioners to make comments to the chair. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

Chairman Tanner asks if there are any committees that meet prior to January 20, 2009: CMH and Airport Authority. Comm Hollenbeck is appointed to the Airport Authority and Comm Tanner to CMH.

Motion by Pitcher, seconded by Roper, to confirm committee appointments with Don Tanner to handle Don Smeltzer's appointments and Kristin Hollenbeck to handle Marcia Stobie's appointments and continue all current appointments until January 20, 2009. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

ADOPTION OF DEPOSITORIES:

Motion by Roper, seconded by Walterhouse, to adopt resolution 2009-001 Depositories as presented. Roll call. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

ADOPTION OF ACH:

Motion by Roper, seconded by Kelley, to adopt resolution 2009-002 ACH (Automatic Clearing House) as amended. Roll call. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

ADOPTION OF APPENDIX C:

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Hollenbeck, to adopt Appendix C as presented. Roll call. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD:

Linda Wilson, County Treasurer, informs the board that one of her staff will be leaving and requests permission to hire someone and allow for training, with funds from her budget.

Motion by Pitcher, seconded by Roper, to allow the County Treasurer to add a temporary employee with funds from her budget. Roll call. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

John Daugherty, Prosecuting Attorney, requests extension of David Bedells as Assistant Prosecuting Attorney through February 2009 at 12 hours per week; he will then be leaving to serve our country; also asks to consider an Assistant for his office at 20 hours per week.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Pitcher, to appoint David Bedells as Assistant Prosecuting Attorney from January to the end of February 2009, with funds to come from contingency. Roll call. Motion carried. Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

Motion by Roper, seconded by Hollenbeck, to have a demonstration on January 13, 2009 of a digital recorder and move forward with the equipment. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

MAC Conference:

Motion by Roper, seconded by Kelley, to open the option to attend the MAC conference to any commissioner to attend in February 2009 in Lansing. Roll call. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

Motion by Roper, seconded by Walterhouse, to move the Committee of the Whole meeting from February 10 to February 11 at 9:00 a.m. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

9:57 a.m. Break

10:03 a.m. Reconvene

Comm Walterhouse presents a motion to lay off Craig Seger.

Motion by Walterhouse, seconded by Hollenbeck, to lay off full-time position Zoning Administrator Craig Seger and appoint Dave Neiger as temporary part-time zoning Administrator effective 5:00 p.m. January 6, 2009. Roll call. Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: Kelley, Pitcher and Roper

10:12 a.m. Public Input

Eric VanDussen says it is cool that you will be recording the meetings again but you should consider more than one proposal; who will operate it; someone should make a motion to release the county administrator's evaluation to him; look at the board rules regarding who can hire an attorney.

Kathy Ralston says the Summit is scheduled for February 21, 2009 and two speakers are confirmed with a focus on agriculture and communication.

10:23 a.m. Public Input Closed

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Motion by Roper, seconded by Pitcher, to adjourn until January 20, 2009, or the call of the chair.

Motion carried. Ayes: Damm, Hollenbeck, Kelley, Pitcher, Roper, Tanner and Walterhouse Nays: None

Donald R. Tanner -- Chairman

Dawn Olney – Benzie County Clerk

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1. Donald Tanner elected chair for 2009.
2. Approved the agenda as amended.
3. Frank Walterhouse elected Vice Chair for 2009.
4. Meeting dates & times adopted with four months being evening meetings for both committee of the whole and regular meetings.
5. Postponed the adoption of the board rules until January 20, 2009.
6. Confirmed committee appointments with Don Tanner to handle Don Smeltzer's appointments and Kristin Hollenbeck to handle Marcia Stobie's appointments and continue all current appointments until January 20, 2009.
7. Adopted resolution 2009-001 Depositories as presented.
8. Adopted resolution 2009-002 ACH (Automatic Clearing House) as amended.
9. Adopted Appendix C as presented.
10. Allowed the County Treasurer to add a temporary employee with funds from her budget.
11. Appointed David Bedells as Assistant Prosecuting Attorney from January to the end of February 2009, with funds to come from contingency.
12. Authorized to have a demonstration on January 13, 2009 of a digital recorder and move forward with the equipment.
13. Opened the option to attend the MAC conference to any commissioner to attend in February 2009 in Lansing.
14. Moved the Committee of the Whole meeting from February 10 to February 11 at 9:00 a.m.
15. Authorized the lay off of full-time position Zoning Administrator Craig Seger and appoint Dave Neiger as temporary part-time zoning Administrator effective 5:00 p.m. January 6, 2009.