

**BENZIE-LEELANAU DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
Wednesday, September 27, 2023 2:00 p.m.  
Benzie Resource Center – Ingemar Johansson Conference Room  
6051 Frankfort Hwy.  
Benzonia, MI 49616**

Chairperson Sauer called the meeting to order at 2:04 pm.

**Members Present:**

Gary Sauer - Benzie County Board of Commissioners  
Ty Wessell – Leelanau County Board of Commissioners – arrived at 2:14p.m.  
Dr. Barbara Conley – Leelanau County Member at Large  
Rhonda Nye – Benzie County Board of Commissioners  
Dr. Mark Kuiper – Benzie County Member at Large  
Gwenne Allgaier – Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

**Members Absent:** None

**Members Excused:** None

**Staff Present:**

Dodie Putney – Director of Administrative Services  
Eric Johnston – Director of Environmental Health  
Michelle Klein - Director of Personal Health  
Dan Thorell – Health Officer  
Dr. Joshua Meyerson – Medical Director

**Staff Excused:** None

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion By:** Conley to approve the August 23, 2023 BOH meeting minutes.  
**Seconded By:** Allgaier  
**Voice Vote:** 5 yeas 0 nay 1 excused **Motion carried**

**Approval of the Agenda:**

**Motion By:** Conley to approve the agenda as presented.  
**Seconded By:** Nye  
**Voice Vote:** 5 yeas 0 nay 1 excused **Motion carried**

**Public Comment** – None

**Health Officer Update** – Dan Thorell

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. The items that had been revised for the Leelanau space sharing agreement were discussed. Items that had been added to the agreement were the insurance warranties during the remodeling process, when payments were due, and the potential move in date. The onetime funding from the State of Michigan to assist local health departments with their infrastructure needs will be used to help fund this project. Other projects that this funding will be used for is some of the technology related expenses for the Community Connections program and to potentially remodel parts of the Benzie Resource Center.

**Accounts Payable**

**Motion By:** Conley to approve accounts payable and pay the bills in the amount of \$166,824.38.

**Seconded By:** Wessell

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer- yea, Nye- yea, Conley- yea, Wessell- yea, Kuiper – yea, Allgaier- yea  
6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused **Motion carried**

**August 2023 Financial Statements**

**Motion By:** Conley to accept the financial statements as presented.

**Seconded By:** Allgaier

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-yea, Conley- yea, Wessell- yea, Kuiper – yea, Allgaier – yea, Nye - yea  
6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused **Motion carried**

**FY 2023 Amended Budget**

**Motion By:** Sauer

**Seconded By:** Allgaier

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-yea, Conley- yea, Wessell- yea, Kuiper – yea, Allgaier – yea, Nye - yea  
6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused **Motion carried**

**Discussion:** The final budget increased \$1,242,173.00 from the original budget. Type II funding, billing revenue and environmental health permit fees generated higher revenue than originally expected. Other items that expanded the budget were the addition of three more schools for the school wellness program, a new phone system, and the new sanitary code.

**FY 2024 Budget**

**Motion By:** Nye

**Seconded By:** Conley

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-yea, Conley- yea, Wessell- yea, Kuiper – yea, Allgaier – yea, Nye - yea  
6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused **Motion carried**

**Discussion:** The 2024 fiscal year budget is lower than the 2023 fiscal year budget due to the decrease of local grants that are expected to be received at the moment. This will be balanced out with less supplies being purchased. As always, maximizing the local appropriations is a high priority when working with the programs that will match funding for various services.

**Staff Reports:**

**Medical Director – Dr. Joshua Meyerson**

The fall is the beginning of respiratory illness season. The individuals that are of most concern during this time are the elderly, babies and those with underlying health issues. RSV, flu and covid are the main viruses that are circulating around. There are vaccines for all three of these and it is recommended that anyone over 65 or with an underlying health issue to receive a vaccine.

**Personal Health – Michelle Klein**

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. BLHD has applied for the Benzie County Opioid funding to help support a part of the Community Connections program that will assist individuals to receive treatment for addiction.

**Environmental Health – Eric Johnston**

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. The beach monitoring for the season has ended, it was a pretty successful year with no closures. The Michigan septic replacement loan replacement program is set to go into effect early 2024. There is training in progress for a new computer program for non-community water supply (Type II) tracking, it is called SDWIS. The State of Michigan is providing the training. The food manager classes will be offered on December 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> this year. One will be held in each County.

**Administrative – Dodie Putney**

BLDHD will be switching their benefits provider to Advantage Benefits Group. It has been decided that they will be a better fit for the Agency to meet benefit needs. It has been investigated with Benzie County about sharing a data management person. It was determined that it would not be a good fit for either entity to share this position. The Benzie Resource Center needs a new security system. Renee Youker is researching what type of system and which company should be used for this upgrade.

**Public Comment – None**

**Board Comments – None**

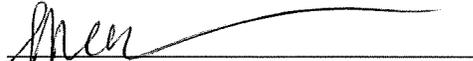
**Adjourn:**

**Motion By:** Sauer to adjourn the BOH meeting at 4:03 p.m.

**Voice Vote:** 6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused **Motion carried**



Gary Sauer, Chair



Shelley Jablon, Recording Secretary