

CALHOUN COUNTY
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 4, 2010

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, November 21, 2010 in the Commissioners' Meeting room, County Building, Marshall, Michigan.

Chairman Rae called the meeting to order and requested the Deputy Clerk to call the roll.

Present: Comrs. Haadsma, Camp, Gerow, Todd, Rae, Rocho, Lee

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox, Corporation Counsel Richard Lindsey, HR Director Kim Archambault and Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk Chris Zuidema

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Board held a moment of silence in honor of Guy Picketts, former Calhoun County Sheriff's Deputy and Detective. Comr. Todd led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

"Moved Comr. Todd, supported by Comr. Rocho to approve the November 4, 2010 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners agenda."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

"Moved Comr. Rocho, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2010 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners meeting with the amendments of Item 12A1 should read the "Child Care Fund" and p.7 word "she" is missing in HR Director Archambault's statement."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

6. **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

There were none.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

There were none.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

There was none.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

There was no consent agenda.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/BOARD REPORTS

Comr. Rae made a brief report on the Budget Committee as work continues on the 2011 Budget. There is a special session scheduled with the Board at 6:00 on November 18.

Comr. Rae also made a brief report on the Calhoun County Kalamazoo River Oil Spill Task Force meeting that took place on October 28 at the Calhoun Intermediate School District. There was an excellent turnout with representatives of Congress, State, Cities and business. The meeting was attended by Comr. Rae, Rocho, Camp and Haadsma. The EPA gave a very detailed presentation on what has taken place from the time of the spill until now. They also gave a very insightful report in regards to what possibly could be done both long and short term. The meeting concluded with Comr. Rae asking everyone present if they would be interested in serving on the task force and most of the audience raised their hands. But as a practical matter, it is a task force we know that we can't have 40 people so we need to pare it down. This will be an ongoing thing. There are still discussions going on about how to fund the effort.

Comr. Camp stated she appreciated the positive contribution of Health Officer Jim Rutherford during the task force meeting.

11. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

12. PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS

A. Administrator/Controller's Report

Administrator/Controller Scott stated she sent out Executive Summary report to the Commissioners. It has some good information and she mentioned a few things that would take place before the next meeting. On Monday, November 8, the EPA is hosting another public meeting to present the status on the oil spill. It will either be at 6:30 or 7:00 at Burnham Brook. Also, November 16 – 19 the County will be in Circuit Court for the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan lawsuit. It will be held in Calhoun County Circuit Court but the Judge will be from Hastings. Kelli and Richard are scheduled to be there all day for the 4 days of the jury trial. The County's claim exceeds \$2 million.

Comr. Rae commented that there is a Federal investigation of Blue Cross' actions. This investigation and other lawsuits could have an effect on ours. This shows that Calhoun County is not the only entity pursuing action against Blue Cross.

12A.1 Award of Sheriff's Department Uniform Supplies Contract

This was a joint effort between the Office of the Sheriff and Purchasing under the leadership of Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox. Leslie O brig, Purchasing Coordinator, is responsible for all bids. No companies from Calhoun County bid on the contract. The County has worked with Nye Uniform before and bid the lowest price on 75% of the highest used items. The contract is for three years with an approximate amount of \$100,000 over those three years. The amounts are within budget for the current year and what will be allocated in the future.

Res. 164-2010

"Moved Comr. Lee, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the contract between the Office of the Sheriff and Nye Uniform."

Comr. Haadsma asked Asst County Administrator Wilcox how the eight potential bidders were chosen.

Asst County Administrator Wilcox stated there are three things they do. There is an open registration on the website where bidders can register then bids are sent out to the registrants. They canvas local bidders and they go back 2 or 3 cycles to see who bid on the contract previously.

Comr. Haadsma asked if there was a vendor more proximate to Calhoun County than Kent County.

Asst County Administrator Wilcox stated there were two local vendors but they don't provide officer uniforms. Law enforcement has a specific dress code. They were solicited but didn't respond.

Comr. Haadsma asked Sheriff Byam if he was satisfied with Nye Uniform in the past.

Sheriff Byam stated that he was satisfied with Nye Uniform as well as the interaction between his staff and purchasing and he was pleased with the bid.

On a roll call vote: Yes – 7, Motion CARRIED

12A.2 Senior Millage Allocation Committee Funding Recommendations for FY 2011

Administrator Scott stated this item was asking the Commission to approve three funding recommendations for funding services for 2011 and to authorize the execution of contracts that the Board Chairman would sign in the amount not to exceed \$2,505,506 as recommended by the Senior Allocation Committee. She asked that the Board take the recommendations in three separate parts because some of the contract awardees that have Boards on which one or more of the Commissioners serve and that will give them the opportunity to decide if they have any conflict of interest. The recommendation is essentially to hold the services at the same level by using some accumulated fund balance because of declining property tax revenues, which fund Senior Services.

Recommendation 1

Comr. Gerow disclosed that she also sits on the Health Board but she will be voting yes for this.

Comr. Camp stated she appreciated the handout that Mr. Gibson brought because it gives the number of units so when you look at the numbers you know approximately how many people will be served. She also stated that she sits on the Community Action Governing Board but she appreciates the way they were creative at looking at what they needed funded and found ways to meet in the middle with reduced revenue.

Comr. Rae thanked Comrs. Camp, Gerow and Rocho for serving on the Senior Allocation Committee. He stated it takes a lot of time for all the meetings and it is appreciated.

Res. 165-2010

“Move Comr. Lee, supported by Comr. Camp to approve the following: Resolved that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the Senior Services Recommendation 1, RFP 103-10 for the amount of \$1,421,715.”

Comr. Rocho disclosed that she is on the Area Agency on Aging Board and stated she has no conflict.

Comr. Haadsma inquired about the rationale in relation to some of the recommendations for some of the bidders being awarded less. Why were some reduced?

Senior Services Manager Gibson stated they were awarded what they were requested. It is an extension of the same funding they received in 2010. The agencies that bid knew that funding was low so some decided to request high to see what they could get.

On a roll call vote: Yes – 7, Motion CARRIED

Recommendation 2

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that Recommendation 2 is RFP 103-11, to award \$50,000 to the Calhoun County Health Department specifically for hearing and vision services.

Res. 166-2010

“Move Comr. Rocho, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the Senior Services Recommendation #2, RFP 103-10 for the amount of \$50,000.”

On a roll call vote: Yes – 7, Motion CARRIED

Recommendation 3

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that Recommendation 3 comes with the help of Purchasing and Assistant County Administrator Wilcox, as this is a big project every year. The award for Community Action for meals, home heating assistance, dispatch, minor home repair and transportation totals \$1,033,861.

Comr. Haadsma asked Senior Services Manager Gibson why the amount bid was \$50,000 less than the amount recommended in relation to home delivered meals.

Senior Services Manager Gibson stated that the change was the initiative of Community Action. They found out after they bid that they were receiving an estimated \$80,000 reduction from the State in nutrition and home delivered meal programs. They decided that was a higher priority so they requested we shift \$50,000 from other services to cover the meal program. In order to stay within the total budget allocation they asked for reductions in transportation and home heating, as they felt they can supplement those funds from other sources.

Res. 167-2010

“Move Comr. Rocho, supported by Comr. Gerow to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve Senior Services Recommendation #3, RFP 103-12 for the amount of \$1,033,861.”

Comr. Camp noted that she is a member of the Governing Board with no conflict of interest and she would be voting.

On a roll call vote: Yes – 7

13. CITIZENS TIME

Autumn Smith, 993 E. Michigan Avenue, explained that she and her friend felt that they were finding a lot of oil that Enbridge is not cleaning up. They understand the river is not going to be pristine but the amount of oil that is left in areas that the EPA and Enbridge have deemed clean is disgusting. She stated that she has protested the liability waivers and tried to work with Enbridge. She stated that they have video documentation of oil left. She claims that she is concerned for her community and the wildlife and would like Enbridge to be held accountable. She feels that Enbridge is lying and would like people to take their information into consideration.

Comr. Rae responded that the reason the task force was started was because they take the oil spill issue very seriously. Enbridge will be held accountable.

Comr. Todd responded to the comment made by Ms. Smith that she was just a citizen and didn't have a lot of pull. He stated that she has more pull than she thinks because she is a citizen of this community and that's enough pull for him to address her concerns. He told her to never feel like she was an outcast and didn't have a voice because she does. That's why officials are elected, to address citizen concerns. He commended her and her friend for coming to the meeting to state their views.

Comr. Rae pointed out that the gentleman with Ms. Smith was present at the task force meeting and did address them.

Carl Gibson, Calhoun County Senior Services, stated that he was at a training session on health care reform. Medicare is going to start offering preventative services for seniors. Employers will be able to start offering savings accounts for long term care. He also described the “donut hole” and actions being taken to correct it. Senior Services would like to offer ramps to seniors but the cost is too high. They would like to work with manufacturers and volunteers to install them. Gibson offered one final informational item, that the Hillsdale Senior Services is suing their County Board because the County was not allocating the full millage amount to them. Senior Services has identified all of the Senior Millage amounts in every county in the State.

John Bollenbaugh, 216 East Burr Oak, stated he used to live on River Road. He stated he has found oil in the mud on his property and Enbridge refuses to remove it. He stated that there was only a 100 yard area cleaned at Ceresco Dam and the rest of the area is still saturated. He claims to have taken 3 news crews to the area to prove it. He stated Enbridge is lying when they claim things are clean. He stated the top coordinator of Enbridge told his crew to throw oil in the grass and cover it up. He claims he took video of several people from Enbridge and EPA saying that he would be fired if he continued. He is working with Fox17 news and states they were told if they go to “Ground Zero” that they would be arrested. He stated he is going to prove everything when he goes to trial and no one should believe Enbridge or the EPA.

14. COMMISSIONERS’ TIME

Comr. Todd publicly thanked a concerned citizen who sent the Commissioners prayers and scriptures. He appreciated the prayers for him, his family and his fellow Commissioners.

Comr. Todd announced there will be a pre-Thanksgiving feast at New Hope Church of Christ in Battle Creek on November 20 from 11am – 5pm. Their goal is to feed 1,000 people.

Comr. Todd again commended Ms. Smith and Mr. Bollenbaugh for what they are doing in standing up for what they believe.

Comr. Camp stated that in light of the election, she would like to say to her fellow Commissioners who were not successful, thank you for your hard work. She appreciated their hard work. She noted that Commissioners-elect Kale, VanSickle and Frisbie were present and welcomed them.

Comr. Camp thanked Assistant County Administrator Wilcox for getting the microphones working. She also thanked him for communicating how the bid process works and for giving consideration to local vendors.

Comr. Rae stated that the present elected Commissioners have 2 more months in which they will work hard and their jobs are not done until January 1 of next year.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

Res. 168-2010

“Move Comr. Rocho, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the claims payable for October 20-28, 2010 in the amount of \$1,114,595.24.”

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comr. Haadsma announced that on Saturday, November 6, County Clerk Norlander would be joining him at Continental Bakery to discuss the percentage of Calhoun County residents who came out to vote in the recent election. The coffee hour is between 10 and 11.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

caz

Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Clerk
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners