

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

March 15, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 15, 2012 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

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

Present: Comrs. Dunn, Todd, Haadsma, Camp Seifke, Frisbie, VanSickle and Kale

Staff Present: Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox, Corporation, Counsel Richard Lindsey, Human Resources Director Kim Archambault and Administrative Assistant Lora Stevens

2 and 3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board held a moment of silence in memory of Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott's Grandfather, Roy Allen Shipman, who passed away March 10, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Comr. Dunn.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Camp Seifke to approve the agenda of the March 15, 2012 Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of the March 1, 2012 Regular Session

"Moved Comr. Dunn, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2012 Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

6. CITIZENS' TIME

Tim Cook of Eckford Township stated he is the Safety Coordinator for the Calhoun County Road Commission and he believes a majority of the employees of the Road Commission fully support the Board of Commissioners and what they decide is the best plan for the Road Commission.

Mark Webb of Marshall commented on the Tuesday fire at the Marshall House Apartments. He thanked all the first responders, firefighters and volunteer firefighters; they got the 120 residents out in a timely manner. He stated several businesses helped out by providing free food for the residents. He claimed it could have been worse without the cooperative effort and thanked everyone involved.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

There were none.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Presentation to Request Support of Foreign Trade Zone 43

Jan Frantz, Executive Director of BC CAL KAL Inland Port Development Corporation, presented information on Foreign Trade Zone 43. She explained they are marketing to companies in 15 counties in Southwest Michigan to work with the Foreign Trade Zone so they may support economic development activities by providing services related to international trade through the use of inland port of entry, the Foreign-Trade Zone and the Customs Cargo Center.

Comr. Kale inquired if all companies who do international trade join with BC CAL KAL and what would be the benefit for them to do so.

Ms. Frantz stated when a company joins she will do a no cost benefit analysis. She stated the benefit to companies is that foreign trade is a highly regulated area and offers assistance with US Customs to help keep US based companies on a level playing field with their competitors abroad. She stated BC CAL KAL does not compete with other companies as there are no other companies that offer the same type of services.

Res. 30-2012

"Moved Comr. Van Sickle, supported Comr. Haadsma to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners do hereby support the County inclusion within the Service Area of Foreign-Trade Zone 43."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

## 9. CONSENT AGENDA

### A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

1. Oakland County Resolution Opposing the Early Release of Violent Offenders by the Michigan Department of Corrections
2. Battle Creek Public Hearing for Lakeview Ford-Lincoln Inc. Regarding Granting an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District Certificate
3. Battle Creek Public Hearing for Behnke Logistics Regarding Granting an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District Certificate
4. Oceana County Resolution Supporting Reforms in Foreign Worker Programs

### B. Resolutions

1. Ott Biological Preserve Albion College Student Thesis Project
2. Summit Pointe Board of Directors Reappointments  
(Terms to Expire March 31, 2015)
  - {a} Brenda Minter
  - {b} Eusebio Solis
  - {c} Carl Word
  - {d} Jeffrey Phillips
3. Calhoun County Department of Human Services Reappointment  
(Term to Expire October 31, 2014)
  - {a} Joyce Spicer
4. Workforce Development Chief Executive Officers Board Appointment  
(Term to Expire December 31, 2012)
  - {a} Kathy-Sue Dunn (replacing Mark Behnke)

#### Res. 31-2012

“Moved Comr. Camp Seifke, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners do hereby approve the Consent Agenda of the March 15, 2012 Regular Session Agenda as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

## 10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

Comr. Todd reported he attended the Solid Waste Committee meeting and they approved their proposed budget for 2013. He stated the budget was for approximately \$700,000. He noted he did not vote in favor of the proposed budget because it suggested considerable growth supporting the compost center. He stated while he supports a compost center, the proposal took the budgeted amount from approximately \$16,000 to over \$50,000. He stated he would have preferred to see more funding go toward storm clean up. He stated it was a good meeting and they looked forward to serving members of the community going forward.

Comr. Haadsma announced three of the thirteen members of the Senior Allocation Committee would be leaving; they would be looking for new members and asked those that were interested to please go to the County website to apply.

Comr. VanSickle stated he had attended the last Road Commission and Clarendon Township Board meeting and the subject of future management of the Road Commission came up at both meetings and created some lengthy discussion.

## 11. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

## 12. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

### A. County Administrator/Controller's Report

Assistant Administrator Brad Wilcox gave a brief overview of a report from Standard & Poor's as it relates to the County's bond credit rating. He stated the County was assigned a long term rating of AA-. He noted the rating was based on things such as a deep tax base, a very strong General Fund Reserve position and moderate debt. He stated this would be of great help to Emmett Township, as the County Board recently supported refunding of the Township's water and sewer bonds and this rating will help them get a very favorable and competitive rate. He stated Standard & Poor's also reaffirmed the County's AA- rating of existing General Fund obligations. He noted that in light of the recent and current economic challenges, this was a positive reflection of the Board's sound fiscal decisions. He encouraged the Board to read the report and noted it was also on the County website for anyone who wanted to read it.

Comr. Kale noted this was a great team effort and it reflected well of the County.

B. New Business

1. Delta Dental Plan Service Contract

Res. 32-2012

“Moved Comr. VanSickle, Supported by Comr. Dunn to approve the following: The Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby resolve to approve the Delta Dental Plan Service Contract for Calhoun County.”

Human Resources Director Archambault stated this was an annual renewal of the contract. She stated the County was moving from a fully funded plan to a self-funded plan, which will hopefully help the County achieve cost savings but to do this they needed a new plan document.

Comr. Kale noted there was a \$15,000 savings in the budget and asked if this was expected to save them that amount.

Archambault stated each year the expenditure is checked to be sure it is beneficial. She noted this year the self-insured program through Delta Dental ended up being a better deal.

Comr. Kale inquired if we could bounce back and forth between self-funded and fully funded.

Archambault confirmed it was allowed on an annual basis.

Comr. Camp Seifke inquired if this changed the coverage for employees.

Archambault stated no but there were some changes made on the plan that were recommendations of the American Dental Association but the basics of the plan remain the same.

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

13. CITIZEN’S TIME

A resident inquired if the representatives could get him the information of how much money the State of Michigan is giving to Washington, how much is coming back to Michigan, and he would like the same information about Calhoun County and Lansing. He stated he had done research and found Michigan is sending more money to Washington than we got back and some of the southern states have never gotten back less money than they sent in.

14. COMMISSIONERS TIME

Comr. Camp Seifke followed up on Comr. Todd’s comment regarding the Solid Waste Committee and storm clean up, noting that Emmett Township Supervisor Pat Dougherty was still working on additional funds for storm cleanup.

Comr. Dunn stated she was an Officer on the Board of the Family Y Center and in the last ten days they had received a resignation from their CEO then appointed an interim director, Adam Dingwall. She noted he was a local guy, they were pleased to have him and she wanted to wish him well.

Comr. Dunn stated she was also a founding member of the Women's Giving Circle in Battle Creek and they just made a sizable donation to Gracious Homes, a Battle Creek women's shelter.

Comr. Dunn thanked everyone for their kindness and support during the time when she lost her mother.

Comr. Todd reminded people to check their newspapers and the County website for information on the household hazardous waste pickup.

Comr. Frisbie stated the Health Board would meet March 19 and they have four candidates for the Board. He stated the Health Board would vote then bring a recommendation back to the Board of Commissioners.

Comr. Haadsma stated he had also attended the last Road Commission meeting and listened to the Parks Trustees. He stated he wanted the Road Commission employees to know that the Board of Commissioners had not decided anything as far as what to do, if anything, with the Road Commission. He stated nothing had been formally undertaken as far as committee making or decision processing in relation of what to do with the Road Commission. He stated he wanted the employees to know that any anxiety they had about their jobs being in jeopardy were not timely placed in context to this Board. He noted that this Board would not do anything unless it was in the best interest of the residents, the employees and the administration of the County. He stated he understood people's anxiety but to date the only thing the Board has done was to pass a resolution giving them the option.

Comr. Kale stated he also wanted to comment on the Road Commission Review. He stated he hoped he made his remarks clear in the paper, that the Board would do an in-depth, objective, thorough review and they would follow where that takes them. He stated the last thing that any of the Commissioners wanted to do was to put the county in a position where it doesn't make sense. He stated if they do a thorough and objective review and it says it makes sense for the county to take it over, then they should follow that lead and if it's something in between then we need to look at doing something in between. He stated just like running a business, if you are continuously getting complaints, fair or not, about a particular department, if you ran or own that business you would be remiss in your responsibilities if you did not take a look at it and that's what they were going to do. He stated there was a Michigan Association of Counties meeting at the end of the month and he was sure this would be a heavily discussed topic. Kale stated his expectation was to have a game plan put together by the end of April, with input from everyone, and it will be made public.

Comr. VanSickle announced he had joined many Michigan Farm Bureau members in honoring our legislative people by taking each Senator and each Representative a basket of Michigan products tied to agriculture. He stated after that they had a free lunch that also consisted of Michigan Products. He stated they had a wonderful response from the legislative people. He stated he also had an opportunity to talk to Minority Leader of the House Segal and Speaker of the House Bolger. He stated it was a very interesting day for him and now we have a legislature that knows that agriculture in Michigan exists.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE.

A. Claims Payable for February 24 – March 8, 2012

Res. 33-2012

“Moved Comr. Dunn, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Claims Payable Listing for February 24 through March 8, 2012 in the amount of \$820,656.45.”

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

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comr. Camp Seifke announced the Fredonia Grange would be having a free corned beef and cabbage dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 17 followed by an auction to raise money for their “Words for Thirds” program.

17. CLOSED SESSION

“Moved Comr. Frisbie, supported by Comr. VanSickle to retire to closed session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.”

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

18. ACTION ON PENDING LITIGATION

“Moved Comr. Frisbie, supported by Comr. VanSickle to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the self-insured retention on MMRMA Claim No. 141417, Everson v. Calhoun County (“Claim”), in the amount of approximately \$48,375.00, is hereby released and the County Administrator/Controller, upon the recommendation of County Corporation Counsel, is authorized to fully settle and compromise said Claim and to sign any releases, dismissals, or associated documents necessary to resolve the Claim.”

On a roll call vote, Yes -7, Motion CARRIED

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

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Chairman  
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

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Clerk  
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners