

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

June 15, 2017

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, June 15, 2017 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

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

Present: Comrs. Dunn (arrived at 7:07), Reynolds, Smith, King, Potter and Tompkins

Excused: Comr. Frisbie

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox, Human Resources Director Kim Archambault, Finance Director Michele Johnson, Corporation Counsel Jim Dyer and Deputy Clerk Chris McComb

2 and 3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence was held followed by Comr. Smith leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. Potter, second by Comr. Reynolds to approve the amended agenda of the June 1, 2017 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 June 1, 2017 Regular Session

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Potter to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2017 Regular Session as presented."

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

6. CITIZENS' TIME

There was none.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

There was none.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Presentation from Honeywell

Honeywell Government Market Leader Dick Williams stated Honeywell has partnered with Calhoun County for about eight years of proactive energy infrastructure. He stated they are offering an opportunity for a Phase 4 Project. He presented a bar graph showing a report card from the last five years, showing savings received of 133% over what was guaranteed. He stated they are very pleased with the results that have been achieved. Williams explained that after the jail demo, they did a survey of the Marshall building. He stated much of the equipment in the building is old and past its life cycle and some was not removed when replaced. He stated the Road Department building is sound and just needs updating, such as the roof, employee entrance door, LED lighting and the heating and cooling system. He explained that in the Marshall building they would use the use area where the old jail was located as the GeoExchange area. He stated they anticipate over \$2 million in savings by addressing issues in Marshall County building and over \$1 million in savings at the Road Department. He stated the County Administration also wants to add other items from the Capital Improvement Program, such as, I.T., infrastructure updates, equipment and furniture. Williams introduced Andrew Causey P.E., C.E.M., as the Project Engineer.

Comr. Potter questioned if the Road Department Building is worth putting money into, as he heard it was not in good shape.

Williams stated the frame and foundation are solid; it just needs the roof and insulation replaced.

Comr. Reynolds asked what completion date would be.

Williams stated they will start next week on soil borings so the parking lot and landscaping will be replaced before winter but it will take about a year to complete all of the work.

Comr. Smith inquired if the survey took into account the capacity of the current Road Department shop requirements or allowed for growth.

Williams stated they reviewed the buildings for current capacity and use.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Petitions, Communications, Reports
- B. Resolutions

There was none.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

Comr. Tompkins stated he attended a Senior Millage Allocation Committee (SMAC) meeting and met the new Manager, Helen Guzzo. He stated they heard an update on the Marshall Senior Center and discussed starting strategic planning sessions.

Comr. Tompkins attended a meeting of the Trailway Alliance where they discussed advisory roles and people who may want to become members and received a report from their Treasurer.

11. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

12. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. County Administrator/Controller's Report

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that each year since we developed our Capital Improvement Plan in 2010, we present our overall seven year forecast. She explained that we don't have a capital millage or dedicated source for funding for capital other than transfers from the General Fund. She stated that in the eight years she's been here that amount has been about \$500,000, which doesn't cover lifecycle replacements on our equipment. She stated that we have done things to get our facilities in shape, catch up on deferred maintenance and bring our facility condition index to a pretty good level. She stated one of those creative things would be working with Honeywell and the energy savings contract. She stated we definitely see savings from the upgrades and the Honeywell energy savings contract. She stated the cash savings we see from improvements that we can invest back in to help us take care of our facilities. She stated that looking at the summary; this phase focuses on the Marshall County Building HVAC system. She stated it makes sense that if we are going to issue bonds we put all of our projects together. She stated that County Administration is recommending this and is hoping to bring Bond Counsel to the next meeting to discuss a notice of intent to issue capital bonds. She explained the public will have forty-five days to comment.

Scott stated we have been working with the Road Department and the Townships on local road funding projects and we may need to issue bonds for some of the townships as well. She stated we are focused on a financing method that provides savings at good rates but allows us to get things done. She stated the reason the GeoThermal System will save us money is because this system lasts twice as long as the type we now have. She stated our Financial Advisor and Bond Counsel will be in attendance at the July 6 meeting to answer questions.

Scott reminded everyone that the Legislative Breakfast will be held at the Kool Center on Friday, June 16 with breakfast at 7:30 a.m., program at 8:00 and she will be giving the welcome.

Scott stated during the week of June 19, the Michigan Association of Counties Regional Summits will present legislative updates and information from various segments of government. She stated they are doing a portion on collaboration and have asked Calhoun County to present information on the Calhoun/Jackson collaboration. She stated Road Department Managing Director Christopher Bolt will present at each summit throughout the week. She stated she and Jackson County Administrator/Controller Mike Overton will attend if possible.

Scott stated that In addition to working on capital bonds, we've been talking a lot recently about our pension plans and unfunded liabilities. She stated we have started working with our union groups through the last few rounds of bargaining to address those liabilities. She stated that in a couple situations everyone has agreed that both the county and employees will pay the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) more than what we are required so we can start to pay down the unfunded liability and in some cases lower the contribution rate. She stated we have several groups that the divisions are closed to new employees and since we still have current employees and retirees in those groups, charges are significantly increasing because there is no additional funding going in. She stated we have been working with MERS and our Financial Advisor on an analysis to see what it would look like if we issued pension funding bonds to pay MERS off for the unfunded liabilities. She stated the four closed groups together have between eight and a half and nine million in unfunded liability. She stated right now it might make sense to issue bonds to pay off MERS and allow them to invest the money and continue to pay our retirees. She stated several years ago there was legislation passed allowing counties to issue bonds to pay off our unfunded liability. She stated it would create savings for us to Issue bonds at a low interest rate. She stated this would take care of the closed divisions and the other divisions would stay active and open. She noted that any changes to the open divisions will need to be done through collective bargaining. She stated we will have more information and talking points from our experts for the Board's consideration at the next meeting. She stated there are many steps to issue the bonds including getting approval from the State Department of Treasury.

B. New Business

1. BCATS Fiscal Year 2018 Local Funding Resolution

Administrator/Controller Scott stated this is an annual request from the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS). She explained that BCATS is funded through state funding and also through our local units of government like the City of Battle Creek. She stated Comr. Frisbie is on the BCATS Board as well as Road Department Managing Director Christopher Bolt as alternate. She stated they meet to devise the ongoing, long term infrastructure funding projects we get through Federal funds and they are a pretty important group. She stated that in order to operate it requires the county Road Department to pay just under \$20,000 per year. She stated we get quite a bit of return on investment in terms of leveraging any matching federal funds. She stated that BCATS convenes the meetings of the Board and helps with PACER ratings for our roads. She stated we are asking for approval and it is in the Road Department budget.

Res. 129-2017

“Moved Comr. Potter, second by Comr. Reynolds to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study's Fiscal Year 2018 Local Funding Resolution as presented.”

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

2. Engineering Reimbursement, Form 2044

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that through Act 51, we can request reimbursement for up to \$10,000 per year for engineers to design our roads. She stated this does not reimburse the full cost of our three engineers but it helps offset a portion.

Res. 130-2017

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Reynolds to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the submission of the Engineering Reimbursement, Form 2044, to the State of Michigan as presented.”

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

3. MDOT Contract 17-5276

Administrator/Controller Scott stated we are asking for approval of an MDOT contract. She stated this is a Federal funding project in which we contribute 30% and they fund 70%, with standard MDOT language. She explained that it is related to the Anderson's Ethanol Plant, the updates are for their truck traffic route and it is considered an economic development related project.

Res. 131-2017

“Motion by Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Dunn to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve Michigan Department of Transportation Contract 17-5276 and authorizes the Board Chair and the County Administrator/Controller to sign the contracts on behalf of Calhoun County. “

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

4. 2016 Homeland Security Grant

Administrator/Controller Scott stated this is also an annual item and comes from the Sheriff’s Office of Emergency Management. She stated this Intergovernmental Funding Agreement authorizes us to continue to be a part of the regional group and Van Buren County to be the fiduciary.

Emergency Management Director Durk Dunham stated that after 9/11, the government realized there were issues with tactical responses so money was given to Emergency Management freely but times have changed. He noted the majority of grant dollars are used on anti-terrorism. He explained that as a part of Region 5, we are one of ten programs. He stated the state has put an emphasis on regionalization to collaborate on how to spend the money the best we can. He stated funds come through the state and there are strict rules for the spending, with primary projects being SWAT, tactical response and hazardous material because they can tie them directly to anti-terrorism. He stated that as a region, we are fiscally responsible and headed in the right direction. Dunhan added tht any funding available through the District is only for regional efforts and is unavailable to Calhoun County to request.

Res. 132-2017

“Motion by Comr. Potter, second by Comr. Reynolds to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the 2016 Homeland Security Grant Program Intergovernmental Funding Agreement and authorizes the Board Chair and the County Administrator/Controller to sign the agreement on behalf of the county.”

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

5. Interlocal Agreement with CareWell Services Southwest

Administrator/Controller Scott stated the intent of modifying this agreement was to provide first year funding for the new Marshall Senior Center. She stated this agreement is between Region 3B and the county and is similar to other contracts with the Senior Millage Allocation Committee. She stated this agrees to reimburse Carewell Services for the first year’s lease of the Marshall Senior Center.

Res. 133-2017

“Motion by Comr. Dunn, second by Comr. Reynolds to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby Interlocal Agreement with CareWell Services Southwest as presented.”

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

6. May 2017 Financials

Administrator/Controller Scott stated a request for a mid-year budget review is in process and results will be received next month. She stated numbers are indicating we are within expectations for revenue and expenditures.

Res. 134-2017

“Motion by Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Dunn to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept for information the May 2017 Financial Statements as presented.

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

7. Award for Concrete Work at the Justice Center

Administrator/Controller Scott stated this is a recommendation to approve a contract for concrete repairs around the entrance of the justice center. She explained it was removed from the last agenda because there were questions about the award, and that we did our due diligence and have no concerns. She stated we are recommending the same as last meeting.

Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox explained that the concrete around the front entrance needed significant repairs and we have been looking at ways to fund it. He stated the most recent bond issuance was a good time to do this project. He stated we received three responses to the bid and are recommending Associated Construction. He stated they were established as the low bidder after review. He stated we additionally asked for quote on concrete and railing then did a post bid review to confirm units were accurate. He stated we are confident to recommend Associated Construction for this Capital Improvement Plan project.

Res. 135-17

“Motion by Comr. Potter, second by Comr. Reynolds to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the contract with Associated Construction, Inc. to provide concrete repairs to walls and walkways surrounding the entrance to the Justice Center in Battle Creek in the amount of \$375,833.”

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

13. CITIZEN’S TIME

Sheriff Matt Saxton invited everyone to the Sheriff Saxton’s 6S for Students Golf Outing on August 11, noting teams are filing up fast.

14. COMMISSIONERS TIME

Comr. Tompkins stated he attended a Town Hall meeting on June 8 at the old Washington Gardner High School in Albion in Precinct 4, hosted by Council Member Marcola Lawler. He stated she did a great job connecting with the residents of the fourth precinct. He thanked her for the opportunity to sit in.

Comr. Reynolds reminded everyone that the Juneteenth celebration is coming up this weekend.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

A. County Claims Payable for May 26 – June 8, 2017 in the amount of \$3,681,805.99 as presented

Res. 136-2017

“Moved Comr. Potter, second by Comr. Dunn to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Claims Payable for May 26 - June 8, 2017 in the amount of \$12,570,019.18 as presented.”

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

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comr. Tompkins stated the Albion Juneteenth Celebration will be on Saturday, June 17, beginning on the steps of City Hall. He stated the Mayor will read a proclamation followed by a walk to Holland Park for music, food and activities for all ages.

Comr. Tompkins announced the Homer’s Home Summer Festival in conjunction with the Homer Area Chamber of Commerce is having it’s cash drawing on June 24 at the Community House in Homer. He stated proceeds will go to help fund the Summer festival fireworks at the Homer Community House. He stated tickets are \$50 dinner and will be provided by Skeeter’s Batter Up with drinks provided.

Comr. Tompkins announced Albion’s 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Red, White and Blue Cruise In will take place on June 29, starting at 4:00 p.m., sponsored by the Albion Downtown Development Authority. He noted music from the 50’s and 60’s will be playing along with the great food that’s available.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

cam

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk to the Board