

CALHOUN COUNTY
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 3, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 3, 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

The invocation was given by Comr. Terris Todd followed by Comr. VanSickle leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Haadsma to approve the March 3, 2011 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners meeting agenda as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

"Moved Comr. Behnke, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2011 Calhoun County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were none.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

There were none.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi Indians Tribal Council Chair, Homer Mandoka, greeted the Board of Commissioners in his native language then introduced the remainder of the Tribal Council who were present, Dorie Rios and RoAnn Beebe-Mohr, as well as the two who were not in attendance, Jamie Stuck and Nathaniel Spurr. He stated that there had been a recent announcement at the Firekeepers Casino and they would soon be under construction for a 242 room hotel/resort, a 2000 seat event center and the bingo lounge would double in size. Mr. Mandoka then presented the Board with a tribal flag on behalf of government to government relations and as a symbol of good will.

Comr. Kale thanked the tribe not only for their financial presence but for their sense of community.

- B. Special tribute to Dr. Jack Mawdsley

Comr. Camp read into record the special tribute to Dr. Jack Mawdsley.

WHEREAS Dr. Jack K. Mawdsley grew up in Illinois, completing both his B.S and M.S Degrees at Southern Illinois University where he was also an accomplished tennis player;

WHEREAS Dr. Mawdsley later completed his Ed.D. Degree at Michigan State University and still roots for the Spartans today; and

WHEREAS Dr. Mawdsley worked for Battle Creek Public Schools with a genuine desire to know the kids, to impact their lives in a positive way and with the clear intent to ensure that other peoples' highest priority needs were being served; and

WHEREAS the accomplishments while Dr. Mawdsley was with the school system included academic progress, programs to integrate the schools, building the McQuiston Learning Center and McKinley and Franklin Elementary Schools, as well as the remodel at Ann J Kellogg, the high school and the Miller-Stone building, beginning of work on the Math and Science Center and so many more programs.

WHEREAS Dr. Mawdsley retired from Battle Creek Public Schools to take a new position with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation; and

WHEREAS Dr. Mawdsley's 45-year career included 34 years in the public schools, assisting with the intellectual, physical and emotional development of young people, as well as 11 years in one of the most productive foundations in the world "helping people help themselves."

WHEREAS locally, Dr. Mawdsley has served as past president of the Battle Creek Rotary, past chairman of the board for the Battle Creek Chamber, past chairman for the United Way Fund Drive, and past chair for the Family Y Center Capital Campaign and nationally, he served as past president for the Horace Mann League of the United States of America.

WHEREAS it is entirely not surprising that Dr. Mawdsley is still giving of his time today, currently serving on the board of trustees for the BCPS Foundation, and the Boards of Miller College, Battle Creek Health System Community Partners, and First Presbyterian Church.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners is honored to thank Dr. Jack Mawdsley for his lifetime of service to Calhoun County and to congratulate Dr. Jack Mawdsley on being selected as Scene Magazine's Man of the Year.

Res. 25-2011

Move Comr. Todd, supported by Comr. Behnke to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners to approve the tribute to Dr. Jack Mawdsley.

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

C. Presentation and Proclamation of Support for the Calhoun County Challenge

Rick Hendsley described the Calhoun County Challenge as something that could have the greatest impact on the people in Calhoun County of anything in modern day history. He stated their goal is to create a lifetime change of health in the people of Calhoun County. He then introduced other members of the leadership team, Mayor Susan Baldwin of Battle Creek, Becky Willis of Oaklawn Hospital, Bill Greer from Kellogg Corporation and Shannon Lounsberry of the Battle Creek Y. Susan Baldwin spoke about the Mayor of Oklahoma City, who challenged his city to lose 1 million pounds, and that's what the Calhoun County Challenge was based on because there is substantial savings in health care when the community is healthy.

Comr. Frisbie read the proclamation of support for the Calhoun County Challenge into the record.

WHEREAS, through the leadership of the Regional Health Alliance, community leaders and individuals have been working to improve the health of Calhoun County residents; and

WHEREAS, The Calhoun County Challenge was launched in January 2011 to encourage people to Choose Health by taking personal responsibility for their lifestyle choices; and

WHEREAS, the challenge is for Calhoun County residents to lose 100,000 pounds by making lifestyle changes that include healthy food choices and appropriate exercise; and

WHEREAS, poor nutrition and physical inactivity account for some 300,000 premature deaths in the United States each year; and

WHEREAS, obesity-related illness results in hundreds of thousands of preventable deaths each year in the United States and billions of dollars in health care costs; and

WHEREAS, approximately 90,000 people or 67% of Calhoun County residents are overweight or obese and the consequences of this unhealthy condition are serious, both from an economic standpoint and quality of life perspective; and

WHEREAS, the vision of the Calhoun County Challenge is a culture of health-conscious citizens choosing healthy behaviors while reducing risky behaviors;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Calhoun County Commissioners do hereby proclaim to support the

CALHOUN COUNTY CHALLENGE

in Calhoun County and encourage County leaders to recognize the far-reaching impact of taking personal responsibility for healthy lifestyle choices.

Res 26-2011

Move Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approved the proclamation of support for the Calhoun County Challenge.

Comr. Todd stated that he is excited that someone has gone beyond the box and has made the effort to turn the county into a healthy county. He asked what kind of partnership the challenge was doing with the schools.

Mr. Hendsley stated that they are working on the school districts but they haven't over emphasized the schools because they have their own programs. He stated that because the challenge is computer based, it is spreading fast.

Comr. Todd asked if there are partnerships with any of the local fitness centers and if so are they offering discounts to Challenge participants.

Mr. Hendsley stated that the Y is offering staff for it and businesses can be partners or sponsors and offer services and assistance.

Comr. Todd applauded the Challenge organizers and those that have joined and stated it would be nice if there was more of an emphasis in the schools on PE.

Comr. Haadsma inquired how Challenge organizers expected to maintain enthusiasm beyond the early events.

Mr. Hendsley stated they need to keep people engaged and the Leadership Committee meets monthly. He stated that right now it is fresh and exciting but the committee considers it a marathon and will keep evaluating things as time goes on. He stated they will have celebrations and pep rallies and this is just the first of several opportunities to get people's interests. He stated they will keep leaders involved, talking about the problem and invited anyone who has good ideas to pass them along.

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

There were none.

B. Resolutions

There were none.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

Comr. Frisbie stated he had attended a Health Board meeting and they discussed how the oil spill has taken the Health Department staff away from their regular duties. He stated the Board discussed how Enbridge might be able to help them find ways to get back to their day to day duties. He stated the Board also discussed the future impact of the oil spill on health in the County.

Comr. VanSickle stated that he is on the Homer Lake Board then gave a description of what the Homer Lake Board responsibilities are. He stated the water is getting cleaned up and the Board talked about dredging about an acre and a half of the lake but the estimates on the work are coming in high so they need to find out why.

Comr. Haadsma stated he went to the Community Action Agency meeting where they discussed concern about funding. He stated they are hoping for the best but planning for the worst in funding its operations.

Comr. Haadsma stated that on Monday evening he attended parts of program put on by the Wildlife Federation. He said questions were asked of the Health Department of what they could or would do. He stated some people think the County Board should be involved and bring the Oil Spill Task Force back and Comr. Haadsma asked what they think the Board might do.

Comr. Kale said he sat in on meeting Monday morning and it was an issue and it will be looked at.

11. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

12. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that before the Calhoun County Challenge, the County Wellness Committee has been involved in an employer collaborative for about a year and they have been getting together to talk about healthy lifestyles as employers. She stated that health and wellness as a business strategy was tied into the strategic goals of the County and employees have been asked as a part of the Wellness Committee's initiatives to join the Calhoun County Challenge.

Administrator/Controller Scott gave an update on the Blue Cross Blue Shield trial. She gave the background, stating that the County learned in late 2008 that Oakland County had filed a lawsuit against BCBS for the repayment of hidden fees so Calhoun County reviewed their contracts and filed a similar lawsuit in July of 2009. She stated the contract was charging the County fees that weren't written in the contract. She stated the suit filed for the County was for over \$2million in damages. She stated a judgment for the repayment of fees back to the statute of limitations was ruled in our favor in November 2010 and the County was awarded \$1million. She stated the other charge was fraudulent concealment, the remaining \$1million was at stake for this and it went to jury trial this week. Administrator/Controller Scott stated the County presented as good of a case as we could but the jury ruled in favor of BCBS for the fraudulent concealment, that it remains good news that the ruling for repayment was still in our favor for \$1million. She said BCBS is expected to appeal and that the County continues to do business with BCBS.

Administrator/Controller Scott reported that the Budget Committee met on February 23 and went through the possible budget calendar, talked about the process used in the past and reviewed long-term forecasts. She stated that expenses are expected to increase at a far greater rate than revenue. She stated the Committee talked about a whole list of potential budget balancing ideas and what would be the next steps, including more details from the Governor. She stated the next big event will be in April and that will be the Equalization report that will show property values to tell us revenues. She stated that the Budget Committee gave Administration good support and follow up. Administrator/Controller Scott stated they interested in looking at a fee study for any extra services the County performs and they are looking at what the Governor has proposed, dashboard and performance indicators. She stated they also talked about mandated vs. non mandated services and how the staffing chart relates to it and our priorities.

13. CITIZENS' TIME

Judy Robinson of Pennfield Township, representing Congressman Wahlberg, commented that she attended the forum put on by the Sierra Club, the National Wildlife Federation and local organizations. She stated she spoke with Deb Miller, of a group called WANGA, and they were trying to collect information on the oil spill and its effects. She stated there was one question involving the Health Department and if there is a group to discuss the Health Department's role in the oil spill or anything related, she would like to be involved.

Bobby Holley, 160 Waubascon, thanked the Commissioners for the tribute for Emmet Brown, Comr. Todd for having Comr. Haadsma stand in at the celebration and announced that they had raised enough to start the scholarship in honor of S. Emmet Brown. Mr. Holley then went on to state that we have a big problem spreading across our county, state and nation, bullying. He stated it's spreading in the schools and there needs to be more awareness and prevention. He stated he is kicking off a protest campaign in

Battle Creek, throughout the county and state called "Stop the Bullying". He stated that on Monday, March 21, he and his supporters will be meeting at the Justice Center at 10 am and he will be crawling to Kalamazoo City Hall to raise community awareness. He stated they will take donations to have t-shirts that say "Stop the Bullying" made for every kid in the County who wants one at no charge. He stated donations can be send to the Church of Living Water, PO Box 2296, Battle Creek.

James Coury, 14690 17 ½ Mile, Marshall, stated that whatever is decided on the trailway, remember that \$1.6 million has been raised to link the trailways in adjoining counties, linking Lake Huron to Lake Michigan. He stated the trailways would be good for the people in the community to get people outdoors. He stated that funds were being raised to continue the maintenance on the trailway so the county will not have to pay for this any time in the future.

James Barry of Marshall commended the Board for recognizing Dr. Mawdsley. He also commented there had been a lot of discussion on the Ott Preserve but he doesn't believe the path should go through the Ott Preserve. He stated the makeup of the board of the Park Trustees is that the Trustees are Road Commissioners and he believes that is a conflict of interest. He believes the Parks Trustees Board should be made up of parks groups and he thinks the Board of Commissioners should wait to make any decisions after more information is made available to the public.

14. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Comr. Camp thanked Joyce Fundel and Marcia Bale for inviting the Board of Commissioners to attend the assessing and board of review training.

Comr. Camp appreciated the Tribal leaders for coming and presenting the flag to the Board.

Comr. Camp thanked residents for their continual flow of concerns about trailway project and she appreciates them getting better informed.

Comr. Todd thanked Comr. Haadsma for attending the Emmett Brown program in his place.

Comr. Todd thanked Bobby Holley, calling him a good champion and a good friend.

Comr. Todd thanked Comr. Lynn Gray with the City of Battle Creek, as he has had a concern of substandard housing in his district for quite some time she told him about co-compliance and the progress they have made on housing in the area.

Comr. Kale announced that the Board of Commissioners will be holding a special meeting from 5:30 - 6:45, before next commission meeting on March 17, to review information and take public comment on Ott Preserve. The tentative format is to give limited time for public comments and presentations and let the Comrs ask questions. He stated that the Commissioner would make a decision one way or the other at the meeting afterward.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE LISTING

A. Claims Payable List for February 12 - 24, 2011

Res. 27-2011

"Move Comr. Behnke, supported by Comr. VanSickle to adopt the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the Claims Payable List for February 12 - 24, 2011 in the amount of \$625,181.00."

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

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

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Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Clerk
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners