

CALHOUN COUNTY
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 17, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, October 17, 2013 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

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

Present: Comrs. Dunn (arrived at 8:00), Todd, Haadsma, Frisbie, King, VanSickle and Kale

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

2 and 3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board held a moment of silence followed by Comr. Todd leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the agenda of the October 17, 2013 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 October 3, 2013 Regular Session

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2013 Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

6. CITIZENS' TIME

There was none.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Sheriff Saxton gave an update on jail boarding, stating they were dealing with fewer detainees from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and so they have been trying to diversify their business. He announced they have secured a temporary agreement with the City of Livonia for 60 inmates. He explained that Livonia had contracted with Isabella County for 20 years but they were now overcrowded and couldn't take Livonia's inmates.

Saxton stated he met with the architect and the shared law enforcement building had been rescaled for the City of Marshall, State Police and the county. He noted after the reconfiguration, the square footage needed came back even less and that they were waiting to see what the new cost estimate would be.

Saxton thanked the Budget Committee for meeting with them Friday and for their patience, as they were still working on their budget.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Special Tribute to David A. Barnes

Commissioner Derek King read the tribute into the record.

WHEREAS David A. Barnes, Magistrate for the Tenth District Court, retired from his position with the Court on June 28, 2013; and

WHEREAS David was hired by the Tenth District Court on June 13, 1978 as a Bailiff, serving the citizens of Calhoun County consistently for the past 35 years; and

WHEREAS On August 5, 1985, David was appointed the position Magistrate of the District Court; and

WHEREAS David has been instrumental in the development of our magistrate authority, embracing each new responsibility with a positive attitude; and

WHEREAS David's 35 years of employment have been marked by loyalty and commitment to public service; and

WHEREAS David will be greatly missed by the Judges, administration and employees of the Tenth District Court as well as the law enforcement officers and public he served.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Calhoun County Board of Commissions that David A. Barnes is hereby honored and thanked for his many years of dedicated service to the Tenth District Court, Calhoun County and its citizens. We offer him our best wishes for a healthy, happy and well-deserved retirement.

Res. 177-2013

“Motion by Comr. Frisbie, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the tribute to David A. Barnes as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

Comrs. King and Kale presented the tribute to David Barnes, congratulated him on his retirement and thanked him for his service.

B. 2013 Equalization Apportionment Report

Judy Nelson, Equalization Director, and Roger McEvers, Equalization Manager, stated the Board approving this report fulfills the legal requirement to approve the millage rates submitted to Equalization by the Townships. Nelson stated that any new millage rates after the November election would have to be brought back to the Board with an amendment. She stated they were trying to make the report more user-friendly.

Res. 178-2013

“Motion by Comr. King, supported by Comr. VanSickle to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the resolution approving the 2013 apportionment report pursuant to Michigan Compiled Law 211.37 as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion **CARRIED**.

C. Resolution to Apportion and Adopt the 2013 Levy of the Calhoun County Property Taxes

Res. 179-2013

“Motion by Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. King to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Resolution to Apportion and Adopt the 2013 Levy of the Calhoun County Property Taxes Pursuant to Public Act 185 of 2012, MCL 211.37.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion **CARRIED**.

D. 80th Annual NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner Proclamation

Res. 180-2013

“Motion by Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the 80th Annual Freedom Fund Dinner proclamation as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

1. Human Resources Personnel Report

B. Resolutions

There were none.

Res. 181-2013

“Motion by Comr. Todd, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the Consent Agenda of the October 17, 2013 Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

There was none.

11. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

12. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

A. County Administrator/Controller’s Report

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott referenced the Federal Government shutdown, stating the National Association of Counties (NACO) was pleased they reached an agreement, that the government would be funded through January 15, and that the National Debt Ceiling would be raised. She noted the shutdown of the Federal Government erodes public faith in all levels of government. Scott stated that NACO reminded us as part of reaching this agreement, there are still some reforms being considered that could affect counties. She explained they are considering changing the tax treatment of municipal bonds in a way that would be a detriment to counties. In addition, entitlement reform may shift health care costs to counties, and there may be more general challenges with the annual appropriations process issue of dealing with delays in Federal funding caused by sequestration.

B. New Business

1. Cognitive Interventions Contract Renewal

Sheriff Saxton stated this funding made it possible to perform programs in the jail that many jails across the state don't offer. He stated they were offering GED classes and many cognitive programs. He stated the grant support was much needed.

Comr. Haadsma asked if the services were provided to local inmates or ICE.

Saxton stated the services were for local inmates first.

Res. 182-2013

"Moved Comr. King, Supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: Resolved the County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Cognitive Interventions Contract Renewal as presented."

On a roll call vote – Yes – 6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion **CARRIED**.

2. Approval of MDOT Contract Number 13-5521

Administrator/Controller Scott stated this was a contract with MDOT to do Federal Aid projects. She stated there was an estimated project cost, with two thirds covered by Federal funds, the rest by the State with no local match required. She noted there were several locations included in this contract.

Road Department Managing Director Peterson stated they were trying to bring some work back in house instead of using contractors.

Scott stated they expected the Federal Aid projects to happen soon.

Res. 183-2013

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, Supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the MDOT Contract Number 13-5521 for hot mix asphalt wedging, overband crack filling, chip seal, fog seal, and pavement marking work along Michigan Avenue from Partello Road to 25 1/2 Mile Road, along Old Highway US-27 from Highway M-60 to F Drive South, and along Old Highway US- 27 from N Drive North to Baseline Road; and all together with necessary related work. The Board does also authorize the Board Chair and the Administrator/Controller to sign the contract on behalf of Calhoun County.

On a roll call vote – Yes – 6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion **CARRIED**.

3. Interlocal Agreement with Region 3B Area Agency on Aging

Administrator/Controller Scott stated this was a contract extension with the Region 3B Area Agency on Aging (AAA). She explained that one year ago we changed the way we contracted for senior meals and began using AAA to coordinate the process. She stated everyone had been very satisfied with their work. She noted there was no general fund impact and the contract will extend for three years at the same rate.

Corporation Counsel Lindsey stated the Senior Millage Allocation Committee (SMAC) reviewed and approved the contract extension.

Comr. Haadsma stated he understood we were entering into an agreement with AAA and they would contract with others. He stated he was troubled that a lot of this work was being taken out of county and he would be voting no because he was concerned about local jobs being sent out to Kalamazoo and farther west.

Comr. Frisbie responded to Comr. Haadsma's statement as a member of the Community Action Board, noting they also submitted a proposal but it was much higher than Senior Services. He reminded everyone that Senior Services was based out of Burnham Brook, and not Kalamazoo, to provide meals in Calhoun County. He stated that if Community Action had continued it would have been at a huge loss and they would have used to offset losses in the food program by using Community Block Grant dollars which would have meant other services in the County would have suffered. Comr. Frisbie stated he understood Comr. Haadsma's concerns about local jobs but because Senior Services operates out of Burnham Brook, they did provide local jobs to local folks. He stated he would be supporting the measure.

Res. 184-2013

"Moved Comr. King, Supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the following:

Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Interlocal Agreement with Region B Area Agency on Aging is approved as presented and the Board Chair is authorized to sign the Agreement on behalf of Calhoun County.

Comr. Todd stated he voted to abstain.

Corporation Counsel Lindsey stated the Board rules voted on this year stated that when a Commissioner abstained, he had to explain why to the rest of the Board then they would vote on whether to accept. He stated if the reason was not accepted, it was considered a no vote.

Comr. Todd stated he had a very near and dear relative who is employed at Region 3B and that's why he was abstaining.

Comr. Todd then changed his vote to no.

On a roll call vote – Yes – 4, No – 2 (Haadsma, Todd), Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion **CARRIED**.

4. Solid Waste and Recycling Coordinator Position Creation and Support Staff

Administrator/Controller Scott stated this was part of the transition of the solid waste services to the Health Department, Environmental Health Division. She stated we were requesting staffing to coordinate the solid waste services. She stated the request was to transfer a position that existed in the Road Department so the only additional staffing was the support staff.

Environmental Health Manager Paul Makoski stated the solid waste and recycling program had challenges and the opportunities were unlimited. He stated the program requires a staff person and support so they could try to move ahead and do a better job at moving initiatives forward.

Scott stated both positions would be fully funded by the solid waste fund.

Comr. Haadsma inquired what the union status of the two positions would be.

Scott stated both positions would be union positions in the IUOE, and that the Coordinator position was formerly non-union and so this would increase the union's strength by 1.5 FTE's.

Res. 185-2013

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, Supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the authorized staffing allocation for the Environmental Services Coordinator at the Road Department be changed to the title Solid Waste and Recycling Coordinator and transferred to the Solid Waste Fund. Also, resolved that a new position of Part-Time Program Clerk also be added to the authorized staffing allocation for the Solid Waste Fund."

On a roll call vote – Yes – 6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion **CARRIED**.

5. Amendments to Contract Number PROFC-11-13001

Administrator/Controller Scott stated this item was submitted by the Prosecutor. She stated there were two amendments to the existing contract: one was the usual amendment they did each year; the other was to extend the contract for three months so that the Department of Human Services could improve the grant reporting software and process.

Prosecutor Gilbert stated this was the contract so they could represent the Department of Human Services (DHS) in neglect and abuse cases.

Res. 186-2013

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, Supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve amendments to Contract Number PROFC-11-13001 with the Michigan Department of Human Services as presented."

On a roll call vote – Yes – 6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion **CARRIED**.

6. CareHere Contract Approval

Administrator/Controller Scott stated this was a request to approve an agreement between CareHere, the City of Battle Creek and Calhoun County to provide an on-site clinic for employees. She stated it had been in the works for two years. She gave credit to HR Director Archambault and Corporation Counsel Lindsey for their hard work and said the contract turned out very nicely. She stated Toyota had plants in other states that had this program and it provided their employees with better, more efficient coverage. She stated the clinic was being built in the City Public Services Building on Kendall Street. She explained employees and their families could use the clinic for free. Scott noted the City of Battle Creek approved contract earlier this week and Toyota was anxious to get it moving. She stated CareHere valued getting local professionals in place to serve employees. She stated we could have the clinic up and running by spring. She stated that after administrative fees to CareHere, in the first twelve months we could save up to \$160,000. She stated that based on data from other places, the savings could go up drastically after.

HR Director Archambault stated she was excited about the project and it would be a great collaboration. She noted Calhoun County would be the first government in Michigan to introduce such a clinic.

Scott stated her understanding was we had a shortage of primary care doctors in the county and that shortage may increase with the Affordable Health Care Act. She stated once the clinic was in place they could partner with other organizations. She explained CareHere stated the local healthcare industry should see this as a compliment to what was already there.

Comr. Frisbie stated it would be a great opportunity for employees and their families. He stated he was skeptical at first, but staff had done their homework. He stated he would be supporting this collaboration.

Comr. Kale believed this was a great opportunity. He stated this collaboration followed the path that Administration and the Board has set for controlling costs and being smart with county money.

Res. 187-2013

“Moved Comr. Frisbie, Supported by Comr. VanSickle to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Agreement between CareHere, the City of Battle Creek, and Calhoun County as presented and Board Chair Art Kale is authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of Calhoun County.”

On a roll call vote – Yes – 6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion **CARRIED**.

7. Financial Statements for September 2013

Administrator/Controller Scott presented the September 2013 year to date financial statements. She stated the General Fund was still showing a possible \$1 million deficit in revenue, mostly in public safety. She stated we were considering possible transfers of fund balances if we continue to see shortfalls. She explained the Budget Committee continued to meet, and recently held budget hearings with many departments. She noted that on October 28 the committee would review budget balancing proposals from Administration. She stated the public hearing on the 2014 budget is scheduled for November 21.

Res. 188-2013

“Moved Comr. Haadsma, Supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept the September 2013 Financial Statements for informational purposes only.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

13. CITIZEN’S TIME

Road Department Managing Director Peterson announced the Road Department safety day was changed to the October 30th; they were having a pancake and sausage breakfast in the morning then training for the remainder of the day.

Autumn Smith stated she had attended out of concern for the roads. She stated she believed there were some roads in the County that were impassable and something needed to be done to fix them as soon as possible.

14. COMMISSIONERS TIME

Comr. King publicly thanked Road Department Managing Director Peterson for the work done on Jameson, the road leading to the Doris Klaussen Center. He explained the road was deplorable and was the subject of a letter to the editor. He explained they had asked Emmett Township and the CISD for help, but the plan fell apart. He stated Peterson took a “fresh eyes” approach and found an exception to Act 51 because of the school zone and got the work done. He stated that there seemed to be a big misunderstanding on how roads were funded and he just wanted to be clear that it was a state law that local roads need a 50% match at the very minimum to be redone. He stated that meant that Act 51 required a local entity to pay for at least 50% of the work; many times it was the townships. He noted that some counties require a larger percentage paid by the local entity, stating some counties require the locals to pay 100% for local roads. He stated that not one nickel of property taxes paid for roads. Comr. King stated the Federal Aid projects were awesome, they required very little match from the county but the county did not choose the projects that would be completed. He stated we were accountable to the residents of this county and he applauded the Commission, Administration and the Road Department.

Comr. Frisbie echoed Comr. King's compliments and discussed roads in Pennfield Township that were dangerous but had been repaired and were better.

Comr. Haadsma also thanked the Road Department for their outstanding work on the roads.

Comr. Kale addressed the AAA contract, agenda item 12B3, stating the goal should be to find better quality and price, better service at a more competitive price. He stated we had the responsibility to manage our taxpayers' money, but that didn't always mean the lowest price. He stated for us not to continue to manage the taxpayers money is fiscally irresponsible. Kale stated he was very proud of how we have managed money at the county, we had a great credit rating and he was very proud of the Administrative team.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

- A. Calhoun County Claims Payable for September 27 – October 10, 2013 in the amount of \$1,107,084.23 and Road Department payables in the amount of \$782,498.48

Res. 189-2013

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for September 27 – October 10, 2013 in the amount of \$1,107,084.23 and Road Department payables in the amount of \$782,498.48 as presented."

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

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Corporation Counsel Lindsey reminded everyone there would be another United Way lunch cookout, this time at the Justice Center from 11:30 – 1:30 October 18. Comrs. Kale and King would be cooking and Comr. Dunn would be providing drinks.

Comr. Frisbie announced the Pennfield Exchange Club would be having an all you can eat spaghetti dinner from 4:30 – 7 on Friday, October 18.

Comr. VanSickle reminded everyone that tomorrow was the last day to become a member of the Calhoun County Agricultural and Industrial Society (CCAIS) to vote in their election for who would be in charge of our fairgrounds.

Sheriff Saxton announced the Albion Public Safety chili cook off would be held Friday, October 25 from 4:30 – 7. He stated the cook off raises funds for safety equipment they couldn't otherwise afford.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

cam

Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Clerk
Calhoun County