

**CALHOUN COUNTY**  
**PROCEEDINGS OF THE**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

December 6, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, December 6, 2012 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

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

Present: Comrs. Todd (arrived at 7:25), Haadsma, Frisbie, Camp Seifke, VanSickle and Kale

Excused: Comr. Dunn

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

2 and 3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board held a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Comr. Haadsma.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the agenda of the December 6, 2012 Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of the November 15, 2012 Regular Session

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Camp Seifke to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2012 Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED

6. CITIZENS' TIME

There was none.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

There were none.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention Proclamation

Comr. VanSickle read the Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention Proclamation into the record.

**WHEREAS**, motor vehicle crashes involving alcohol (with at least one driver with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 grams per deciliter or above) accounted for 31% of all motor vehicle traffic fatalities in 2010 (killing 10,228 people) and injure hundreds of thousands more every year in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the mid' December through New Year's holiday season is traditionally one of the most deadly times of the year for alcohol-impaired driving; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, based on the current rates, three in every ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol related crash at some point in their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, organizations across the nation are joining together to promote the "*Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*" national public awareness campaign and law enforcement initiatives during the December 12, 2012 to January 1, 2013 time period;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim December 12, 2012 to January 1, 2013 as "Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention" in Calhoun County. We call upon all citizens, government agencies, business leaders, hospitals and health care providers, schools, and public and private institutions to promote awareness of the impaired driving problem, to promote safer and healthier behaviors regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs, and to promote the awareness campaign this holiday season and throughout the year.

Res. 164-2012

"Moved Comr. Frisbie, Supported Comr. Haadsma to approve the following: The Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention proclamation as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

1. Bay County Resolution Regarding the Remediation of the St. Clair River

B. Resolutions

1. Battle Creek Area Transportation Study Policy Board  
(Term to Expire December 31, 2014)

{a} Kevin Henning, Representative for the Road Department

{b} Angie Kline, Alternate Representative for the Road Department

Res. 165-2012

“Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Camp Seifke to approve the following:  
Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners do hereby approve the consent agenda of the December 6, 2012 meeting as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

There was none.

11. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

12. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

A. County Administrator/Controller’s Report

Administrator/Controller Scott gave a summary of the elimination of personal property tax that was moving quickly through the legislature. She stated that based on preliminary calculations she made to send to the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC), the county could lose \$2 million of the \$3 million total we get in personal property tax revenue in the General Fund, which would cut operating funds by 8%. She noted that the current legislation drafted calls for an elimination of personal property taxes starting in 2014 for commercial and industrial businesses with a value of \$40,000 or less, without any reimbursement to local governments included. That piece alone is expected to result in the loss of \$150,000 per year for the County’s General Fund. And then in 2016 through 2022 would be additional phases of elimination of eligible commercial and industrial personal property taxes. Scott stated that the draft legislation calls for a reimbursement mechanisms to be in place starting in 2016-17, with the first being a county-wide special assessment levy on real commercial and industrial properties to generate replacement funding for essential services (police, fire & ambulance and possibly jails and dispatch), upon a vote of the County Board of Commissioners. The second piece of proposed reimbursement

includes up to 80% of local government losses in personal property tax revenues being replaced by use tax the state already collects, through a newly created Metropolitan Authority that would need to be authorized by a vote of the people in 2014 because it would require a constitutional amendment. She stated Michigan Association of Counties was encouraging us to contact our legislators immediately to ask them to slow down the process because there were too many details still unknown as to how local governments would replace revenue lost from the elimination of personal property taxes.

Administrator/Controller Scott gave an update on the Road Department stating the Executive Team has been focused on working with staff to understand procedures and operations. She stated purchasing had been consolidated so the Road Department conformed to County policy, their mail was being handled by the County mail service, they were using GIS and staff, Human Resources was handling their Worker Compensation and would be merging their other benefits as well. She stated they would start SEIU/UAW negotiations soon and we were looking at all of their contracts and equipment leases to see if there was possible cost savings. Scott stated she and HR Director Archambault had been meeting with the teamsters employees in small groups to get to know them and get input and ideas for improvements. She noted they needed to start focusing on working with townships and planning for next summer's road maintenance, and she would be requesting ride alongs with the crews.

Administrator/Controller Scott stated she had been asked to speak on December 11 at the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants' (MACPA's) Local Governmental Summit on Efficiencies, specifically presenting on the labor implications of the Road Commission consolidation. She stated she would send a copy of the presentation to the Commissioners after the presentation.

## B. New Business

### 1. Blue Cross Blue Shield Schedule A Renewal

HR Director Archambault stated the Blue Cross renewal agreement had been approved at a prior meeting and this agreement set the administrative and stop loss fees. She stated there was only a \$1670 increase over the prior year, which is a much smaller increase than those experienced in the past.

#### Res. 166-2012

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, Supported Comr. Camp Seifke to approve the following: The Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Blue Cross Blue Shield Schedule A Renewal."

On a roll call vote, Yes –6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion CARRIED.

### 2. 2013 Blue Care Network (BCN) Advantage Agreement Acceptance

HR Director Archambault stated there were no changes except a \$71 cost increase. She state Blue Cross Blue Shield needed a current signed agreement.

#### Res. 167-2012

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, Supported Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: The Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the 2013 Blue Care Network (BCN) Advantage Agreement."

On a roll call vote, Yes –6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion CARRIED.

### 3. Support for UAW-Circuit Court Collective Bargaining Agreement

Administrator/Controller Scott stated Board support was requested for the Circuit Court employee union contract. She stated Circuit Court was the employer of record but because of the economic impact, Board support was requested on behalf of the County as the funding unit.

HR Director Archambault stated this was a three year agreement with Circuit Court. She stated the changes were increasing to a 20% employee contribution to health care premiums, a 0.5% wage increase in 2013 and small wage increase for each of the next two years. She stated increases were offset by health insurance cost changes.

Circuit Court Administrator Albaugh thanked HR Director Archambault for her work on the contract. He stated she handled the salary and benefit part of the negotiations and they had smooth and successful negotiations.

#### Res. 168-2012

“Moved Comr. Camp Seifke, Supported Comr. Haadsma to approve the following: The Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby support the UAW-Circuit Court Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes –6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion CARRIED.

### 4. Support for UAW-District Court Collective Bargaining Agreement

HR Director Archambault stated the District Court contract health insurance and wage changes were identical to Circuit Court along with some language cleanup and streamlining of internal processes.

#### Res. 169-2012

“Moved Comr. Haadsma, Supported Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: The Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the resolutions necessary to change the Calhoun County Defined Benefit Pension Plan to the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS).”

On a roll call vote, Yes –6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion CARRIED.

### 5. Fiscal Year 2013 County Budget Adoption

Administrator/Controller Scott stated budget book was updated with final changes, and she was pleased to present a balanced budget. She stated she felt things went smoothly in spite of starting with a \$4.5 million deficit. She stated she appreciated the support of the entire Board and especially the Budget Committee, as they provided valuable input and commitment. She appreciated the Elected Officials, Judges and Department Heads being very collaborative and forward thinking with operational changes, reduced budgets and creativity to protect the quality of services to the public. She noted we are not recommending the use of reserves and that the proposed budget would provide a fund balance of 11%,

a slight increase that is within the Board policy of 8% to 12% of the annual operating budget. Scott summarized the budget as totaling \$39.8 million in revenue and \$39.6 million in expenditures, maintaining reserves and small contingencies. She pointed out the budget would have been \$39.3 million but because of the change in 911 funding, we added in budget amounts for direct payment to the Consolidated Dispatch Authority and direct receipt of funds from the City of Battle Creek, versus the current arrangement of trading dispatch service costs for rental jail beds from the City of Battle Creek. She noted that budgeted expenditures for 2013 are less than what the County spent in 2008. She stated we have already made over \$2 million in cuts since 2010, partly through the commitment to hold on filling over 30 vacancies, and have tried to utilize things like the early retirement as tools to prevent layoffs. She added that the proposed budget maintains the commitment of \$500,000 per year in capital improvements to keep our facilities in good shape, and that there is no increase in property tax millage rates to the taxpayers. She noted the new Veteran's Millage gets levied beginning in December 2013 but doesn't actually get factored in until next year's budget, and so the 2013 budget does include General Fund appropriations for one more year for the Veteran's Affairs office. She stated we had balanced the budget with less in transfers from the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund than in the past few years, and that by making structural changes the five year forecast has improved somewhat. She stated we were still looking at an estimated growth rate for expenditures of 3.6% annually, revenues would essentially be flat and some of the personal property tax elimination assumptions are unknown, but we were narrowing the gap.

Comr. VanSickle thanked Administration, the Budget Committee, and the Department Heads for coming together to balance this budget. He announced the task of balancing the budget won't get better if they eliminate personal property tax.

Res. 170-2012

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, Supported Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: The Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the October 2012 Financial Report as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion CARRIED.

13. CITIZEN'S TIME

Matthew Hall, Sheridan Township, thanked Kim Archambault and Brandie Aldrich from HR for presenting insurance information to the Road Department employees.

14. COMMISSIONERS TIME

Comr. VanSickle announced he had received correspondence from Bob Overly in Tekonsha Township, stating he would like to be considered for the Road Department Advisory Board.

Comr. Todd announced he had given the commissioners a brochure that highlighted the NSP2 program. He stated he went to a seminar about the Neighborhood Stabilization Program was grant funded with some houses being rehabs, some new. He stated a large portion of the labor and materials was from local vendors.

Comr. Kale thanked everyone for the kind words, prayers and thoughts during his wife's surgery and recovery. He gave a special shout out to the teamsters for the thank you card.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

- A. County Claims Payable for November 9-29, 2012 in the Amount of \$1,600,728.74 and Road Department Claims Payable for November 12-21, 2012 in the Amount of \$118,109.49.

Res. 171-2012

“Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the County Claims Payable Listing for November 9-29, 2012 in the Amount of \$1,600,728.74 and Road Department Claims Payable for November 12-21, 2012 in the amount of \$118,109.49.

On a roll call vote, Yes –6, Excused – 1 (Dunn). Motion CARRIED

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comr. Kale stated he attended the Senior Sock Hop at the Midway Roller Rink and noted Senior Services Manager Gibson did a great job setting it all up.

Comr. Frisbie congratulated Carl Gibson on his recent wedding.

Comr. Todd announced FireKeepers Casino is expecting Aretha Franklin on January 11 to perform at their new event center.

Corporation Counsel Lindsey stated he and Assistant Administrator Wilcox have been working on the Facebook page, trying to keep citizens involved in their County government through the page. He encouraged everyone to “like” Calhoun County on Facebook.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

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Chairman  
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

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Clerk  
Calhoun County