

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

November 19, 2020

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00p.m., Thursday November 19, 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. Gary Tompkins, Kathy-Sue Vette, Rochelle Hatcher, Jake Smith, Steve Frisbie, Derek King and Tommy Miller.

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. Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Res. 195-2020

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Miller to approve the agenda of the November 19, 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 November 5, 2020 Board of Commissioners Regular Session.

Res. 196-2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Minutes 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**.

**6. CITIZENS’ TIME**

There was none.

**7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS**

Treasurer Brian Wensauer reported he negotiated with Southern Michigan Bank and Trust and received .45% interest on the County's investments, noting that this rate is very high right now within the State of Michigan.

**8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- A. Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS) Holiday Season Impaired Driving - - "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI" Enforcement Campaigns Proclamation

Comr. Smith read the proclamation into record:

**Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention Campaign December 2020  
December 18, 2020 – January 1, 2021  
"Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a  
DUI" Enforcement Campaigns**

**WHEREAS**, motor vehicle crashes involving alcohol (with at least one driver with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 grams per deciliter or above) accounted for approximately 1/3 of all motor vehicle traffic fatalities in 2018 and injure hundreds of thousands more every year in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, between 2008 and 2017, of those drivers killed in crashes and tested for marijuana, marijuana presence had nearly doubled over that time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Christmas and New Year's holiday periods from mid' December through January 1st holiday period are traditionally one of the most deadly times of the year for alcohol-impaired driving, more than any other holiday period in 2018 for example; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2018 one person was killed every 50 minutes in a drunk-driving crash in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, drivers must remember that driving impaired by any substance, drugs or alcohol, is illegal and potentially deadly for themselves, passengers and other road users; and

**WHEREAS**, organizations across the nation are joining together to promote Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention Campaigns involving both alcohol and drugs in December 2020 in the form of the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI" national public awareness campaigns during the December 18, 2020 – January 1, 2021 time period;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, We, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim December 2020 as Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention, and recognize the December 18, 2020 – January 1, 2021 "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. Drive High, Get a DUI" Enforcement Campaigns in the greater Battle Creek area. We call upon

everyone to promote awareness of the impaired driving problem, to promote safer and healthier behaviors regarding the use of alcohol and all drugs, and to promote the awareness campaign this holiday season and throughout the year.

Signed,

Steve Frisbie, Chairman  
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Res. 197-2020

“Moved Comr. Smith, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS) Holiday Season Impaired Driving and Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign Proclamation as presented”

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

B. 2021 Budget Recommendation and Public Hearing

Res. 198-2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Vette to Open the Public Hearing.”

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

Administrator Controller Kelli Scott shared this was one of the most difficult budgets ever going into 2021 because of COVID-19. She noted that the largest source of revenue is related to the jail and that there is greater uncertainty now than ever with relying on the federal and state governments and other counties to continue to board inmates in our County. Scott gave credit to Sheriff Hinkley and his staff in their efforts to continue to help the County’s General Fund budget by trying to secure nearly half of the cost of the jail to be reimbursed in the form of revenue for jail borders, which has been difficult to predict.

Ms. Scott thanked the judges, elected officials and department heads for their leadership, which was the only way County Finance and Administration could bring forth a successful balancing of the budget. She reiterated the main challenges, being reduced local revenues with court costs fines, fees and jail boarding revenue.

Deputy Controller Megan Banning provided a presentation explaining the budget process, budget assumptions, increase in property tax values, revenue by categories, expenditures by categories, and expenditures by department.

Ms. Banning highlighted state revenue sharing as being the same appropriation as the 2020 amount, equaling \$3.1 million. She also noted that the 2021 budget includes an expected 2.7% increase in property tax values with continued personal property tax reimbursement estimated next year at \$2 million.

Administrator/Controller Scott added that next year's budget required a commitment from many large departments to not fill positions that had been recently vacated, meaning 20 fewer employees will start 2021 than we had at the beginning of 2020.

Comr. Frisbie asked if there was any public comment.

Comr. Frisbie stated that there was not any public comment and asked for a motion and second to Close Public Hearing.

Res. 199-2020

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Hatcher to Close Public Hearing."

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

**9. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

There was none.

B. Resolutions

1. Amended 2020 Calhoun County Apportionment Report.
2. Community Mental Health Authority (Summit Pointe) Board Appointment:
  - a) Brandon McKinney, replacing Kathleen Cowles--term ending March 31, 2021.

Res. 200-2020

"Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the consent agenda as presented."

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

**10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS**

Comr. Tompkins shared the Senior Millage Allocation Committee met November 6 and approved the RFP recommendations for 2021 which included bedbug remediation and benefits counseling, noting that on many of the programs, all these contract recommendations are for three years.

Comr. Tompkins reported that the County Planning Commission met November 9 and recommended for approval several PA 116 applications and recommended for approval a zoning map amendment for Leroy Township.

Mr. Tompkins reported the Homer Lake Board met November 10 and reviewed the 2020 fiscal year budget. He closed by highlighting the Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health Substance Use Disorder Oversight Policy Board met November 16.

Comr. Frisbie mentioned that the County Consolidated Dispatch Authority met recently, and noted that the phone surcharge ballot initiative did not pass at the November election and the Authority will develop strategies moving forward.

#### **11. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

#### **12. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

##### **A. County Administrator/Controller's Report**

County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott thanked the County IT Department and Central Services staff for their work supporting staff for remote work and phone services.

Ms. Scott reported the Veterans Affairs Committee met virtually on Nov. 9, reviewing the department's year-to-date budget and approving Veteran Relief Applications.

Administrator/Controller Scott mentioned the Calhoun County Visitors Bureau Board met virtually on Nov. 17, and the Board welcomed its newest member, Joe Sobieralski from Battle Creek Unlimited. The Board accepted financials for September 2020, approved the 2021 budget, and heard an update about the McCamly Hotel change of ownership. She added that CEO Linda Freybler also gave updates on the impact of COVID-19 on area tourism and hotel accommodations tax.

Kelli Scott informed of the status of County Buildings and operations amid COVID-19, emphasizing all meetings should be held virtually and Courts remain open with the exception of jury trials.

##### **B. New Business**

###### **1. Calhoun County October 2020 Financials.**

Administrator/Controller Scott highlighted key items within the general fund. Ms. Scott informed the end of year budget adjustment will come to the board on December 17.

###### **Res.201-2020**

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. King to approve the Calhoun County October 2020 Financials as presented.”

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

###### **2. Public Defender Office Lease Amendment.**

Ms. Scott Explained that this amended lease was in response to the need for additional office space for increased staffing.

Res.202-2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Public Defender Office Lease Amendment as submitted.”

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

3. Substance Abuse Council (SAC) Lease

Administrator/Controller Scott reported the SAC office was moving to the County building in Marshall , lowering the cost for SAC and making the space necessary for the Public Defender’s office to expand within the Toeller Building. Kelli Scott highlighted the revenue of rented/leased space and thanked Assistant Administrator Brad Wilcox for his leadershipRes.203-2020

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Vette to approve the Substance Abuse Council (SAC) Lease as submitted.”

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

**13. CITIZEN’S TIME**

There was none.

**14. COMMISSIONER’S TIME**

Comr. Miller shared the Calhoun County Fair Board met and that Steve Swafford and Hope Horton retained their positions on the Board. Mr. Miller informed the City of Marshall cancelled their parade and will display their floats at the fairgrounds.

Comr. Hatcher shared there will be a food and PPE distribution at New Level Sports Saturday, November 21.

Comr. King expressed his gratitude to the County Health Department for their tireless work related to Covid-19 reponse.

**15. CLAIMS PAYABLE**

Res.204-2020

“Moved Comr. Miler, second by Comr. Vette to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for October 30, 2020 through November 12, 2020 in the amount of \$3,523,305.93 as presented.”

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

**16. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

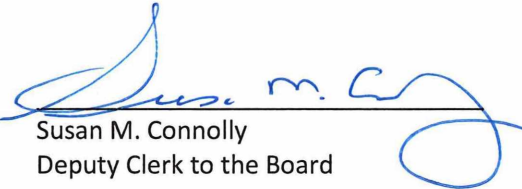
Comr. Tompkins wished everyone happy holidays.

Comr. Frisbie reminded everyone of having small numbers for gatherings.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm at the call of the Chair.

smc

  
Susan M. Connolly  
Deputy Clerk to the Board