

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

February 20, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 20, 2020 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

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

Present: Comrs. Jake Smith, Tommy Miller, Rochelle Hatcher, Gary Tompkins, Kathy-Sue Vette, Derek King and Steve Frisbie

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Corporation Counsel Jim Dyer, Assistant Administrator Brad Wilcox, Communications Manager Lucy Blair and Deputy Clerk Shana Huerta

2 and 3. MOMENT OF SILENCE/INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Comr. Frisbie acknowledged the passing of Road Department's Russ Densmore's mother, and of retired Judge Conrad Sindt. He shared that Chief Judge Jaconette asked him to speak on Judge Jaconette's behalf that evening in honor of Judge Sindt, who passed away the previous week in a tragic accident at his home. Comr. Frisbie shared that Judge Sindt began his career with the Albion Police Department and eventually worked his way up to Chief Judge. He asked that everyone remember all of Judge Sindt's contributions to the community and keep his family in their prayers.

After a moment of silence in honor of Judge Conrad Sindt and Russ Densmore's mother, Comr. Vette led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Res. 36-2020

"Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the agenda of the Feb. 20, 2020 Regular Meeting of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented."

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

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Feb. 6, 2020 Board of Commissioners Regular Session

Res. 37-2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Vette to approve the minutes of the Feb. 6, 2020 Board of Commissioners Regular Session as presented.”

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

6. CITIZENS' TIME

Richard Lindsey of Marshall explained his involvement with the Senior Millage Allocation Committee (SMAC) and the Senior Millage Ballot Committee. He shared the importance of the many programs that the millage supported, and that consideration was being given to potentially contribute to the Talons Out Honor Flight for veterans. He noted the amount of discussion that took place by the committee to ensure every dollar is spent wisely. Mr. Lindsey stated that he hoped the Board approved the proposed language so the millage renewal could be placed on the August ballot.

Carl Gibson of Marshall and previous Senior Services Manager expressed his support of the Senior Millage and the proposed ballot language. He explained that Calhoun County was one of only two counties in Michigan that managed their own millage funds rather than funneling the funds through another agency.

Charles Baker of 110 Highfield Rd. expressed his support of the Senior Millage and the proposed ballot language and shared that he was on a Talons Out Flight in November.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Sheriff Matt Saxton stated that at the previous meeting he announced his retirement from the Sheriff's Office to accept the position of CEO/Executive Director of the Michigan Sheriff's Association. He publicly recommended Det. Sgt. Steve Hinkley for his replacement upon his retirement and in the upcoming election.

Road Department Managing Director John Midgley stated that he had received numerous calls regarding weight restrictions on roads. He explained that unless conditions change drastically, the County's Road Department would not be imposing restrictions at all this year due to the lack of frost on the roads. He shared that he would notify the Board of Commissioners and Administration via email should the situation change.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Albion/Homer United Way Certificate Presentation

Albion/Homer United Way Executive Director Marcia Starkey shared that the 2019 Calhoun County campaign increased 40% over the previous year and presented Senior Services Manager Helen Guzzo with a certificate of appreciation. She noted that Commissioner Gary Tompkins was on the Albion/Homer United Way Board and thanked Calhoun County for its outstanding leadership.

Helen Guzzo explained that she co-chaired the United Way campaign and thanked Comr. King and Sheriff Saxton for providing leadership and hosting two fundraising cookouts. She shared that Sheriff Saxton split his donation over all three county United Ways, Albion/Homer, Marshall and Battle Creek in order to support the entire County.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

1. Menominee County Great Lakes Shoreline Resolution
2. Cheboygan County Second Amendment Sanctuary County Resolution
3. Cheboygan County Stepping Up Initiative Resolution
4. Sanilac County Second Amendment Resolution

B. Resolutions

1. 2020 Census County Boundary Verification Approval
2. Calhoun County Parks and Recreation Commission Appointment

{a} Amber Cunningham

Appoint for a term beginning February 20,2020 through December 31, 2022

{b} Gregg Strand

Appoint for a term beginning February 20,2020 through December 31, 2022

Res. 38-2020

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Consent Agenda of the Feb. 20, 2020 Board of Commissioners’ Regular Session as presented.”

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

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

Comr. Tompkins stated that the Senior Millage Allocation Committee (SMAC) met on Friday, Feb. 7 and approved 2019 fiscal adjustments along with approving mini-grants for the Albion/Marshall Connector, Albion Health Care Alliance and Neighborhoods, Inc. He shared that Senior Health Partner’s Program Director Linda Grap provided a report on services they provide.

## 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 she attended Judge Line's Veterans Treatment Court earlier that day, and that 10 of 11 participants succeeded without sanction. She noted that Veterans Affairs Director Aaron Edlefson was in attendance and shared that a portion of the Veterans Affairs grant on that evening's agenda would be given to the treatment court for needed supplies. Ms. Scott stated that the Calhoun County Visitor's Bureau Board met on Tuesday, Feb. 11 and approved their five-year strategic destination plan for tourism. She shared that the Veterans Affairs Committee met on Wednesday, Feb. 12 and discussed the new state grant on that evening's agenda and took action on several Veterans Relief Fund applications. Ms. Scott explained that the Battle Creek Unlimited Economic Outlook event took place at Kellogg Arena on Tuesday, Feb. 18 and reported that over the past year and a half they created 260 new jobs and invested \$67M in capital. She stated that there was a presentation from a national economic development consultant, who emphasized the importance of attracting businesses through providing talented workers, who will look for attractive housing, schools, hospitals and parks and recreation opportunities when seeking a place to live and work. She added that the consultant mentioned that of equal importance is removing transportation barriers, an initiative that is being addressed through the County's current transit study.

### B. New Business

#### 1. Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) Grant

Ms. Scott stated that this item was the approval of the Veterans Affairs Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency grant.

Aaron Edlefson shared that committee members Chuck Baker and Trena Philo were present in support of the \$108,000 grant that would be used on advertising to inform veterans and families of services offered, new programs and enhancing existing programs that would impact a large number of veterans.

#### Res. 39-2020

"Moved Comr. Smith, second by Comr. Vette to approve the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency's (MVAA) County Veteran Service Fund Grant as presented and authorize the Board Chair to sign on behalf of the County."

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

#### 2. Revised County Remonumentation Plan

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that this was a revised County Remonumentation plan that was required due to legislative change in 2014 that required all counties throughout the state to update their plans with an updated inventory, GPS coordinates and long-term monument maintenance plan by March 1.

Res. 40-2020

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Smith to approve the 2020 Calhoun County Revised Remonumentation Plan as presented and authorize submission to the State of Michigan.”

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

3. 2020 Remonumentation Contracts

Ms. Scott explained that this item included the individual contracts for the surveyors completing the remonumentation work. She stated there were six licensed surveyors that will receive a little over \$11,000 a year each, for a total program cost of approximately \$80,000 that was largely funded by grant dollars. Ms. Scott explained that the program received part of the funding through a portion of deed fees that would help fund the ongoing maintenance program once grant funding from the State was decreased.

Res. 41-2020

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Vette to approve the 2020 Survey and Remonumentation Program Surveyor Agreements in order to carry out the approved 2020 Survey and Remonumentation Grant as presented and authorize the Administrator/Controller and Board Chair to sign on behalf of the County.”

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

4. Albion Community Recycling Center Agreement

Ms. Scott explained that this item was a six-month extension of the Albion Recycling Center agreement that began in 2014. She stated that Albion contributed \$7,000 annually, and the County provided the remainder. Ms. Scott explained that the city-owned infrastructure at the facility was in disrepair and Albion was considering moving to a single hauler that included curbside recycling, and so they were recommending only extending the agreement for six months.

Res. 42-2020

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Community Recycling Center Agreement Extension and Modification as presented and authorize the Board Chair to sign on behalf of the County.”

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

5. Approval of Senior Millage Renewal Ballot Language

Ms. Scott explained that this item was the proposed language for Senior Millage renewal to be placed on the August ballot. She stated that it included the same millage rate of .7452 for 10 years through 2030, estimated to generate approximately \$2.8M for the first year.

Senior Services Manager Helen Guzzo thanked the ballot committee that included Chair, Richard Lindsay, Vice Chair Sheri Sherban, Secretary Karla Fales and Treasurer Diane Peters. She provided a background of the millage and provided statistics on how the program benefitted area seniors. Ms. Guzzo explained that by approving the language the Board would also be approving a budget adjustment to add a Senior Strategic Project Fund which would use \$700,000 from the General Fund to fund one-time projects such as helping Heritage Commons establish a permanent location. The funds would be replenished through personal property tax and FireKeepers Local Revenue Sharing Board dollars. She shared that she felt proud of her staff and the SMAC who did a great managing the millage and program funding.

Comr. Tompkins expressed that their committee did a phenomenal job vetting every item on their agendas and thanked the Senior Services staff for their work.

Comr. Frisbie stated that Calhoun County's Senior Services had become a model throughout the state with the way they managed their millage by offering multiple programs that impacted over 6,500 seniors annually.

Comr. Miller was honored to live in a county that supported the Senior and Veteran millages.

Comr. King asked how many seniors were supported.

Ms. Guzzo stated that 6,568 seniors were supported through the millage.

Res. 43-2020

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the ballot language as presented for placing Senior Millage Renewal at 0.7452 mills on the August 4, 2020 ballot, and authorize the Calhoun County Clerk and Calhoun County Administration to take all steps required by law to place renewal of the Calhoun County Senior Millage on the August 4, 2020 ballot."

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

6. Calhoun County Public Health Department Staffing Changes

Administrator/Controller Scott stated this item was a request to authorize a staffing change within the Health Department's Nurse Family Partnership Program and WIC Programs for a net increase of approximately one position to increase outreach and improve customer service.

Health Department Deputy Health Officer Brigette Reichenbaugh explained that through the recent management changes and reorganization, they were able to identify staffing changes that needed to be made. She stated there were currently three nurses within the Nurse Family Partnership Program and there was a need for an additional nurse to better serve the community. Ms. Reichenbaugh explained that currently there were Nutritionists, Dietitians and Program Technicians answering the phone within the WIC Department when their time could be better spent serving clients. She stated they were hoping to hire a full-time Burmese speaking Clerk that would be able to serve Burmese speaking clients from the beginning to the end of their visit.

Res. 44-2020

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the changes to the Authorized Staffing Allocations for the Calhoun County Public Health Department as presented, along with any necessary budget adjustments.”

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

7. MDOT Contract #20-5040

Ms. Scott stated that this item was an MDOT contract to resurface Bellevue Rd. in Convis Township. She explained that the Road Department purchased federal funds from another county and would pay \$750,000 of an almost \$1M project. She added that Convis Township agreed to cover the remaining 20%

John Midgley explained that the Road Department spoke with the Township prior to purchasing the extra federal aid dollars for \$.85 on the dollar.

Comr. Miller asked how the County paid for the additional federal aid.

Mr. Midgley stated that they paid \$637,500, included in the Road Department budget, for the \$750,000 in federal aid.

Comr. Frisbie stated that this work would complete a project that began approximately two years prior and would result in Bellevue Road being completely resurfaced from the County line all the way into Battle Creek.

Res. 45-2020

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Tompkins to approve the Michigan Department of Transportation Contract 20-5040 and authorize the County Administrator/Controller and Board of Commissioner Chair to electronically sign necessary documents to execute the contract, upon review by legal counsel.”

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

8. Dust Control Bid Recommendation

Ms. Scott stated that this item was a recommendation for a dust control contract with Michigan Mineral Resources (MMR) out of Albion for drying application on gravel roads.

Assistant Administrator Brad Wilcox explained that this was another joint bid with Jackson County, and they received two bids, one from Great Lake Chloride out of Grand Haven and the other from Michigan Mineral Resources. He stated that they determined that MMR was the lowest, most responsive bidder. Mr. Wilcox explained that while MMR was the lowest bidder, the County continued to see a trend in increasing costs of contracts. He shared that the new contract was 28% higher than the previous one. Mr. Wilcox stated they were considering meeting with contractors to discuss the increased costs and the County's inability to sustain the increases year after year. He concluded that the total three-year cost was \$1.2M for Calhoun and Jackson Counties.

9. Keepers Local Revenue Sharing Board Administrative Services Agreement

Ms. Scott stated that this item was the annual administrative services agreement with the FireKeepers Local Revenue Sharing Board (FLRSB). She explained that the agreement contained the same terms as previous years and provided \$30,000 per year to the County for administrative support of the Board.

Res. 47-2020

"Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Administrative Services Agreement with the FireKeepers Local Revenue Sharing Board as presented and authorize Board Chair to sign on behalf of the County."

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

13. CITIZEN'S TIME

Sheri Sherban of Battle Creek expressed her gratitude for the Board's support of the Senior Millage ballot language. She stated that the millage did not only touch the hearts of many seniors but their families as well and made a big difference in the community.

14. COMMISSIONERS TIME

Comr. Tompkins shared that Chair Frisbie did a good job speaking about the recent passing of Judge Sindt and extended his condolences to his family.

Comr. Frisbie shared that Judge Sindt's wife name was Peggy.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

A. Claims Payable for January 31, 2020 through February 13, 2020 in the amount of \$2,707,719.82

Res. 35-2020



“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Vette to approve Claims Payable for January 31, 2020 through February 13, 2020 in the amount of \$2,707,719.82 as presented.”

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

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comr. Tompkins shared that at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 29<sup>th</sup>, the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk for Warmth would take place at Albion United Methodist Church. He stated that later that evening the Homer VFW would host Souper Cookoff fundraiser to benefit veterans and youth projects.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

slh

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

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