

**Minutes from the
Almira Township Board Regular Meeting
December 8, 2014
7:00 p.m.**

Supervisor Mark Roper called the meeting of the Almira Township Board to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Almira Township Fire & EMS Facility.

Supervisor led the Pledge to the Flag.

Supervisor called for roll call. Members present were: Mark Roper, Mandy Gray Rineer, Tammy Clous, Matt Therrien, and Ann Beaujean.

Additions/Deletions to Meeting Agenda by Board and Citizens: Moment of Silence for Dale Flaherty.

Approval of Meeting Agenda: *Motion by Therrien, and supported by Rineer, to approve the meeting agenda as amended. All ayes, motion passed.*

Approval of Consent Agenda: *Motion by Clous and supported by Therrien, to approve the consent agenda as amended:*

- I. Approve Regular meeting minutes dated November 10, 2014.

- II. BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF November 2014: None

- III. APPROVE PAYMENT OF CHECKS #'s 35667 – 35732. SEE CHECK REGISTERS INCLUDED IN PACKET. BILLS AVAILABLE FOR EXAMINATION UPON REQUEST.

- IV. RECEIVE AND FILE THE FOLLOWING REPORTS:

BENZIE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: Included in Packet

- V. MISCELLANEOUS: None

- VI. RECEIVE AND FILE THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE:
CHARTER ANNUAL REPORT Included in Packet
BCRC 2015 PROJECT LIST Included in Packet

Brief Public Input: Elmer Bisler stated that losing Dale Flaherty was a major loss for the community and that a Memorial Fund has been set up to go to upgrades to Burnett Park.

County Commissioners: Commissioner Bates stated that not a lot is going on at the county level right now. He presented the board with the county's end of the year reports. There is a plan to have a "Showcase Benzie" promotion February 14. The county received money back from their workman's comp. carrier for having such a good year. The Prosecutor's office is coming along nicely and should be completed in the New Year as well as the Maples project. The Maples has is currently running \$300,000.00 in the black. The Conservation District will be discussing GMO's at the Mills House on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at 6:30 pm. There will be a gathering for Judge Batzer in the Commissioners Room Thursday, December 18, 2014 from 2-5 pm. Kirt Giddis was reappointed to the County Veterans Committee. He is hearing different feelings on the Road Commission as to where a surplus should go because there is now a millage to help support the Road Commission.

Department Heads:

- A. **Planning Commission:** Many things were discussed at their December meeting. The County has a Committee that will be updating the County Master Plan.
- B. **Fire and EMS:** There were 17 calls in November. 6 were fire, 11 were medical with 7 of those being transports. There will be an EMT class starting here in January with a refresher class being held January 27, 28 and 29. There is currently in the planning stages a Search and Rescue training to be

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held in the National Park in March. The Association will be holding a Pancake Breakfast with Santa from 8-1 on Saturday, December 13, 2014.

Guests: None

Old Business:

- A. Townhall Use:** Matt is still gathering information on what would work best for these types of situations. He has spoken with Grow Benzie and they charge \$15.00 per hour but have a much larger facility.

New Business:

- A. Committee Appointments:** Motion by Therrien and supported by Beaujean to appoint Ryan Ratajczak and Duane Newman to 3 year terms on the Planning Commission. Upon roll call vote Ayes: Therrien, Roper, Clous, Beaujean and Rineer; Nays: none. Motion by Clous and supported by Therrien to appoint Rineer to the Veterans Committee. All ayes motion passed. Motion by Clous and supported by Rineer to appoint Roper to the Recreational Resource Committee. All ayes motion passed. Motion by Rineer and supported by Clous to appoint Therrien to the Planning Commission. All ayes motion passed. Motion by Roper and supported by Clous to appoint Therrien to the Zoning Board of Appeals. All ayes motion passed. Motion by Therrien and supported by Rineer to form an Ad hoc Transportation Committee and appoint Beaujean and Roper to serve a term ending 11-20-2015. All ayes motion passed.
- B. Employee Reviews:** The Supervisor and the Clerk will be conducting meetings with the four full time employees to review the last year.
- C. Snowmobile Patrol:** Motion by Therrien and supported by Beaujean to put \$150.00 toward the Benzie County Snowmobile Patrol. All ayes motion passed.
- D. Community Meals:** Lake Ann Brewing has offered to pay for the rental fee for the November Community meal.

Extended Public Input: None

Board Comments: Therrien stated that he was glad that he got to work with Mr. Flaherty and could not have asked for someone better to help with in local government. Flaherty worked hard to get a plan in place for Burnett Park. He is a big loss to our community. He also stated that there a few band booked for Music in the Park for 2015, they are Billy Strings, The Benzie Playboys and K Jones. The sound person from last year has agreed to do sound again this year.

Rineer says that tax season is once again upon us and has worked through a couple of snags with the County. Beaujean stated that she has been working on transportation items and gathering information from the county on road conditions and putting a price tag per mile. Roper has heard concerns with the loss of Dale Flaherty being felt by a lot of people and concerns with who will be able to step up to take on what Dale had started.

Adjourn: There being no other business the Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Tammy Clous
Almira Township Clerk