

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

November 5, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00p.m., Thursday November 5, 2020 via Zoom Meeting and aired live on YouTube.

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

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

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Corporation Counsel Jim Dyer, Assistant Administrator Brad Wilcox, Human Resources/Labor Relations Director Kim Archambault, Communications Manager Lucy Blair, and Deputy Clerk Susan Connolly

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

After the moment of silence, Comr. King led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Res. 186-2020

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Smith to approve the agenda of the November 5, 2020 Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented.”

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

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the October 15, 2020 Board of Commissioners Annual Apportionment Session.

Res. 187-2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Minutes of the October 15, 2020 Annual Apportionment Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented.”

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

6. CITIZENS' TIME

There was none.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Prosecutor David Gilbert wished the commissioners and elected officials congratulations on winning their elections.

Sheriff Steve Hinkley also congratulated everyone on the elections.

County Clerk/Register of Deeds Kimberly Hinkley further wished congratulations to members and officials and thanked the IT team, elections department and Judge Jaconette for their support on election night. Ms. Hinkley added that canvassing begins November 5.

Senior Services Manager Helen Guzzo congratulated the officials on their elections and thanked everyone for their support of the United Way campaign. Ms. Guzzo shared that a link was sent to County employees and commissioners for their participation and contributions to the campaign.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. United Way Resolution recognizing Nov. 5 - Nov. 13 as the 2020 Workplace Campaign.

Comr. King read the Resolution on the record:

Calhoun County Workplace United Way Campaign

November 5 – 13, 2020

WHEREAS, Calhoun County contains three United Way organizations, Albion-Homer United Way, Marshall United Way and the United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region;

WHEREAS, the United Ways do what no single organization can do alone;

WHEREAS, the United Ways have been leaders in the community during the response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, the United Ways have a vision of supporting a vibrant community where all people realize their full potential, where every baby thrives, every child graduates from high school, every person earns enough to be financially stable and every person who is hungry, homeless or in crisis gets help;

WHEREAS, the United Ways work to strengthen the community by mobilizing donations and volunteers to support programs for children, health, education, and basic needs for all people;

WHEREAS, Calhoun County government and its employees, and all three the United Ways support advancing the common good of the community;

WHEREAS, Calhoun County employees and elected officials are asked to donate to the United Way of their choice in this annual workplace campaign by payroll deduction or a check.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the elected and appointed officials and employees of Calhoun County government hereby proclaims its support for the Calhoun County Workplace United Way Campaign from November 5 to November 13, 2020 and encourages participation in the annual United Way fundraising campaign.

Steve Frisbie, Chair
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Comr. Tompkins expressed his appreciation to Senior Services Manager Helen Guzzo for her efforts in the United Way campaign and shared how contributions can be made.

Res. 188-2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to approve the United Way Resolution recognizing Nov. 5 – Nov. 13 as the 2020 Workplace Campaign as presented”

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

9. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

There was none.

B. Resolutions

1. Calhoun County Board of Health Appointment of New Members:
 - a. Jean “Jeannie” Goodrich--partial term ending December 31, 2020; and
 - b. Vivian Davis--partial term ending December 31, 2020.
2. Appointment to the Calhoun Public Safety Information Alliance (RMS) Board:
 - a. Sheriff Steven Hinkley--term is indefinite.
3. Calhoun County Planning Commission Reappointments Serving 3-Year Terms:
 - a. Terance Lunger – Education Representative --term expires May 31, 2023;
 - b. John Sackrider – Agricultural Representative --term expires May 31, 2023.
4. Revised Contract and Appointment of Ryan Miller to the Remonumentation Survey Peer Group.
5. Approval of Revised Board Rules for Electronic Meetings.

Res. 189-2020

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Miller to approve the consent agenda as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 7. 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

Calhoun Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott shared that Chris Sargent, CEO of the Kalamazoo Battle Creek United Way was in attendance and added remarks on the Zoom chat, one of which was to clarify the waiving of administrative fees for donations. Ms. Scott thanked various members of Community Development for their leadership and support of the campaign.

Ms. Scott congratulated local officials on the elections and welcomed two new county officials, Water Resources Commissioner Ron Smith and District Court Judge Michelle Richardson.

Ms. Scott reported that the Marshall Area Economic Development Alliance (MAEDA) Board met October 20 and reviewed the organization's financial control policy, with the goal of providing the CEO James Durian with enough flexibility to seek grant funds.

Administrator/Controller Scott reported on October 30, the Battle Creek Rotary Club Board met via Zoom. The Board confirmed the transfer of funds from the Rotary Education Fund to the Grand Committee specifically for education-related community service grants. They also heard updates on the new educational and promotional initiatives including Battle Creek Shopper Ads and Billboard signs.

Kelli Scott informed that the Summit Pointe Board of Directors met November 3. She noted that a closed session was held for the annual performance evaluation of CEO Jeannie Goodrich. Ms. Scott added that the Board’s HR Committee requested a contract with the county for our HR Director to manage the evaluation process, which saved money for Summit Pointe and resulted in a better result with the performance evaluation.

Administrator/Controller Scott informed that the Native American Heritage Fund (NAHF) Board met October 23 and awarded \$482,000 to six local governments in this year's round of grant funding. She added that the grants ranged from \$20,000 to \$216,000, and three of the applicants were Michigan school districts requesting funding to offset costs to remove offensive mascots and imagery across their campuses. Ms. Scott shared the Board will conduct a virtual grant award ceremony on November 20.

Ms. Scott provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic, its impact on County operations and staff, and thanked County Administration and the Health Department for their leadership in the County's preparedness and response efforts.

Lastly, Ms. Scott shared November is National American Indian Heritage Month.

Comr. Frisbie and Comr. Hatcher questioned how the Health Department is handling the increased number of COVID cases, what is being done in regard to housing for homeless and what efforts are in place to make sure local businesses are meeting requirements and staff are following guidelines.

Administrator/Controller Scott informed that the County is working on securing a location, possibly a hotel, under leadership from a JOC working group consisting of representatives from the Health Department, Corporate Counsel, Jim Dyer and Assistant Administrator, Brad Wilcox. Scott added that in regard to workplace safety, MIOSHA is expected to issue new rules next week to emphasize remote work and those rules may come with penalties for noncompliance. Ms. Scott highlighted the article in the Battle Creek Shopper regarding the new homeless shelter in Battle Creek, currently housing up to 50-55, led by a new Battle Creek Homeless Shelter, Inc. nonprofit organization. She noted that the County is seeking approval to allocate to the acquisition of the homeless shelter part of the County's CDGB CARES Act funding that is restricted for purposes addressing vulnerable populations.

B. New Business

1. Approval of Interlocal Agreement Naming Aaron P. Powers as the Designated Assessor for Calhoun County, effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025

Administrator/Controller Scott explained that this agreement is in response to new state legislation, Public Act 660 of 2018, intended to provide assurance that local units of government and their assessors are complying with state tax commission rules for their tax assessment procedures.

Res.190-2020

"Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Interlocal Agreement Naming Aaron P. Powers as the Designated Assessor for Calhoun County, effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025 as submitted."

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

2. Agreement Between Pennfield Charter Township and Calhoun County Regarding Land Use Planning Services

Ms. Scott informed the Board that this agreement allows the County to provide land use planning and zoning administration services at the request of Pennfield Township. She added that Community Development Director Jen Bomba was in attendance for the Board meeting and will act as Zoning Administrator, , and that the County is hopeful to offer this service to more townships across the county.

Res.191-2020

“Moved Comr. King, second by Comr. Vette to approve the Agreement Between Pennfield Charter Township and Calhoun County Regarding Land Use Planning Services as submitted.”

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

3. Approval of Sexual Assault Grant Contracts 2020-21

Administrator/Controller Scott reported that these agreements represent the annual renewal which has come before the commission for several years now regarding the Prosecutor’s sexual assault grant efforts. Ms. Scott noted the contracts will be effective through September 30, 2021 and welcomed Prosecutor David Gilbert to comment and answer questions.

Res.192-2020

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Tompkins to approve the Sexual Assault Grant Contracts 2020-21 as submitted.”

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

4. MERS Retiree Health Funding Vehicle Resolutions

Ms. Scott noted that these resolutions are related to addressing unfunded liabilities for the County’s and the Road Department’s retiree health benefits. She added that a new law was passed in 2017, Public Act 202, which requires local governments to create a trust fund to deposit certain actuarially calculated amounts for employees hired after June 30, 2018. Scott mentioned that the proposal is to create two funds with MERS, one for the County and one for our Road Department, and that the resolutions include instructions on how the funds will be invested.

Res.193-2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the MERS Retiree Health Funding Vehicle Resolutions as submitted.”

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

13. CITIZEN’S TIME

There was none.

14. COMMISSIONER'S TIME

Comr. Tompkins congratulated the commissioners on the elections and presented a special tribute to Dr. Ralph Cram and read the Proclamation on record:

PROCLAMATION HONORING DR. RALPH CRAM'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

WHEREAS, Dr. Ralph Cram was a practicing medical physician for 57 years, delivering over 3,000 babies and serving 2 years in the Army medical corps, and was honored as "Physician of the Year" in 1993 by the American Academy of Family Physicians; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cram has donated his time to many civic organizations over the years, including the Albion Community/Trillium Hospital, Calhoun Medical Society, Exchange Club, Rotary and Salem United Church. He also published several articles in The Michigan Academy of Family Practice Journal; and

WHEREAS, Over the years he thoroughly enjoyed travel, photography and all manners of sailing, but most importantly he was a loving and devoted husband to Mary until her death from Multiple Sclerosis in 2012 and is a loving father to three children and their spouses, as well as loving grandfather to nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, I Commissioner Gary Tompkins of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, wishes to honor the 90th birthday of Dr. Ralph Cram and recognize him for all of his service to the community and devotion to his family. We wish him continued health and happiness.

Gary Tompkins – District 7
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Lastly, Comr. Hatcher shared congratulations to the commissioners.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

Res.194-2020

"Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for October 9, 2020 through October 29, 2020 in the amount of \$11,849,430.31 as presented."

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

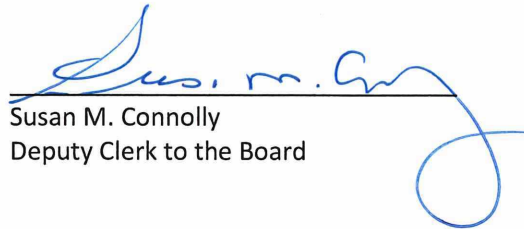
16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm at the call of the Chair.

smc



Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board