

CALHOUN COUNTY
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 17, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, February 17, 2011 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, Michigan.

Chairman Kale called the meeting to order and requested the Deputy Clerk call the roll.

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

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 McComb

2 and 3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence was held in honor of Executive Assistant Chris McComb's grandmother, Lillian Zuidema, who passed away earlier in the week. This was followed by an invocation given by Joel Fulton of Battle Creek and Comr. Haadsma leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Behnke to approve the February 17, 2011 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners meeting agenda as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

"Moved Comr. Frisbie, supported by Comr. Haadsma to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2011 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Susan Connelly, a resident of Marshall, provided copy of a report from the Natural Resources Defense Council, as it references the Enbridge pipeline. She then invited everyone to attend a forum at Burnham Brook on February 28 for a forum referencing the report and discussing the local impact, public safety impact and wildlife impact of pipeline disasters. She encouraged attendance and provided fliers.

Jerry Keller, who lives on East Michigan Avenue, asked the Commission to consider very seriously before they agree to lay a slab of asphalt in the Ott Preserve. He stated that it's beautiful and not a lot of people use it but those that do love it.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

Anne Norlander, Clerk-Register of Calhoun County, stated that the Clerk's office was going to issue a press release that the Clerk's website would now be even more interactive, with Circuit Court records and documents now online and retrievable by the public, with a convenience fee required to access details and print the records. She stated they are at the cutting edge of technology for a county of our size in the US. She also stated it took 3 years of labor to put records in. She stated the website address is co.calhoun.mi.us.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Comr. Todd read into record a tribute to S. Emmett Brown and expressed what a privilege and honor it was to be able to read it. He also thanked Bobby Holley for bringing it to his attention.

WHEREAS, S. EMMETT BROWN, a 1959 graduate of Battle Creek Central High School, became a stand out in sports in high school and beyond; and

WHEREAS, S. EMMETT BROWN, who played baseball and football and basketball, remains a humble and unassuming sports legend who has mentored many youth in the Battle Creek Community and throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, S. EMMETT BROWN played for the Cleveland Indians and the Baltimore Orioles professional baseball farm systems at different times in the 1960's; and

WHEREAS, S. EMMETT BROWN remained playing baseball and mentoring youth and also teaching youth, the sport of golf, as a program director for the Greater Battle Creek Golf Club; and

WHEREAS during a long and productive lifetime, he has demonstrated in countless ways his dedication to the welfare of others and has earned the respect and affection of people from all walks of life and all ages; and

WHEREAS, S. EMMETT BROWN was employed by the City of Battle Creek, retiring in 1999 after 25 years of faithful services as a supervisor in the wastewater division; and

WHEREAS, S. EMMETT BROWN now dedicates his life to serving God, his family and his church from where all things flow. And he never stops mentoring to the youth in this community; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, it is the honor of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners to recognize S. Emmett Brown for giving freely of his time and talents to Calhoun County and its youth.

Res. 16-2011

“Motion by Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Behnke to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners to approve the tribute to S. Emmett Brown.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

S. Emmett Brown thanked God and the Commission, Reverend Holley and his church family, the coaches and teams in Battle Creek. His daughter announced there was to be a scholarship through the Battle Creek Community Foundation in her father’s name. She stated the public was invited to a celebration in honor of S. Emmett Brown where they would kick off the scholarship on February 27.

B. Comr. Behnke read a tribute to retired Calhoun County employee D. Diane Williams into record.

WHEREAS D. DIANE WILLIAMS began her Calhoun County employment with the Friend of the Court and moved to the Circuit Court Clerk’s Office in 1985, working in the Marshall Circuit Court Clerk’s office, the former Hall of Justice in Battle Creek and the current Calhoun County Justice Center; and

WHEREAS she performed job duties in both the County Clerk’s office with Birth, Death, and DBA records as well as performing job duties with the Circuit Court Clerk’s office; and

WHEREAS D. DIANE WILLIAMS was responsible for performing Circuit Court record searches from the 1800’s to the 1980’s!

WHEREAS she maintained defendant’s payment records on criminal assessments and for a short time, she substituted during an extended absence of a Judge’s secretary.

WHEREAS in the 1980’s Diane was known for her high heels, pencil skirts and pretty blouses and for walking at the mall in her tennis shoes early in the morning before coming to work; and

WHEREAS DIANE’S retirement has left a huge void in the Circuit Court Clerk’s office. Her wealth of knowledge and her optimistic outlook on life will be greatly missed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners wish to sincerely thank D. DIANE WILLIAMS for her 25 years of service and offer best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Res. 17-2011

“Motion by Comr. Todd, supported by Comr. VanSickle to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners to approve the tribute to D. Diane Williams.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

C. Com. Camp read the tribute for service of Charles Monaweck into record.

WHEREAS, CHARLES MONAWECK served on the Calhoun County Road Commission, the Calhoun County Board of Public Works, and the Calhoun County Parks Trustees Board from January 2005 through December 2010. And in 2005, 2006, and 2007 he served as the Parks Trustees Chairman, as well as the Board of Public Works Vice Chairman. Further, Mr. Monaweck also served as the Vice Chairman of the Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners in 2007.

WHEREAS, CHARLES MONAWECK has worked closely with local elected officials, countywide. Mr. Monaweck regularly documented needs and shared such with other appointed officials; and

WHEREAS, township supervisors have expressed appreciation for his knowledgeable and prompt responses to their concerns.

WHEREAS, MR. MONAWECK built relationships with officials in other counties while seeking innovative ideas and spearheaded efforts for those improvements locally.

WHEREAS, CHARLES MONAWECK addressed concerns of local business owners and farmers and has worked to build understanding of their needs for improvement to the condition of the county's infrastructure.

WHEREAS, the community leaders who interact with Charles Monaweck choose words to describe him which include: integrity, leadership, innovation, and determination.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The Calhoun County Board of Commissioners is proud to honor Charles Monaweck for six years of outstanding service on this 17th day of February 2011.

Res. 18-2011

"Motion by Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the tribute to Charles Monaweck."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

D. Comr. Haadsma read the proclamation of endorsement for the 2011 Marshal Marshall Area Citizen Health Fair into the record.

Whereas, Calhoun County is a community that includes **25,791 citizens aged 60 and older** with more than **5,500 individuals aged 80 years and older**; and

Whereas, the older adults in the Marshall Area and surrounding communities are among our most "treasured resources," united by historical experiences, strengthened by diversity, and interpreting events through varied perspectives and backgrounds to bring wisdom and insight to our community; and

Whereas, increasing numbers of adults are reaching retirement age and remaining strong and active for longer than ever before; and

Whereas, our community can provide that recognition and respect by improving the quality of life for older adults by:

- Increasing their opportunities to remain active and engaged in community life;
- Bringing forth community resources to assist our older adults, family members and caregivers with the challenges of aging and the supports to thrive,
- Joining together with the City of Marshall and Oaklawn Hospital to sponsor events that contribute to healthy senior living and independence,

Now Therefore, We, the Commissioners of Calhoun County, Michigan, in partnership with the City Council of Marshall, and the Board of Oaklawn Hospital do recognize and endorse this local initiative and hereby proclaim our support for the 2nd Annual Marshall Area Senior Health Fair on April 7th, 2011.

We urge every citizen to take time now and every day to honor our older adults, the family members, professionals, and volunteers who care for many of them. Our recognition and involvement of older adults enriches our entire community's quality of life.

Res. 19-2011

"Motion by Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Camp to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners to support the 2011 Marshall Area Citizen Health Fair."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

9. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Petitions, Communications, Reports
 - 1. Union City Schools Resolution
 - 2. Convis Township Subdivision/Site Condominium Ordinance
- B. Resolutions
 - 1. Land Bank Authority Board of Directors Appointment
(Term Expires 11/30/2014)
 - {a} Nola Batch

Res. 20-2011

"Motion by Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Behnke to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners to approve the Consent Agenda as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

Comr. Todd stated he had information from Battle Creek Area Transportation Study on their upcoming projects he would make available to the Commissioners.

Comr. Frisbie stated that AMSA met and that the City of Battle Creek has scheduled a workshop March 9 to discuss funding for 911 and the formulas. The meeting will be held at 7:30am in room 302A in city hall. He stated communications went to the townships regarding the 911 funding and that information was forwarded by Administrator Scott.

Comr. Haadsma stated that on February 4 the Senior Millage Allocation Committee met and oriented new members, discussed planning, and considered requests from vendors against dollars available.

11. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

12. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator/Controller Scott announced some informational items for the Commissioners.

- The Commissioners will begin receiving a monthly executive summary report that reviews what the departments have been doing each month.
- Monday, February 21 is the Presidents' Day Holiday and County offices will be closed.
- Notawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi and Firekeepers Development Authority will have a ceremony at 10 am on Monday, February 21 at the Firekeepers Casino to present revenue sharing net win funds from 2010 to the State.
- The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan trial is scheduled in Circuit Court March 1-4.
- Will be hearing from the Governor on his plans for government reform and hopefully more details on his budget proposal in March.
- The Budget Committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday, February 24, to start budget discussions. Scott stated that all ideas for balancing were welcome.
- The Marshall Area Chamber of Commerce, on which Scott is a Board Member, is working on updating their Strategic Plan. They are also hosting the Statewide Conference of Chamber Ambassadors in September.
- Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation held their annual organizational meeting on February 17. They voted to authorize \$2000 to sponsor an April 19 Business Improvement

Session in Battle Creek. Battle Creek Unlimited is spearheading the event. Because of the sponsorship, all businesses within Calhoun County will be able to register for event for \$25 each.

- The Firekeepers Local Revenue Sharing Board received a revenue sharing payment from Firekeepers Casino for \$4.86 million, which is over 2.5 times what was received last year. The County representative, Commissioner Behnke is Vice Chair of the FLRSB and County Administration is contracted by the FLRSB for their administrative work. The next meeting of the Revenue Sharing Board will be March 14. Targeting April for distribution of funds.
- The CVB met February 8 and their board is considering a new operating reserve policy. This board directs the hotel accommodation tax that is funneled through the chambers. Revenues were up from the previous year, which is believed to be due to the oil spill, but they have funding for various other projects now. They have also approved a new logo and name. They will now be known as the Calhoun County Visitors Bureau and their logo is "It's Battle Creek and So Much More".

A. Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Award

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that this grant that comes with competitive grant process and the Juvenile Home has been aggressive in seeking grants. This grant will fund hand-held radios to help with security. The grant is for \$16,481 and has a match of \$1831.

Comr. Frisbie asked if the radios they plan to order have been tested to see if they will work in the building.

Juvenile Home Director Gillum stated that the radios are an upgrade for what they currently have and they operate very well in the facility.

Comr. Camp thanked Gillum for seeking funding and his leadership.

Res. 21-2011

"Motion by Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners to approve the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant in the amount of \$16,481."

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

B. 2009 Michigan Citizens Corps Program Intergovernmental Funding Agreement Between Van Buren and Calhoun County

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that the County is part of a multi-county consortium and we are required to have this agreement every year to make us eligible for the grant funding, which this year will help to offset expenses of approximately \$3700.

Emergency Management Director Dunham stated that even though the agreement states 2009, it is on schedule. He stated that the 2008 grant is just wrapping up and they will be looking at options for the 2009 in March. He said this grant comes at no cost to the county, CERT could not

function as a team without grant dollars and the Calhoun County program is highly thought of in the state. Dunham also stated that Comrs. Haadsma and Camp have been CERT trained. CERT Coordinator Lori Phillips is a valuable asset to the CERT program.

Comr. Frisbie stated that Lori Phillips puts in a ton of effort for the program and she does a great job.

Comr. Camp stated that she has enjoyed working with Lori Phillips and she does a fantastic job coordinating and promoting CERT. She also stated that the new CERT class is starting in a couple weeks and will be on Thursday nights.

Res. 22-2011

“Motion by Comr. Todd, supported by Comr. Behnke to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the 2009 Michigan Citizens Corp Program Intergovernmental Funding Agreement Between Van Buren and Calhoun County.”

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

C. Marshall Area Health Fair Grant Acceptance

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that the Senior Health Fair is a cooperative venture between Calhoun County Senior Services, the City of Marshall and Oaklawn Hospital. The Health Fair is expected to cost about \$3600 and Senior Services has been awarded a \$720 mini grant from the Marshall Community Foundation to help offset the cost.

Res. 23-2011

“Motion by Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the Marshall Area Health Fair Grant.”

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

13. CITIZENS’ TIME

Mary Baribeau, a retired employee of Calhoun County, thanked the Commissioners for giving her a tribute when she retired. She stated it meant a lot to all of the employees to recognize the retirees. She stated Calhoun County has some of the most wonderful, skilled and dedicated people trying to give the best to the people of Calhoun County.

14. COMMISSIONERS’ TIME

Comr. Frisbie stated that on Saturday, February 19 at 10am at Ott Biological Preserve there was to be a trail hike with the Commissioners and people on both sides of the paving issue. He encouraged everyone to come.

Comr. Haadsma stated that he regularly uses the Ott Preserve. He stated he has also hiked the Kalamazoo preserve, spoke with representatives there about trail accommodation and is confident that

there can be a compromise reached between the two sides so the preserve will remain pristine. He also reminded people that Kimball Pines and Historic Bridge Park were resources people could enjoy.

Comr. Camp thanked residents who have been coming regularly to the Commission meetings. She stated it was nice to see a full house, invited them to come back and bring friends or invite the Commissioners to their events.

Comr. Camp commented on the dispute over paving the Ott and said both sides have a Facebook page and the public has been great to share their opinions and questions. She stated that in looking back at the paperwork it has come down to if the State licensing agent will approve a different path than has been proposed. The Parks Trustees are working hard and appreciates Administrator Scott fielding their questions.

Comr. Camp thanked everyone for their committee reports.

Chair Kale stated his stomach had been in knots over Governor Snyder's budget and we learned some details and they included significant cuts. He stated that next week the Budget Committee will start working in earnest. He stated it will be a daunting task based on the structural deficit that the 5 year model shown and everyone needs to understand that all ideas will be considered. He stated that no department should be considered sacred or untouchable, everyone will have to work together to make it work effectively, we have exhausted all of the one-time fixes we can and structural changes and improvements are required to operate under the reduced revenue. It is time for a fresh eyes approach.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE LISTING

A. Claims Payable List for January 28 – February 11, 2011

Res. 24-2011

“Move Comr. Behnke, supported by Comr. Haadsma to adopt the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the Claims Payable List for January 28 – February 11, 2011 in the amount of \$976,834.33.”

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

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comr. Camp stated that the Community Action Walk for Warmth will be February 26 in Battle Creek or Albion. There is a 1 or 3 mile walk and any donations collected are welcome.

Comr. Frisbie commented that Congressman Walberg will be holding a Town Hall Meeting on September 19 at 1:00 at the Eagles Nest in Olivet.

Comr. Frisbie announced that on February 24 there will be a ribbon cutting for Battle Creek Central High School from 5:30 – 7:30.

Comr. Frisbie expressed thanks to his colleagues for their support.

Comr. Kale announced that the First United Methodist Church in Albion will be hosting Men Who Cook on Saturday, February 19, serving begins at 1:30.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

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Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Clerk
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners