

CALHOUN COUNTY
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 7, 2008

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:02 p.m., Thursday, August 7, 2008 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, 315 West Green Street, Marshall, Michigan.

Roll Call: Present: Comrs. Arnquist, Moore, Rae, Segal and Solis. Excused: Comrs. Bolger and Todd.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

A Moment of Silent Prayer was observed; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Comr. Arnquist.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM:

“Motion by Comr. Arnquist, supported by Comr. Solis, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the August 7, 2008 agenda and addendum as presented.”

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

“Motion by Comr. Moore, supported by Comr. Solis, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the July 3, 2008 minutes as presented.”

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Substance Abuse Council of Greater Battle Creek Executive Director Suzanne Horsfall thanked the Board for changing the substance abuse coordinating agency designation. Ms. Horsfall advised that the Council has received its funding and things are going well.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:

August is Medicine Abuse Awareness Month Proclamation

Chairwoman Segal read and presented the following proclamation to Ms. Horsfall.

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Res. 122-2008

“Motion by Comr. Rae, supported by Comr. Moore, resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, over-the-counter and prescription medicines are extremely safe, effective, and potentially lifesaving when used properly, but the abuse and recreational use of these medicines can be extremely dangerous and produce serious side effects; and

WHEREAS, 6,400,000 individuals who are age 12 or older reported using prescription medicines non-medically, and abuse of prescription medications such as pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants and sedatives is second only to marijuana, the number one illegal drug of abuse in the United States; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 1 in 10 youth ages 12 to 17 (2,400,000) have intentionally abused cough medicine to get high and 1 in 5 young adults (4,500,000) have used prescription medicines non-medically; and

WHEREAS, research has found that more than 1/3 of teens mistakenly believe that taking prescription drugs is safer than using street drugs; and

WHEREAS, there is a lack of understanding of the potential harms of these powerful medicines making it more critical than ever to raise public awareness about the dangers of their misuse; and

WHEREAS, when prescription drugs are misused, they are most often obtained through the family medicine cabinet, through friends, relatives, or even from rogue Internet pharmacies; and

WHEREAS, **Medicine Abuse Awareness Month** promotes the message that over-the-counter and prescription medicines are to be taken only as labeled or prescribed, and when used recreationally or in large doses can have serious and life-threatening consequences; and

WHEREAS, during Medicine Abuse Awareness Month the *Substance Abuse Council* will encourage parents to educate themselves about medication abuse and to talk with their children about this and all types of substance abuse.”

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

Special Tribute to the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Club

Comr. Solis read the following tribute.

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Res. 123-2008

“Motion by Comr. Rae, supported by Comr. Arnquist, resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the following tribute:

WHEREAS, the late Emma Odessa Young, a realtor from New York City and a member of the New York Club of Business and Professional Women, conceived the idea of a national organization of business and professional women in 1934; and

WHEREAS, in July of 1935 Mrs. Ollie Chinn Porter, President of the New York Club, extended an invitation to local clubs organized as Business and Professional Women’s Clubs to join and form a national organization which was the founding of the NANBPWC, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the founders were Emma Odessa Young, Ollie Chinn Porter and Effie Diton of New York City; Bertha Perry Rhodes, Josephine B. Keene and Adelaide Flemming of Philadelphia; and Pearl Flippen of Atlantic City, known as owners, managers, college graduates, and other professionally licensed women who had managed to realize some measure of personal success at a time when there was not a national movement to improve the lot of black Americans; where there was no black capitalism program, nor any black studies curricula. Still, these women felt prepared to offer leadership; and

WHEREAS, in July of 1936 the first convention was held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and Mrs. Ollie Chinn Porter was elected National President; and

WHEREAS, in October of 1947 the Sojourner Truth Award was accepted as a National Award at the 12th Annual Convention, under the presidency of Mrs. Florence Madison Hill; and

WHEREAS, the Sojourner Truth Institute of Battle Creek and a committee have worked with the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women (NANBPWC) and other supporters since 1997 to develop the Sojourner Truth monument in Battle Creek, Michigan. The project was originally suggested by the NANBPWC in 1993; and

WHEREAS, over the years NANBPWC, Inc. has grown in numbers and scope, conducting many needed community service activities that go far beyond the original purpose. Women have come a long way and so has NANBPWC, Inc.

THEREFORE, I, Kate S. Segal, Chairwoman of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners would like to take this moment to honor and recognize the **NANBPWC** for its courage and exemplary support of helping business and professional women in Calhoun County and all over the world with impacting their communities and providing an unparalleled organization of leadership.”

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Chairwoman Segal advised that the tribute was presented at the annual convention last Monday in Battle Creek.

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

Special Tribute to Frank Manke

Comr. Moore read the following tribute, and advised that the tribute was presented at Mr. Manke's surprise party.

Res. 124-2008

"Motion by Comr. Moore, supported by Comr. Rae, resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the following tribute:

WHEREAS, it is the distinct privilege of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the citizens of Calhoun County, to recognize and honor Frank Manke on his record setting 13th term as Post Commander of the Carrick Jarosz VFW Post 9411 in Homer, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Frank proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army in Vietnam during which time Frank joined Post 9411 in Homer, and upon returning home he became a life member there and has been a loyal and faithful member for the past 35 years; and

WHEREAS, Frank was first elected Post Commander in 1989-90 and later became the first Homer VFW member to serve as District Commander (2002-2003), and you will not find a more dedicated member than Frank; and

WHEREAS, not only has he been actively involved with the Veterans of Foreign Wars, but he has also unselfishly given of his time, being elected as a Constable serving from 1970-1974, appointed as a Township Trustee serving from June 14, 1980 to September 8, 2003 at which time he was appointed Supervisor and continues to serve as Clarendon Township Supervisor.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, that this document is meant to signify our appreciation to **FRANK MANKE** for his service to his community, his country and our veterans for over 40 years. We thank him for the tremendous example he has set for his family and others in the community and extend our sincere best wishes to him in his latest retirement and in all his future endeavors."

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA:

Res. 125-2008

“Motion by Comr. Solis, supported by Comr. Arnquist, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the following August 7, 2008 Consent Agenda as presented:

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports:

- (1) Resolution received from Allegan County supporting House Bill No. 5398 {Amendment of 1949 P.A. 300}. (Referred to the Legislative Liaisons, with a copy remitted to Sheriff Allen Byam)
- (2) Resolution received from Antrim County opposing House Bill No. 6112 {Corrections Officers Compulsory Arbitration Act}. (Referred to the Legislative Liaisons, with a copy remitted to Sheriff Allen Byam)
- (3) Resolution received from Huron County opposing House Bill No. 6112 {Corrections Officers Compulsory Arbitration Act}. (Referred to the Legislative Liaisons, with a copy remitted to Sheriff Allen Byam)

B. Resolutions:

- (1) Calhoun County Board of Health Appointment
(Term Expires December 31, 2008)
 - {a} Samantha Pearl -- Replacing Larry Anderson
- (2) Senior Millage Allocation Committee Appointment
 - {a} Jill Booth -- Term Expires April 30, 2011"

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

SPECIAL COMMITTEE/WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS:

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Budget Committee

Comr. Rae reported that the Committee met at 7:30 a.m. this morning with staff and covered “a lot of ground.” Comr. Rae stated that the budget process is “on track,” and that the county’s budget will be okay.

Casino Baseline Study Committee

Chairwoman Segal advised that the Committee shall be meeting August 21 at 8:00 a.m. in the Law Library, Calhoun County Building to review the report of current indicators within the community prepared by KV Associates.

PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS:

County Administrator/Controller’s Report

Health Officer Appointment

County Administrator/Controller Greg Purcell introduced Board of Health Chairman Dr. Jeffrey Mitchell.

Dr. Mitchell advised that the search committee conducted a national search and selected the best and most qualified candidate. Dr. Mitchell requested the Board appoint James Rutherford as Health Officer.

Mr. Rutherford advised that he grew up in this area and looks forward to commencing work on September 8. Mr. Rutherford thanked Administration, Corporation Counsel Mullett, Mr. Anderson, Ms. Reichenbaugh and the members of the search committee.

Mr. Purcell advised that Mr. Tsoumas did a great job as Chairman of the search committee, and that Mr. Rutherford has met with Department staff and they are pleased with his appointment.

Res. 126-2008

“Motion by Comr. Moore, supported by Comr. Arnquist, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners appoint James A. Rutherford as the Calhoun County Public Health Department Health Officer, as recommended by the Board of Health, with his employment to commence on September 8, 2008.”

Roll call vote: Yes - 5 (Comrs. Segal, Solis, Arnquist, Moore and Rae)
Excused - 2 (Comrs. Todd and Bolger)
Motion CARRIED

Comr. Rae welcomed Mr. Rutherford.

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Comr. Solis advised that he served on the search committee and is pleased that the committee located the best candidate right in our own backyard.

Agreement to Amend the Calhoun County Jail and Justice Center Development Agreement

Mr. Purcell advised that the agreement shall be placed upon the next Board agenda.

County Administrator Search Committee Creation/Appointments

Chairwoman Segal advised that Mr. Purcell is leaving in September to accept a new job in Fort Wayne. Chairwoman Segal advised that the Board shall be appointing an Interim Administrator to allow the Board to search for a new Administrator, and thanked Commissioners Rae, Bolger and Arnquist for stepping forward to serve on the Search Committee. Chairwoman Segal further advised that the Board shall be conducting an open interview process and shall include the Commissioners-elect.

Res. 127-2008

“Motion by Comr. Solis, supported by Comr. Moore, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners create the County Administrator Search Committee and appoint Mike Rae as Chairman, Jase Bolger, Betty Arnquist, Bradley Wilcox and Nancy Mullett.”

Roll call vote: Yes - 5 (Comrs. Solis, Arnquist, Moore, Rae and Segal)

Excused - 2 (Comrs. Todd and Bolger)

Motion CARRIED

CITIZENS' TIME:

Senior Services Manager Carl Gibson thanked the Board for appointing Jill Booth as the thirteenth member to the Senior Millage Allocation Committee.

Mr. Gardy Berezonsky, Marengo Township resident, inquired whether tonight's Board meeting is a live broadcast. Mr. Purcell responded that the meeting is being recorded for Marshall. Mr. Berezonsky questioned the payment of \$13,759.77 listed on the July 22, 2008 claims listing under the Board of Commissioners for association dues to the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC); further, questioned payment to Schuler's Restaurant, Inc. in the amount of \$142.72 for a breakfast meeting. Mr. Berezonsky objected to spending tax payer's monies for a lobbyist organization and to purchase food.

Mr. Berezonsky further questioned payment in the amount of \$350.00 on the July 29, 2008 claims listing for Mr. Purcell to attend a MAC training seminar when he is leaving county employment. Mr. Berezonsky again objected to tax payers having to pay \$54.00 for donuts for a Hazmat meeting. Mr. Berezonsky stated that these

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expenditures are ridiculous and that if the Board approves the claims listings tonight, they are not doing their job.

COMMISSIONERS' TIME:

Chairwoman Segal advised that Commissioner Bolger could not be present tonight as he is attending his daughter's play, and that Commissioner Todd is attending training in Chicago for his job.

Chairwoman Segal announced that Thursday, August 21 from 11:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. is the Eighth Annual benefit fund raiser for Sexual Assault Services and the Child Advocacy Center at KrystalFalls Golfland, and encouraged everyone to attend.

Comr. Rae advised that many governmental units are members of MAC. Comr. Rae stated that MAC is a source of information and new ideas for how to better perform the services the Board is elected to do. Comr. Rae stated that he believes MAC does a good job.

Comr. Rae advised that each Board member reviews the claims listings, and that Mr. Purcell still continues to be a county employee and comes back from such training sessions with additional assistance in helping the Board to do its job.

Comr. Moore invited everyone to attend the Battle Creek International Summer Fest on August 9 commencing at 11:00 a.m. at the market place. Comr. Moore advised that following the Summer Fest is the Calhoun County Fair in Marshall from August 10 through the 16th.

CLAIMS PAYABLE LISTINGS:

Res. 128-2008

“Motion by Comr. Rae, supported by Comr. Solis, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve payment of the list of claims against the county in the total amount of \$986,080.77 for the week of July 22, 2008; further, approve payment of the list of claims against the county in the total amount of \$949,721.07 for the week of July 29, 2008.”

Roll call vote: Yes - 5 (Comrs. Arnquist, Moore, Rae, Segal and Solis)
Excused - 2 (Comrs. Todd and Bolger)
Motion CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

mlb