

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

March 1, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 1, 2018 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. King, Potter, Tompkins, Smith, and Frisbie (arrived 7:02 p.m.)

Excused: Comrs. Reynolds, Vette

Staff Present: Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox, Finance Director Michele Johnson, Corporation Counsel Jim Dyer and Deputy Clerk Shana Huerta

2 and 3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. Potter, second by Comr. Smith to approve the agenda of the March 1, 2018 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 February 15, 2018 Board of Commissioners Regular Session

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Potter to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2018 Regular Session as presented."

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

6. CITIZENS' TIME

There was none.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Sheriff Matt Saxton thanked the Exchange Club of Marshall and Comr. Potter for recognizing the Sheriff's Deputy of the Year, Deputy Chris Mandoka of the Pennfield Division, the Marshall Police Officer of the Year and Michigan State Trooper of the Year. Sheriff Saxton explained the Deputy Mandoka was selected by his peers within the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department in part because of a PPO and possession of meth arrest he made on February 7, 2017 that resulted in 29 felony warrants and 12 arrests. Sheriff Saxton shared that a three day federal inspection of the jail facility would take place the following week and he would provide an update on that inspection at the next meeting.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Proclamation Honoring Scene Magazine's Man of the Year – Mark Hires

Comr. Frisbie shared the Scene's Man of the Year Proclamation honoring Mark Hires. The proclamation read as follows:

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING**

**MARK HIRES -- SCENE MAGAZINE'S 2017 MAN OF THE YEAR**

**WHEREAS**, Mark Hires has been a resident of our community for quite some time but chooses to impact change in quiet ways, beginning with his commitment at home with his wife of 40 years, Cheryl; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark traveled to Texas after high school, and began his adult days in Battle Creek in 1985 working with Wagner Flook Builders, and learned, partially from Dick Masten, how to run a business while making sure that 'Family' was always important, as are ethics and treating people fairly; and

**WHEREAS**, Later, in 2000, CM Contracting began, with more encouragement from Masten, who had continued to have a profound impact on him, encouraging community and civic involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, One of Mark's first projects was for Leila Arboretum, as he took great pride in assisting with the design of the stage and arbors, and Leila Arboretum continues to hold a soft spot as he still supports their success today; and

**WHEREAS**, Getting involved in the business climate was one of Mark's next endeavors, participating with ULABA (Urbandale Level Park Area Business Association) along with Nate Zanotti and George Merriam, and learning that "People are innately good" and that "Negative news is not helpful;" and

**WHEREAS**, His next passion was the Barn Theatre, for which he reached out to Bob Worgess to join him in reshaping the strength and programming of this icon in our community, bringing new ideas such as re-seating the non-profit entity, the Barn Theatre School, and new resources and the engagement of a new board of directors to help in the direction toward the solid footing that they enjoy today; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark was instrumental in bringing the World Balloon Championships here, with help from Greg Moore and Ken Durkee to bring the US Nationals to Battle Creek in 2009, and ultimately the World

Championships returning to Battle Creek, accomplishing one of the most successful world events ever with pilots from 29 countries across the globe, representing multiple languages; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark has also been on the Bedford Township Planning Commission for 15 years, as chair for the last three, and served as the building official for 10 years; has served on the Calhoun County Department of Health & Human Services Board, allocating state dollars to adult care and foster care for children; and he still continues to work as a business owner and master commercial carpenter; and

**WHEREAS**, The level of excitement that Mark has for cars is not really at the top of the list for Cheryl, but they still enjoy many things together from art and theatre, to their four children and 13 grandchildren; and

**WHEREAS**, Mark stated, "I love the community. People need to understand how nice our community is and that all the challenges we face can truly be fixed," and we are excited to join with Mark in his quest to make our community better every day.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners hereby congratulates Mark Hires on being named Scene Magazine's 2017 Man of the Year.

B. Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) Annual Report

District 13 Coordinator Julie Pioch distributed MSUE information explaining services offered through Extension to the Commissioners and encouraged them to share the information with their constituents within their districts. Ms. Pioch stated that while there was only one educator, Kathy Fischer, located in Calhoun County there were several other educators that serviced Calhoun County. Kathy Fischer, Calhoun County's 4-H Coordinator stated that in 2017 2,600 youth were involved in 4-H, 600 in traditional clubs and 2,000 through other programming. Ms. Fischer shared there were 169 volunteers that supported 37 Clubs. Linden Kelly introduced himself and explained that both he and Eric Anderson provide education surrounding irrigation topics. MSUE's Health & Nutrition Program's Sarah Johnson introduced herself and provided an overview of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Government and Public Policy Educator Wendy Walker introduced herself and shared she was focused on emerging solar energy issues for agricultural land. Beth Clausen stated she was a Natural Resources and Water Quality Educator that traveled throughout the state to boat washing stations teaching boaters proper washing techniques. Jeremy Jubenville shared that he was focused on front line insects and pest diagnostics and partnered with the Battle Creek Community Foundation. Roger Betz stated he was an Educator focusing on Agricultural Farm Financial Management, Business Succession and Estate Planning.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

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

There was none.

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 shared that the Communications Manager and Road Department Managing Director vacant positions had been posted.

Administrator Scott stated that FireKeeper's Casino presented the FireKeeper's Local Revenue Sharing Board a record "Net Win" of \$5,656,690 on February 26 and that the funding distribution process was underway for Tier II grants and hearings would take place on March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Scott shared that the Road Department may be eligible to receive an additional \$873,554 in 2018 funding from a pending supplemental Budget Bill. However, this could potentially lower funding received in the 2018-2019 year. She also noted that this year's operating budget could benefit from additional funding for structural road improvements, given that winter maintenance costs had already exceeded 50% of the entire 2018 winter maintenance budget.

Administrator Scott stated that progress was being made in the Trailhead Acquisition & Development Project in Albion next to Albion College with the next step being submitting the Trust Fund Grant application by April 1st.

Ms. Scott shared that she attended on February 15<sup>th</sup> the Planning Committee meeting for the 2018 County Legislative Breakfast, led by the Battle Creek Community Foundation and coming in June, to discuss with local, state and federal elected officials our current issues and opportunities within the participating communities as seen by nonprofits.

B. New Business

1. Solid Waste Summit Pointe Contract

Corporation Counsel Jim Dyer explained that this contract had been brought to the Board for approval previously with the contingency that it may change pending adjustments between Summit Pointe and Corporation Counsel. Mr. Dyer stated that there were significant changes which he felt needed to be brought to the Board's attention prior to being signed. Mr. Dyer stated the changes included

clarification being needed by Summit Pointe in regard to the type of items that employees could come in contact with and a no warranties in service clause in the contract.

Res. 28-2018

“Moved Comr. Frisbie, second by Comr. Potter to approve the contract between Calhoun County and Summit Pointe as presented, and authorize the Board Chair to execute the contract on behalf of the County.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 5. Excused – 2. Motion **CARRIED**.

2. Lakeland Asphalt Corporation Contract

Assistant Administrator Brad Wilcox explained that the joint purchasing team with Jackson County Department of Transportation considered two bids for the contract. The bidders were Lakeland Asphalt and Unique Paving Materials. Mr. Wilcox stated that Lakeland was determined to be the low apparent bidder and most qualified to provide Cold Patch material to the Calhoun County Road Department and the Jackson County Department of Transportation.

Res. 29-2018

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to approve the two year contract with Lakeland Asphalt Corporation to provide bituminous cold patching material to the Calhoun County Road Department and the Jackson County Department of Transportation as presented and authorize the Board Chair to sign on behalf of the County.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 5. Excused – 2. Motion **CARRIED**.

3. Calhoun County Road Department Truck Plan Update

Mr. Wilcox provided a fleet update stating that two-thirds of the fleet was previously in poor condition and in response, County Administration worked with the Road Department to create a truck replacement plan. The plan included replacing four trucks each year with seven year leases to be funded by Michigan Department of Transportation reimbursement, reduced maintenance costs and salvage sale revenues. Assistant Administrator Wilcox stated this would lower maintenance costs by not putting money into trucks that weren't worth it, and increase salvage value with no trucks being over 12 years old.

Comr. Frisbie provided a history to the new commissioners and expressed his appreciation to Michele Johnson and her staff and to Mr. Wilcox for being conservative.

Comr. Smith thanked the team and asked if the new trucks were larger than the old trucks and expressed concern with the facility being able to handle the new larger trucks. Mr. Wilcox responded that the larger size of the new trucks is being considered in the pending Road Department facilities improvement plans.

Res. 30-2018

“Moved Comr. Potter, second by Comr. Frisbie to accept the Calhoun County Road Department Truck Plan update as an informational item.”

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

4. Administrative Services Agreement with the FireKeeper’s Local Revenue Sharing Board

Ms. Scott stated this agreement had been in place since 2010 and was \$30,000 in unrestricted funds that went into the General Fund for administrative services for the FireKeeper’s Local Revenue Sharing board. She explained that Chair King was also the Chair for Local Revenue Sharing Board and voted on this item in that meeting and would be abstaining from the vote that night.

Res. 31-2018

“Moved Comr. Potter, second by Comr. Frisbie to approve the Administrative Services Agreement with the FireKeepers Local Revenue Sharing board as presented and authorize County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott to sign the Agreement on behalf of the County.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 4. Excused – 2. Abstain – 1 (King). Motion **CARRIED**.

13. CITIZEN’S TIME

Sheriff Saxton shared that he was appointed to the Governor’s Traffic Safety Council and in 2017 pedestrian fatalities rose for the second straight year to 16%. He expressed concern regarding the potential of recreational marijuana appearing on the ballot in November as the increase in marijuana related driving fatalities increases. Comr. Frisbie added that he has seen an increase in the number of overdoses and that when patients were asked what the first drug they used was, they almost always responded with marijuana. He stated that marijuana was a transitional drug and hoped it did not become recreationally legal.

14. COMMISSIONERS TIME

Comr. Tompkins attended the 2018 Albion Economic Forecast earlier that evening where they were able to see the brand new Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in downtown Albion.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

- A. County Claims Payable for February 9, 2018 through February 22, 2018 in the amount of \$3,606,565.98

Res. 32-2018

“Moved Comr. Potter, second by Comr. Frisbie to approve the County Claims Payable for February 9, 2018 through February 22, 2018 in the amount of \$3,606,565.98 as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 5. Excused – 2. Motion **CARRIED**.

**16. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Comr. Tompkins stated that the Blues at the Bohm 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary would take place on Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m. Mr. Tompkins shared that the Annual Feed Your Future event would take place on March 8<sup>th</sup> at Homer Schools from 5-7:30 p.m. where a free dinner would be provided followed by a Community Resource Job Fair. Comr. Tompkins stated that the All-In-Community Breakfast in Homer would take place on March 9<sup>th</sup> at the Homer Presbyterian Church from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Comr. Frisbie shared that the Scene’s Man of the Year event would take place the following Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at McCamly Plaza Hotel and everyone was invited to attend.

Comr. Potter stated that the hospital auction would take place on March 10<sup>th</sup> at Oaklawn and they would be competing with a Comedy Show at Cornwell’s Turkey.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

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Chairman

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Clerk to the Board