

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

SPECIAL SESSION

August 22, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Special Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, August 22, 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. Todd, Haadsma, Camp Seifke, Frisbie, VanSickle and Kale

Comr. Dunn attended via phone.

Staff Present: County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox, Corporation Counsel Richard Lindsey, and Deputy Clerk Chris McComb

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the agenda of the August 22, 2012 Special Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

3. CITIZENS' TIME

There was none.

#### 4. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

##### A. Consideration of Placement of Veterans' Millage Proposal on Ballot for November General Election

Administrator/Controller Scott stated the resolution made reference to four State statutes relating to veterans' services-- some mandated, and some not. She noted the County has operated with a relatively small Veterans Affairs office with 2 employees and one state employee to serve the over 11,000 veterans in Calhoun County, with mostly County General Funds less than \$200,000 per year. She stated there was a gap between what levels of service and response time staff could provide and the demand for services. She reminded the Board that all County departments have had to take budget cuts in the last couple years and Veterans Affairs hadn't been spared. She stated the office had not stopped providing Veteran's services or cut staff, but they have had to provide more at a minimum service level and could do a lot more with a dedicated funding. Scott stated the proposed millage would cost an average of \$5 per year for a taxpayer with a home valued at \$100,000; it would fund the office, enable them to get service information out to Veterans, fund another service officer, help to eliminate the backlog and update technology. She noted the National Association of Counties had Veterans' Services as one of their platform issues this year, and that there was a new special task force created at the state level as well to look at streamlining veterans' services. At the local level, she noted Macomb County passed by over 80% their Veterans' Services Millage renewal on the August 7 ballot and Kent County was also discussing a new committee to look at ways to better service their Veterans. She stated the time seems right to address Calhoun County's needs with a designated source of funding, and that by the Commissioners voting today to place this issue on the November 6 ballot would show tremendous county support for Veterans' Services. She stated the proposal was for 10 years and .10 mils and would be all inclusive to cover all services that the four statutes require and/or allow, including the operations of the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

##### Res. 98-2012

"Moved Comr. Frisbie, supported by Comr. Camp Seifke to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Placement of a Veterans' Millage Proposal on the Ballot for the November General Election with the following ballot language:

Shall a .10 mill (1/10 of a mill, or 10 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) increase on the limitation on the amount of taxes on the general ad valorem taxes (real and tangible personal property) within Calhoun County, State of Michigan, imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution be authorized for a period of ten (10) years, from 2013 through 2022, both inclusive, for the purpose of providing financial aid and services to veterans as authorized by MCL §35.21, MCL §35.621, MCL §35.801, and MCL §35.803 and to support the Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs Office and the Calhoun County Veterans' Affairs Committee in their provision of financial aid and services to veterans? If approved and levied, the requested millage would provide estimated revenues of approximately Three Hundred Thirty Two Thousand Five Hundred Forty and 00/100 Dollars (\$332,540) when first levied in 2013."

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

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 a.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