

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

August 20, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:01 p.m., Thursday August 20, 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. Rochelle Hatcher, Jake Smith, Steve Frisbie, Derek King, Tommy Miller, Gary Tompkins and Kathy-Sue Vette

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

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

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

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Res. 129 -2020

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Miller to approve the agenda of the August 20, 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 August 6, 2020 Board of Commissioners Regular Session

Res. 130 -2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Minutes of the August 6, 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

County Prosecutor David Gilbert welcomed Gwen Walker as Assistant Prosecutor. He added that Ms. Walker is replacing Patrick Lewis who has taken a job in Kalamazoo.

Community Development Director Jen Bomba provided an update on the 2020 Census. Ms. Bomba played a short video titled "My2020census.gov" which promotes Calhoun County residents' participation in completing the census.

Communications Manager Lucy Blair stated the importance of participating in the Census, and shared the link on the County website related to the census.

Comr. Frisbie stated that one item not touched on in the video is how the representation in Congress is also based on population.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Tribute honoring Jolene English with the 2020 Joanne Konkle Lifetime Achievement Award in Providing Senior Services

Helen Guzzo, Senior Services Manager for Calhoun County gave a presentation honoring Jolene English with the 2020 Joanne Konkle Lifetime Achievement Award in Providing Senior Services.

Jolene English participated via Zoom, thanked the committees for their vote and shared she was honored receiving the award.

Comr. Tompkins read the Special Tribute into record:

WHEREAS, Jolene English, has worked for CareWell Services, the Area Agency on Aging for Calhoun and Barry Counties, providing services to older adults for over 23 years; and

WHEREAS, Jolene has worked in aging services for over 34 years overall and has worked in numerous different helping positions; she is best known for her involvement in the Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP). Through her work, Jolene has identified areas of concern for county seniors and was influential in improving the service of Guardian Finance & Advocacy Services in helping persons with guardians access Medicare Part D and other public services; partnering with the Climate Change Coalition to provide energy efficient light bulbs to older adults in the County; and collaborating with the Battle Creek Fire Department to install smoke detectors in seniors homes, free of charge.

WHEREAS, Jolene has been recognized for outstanding service to Michigan’s Medicare Beneficiaries numerous times by the statewide organization; and

WHEREAS, Jolene after retiring from a leadership role providing Benefits Counseling has continued to help Calhoun County older adults figure out complex Medicare and Medicaid issues and has mentored two Regional MMAP Coordinators; and

WHEREAS, Calhoun County Senior Services and the Senior Millage Allocation Committee have created the Joanne Konkle Senior Services Achievement Award which is awarded annually to recognized individuals who have given a life-time of service providing quality services and advocacy for seniors age 60 and over in Calhoun County following the example set by Joanne Konkle. To recognize Jolene English’s service to Calhoun County and its older adults, Jolene is the recipient of the 2020 Joanne Konkle Senior Services Achievement Award.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners that Jolene English is hereby honored and thanked for her many years of dedicated service to Calhoun County and older adult residents.

Steve Frisbie, Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Res. 131-2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to honor Jolene English with the 2020 Joanne Konkle Lifetime Achievement Award in Providing Senior Services

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

9. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

B. Resolutions

1. Revised Calhoun County 2020 L-4029
2. 2021 BCNA Retiree Health Care Plan Renewal
3. 2021 Medicare Advantage PPO Retiree Health Care Plan Renewal
4. 2020 Administrator/Controller Performance Evaluation
5. Appointment of Dr. Tino Smith to the Calhoun County Community Mental Health Authority (d/b/a Summit Pointe) Board of Directors for a term ending March 31, 2021

Res. 132-2020

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

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

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

Commissioner Tompkins stated the Senior Millage Allocation Committee met August 7 to prepare for the August 28 strategic planning session. Tompkins shared that Kate Turner with Senior Services gave a presentation providing a county demographic report.

Commissioner Tompkins added that a motion to approve the September SMAC meeting has been moved from September 4 to September 11. He also reported that the SMAC approved the Community Action Minor Home supplemental request, as well as a mini grant from CareWell Services for the home area fresh food box distributions.

Commissioner Frisbie shared that the County's Public Health Board finalized the department's budget to be submitted to the Board of Commissioners for approval at the next meeting. Comr. Frisbie added that the County staff believes that with the CARES Act funding, the Health Department's budget should be in fairly good shape this year.

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 highlighted approximate 18% reductions in costs included in both of the two retiree health care plan renewals approved within the Consent Agenda, noting that the savings would be significant to county retirees for 2021. She added that HR and County Administration is working with our benefits consultant on marketing the county's benefit plans for the 2021 renewal. Ms. Scott shared that county elected officials and department heads are currently working on their budget requests for next year, due in early September.

Administrator/Controller Scott shared that she and Comr. Tompkins attended a meeting with Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health regarding the FY2020-21 PA2 Alcohol Tax budget for substance use disorder treatment services.

B. New Business

1. 2019 Lake Level Capital Project Fund Deficit Elimination Plan

Administrator/Controller Scott informed this is a required plan in response to the 2019 financial audit and relates to capital improvements being done ahead of assessments. She added that the County's Finance Department worked on the plan with Water Resources Commissioner Fred Heaton, who was in attendance at the Board meeting.

Res. 133-2020

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Vette to approve the to approve the 2019 Lake Level Capital Project Fund Deficit Elimination Plan as submitted.”

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

2. Calhoun County July 2020 Financials

Administrator/Controller Scott thanked Megan Banning, Deputy Controller for her continued efforts to monitor the county's financials every month, including continued COVID responses.

Res. 134-2020

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Vette to accept the Calhoun County July 2020 Financial Statements as presented.”

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

3. Senior Millage Supplemental funding of Community Action's Minor Home Repair Program

Administrator/Controller Scott stated supplemental funding for the program should reduce or eliminate waiting lists for seniors within the County needing repairs.

Res. 135-2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Senior Millage Supplemental funding of Community Action's Minor Home Repair Program as presented.”

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

4. Albion Trailhead Development Grant Agreement

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that this grant agreement comes from Community Development under the leadership of Jen Bomba. Ms. Scott shared this is the final step in approvals needed for the Albion trailhead development project.

Res. 136-2020

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Tompkins to approve the Albion Trailhead Development Grant Agreement as presented.”

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

5. Revised Policy #340--Employee Benefits

Administrator/Controller Scott shared this revision related to non union employees under the recommendation of Kim Archambault, HR/Labor Relations Director. Ms. Scott stated the policy allows for reduction of hours from 40 to 20 for non union employees, who would still be eligible to maintain their benefits , during the COVID-19 emergency, and due to the need for more flexibility to accommodate employees that have children who may still be at home for the Fall.

Ms. Scott shared hours reductions within this policy would also provide a cost savings to the county to the extent that we would be saving that proportion of the weekly wages.

Comr. Miller asked how the policy is funded and whether it will apply to union employees as well.

Administrator/Controller Scott replied that this policy only applies to non-union employees. She added that reduced hours would potentially result in lower wages for the employees, depending on the unemployment system options and other Leave time opportunities including the expanded Family Medical Leave Act.

Ms. Scott added that all of the county union contracts have voluntary hours reductions in place, and have agreed to terms within the Emergency Health Leave Policy.

Kim Archambault shared her concurrence with Ms. Scott's summary.

Comr. Frisbie shared the importance to provide flexibility, support employees and allow them to help with their children's education.

Res. 137-2020

"Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Vette to accept the Revised Policy #340—Employee Benefits as presented."

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

6. Calhoun County Public Health Department School Wellness Program Staffing FTE Increase

Administrator/Controller Scott shared that this request is for increased staffing related to the school wellness program. Ms. Scott stated the Health Department secured grants which reduced the burden on the schools, and it is not expected to impact the county's current budget.

Res. 138-2020

"Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Calhoun County Public Health Department School Wellness Program Staffing FTE Increase as presented."

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

7. Binda and Miller Foundation School Wellness Grants

Administrator/Controller Scott stated these grants will support the school wellness programs.

Res. 139-2020

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Vette to approve the Binda and Miller Foundation School Wellness Grants as presented.”

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

8. FY21 County Veteran Service Fund Grant Application

Administrator/Controller Scott explained that this grant will provide a variety of additional benefits to county veterans, including financial assistance, food vouchers, Veteran ID cards for free and scuba certification to help with PTSD.

VA Manager Aaron Edlefson shared his excitement for the programs that will be offered to veterans in Calhoun County.

Res. 140-2020

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the FY21 County Veteran Service Fund Grant Application as presented.”

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

13. CITIZEN’S TIME

There was none.

14. COMMISSIONERS TIME

Comr. Tompkins informed that there will be a SMAC Meeting to September 11 with an approval for the \$80,000 mini grant for Homer.

Comr. Frisbie shared there's discussion between courts, prosecutor, health department and administration related to the return to jury trials. Comr. Frisbie shared the prosecutor and most judges have expressed that they would be very supportive of that as well.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

Res. 141-2020

"Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for July 31, 2020 through August 12, 2020 in the amount of \$4,225,625.57 as presented."

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

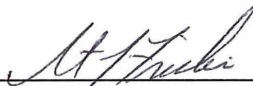
16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc



Chairman



Clerk to the Board