

**LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Thursday, December 3, 2020**
Approved 12/15/2020

Proceedings of the meeting are being recorded (audio and video) and are not the official record of the meeting; the formally approved/accepted written copy of the minutes will be the official record of the meeting.

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman William J. Bunek. Today's meeting was duly posted and held at the Government Center, 8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suttons Bay, Michigan.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited, followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call:	District	#1	Tony Ansorge	PRESENT
		#2	Debra L. Rushton	PRESENT
		#3	William J. Bunek	PRESENT
		#4	Ty Wessell	PRESENT
		#5	Patricia Soutas-Little	PRESENT (via Zoom)
		#6	Caroline Rentenbach	PRESENT (via Zoom)
		#7	Melinda C. Lautner	PRESENT (via Zoom)

Administrator Chet Janik and Executive Assistant Laurel Evans were present.

Guest Present.

Purpose of Meeting – Committee of the Whole –

Commissioner Wessell would like the Commissioners to review Board Policy #3, page 3 of 5 – reference maximize opportunities. Wessell would rather hold appointments than fill if people end up with two, three, or more appointments.

Commissioner Ansorge agreed saying, if there are more than enough people, but he doesn't want to put the Boards/Commissions in a bind with not having enough appointees.

Chairman Bunek offered comments that he agrees, but waiting may result in not filling the openings.

Evans noted that on the Construction Board of Appeals one member moved out of the area and didn't notify the County – fortunately they were able to still have a quorum. There are two openings now and Evans had asked Secretary and part-time Building Inspector Amber Weber to send out a notification that there is a vacancy through their Departmental Online system to see if there is a Contractor interested in Appeals Board. Chairman Bunek also said that he could talk to some Contractors.

Chairman Bunek asked Evans to review the process that is gone through to seek out applicants as outlined in the Policy. Evans referenced an email from a potential applicant, and she did advertise in the Enterprise.

Chairman Bunek questioned if this was advertised in the TC Ticker, Glen Arbor Sun, and the Grand Traverse Band newsletter. Evans said it was not, but she certainly could do that next year.
Boards and Commissions – Review of Vacancies and Potential Recommendations as follows:

Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan (AAA), One (1) Opening, Two-Year Term:

MOTION BY ANSORGE TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT ELIZABETH WAGNER BE REAPPOINTED TO A SECOND TERM ON THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF NORTHWEST MICHIGAN (AAA), TO A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2022. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Ansonge, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell)
NO – 0
RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Bay Area Transportation Authority (BATA), One (1) Opening, Three-Year Term:

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT JOHN SOMMAVILLA BE REAPPOINTED TO THE BAY AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, TO A THREE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – brief comments that one of the applicants has moved out of the County.

**AYES – 7 (Wessell, Ansonge, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little)
NO – 0
RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Benzie/Leelanau District Board of Health, One (1) Opening, Two-Year Term:

MOTION BY RENTENBACH TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT DR. BARBARA CONLEY BE REAPPOINTED TO THE BENZIE/LEELANAU DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH, TO A TWO-YEAR-TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2022. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – brief.

**AYES – 7 (Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Ansonge, Bunek, Lautner)
NO – 0
RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Benzie/Leelanau District Environmental Health Board of Appeals (BOA), One (1) Opening, Two-Year Term:

Commissioners discussed appointments and dual appointments of applicants to one position.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT DONALD BARROWS BE APPOINTED TO THE BENZIE/LEELANAU DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH BOARD OF APPEALS (BOA), TO A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2022. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – brief regarding following the rules and multiple appointments of applicants to multiple boards/commissions.

Chairman called for a voice vote and then a roll call.

**ROLL CALL: Lautner – YES; Rentenbach – YES; Rushton – YES; Soutas- Little – YES;
Wessell – YES; Ansonge – YES; Bunek – YES.
AYES – 7 NO – 0
RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (BRA), Three (3) Openings, Three-Year Terms:

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT JOHN ARENS, THRASOS EFTAXIADIS, AND RICHARD FOSTER, ALL BE REAPPOINTED TO THE BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (BRA) TO A THREE-YEAR TERMS EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. SECONDED BY ANSORGE.

Discussion – Brief discussion regarding appointees, terms, and alignment.

**AYES – 7 (Wessell, Ansorge, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Construction Board of Appeals, One (1) Opening, Building Category, Five-Year Term:

Motion by Lautner to reappoint Michael Smith. This is the wrong appointment at this time.

Commissioner discussion ensued regarding openings and reserving openings. Janik and Evans responded; Commissioner Lautner offered comments.

Evans said to reserve one for building and one can be any category.

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT ROBERT MILLER BE APPOINTED TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025. SECONDED BY ANSORGE & RENTENBACH.

Discussion on categories and one of the openings is an open slot.

MOTION BY WESSELL *AMENDED* TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT:

•ROBERT MILLER BE APPOINTED TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS TO A TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025, IN THE ARCHITECT CATEGORY.

•RICHARD BOWMAN BE APPOINTED TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS TO A TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025*, IN THE BUILDING CATEGORY.

AMENDED SECONDED BY ANSORGE & RENTENBACH.

**AYES – 7 (Wessell, Ansorge, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

(*Clerk's note: it was determined after the meeting that the Building Category is a partial term ending December 31, 2021.)

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), One (1) Opening, Three-Year Term:

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO REAPPOINT MICHAEL E. SMITH TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (DHHS) WITH TO A THREE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Ansorge, Bunek)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Land Bank Fast Track Authority (LBA), One (1) Opening, Three-Year Term:

MOTION BY SOUTAS-LITTLE TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO REAPPOINT RICHARD ISPHORDING TO THE LAND BANK FAST TRACK AUTHORITY BOARD TO A THREE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – none.

**Ayes – 7 (Soutas-Little, Wessell, Ansonge, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton)
NO – 0
RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Northern Michigan Regional Entity (NMRE) Substance Use Disorder Services Policy Oversight Board, One (1) Opening, Three-Year Term:

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPOINT GREG McMORROW TO THE NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGIONAL ENTITY (NMRE) SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SERVICES POLICY OVERSIGHT BOARD TO A THREE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion on appointee considerations. This appointment warrants an exception to policy as both candidates are on other Boards. The appointment of McMorrow works better for the County's Substance Abuse Committee.

**Ayes – 7 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Ansonge, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach)
NO – 0
RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Parks and Recreation Commission (P & R), One (1) Opening, Three-Year Term:

Evans updated Commissioners that current member Kyle Trevas, whose term is expiring is withdrawing from consideration, due to other commitments.

MOTION BY RUSHTON TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPOINT LANA SCHAUB TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO A THREE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. SECONDED BY LAUTNER.

Discussion ensued on balance of the representation on the Planning Commission being from all parts of the County.

**Ayes – 7 (Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Ansonge, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach)
NO – 0
RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Planning Commission, Four (4) Openings, Business, Economic Development, Education, and Transportation Categories, Three-Year Terms:

Commissioner Wessell said he would like to see the policy reviewed this for length of service and more than one Committee appointment. He is not sure that there are enough applicants to fill all of the vacancies and this may be worth of leaving a vacancy and trying to recruit someone. This is a critical Commission that it needs to be approached carefully. Commissioner Lautner commented that she agrees.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO REAPPOINT ERIC WINKELMAN, DAVID McCULLOCH AND ROBERT MILLER TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND LEAVE THE EDUCATION SLOT OPEN WITH A NEW PERSON TO SERVE.

Commissioner Wessell asked if this could be handled individually.
Recommendation received no support.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO REAPPOINT ERIC WINKLEMAN TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION, TRANSPORTATION CATEGORY, FOR A THREE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – Commissioner Wessell commented that the transportation category is a critical appointment and he would like to see if the County might find someone clearly connected to transportation, such as BATA. Transportation would also include individuals associated with the airport.

He would like to see the County consult with some transportation individuals.

Commissioners Lautner and Rushton withdrew the recommendation and support.

MOTION BY RENTENBACH TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO REAPPOINT ROBERT MILLER TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CATEGORY, TO A THREE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – brief.

AYES – 7 (Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Ansorge, Bunek, Lautner)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

MOTION BY LAUTNER TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO REAPPOINT DAVID McCULLOCH TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION, BUSINESS CATEGORY, TO A THREE YEAR-TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion ensued that McCulloch has served three terms and is term limited, and serves on other Boards/Commissions. He does a good job and he attends all of the meetings. This is a difficult Commission to fill. Discussion ensued with comments on holding the position open which would be three openings, which could be excessive; attendance also discussed and making sure that there is a quorum; comments that this is just the Committee making recommendations and there are two weeks to find individuals to fill these positions and you can always go back and reappoint someone if no new faces can be found; discussion on the applicant's involvement.

Commissioner Rushton attempted to make a Motion and Chairman Bunek said that there is already a motion on the floor for an appointment.

ROLL CALL: Lautner – YES; Rentenbach – NO; Rushton – YES; Soutas-Little – NO; Wessell – YES; Ansorge – YES; Bunek – YES.

AYES – 5 NO – 2

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT THE APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION IN THE CATEGORIES OF EDUCATION AND TRANSPORTATION BE HELD OPEN FOR THE TIME BEING. SECONDED BY SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – Commissioner Rushton questioned the length of holding it open – two weeks or the next term? Commissioner Wessell said that Commissioners should work with Planning Director Trudy Galla and locate someone within the next two weeks. Chairman Bunek would think a decision could be made by the Regular Session so that the opening is not open for too long.

AYES – 7 (Wessell, Ansorge, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little)

NO – 0

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Soil Erosion, Sedimentation, and Stormwater Runoff Control Ordinance Board of Appeals (SESSRC), One (1) Opening, Three-Year Term:

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT TRICIA DENTON BE REAPPOINTED TO THE SOIL EROSION, SEDIMENTATION, AND STORMWATER RUNOFF CONTROL ORDINANCE BOARD OF APPEALS (SESSRC) TO A THREE-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2023. SECONDED BY RUSHTON.

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Wessell, Ansorge, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Solid Waste Council, Six (6) Openings, Two-Year Terms, various categories:

MOTION BY RENTENBACH TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO REAPPOINT DAVID McCULLOCH TO THE SOLID WASTE COUNCIL IN THE EDUCATION CATEGORY TO A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2022.

Discussion – Commissioner Ansorge commented on the additional appointments and further comments continued by other Commissioners that he is on other Boards, but IS a strong member of this Council.

**AYES – 7 (Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Ansorge, Bunek, Lautner)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

MOTION BY RENTENBACH TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO REAPPOINT CARRIE SHARP TO THE SOLID WASTE COUNCIL IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL CATEGORY TO A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2022. SECONDED BY WESSELL & SOUTAS-LITTLE.

Discussion – none.

**AYES – 7 (Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Ansorge, Bunek, Lautner)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

MOTION BY RENTENBACH TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO REAPPOINT THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS, EACH TO A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2022, ON THE SOLID WASTE COUNCIL:

- **MARSHA HARRIS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CATEGORY**
- **TIM BOLIN, PUBLIC CATEGORY**
- **ANDREW GALE, SOLID WASTE INDUSTRY CATEGORY**
- **LOIS BAHLE, REGIONAL SOLID WASTE PLANNING CATEGORY.**

SECONDED BY WESSELL.

Discussion – brief.

**AYES – 7 (Rentenbach, Rushton, Soutas-Little, Wessell, Ansorge, Bunek, Lautner)
NO – 0 RECOMMENDATION PASSES.**

Veterans Affairs Administrative Committee (VAAC), One (1) Opening, Two-Year Term:

Commissioner Wessell offered comment on applicants and asked if it was possible for co-appointees and Janik responded that this has been before the County's Legal team and it must be one appointee per position, no co-appointees for one opening. Wessell asked that the applicants be approached that had wanted to be jointly appointed to see if there is interest people be approached and not

MOTION BY WESSELL TO RECOMMEND TO THE LEELANAU COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THAT THIS POSITION BE HELD OPEN AND THAT THE APPLICANTS THAT APPLIED BE CONTACTED FOR INTEREST. SECONDED BY RENTENBACH.

Discussion ensued on the candidates and how nice it is to have multiple candidates interested. Commissioner Rushton commended McCulloch on his stepping up in a time of need. Brief discussion and comments ensued.

AYES – 6 (Wessell, Ansortge, Bunek, Lautner, Rentenbach, Soutas-Little.

NO – 1 (Rushton)

RECOMMENDATION PASSES.

Public Comment:

Chairman Bunek stated the call-in number for public.

No calls received and no public present.

Commissioner Comment:

- Commissioner Ansortge asked that Evans reach out to Mr. Griswold and she confirmed that she would.
- Commissioner Rentenbach asked for refreshment as the appointments that have been left open: two on Planning, one on Veterans, and one on Construction Board of Appeals.
- Commissioner Wessell thanked Evans for the notebook and all of the work that she did on the notebook and this meeting. Janik commended the efforts of Evans and noted that she came in during her vacation to complete it.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned by Committee Chairman Bunek at 10:06 a.m.

William J. Bunek, Chairman
Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Michelle L. Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk
Clerk-Leelanau County Board of Commissioners