

# CALHOUN COUNTY

## OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR/CONTROLLER

“Building a Better County Through Responsive Leadership”

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Kelli D. Scott  
Administrator/Controller

**- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -**  
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### **Jackson and Calhoun Counties Hire New Road Department Managing Director**

Jackson and Calhoun Counties have chosen Christopher Bolt as the new Managing Director to lead both counties' transportation departments, in continuation of their collaborative agreement to share resources between counties. Mr. Bolt is a professional civil engineer and has a Master of Public Administration degree from Western Michigan University, and brings over 22 years of experience in the public works profession. He most recently served as Engineer and Managing Director for the St. Joseph County Road Commission, where he also led for a period of time the Cass County Road Commission through a contractual arrangement between the two agencies. Christopher's prior experience includes private sector engineering and consulting, as well as directing public works departments for the City of Dowagiac, MI, and Ashland, WI. He will start on October 13 as an official employee of Jackson County, and will report jointly to Michael Overton, Jackson County's Administrator/Controller, and Kelli Scott, Calhoun County's Administrator/Controller. Overton stated, "Christopher has the education and experience we need to continue our successful multicounty Road Department model."

This selection of a new road agencies leader follows the departure of Jerry Peterson, who resigned from his post as Managing Director for both counties last month. Mr. Peterson was the first Managing Director for both counties since the inception of their intergovernmental contract that began last year.

The Counties' administration started immediately to search for a new Managing Director, and are now enthused that Mr. Bolt will step in to lead the completion of summer and fall road maintenance projects, and then transition quickly to ensure winter maintenance plans are in place. According to Ms. Scott, "change has become very much expected reality of our collaboration, and we welcome Mr. Bolt at the helm of our road departments to continue to steer the ship in the right direction. He has indicated a strong commitment and desire to further the efficiencies that have been put in motion by our management, our dedicated employees and with the support of our Boards of Commissioners." Overton stated, "As successful as our model is, there's room for even greater economy of scale, and I expect collaboration across counties will grow and potentially become the new norm."

Michael Overton – Jackson County Administrator/Controller  
Kelli Scott - Calhoun County Administrator/Controller

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