

CALHOUN COUNTY
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 15, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, August 15, 2013 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. Dunn, Todd, Haadsma, Frisbie, King, VanSickle and Kale

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

2 and 3. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board held a moment of silence followed by Comr. Todd leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Dunn to approve the agenda of the August 15, 2013 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 August 1, 2013 Regular Session

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2013 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

Matthew Smith, Chief Assistant Prosecutor, stated the individual who made serious threats against county officials was arrested. He explained that Comr. Frisbie contacted Deputies Pignataro and Wahling from the Sheriff's Department, who turned it over to Detective Gandy. He stated the prosecutor's office authorized the warrant for charges that could add up to 30 years. He stated the Sheriff's Department did a brilliant job and he appreciated the professionalism in Pignataro and Gandy. He thanked Comr. Frisbie for coming forward and stated it was a very small story compared to what it could have been. He congratulated the Sheriff for his staff's professionalism.

Sheriff Saxton thanked Prosecutor Smith for his comments, stated he had great deputies and said that he's proud of them.

Saxton stated he started putting to rest three major projects. He stated the first was the cross deputization agreement with the Nottawa Huron Band of Pottawatomi (NHBP), an approved agreement with the NHBP and Sheriff's Office. He explained this enabled tribal police to have jurisdiction on other NHBP properties that weren't part of the reservation. He stated his deputies would be trained in tribal law and be able to enforce law on tribal land.

Saxton stated the per diem contract with Immigration and Customs Enforcement went out today and would take affect October 1.

Saxton announced he would be meeting with the eleven soon-to-be new deputies from Springfield. He stated the contract should be presented to the Board in September. He stated it would take a while to get in place but he believed the citizens of Springfield would be happy.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Hunger Action Month Proclamation

The proclamation was read into the record by Comr. Dunn.

WHEREAS, hunger and poverty are issues of grave concern in the United States and Calhoun County; and

WHEREAS, Calhoun County is committed to taking steps to raise awareness about the need to combat hunger and to provide additional resources that citizens of Calhoun County need; and

WHEREAS, Calhoun County is committed to working with the Food Bank of South Central Michigan in educating people about the role and importance of food banks in addressing hunger and raising awareness of the need to devote more resources and attention to hunger issues; and

WHEREAS, nearly 20,000 individuals in Calhoun County are food insecure and rely on food provided by the Food Bank of South Central Michigan's hunger-relief network annually; and

WHEREAS, the Food Bank of South Central Michigan's hunger-relief network distributed more than 2 million pounds of food in Calhoun County during 2012 through food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other community organizations; and

WHEREAS, food banks across the country, including the Food Bank of South Central Michigan will host numerous events throughout the month of September to bring awareness and attention to encourage involvement in efforts to end hunger in their local community;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, does hereby recognize September, as **HUNGER ACTION MONTH** in Calhoun County, and calls this observance to the attention of our citizens.

Jennifer Parker, Food Bank of South Central Michigan representative, thanked board and invited everyone to visit the website, <http://www.foodbankofscm.org/>.

Res. 142-2013

"Moved Comr. Dunn, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the Hunger Action Month proclamation as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

1. Human Resources Personnel Report for July 2013
2. Enbridge Notice of Installation of Temporary Containment Device on the Kalamazoo River
3. Lake County Resolution Opposing HB 4785 Public Health Code

B. Resolutions

1. Appointment of Magistrate for the Tenth District Court

{a} Cheryl McDonagh

Res. 143-2013

“Motion by Comr. Dunn, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the Consent Agenda of the August 15, 2013 Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

Comr. Dunn stated she was the Chair of the Southwestern Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC) and they were going to be meeting with Governor's office to see how an alignment would look to blend three counties with five for a bigger Commission. She stated the Commission applied for a \$20,000 Comprehensive and Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) grant through the Economic Development Administration. She noted the grant required a dollar for dollar match but Upjohn donated \$16,000 and the other \$4,000 was donated by Kalamazoo County and the SWMPC.

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 stated the Budget Committee met and reviewed the budget instructions for planning the 2014 budget. She stated revenues were expected to be down \$1.4 million because of a change in jail bed revenue, elimination of personal property tax, a drop in real property value, and the trend of fines and fees in courts being down. She stated we also had a \$2.1 million increase in expenses and an anticipated net \$3.1 million deficit. She stated she had reviewed the budget projections and got input from the judges and elected officials. She noted departments would have until December 6 to submit budgets. Scott stated right now the impact of health care reform was unknown but we expect to know rates from Blue Cross Blue Shield in mid-September. She noted we still have some significant variables in the budget. She stated she was impressed with the Elected Officials, seeing things they were doing to improve services and focusing on being a part of the county's overall budget picture.

She invited new Road Department Managing Director Jerry Peterson to speak, noting he was moving full steam ahead to visit townships and implement improvements for the department.

Managing Director Peterson stated he had been driving the county roads and reviewing other issues. He stated they were looking at grants and have identified at least six projects in townships. He stated he would group all of the projects together and apply for safety grants to help pay for them. He stated he was trying to put his face in front of people so they would have confidence in the department.

Peterson stated he had trust in the workers and believed in them. He stated he had done some reorganization and removed a tier in management, which puts more work on the guys, but that there will be group leaders and one operations manager. He stated he was redoing the 2013 budget to see where they were and he would have more in another week or so.

Peterson stated Comr. Kale had invited local State Representatives Segal and Bolger and Senator Nofs for an open discussion on road funding next Thursday, August 22 at 8:00 a.m. at the Road Department.

B. New Business

1. MDOT Contract No. 13-5400 for Hot Mix Asphalt Paving Work along Division Drive from Approximately One Mile West of 22 Mile Road to 24 Mile Road

Administrator/Controller Scott stated the contract called work along Division Drive totaling \$486,000, with 100% funding with State and Federal funds.

Res. 144-2013

“Moved Comr. Haadsma, Supported by Comr. Dunn to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the MDOT Contract No. 13-5400 for Hot mix asphalt paving work along Division Drive from approximately 1 Mile West of 22 Mile Road to 24 Mile Road; including shoulder, trenching, pavement marking, and traffic control work; and all together with necessary related work. The Board also authorizes the Board Chair and the Administrator/Controller to sign the contract on behalf of Calhoun County.”

On a roll call vote – Yes – 7. Motion **CARRIED**.

2. Approval of Revised Board Policy #240

Administrator/Controller Scott stated this was a proposed change in policy to the administrative legal settlement authority. She stated Corporation Counsel Lindsey prepared this revision and she appreciated everything he does in addition to the County’s legal work.

Corporation Counsel Lindsey stated this change provided consistency across the board with the \$20,000 Administrative approval. He stated this policy would provide for things such as drain reimbursements.

Res. 145-2013

“Moved Comr. VanSickle, Supported by Comr. Dunn to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve revised Board Policy 240 as presented and authorize it to be effective immediately.”

On a roll call vote – Yes -7. Motion **CARRIED**.

3. July 2013 Financial Statements

Administrator/Controller Scott stated the Financial Statements are for informational purposes. She stated the summary for General Fund variances for 2012 and 2013 had to do with timing issues. She noted we continue to monitor potential problems relating to revenue shortages.

Res. 146-2013

“Moved Comr. King, Supported by Comr. VanSickle to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners do hereby accept for informational purposes the July 2013 Financial Statement as presented.”

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

13. CITIZEN’S TIME

Matthew Hall, Sheridan Township, Road Department Teamsters’ Union Steward, commented on the collective bargaining contract from his perspective. He stated he thought Administrator/Controller Scott and Human Resources Director Archambault did a great job. He stated everyone understands there were financial hardships but everyone in the department was hired with the understanding that they would retire with health insurance, and so that was a major concession for some people.

Jackie Braman, City of Battle Creek stated she was a little disturbed that two people at the Road Department were now without jobs and nothing was mentioned showing appreciation for their years of service.

Sheriff Saxton stated last Friday was the Saxton golf outing and they sold out with over 40 teams. He stated they were just shy of grossing about \$16,000, which would go toward the TEAM program (formerly DARE) and keep it running.

14. COMMISSIONERS TIME

Comr. King stated he would like to respond to Ms. Braman’s Comments on behalf of the Board. He stated they did acknowledge that two people lost their jobs and they appreciated their service.

Comr. Frisbie stated the supervisors that were laid off were eligible to apply for any other county jobs they were qualified for.

Comr. Frisbie stated Sheriff Saxton’s staff was phenomenal in what they do and how they make you feel protected. He stated in the situation they needed to protect other people who didn't know what was happening.

Comr. Todd thanked the people who have worked hard for our county. He stated he had come to understand that nothing was guaranteed and what helped him when he lost his job was that he got to do some inner healing while trying to make sense of his job loss.

Comr. Kale stated he had heard nothing but great comments about new Managing Director Peterson and what was going on at the Road Department. He applauded Peterson for his intensity. He stated no one likes to lose their job but you can't keep doing the same things and expect different results.

Comr. Kale thanked the Teamsters for their work and effort to settle the labor contract. He appreciated their willingness to negotiate and compromise.

Comr. Kale stated the Sheriff's golf outing was great.

Comr. Kale announced that Steve and Julie Swafford had attended more meetings than anyone and that today was their 32nd Wedding Anniversary.

Comr. VanSickle stated he could honestly say he had received good comments on the patchwork in the last couple weeks. He stated there had been some good work done which was going to help the confidence of the people and he thought we were headed in the right direction.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

- A. Calhoun County payables from July 26 - August 8, 2013 in the amount of \$1,084,196.13 and the Road Department payables in the amount of \$392,683.58

Res. 147-2013

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Dunn to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Calhoun County payables from July 26 - August 8, 2013 in the amount of \$1,084,196.13 and the Road Department payables in the amount of \$392,683.58."

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

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There was none.

17. CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Res. 148-2013

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Frisbie to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby retire to closed session to discuss contract negotiations."

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

18. TEAMSTERS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT

Res. 149-2013

“Moved Comr. Frisbie, supported by Comr. VanSickle to approve the Teamsters Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 6, No – 1 (Haadsma). Motion **CARRIED**.

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

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Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Clerk
Calhoun County