

CALHOUN COUNTY
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

January 6, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Organizational Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, January 6, 2011 in the Commissioners' Meeting room, County Building, Marshall, Michigan.

Calhoun County Clerk/Register Anne Norlander called the meeting to order and requested the Deputy Clerk to call the roll.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Comrs. Todd, Frisbie, Haadsma, Camp, VanSickle, Kale and Behnke

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox, Corporation Counsel Richard Lindsey, HR Director Kim Archambault and Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk Chris Zuidema

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Board held a moment of silence in honor of Tom Hardy, Athens Fire Chief, who passed away following an accident at the fire station and anyone those in attendance wished to honor.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Comr. Frisbie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Oath of Office

1. Clerk/Register Norlander administered the Oath of Office to the 2011-2012 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners. She stated that all of the Commissioners had taken their individual Oaths of Office prior to the meeting so this would be for ceremonial purposes.

B. Approval of Standing Board Rules

1. 2011 Standing Board Rules

Res. 1-2011

“Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the 2011 Standing Board Rules as presented.”

Administrator/Controller Scott Kelli stated that in past years the Board had approved rules annually, but the current proposal intends to adopt standing rules that wouldn't necessarily need to be changed each year. The changes were made up of clarifying language, administrative changes, and operational rules to help the Board conduct business better and help public understand the Board.

Comr. Behnke inquired if the public had been given an opportunity to review the Board Rules.

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that the rules have been posted online and administration has not received any calls or comments from the public.

Comr. Behnke asked that next year the public be more involved in the review and development process. He stated he was being asked to approve the rules very early in the term and it might be beneficial to have public input.

Corporation Counsel Lindsey stated that in the future the Board Rules call for the Board to adopt rules at the beginning of each term or on or before the end of March to let the Board have time to get familiar and settled.

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

C. Election of Chairperson

Res. 2-2011

Comr. Frisbie nominated Art Kale as the Chairperson of the 2011-2012 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners for a two year term per Standing Board Rules.

Clerk/Register Norlander called three times for other nominations and none were offered.

“Move Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Frisbie to close the nominations for Chairperson of the 2011-2012 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

Roll call vote for Comr. Art Kale as Chairperson: 7 (Comrs. Behnke, Todd, Haadsma, Camp, VanSickle, Kale)

Commissioner Art Kale was declared the Chairman of the 2011-2012 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners by Clerk/Register Anne Norlander.

D. Election of Vice Chairperson

Res. 3-2011

Comr. Frisbie nominated Julie Camp as the Vice Chairperson Calhoun County Board of Commissioners in 2011 for a one year term per Standing Board Rules.

Clerk/Register Norlander called three times for other nominations and none were offered.

“Move Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Todd to close the nominations for the 2011 Vice Chairperson of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

Roll call vote for Comr. Julie Camp as Vice Chairperson: 7 (Comr. Todd, Haadsma, Camp, VanSickle, Kale, Behnke)

Commissioner Julie Camp was declared the Vice Chairperson of the 2011 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners by Clerk/Register Anne Norlander.

6. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

“Moved Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the agenda of the January 6, 2011 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners Organizational Meeting as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

“Moved Comr. Camp, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the minutes of the December 16, 2010 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

8. CITIZENS' TIME

Violet Gogle, Battle Creek, stated she had heard the recent information on the Calhoun County Road Commission and she was angry that one person could change the way the Board operates. She agreed with Russ Clutter in his letter to the Battle Creek Enquirer that Chairman Rae didn't do his job. She stated that hopes this Board shows integrity and right the wrongs of the past. She claimed that Charlie Monawek is a class act.

Bobby Hopewell, Mayor of Kalamazoo, stated he was in attendance to say congratulations to his friends, Mark Behnke and Steve Frisbie. He stated he is proud to see them up there.

An unidentified member of the audience encouraged the Commissioners to express their opinions and speak their minds.

9. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Chris Vreeland, Road Commissioner and Parks Board Trustee, stated there had been a lot of talk about the Ott Preserve lately and he wanted to encourage folks to get involved with the Trailway Project. He stated he would like to see the Ott Preserve accessible to all. He also stated the Road Commission has a new website created with the efforts of Road Commission Chairman Brown for less than \$200. He claimed the new site educates people on where funds come from for roads. He stated the new site address is www.calhouncountyroads.com.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items on the Consent Agenda.

11. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator/Controller Scott stated she was looking forward to working with the Board, and that from her conversations with each member it seemed apparent that they showed a strong desire to serve the public. She reminded the Board of their orientation session on January 21, 2011 at Kellogg Community College's Spring Lake Room from 8:30 – 4:30. She stated the Board will be provided with administrative overviews and the Elected Officials have been invited to come in and to give overviews as well.

A. 2011 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners' Meeting Schedule

Res. 4-2011

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the 2011 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners' Meeting Schedule as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

12. CITIZENS' TIME

There were no citizen comments at this time.

13. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Comr. Camp thanked her family for coming. She stated she was pleased that the public has elected her to serve. She welcomed the new Commissioners and stated she appreciates being Vice Chair.

Comr. Camp reminded everyone that the new Road Commission website is www.calhouncountyroads.com. She also stated that the Road Commission is filling pot holes this winter so residents should be sure to let them know where the holes are.

Comr. Camp mentioned the passing of Tom Hardy, Athens Fire Chief, and there will be a memorial for him on Saturday, January 15 at 11am at Athens High School. She stated that Tom Hardy made tremendous contributions to the community.

Comr. Todd congratulated the new Commissioners and stated that he was confident that the new Board will have good discussions. He stated that he is thankful to serve with all of them. He asked the Board to please let him know if he can do anything to help anyone.

Comr. Frisbie echoed Comr. Camp's statements on Tom Hardy. He stated Mr. Hardy had a long and distinguished career in the fire department, he did many other things outside the fire department to benefit the community and he was a vital player in development of Consolidated Dispatch.

Comr. Frisbie stated that they needed to take lead from Governor Snyder and his plan of helping Michigan and working in harmony. He stated the decorum of the last few months is appalling and he doesn't plan to do the same. He claimed the Board can choose to disagree without being disrespectful. He also stated that when he was campaigning he knocked on a lot of doors and the common complaint was fixing the roads so the Board needs to come up with a way to do that. The budget presented this year was balanced but it's not going to be an easy thing to do that again.

Comr. Kale repeated that he is really looking forward to working with this group and all ideas are welcome. He stated the budget is going to again be challenging, probably even more so this year. He claimed the roads were the number one issue in campaigning and there needs to be a fresh approach.

Comr. Kale thanked his sister, brother-in-law and his wife, former State Representative Lawrence Wenke and his wife, and the Albion Mayor and some running mates and stated his appreciation of them showing up and supporting him.

14. CLAIMS PAYABLE

Res. 5-2011

"Move Comr. Behnke, supported by Comr. Haadsma to adopt the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners to approve the Claims Payable for December 10 - 29, 2010 in the amount of \$2,987,718.96 ."

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

15. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comr. Kale announced that on Saturday, January 8, 2011 at 11 am, Lakeview Square Mall will be hosting the kick off of the Calhoun County Challenge. This initiative is developed by the Regional Health Alliance and is to help improve the health of county residents and all are invited.

Comr. Haadsma announced a JONAH sponsored Martin Luther King Jr celebratory breakfast on January 15 from 9-11 at St. Thomas Episcopal Church for \$15.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

caz

Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Clerk
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners