

**CALHOUN COUNTY**  
**PROCEEDINGS OF THE**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

April 13, 2010

The Equalization Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 13, 2010 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, Michigan.

Roll Call: Present: Comrs. Camp, Gerow, Lee, Rae, Rocho and Todd. Temporarily Excused: Comr. Haadsma (Arrived at 7:01 p.m.).

Staff Present: Corporation Counsel Richard Lindsey, Jr., Human Resources Manager Kim Archambault, Finance Director Mark Stuhldreher, County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Senior Services Manager Carl Gibson, Deputy Equalization Director John Hippensteel and Deputy Clerk/Board Executive Secretary Mary Lou Barrett.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

A Moment of Silence was observed; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Comr. Haadsma.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

“Motion by Comr. Rocho, supported by Comr. Lee, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the April 13, 2010 agenda, as amended, with deletion of Items 12.A. (1) -- FY 2009-2010 Public Act 2 Substance Abuse Budget Amendment, and 18.A. (1) -- C.O.A.M. Bargaining Agreement Ratification.”

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

“Motion by Comr. Todd, supported by Comr. Gerow, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the April 1, 2010 minutes as presented.”

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Substance Abuse Council Executive Director Suzanne Horsfall presented Board members with a flyer of Council alcohol awareness activities, and advised that there will also be a town hall meeting regarding underage drinking in Homer.

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ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS:

Senior Services Manager Carl Gibson reported that last Thursday's Health Fair was very successful, and thanked the agencies that sponsored the Fair and Commissioner Camp for attending.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Equal Pay Day Proclamation

Comr. Rocho read and, accompanied by Chairman Rae, presented the following proclamation to Carolyn Gilg, Representative of the Albion Chapter of the Businesswomen's Association.

Res. 53-2010

"Motion by Comr. Rocho, supported by Comr. Gerow, resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, forty years after the passage of the Equal Pay Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, women and people of color continue to suffer the consequences of inequitable pay differentials; and

WHEREAS, according to statistics released in 2003 by the U.S. Census Bureau, year-round, full-time working women in 2002 earned only 77 percent of the earnings of year-round, full-time working men, indicating little change or progress in pay equity; and

WHEREAS, according to a January 2002 report released by the General Accounting Office (the investigative arm of Congress), women managers in 7 of 10 industries surveyed actually lost ground in closing the wage gap between 1995 and 2000; and

WHEREAS, according to an analysis of data in over 300 classifications provided by the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics in 2001, women earn less in every occupational classification for which enough data is available, including occupations dominated by women (e.g., cashiers, retail sales, registered nurses and teachers); and

WHEREAS, higher education is not free from wage discrimination according to a U.S. Department of Education analysis, reporting that, after controlling for rank, age, credentials, field of study and other factors, full-time female faculty members earn nearly 9 percent less than their male counterparts; and

WHEREAS, national statistics rank the State of Michigan among the lower one-third of all U.S. states in fair pay, citing that an average of 68 cents is earned by women to every dollar their male counterparts are paid – a gap of 32 cents; and

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WHEREAS, over a working lifetime, this wage disparity costs the average American woman and her family as estimated \$500,000 in lost wages, impacting Social Security benefits and pensions; and

WHEREAS, fair pay equity policies can be implemented simply and without undue costs or hardship in both the public and private sectors; and

WHEREAS, fair pay strengthens the security of families today and eases future retirement costs, while enhancing the American economy; and

WHEREAS, Tuesday, April 24th symbolizes the time in the new year in which the wages paid to American women catch up to the wages paid to men from the previous year.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 20, 2010:

**EQUAL PAY DAY**

in Calhoun County and urge the citizens of Calhoun County to recognize the full value of women's skills and significant contributions to the labor force, and further encourage businesses to conduct an internal pay evaluation to ensure women are being paid fairly.”

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

2010 Equalization Report

Deputy Equalization Director John Hippensteel advised that there was one change to the Report. Mr. Hippensteel stated that the 2010 values reflect a 5.28 percent decrease in equalized value overall.

Comr. Camp requested Mr. Hippensteel explain why agricultural values increased. Mr. Hippensteel responded that the values in the agricultural classification “jumped” this year based upon sales. Comr. Lee inquired whether the values are affected if someone puts their agricultural land into preservation. Mr. Hippensteel responded that there would still be an assessment assigned to the property within the Report.

Res. 54-2010

“Motion by Comr. Todd, supported by Comr. Rocho, resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners adopt the following:

WHEREAS, the Equalization Department has examined the assessment rolls of the 19 Townships and four Cities within Calhoun County to determine whether the real and personal property in the respective Townships and Cities has been equally and uniformly assessed; and

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WHEREAS, based on this examination and studies it conducted, the Equalization Department has prepared and presented to the County Board of Commissioners the 2010 Equalization Report; and

WHEREAS, said Equalization Report presents recommended County equalized valuations for each of the 19 Townships and four Cities within the County; and

WHEREAS, the recommended County equalized valuations were determined by adding to or deducting from the assessed valuations of taxable property in the 19 Townships and four Cities within the County an amount which represents true cash value.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners accept and adopt the recommended County equalized valuations presented in the 2010 Equalization Report prepared by the Calhoun County Equalization Department for a total 2010 equalized valuation of real and personal property of \$4,336,796,209, with the breakdown of equalized valuation by property classification as follows:

Agricultural Real Property	\$ 421,492,752
Commercial Real Property	\$ 618,615,790
Industrial Real Property	\$ 189,424,499
Residential Real Property	\$2,562,051,535
Developmental Real Property	<u>\$ 3,155,090</u>
 Total Real Property	 \$3,794,739,666
 Total Personal Property	 <u>\$ 542,056,543</u>
 Total Real and Personal Property	 \$4,336,796,209

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board Chairperson and the County Clerk/Register of Deeds are authorized to sign the Report; further, that the County Administrator/Controller and the Equalization Director/Deputy Director are authorized to represent Calhoun County at both preliminary and final State equalization sessions, if deemed necessary.”

Roll call vote: Yes - 7 Motion CARRIED Unanimously

CONSENT AGENDA:

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Res. 55-2010

“Motion by Comr. Camp, supported by Comr. Gerow, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the following April 13, 2010 Consent Agenda as presented:

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports:

- (1) Resolutions received from Antrim County {1} supporting the Final Report of the Legislative Commission on Statutory Mandates, {2} supporting state and federal efforts to stop the migration of the Asian carp into the Great Lakes, {3} supporting the Back Forty Joint Venture [Mineral Mining], and {4} opposing the MIWater Ballot Initiative. (Received and placed on file)”

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

SPECIAL COMMITTEE/WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS:

Health Board

Health Board Member Gerow reported that the Health Department shall be offering hearing and vision screenings at no cost for children age three to five years old living in and attending school in Calhoun County. Appointments are available June 21 through August 27 at the Health Department by contacting Heidi Fast at (269) 969-6389 after June 1.

Comr. Gerow further advised that the Health Department has scheduled the following public meetings throughout the county to answer any questions regarding the Smoke-Free Air Act which goes into effect May 1: Tuesday, April 20 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in Marshall; Wednesday, April 21 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Battle Creek; and Thursday, April 22 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Albion District Library.

Comr. Gerow continued that beginning March 1 the Health Department is offering free HIV Rapid Testing and can provide the results in fifteen minutes.

Comr. Rocho advised that the state provides school aid funding to provide the hearing and vision screening, and encouraged parents with young children to take advantage of the testing.

PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS:

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County Administrator/Controller's Report

County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott addressed the additional Pubic Act 2 funding of \$91,872 for substance abuse services, advising that the funding must be spent by September. Ms. Scott stated that the reason the item has been removed from the agenda is because there are three organizations that provide substance abuse services and all three have been asked for proposals. Ms. Scott advised that Kalamazoo Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services' recommendation was just received and that she believes there needs to be further review, and then a recommendation to the Board shall be provided. Ms. Scott stated that she fully believes the recommendation shall be on the next Board agenda.

March 2010 Financial Statements

Ms. Scott reported that in general revenues and expenditures are "on track."

Comr. Rocho inquired regarding the \$50,000 shortage under interest earned. Ms. Scott responded that with only three months into the year certain revenues items are under and some are over projections.

Comr. Haadsma inquired whether Administration is planning for December given the decreased tax values. Ms. Scott responded that last year there was a slight change in state equalized valuations. In the 2010 year budget there was a 3.6 percent decline which had been budgeted for. A five percent change shall be anticipated for next year's budget. Ms. Scott advising that the other factor to be considered is inflation. Ms. Scott stated that it may be 2014 before the property tax values come back up to the levels that they used to be.

COMMISSIONERS' TIME:

Comr. Camp advised that she has requested the Health Department align the smoking regulation with the state smoke free law.

Comr. Todd addressed the literacy support letter from State Representative Segal which he distributed to Board members, advising that there is a book drive on May 8 at the McCamly Plaza sponsored by the Urban League's Young Professional Group and others. Comr. Todd stated that the letter requests the Board's sponsorship.

CLAIMS PAYABLE LISTINGS:

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Res. 56-2010

“Motion by Comr. Rocho, supported by Comr. Todd, 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 \$707,410.71 for the two {2}weeks ending April 5, 2010.”

Roll call vote: Yes - 7 Motion CARRIED Unanimously

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Comr. Haadsma announced that CIR is having an auction on April 15 at the Battle Creek Country Club, and that Child Abuse Services is having a blue tie dinner on Friday, April 16 at the Battle Creek Country Club from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; further, the Haven of Rest is having a fund raiser on Saturday, April 17.

CLOSED SESSION:

Res. 57-2010

“Motion by Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Rocho, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners meet in Closed Session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations.”

Voice Vote: Yes - 6 (Comrs. Lee, Rae, Rocho, Todd, Gerow and Haadsma)  
No - 1 (Comr. Camp)  
Motion CARRIED

The Board met in Closed Session commencing at 7:47 p.m. until 8:02 p.m. with Human Resources Manager Kim Archambault, Corporation Counsel Richard Lindsey, Jr., County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Asst. County Administrator Bradley Wilcox, Finance Director Mark Stuhldreher and Deputy Clerk/Board Executive Secretary Mary Lou Barrett present.

OPEN SESSION:

A.F.S.C.M.E. Employees' Labor Agreement Ratification

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Res. 58-2010

“Motion by Comr. Todd, supported by Comr. Haadsma, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners ratify the 2010-2012 A.F.S.C.M.E. Employees Labor Agreement.”

Roll call vote: Yes - 7 Motion CARRIED Unanimously

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m at the call of the Chair.

mlb