

CALHOUN COUNTY
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 6, 2014

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, February 6, 2014 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, Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox, Corporation Counsel Richard Lindsey, Human Resources Director Kim Archambault and Deputy Clerk Chris McComb

2 and 3. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the agenda of the February 6, 2014 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 January 16, 2014 Regular Session

"Moved Comr. VanSickle, supported by Comr. Dunn to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2014 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

Sheriff Saxton announced the City of Livonia had approved a contract to house misdemeanor inmates at the Calhoun County Jail. He stated that his office had tried it on a temporary basis and were selected for the contract. He stated he had received a request from the Village of Homer for a quote for contracted law enforcement services, which he delivered to Homer's Board Monday night. He stated his office is implementing a fourth grade program and every fourth grader in the county will receive a copy of an informational book and take a "Junior Deputy's oath" with the students to hold them accountable. He stated that if the book reached one kid and turned them around, it was worth it. He stated he would be meeting with the school superintendents in a couple weeks. Sheriff Saxton stated his office had been contacted by the City of Wyandotte for possible inmate housing and would be meeting with the City's representatives soon. He also announced the Governor's proposed budget reinstated County revenue sharing which could be good news for Calhoun County.

Treasurer Christine Schauer stated her office was accepting tax payments and preparing for the deadline for foreclosures on April 1. She stated they were making appointments for hardship extensions and hoping to see fewer foreclosures. She stated they were looking forward to renovations on the garden level and moving her offices.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Resolution Honoring the Scene Magazine 2014 Man of the Year

Comr. Frisbie read the resolution into the record.

WHEREAS, BOB RANDELS grew up in a family focused on education, always knowing that college was in future; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from Adrian College, he attended Union Theological Seminary in New York City where his goals were to go into the ministry and to address social concerns; and

WHEREAS, Before coming to the Food Bank, Bob was involved with starting a shelter for battered women in Battle Creek where he obtained one of his first real-life experiences with food waste and trying to feed the hungry; and

WHEREAS, In 1982 the Food Bank was organized under the name of Second Harvest by Pat Hirzel and Jack Curtis with grants from The Miller Foundation, the Catholic Diocese of Kalamazoo and \$10,000 in community giving; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing, that food was discarded every day for a variety of reasons, Randels was able to creatively reach out to area food producers and develop a structured way to prevent that food from going into the dumpster and instead reaching the stomachs of hungry people in our community; and

WHEREAS, Randels and his staff developed the Supermarket Sweep, the Canned Food Sculpture, the MEA Soupier Kids Food Drive, and many other creative ways to raise awareness, food and funds that helped to propel our area Food Bank to higher levels of responding to our community's need; and

WHEREAS, In an era where there is often mobility from position to position, Bob has been unique in his long-term commitment to the Food Bank and, when asked why he stayed committed to this cause all these years he responded with, "It's the best job in the world. It's so dynamic. Never boring;" and

WHEREAS, As a servant leader, at the Food Bank for the past 30 years, Bob has made an impressive and positive foot print on our community and will be retiring in February 2014; and

WHEREAS, Bob's retirement plans are to play, travel, fish, visit the grand kids and spend time at his cottage up north; and

WHEREAS, Scene Magazine, which focuses on area professional offices and key points of interest in the Battle Creek/Marshall area is recognizing Bob Randels for his commitment to our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners hereby congratulates Bob Randels on being named Scene Magazine's 2014 Man of the Year.

Res. 9-2014

"Moved Comr. Dunn, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the Scene Magazine 2014 Man of the Year Resolution as presented."

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

B. February 2014 American Heart Month Proclamation

Comr. Kale read the proclamation into the record.

WHEREAS, While progress has been significant in reducing deaths from heart disease, it is still the No. 1 killer of both women and men; and

WHEREAS, Cardiovascular diseases are the nation's leading cause of death and costliest disease with direct and indirect costs estimated at \$312.6 billion; and

WHEREAS, Between 1999 and 2009, the rate of deaths from cardiovascular diseases fell 32.7 percent, but still accounted for nearly 1 in 3 deaths in the nation; and

WHEREAS, About 2,150 people die from cardiovascular diseases each day, accounting for about one death every 40 seconds; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association's 2020 impact goal seeks to improve the cardiovascular health of all Americans by 20 percent, while reducing deaths from cardiovascular diseases and stroke by 20 percent through research, population- and community-level interventions, public health, and policy measures; and

WHEREAS, The American Heart Association is celebrating February 2014 as American Heart Month and promoting education and awareness by urging citizens to learn the warning signs of heart attack and stroke; and

WHEREAS, The most common heart attack symptom in women is some type of pain, pressure or discomfort in the chest. But it's not always severe or even the most prominent symptom, particularly in women. Women are more likely than men to have heart attack symptoms unrelated to chest pain, such as:

- Neck, shoulder, upper back or abdominal discomfort
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea or vomiting
- Sweating
- Lightheadedness or dizziness
- Unusual fatigue

WHEREAS, Efforts of the American Heart Association encourage citizens to help save lives by calling 9-1-1 programs in their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim February 2014 as American Heart Month and February 7, 2014 as National Wear Red Day in Calhoun County, in recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against heart disease. We urge all citizens to recognize the critical importance of tools and skills that will increase survival rates from cardiac arrest. By incorporating these tools into aggressive programs, we can save thousands of lives each year.

Res. 10-2014

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. VanSickle to approve the February 2014 American Heart Month Proclamation as presented."

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

9. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Petitions, Communications, Reports
- B. Resolutions

There was none.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

Comr. Frisbie stated the Community Action Board hired Michelle Williamson, the Interim CEO as the new permanent CEO. He stated he was the Vice Chair of the new Executive Team and there were all new faces on the Executive Committee.

Comr. VanSickle stated the Planning Commission meeting for January had been cancelled.

Comr. King stated the Parks and Recreation Committee met and discussed the letting of the contract for the new trailway, which now had a mid-March start date. He stated they were working on a groundbreaking ceremony. He stated they had elected their board officers and he would serve as Chair again.

Comr. VanSickle stated the Homer Lake Board met January 25 and approved the engineer's recommendation to restore Homer Lake with chemical and mechanical weed control. He stated they had voted to move forward and their next step was to hold a public hearing.

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 that for the first time in fourteen years the Governor's Administration had recommended full funding of revenue sharing. She stated it would be about \$600,000 more in funding to Calhoun County, taking us back to 2004 and 2005 levels. She stated the Michigan Association of Counties was encouraging everyone to talk to their state representatives as the legislature would be taking up the budget soon, we needed both the House and the Senate to agree. She indicated that road funding is still a high priority but not at the level it was last year in the Governor's budget.

Road Department Managing Director Jerry Peterson provided Road Department updates beginning with the research they were doing into upgrading the trucks by parting out the trucks we currently have, using the engine, transmission, and rear end, then purchasing a new chassis and assembling everything in house. He estimated a \$70,000 to \$80,000 savings per truck and the trucks would get more horsepower. He explained he was working on a twelve year capital plan, which would keep vehicles updated so nothing was more than twelve years old. He stated he would also be implementing smaller trucks in subdivisions for winter plowing which would then be used for patching in summer. He stated he would get a strategic plan to the Board by the next Board meeting. He stated they were looking at having college students come in to help with bridge inspections. Peterson stressed that this winter had been strenuous on employees, equipment, the budget and citizens and he hoped when winter was over people would recognize that the Road Department employees did the best they could and they would do better in the future.

Comr. Frisbie stated Peterson had been in touch with the school superintendents, had started to build trust with them and the more we continued to build relationships the better it will be for everyone. He claimed he was excited with the changes and encouraged Peterson to keep up the good communication.

Scott thanked Peterson and all the Road Department workers for their hard work and dedication, especially during the bad weather.

Scott stated that on February 21 she and Jerry Peterson would attend the area-wide school superintendents meeting to improve communications.

Scott stated the Early Retirement Incentive window closed at the end of January and twenty-four employees have opted to retire. She explained that we would start to see a higher volume of staffing allocation amendment requests as departments reorganize after retirements.

B. New Business

1. Amendment to the 2014 Authorized Staffing Allocation Report for the Treasurer's Office

Administrator/Controller Scott stated the Treasurer was trying to provide the best resources for the public and HR Director Archambault had been instrumental in helping organize staff.

HR Director Archambault stated the request from the Treasurer was to hire a person who would be employed by the County/Treasurer and who would be leased through the county to be used by the Land Bank. She stated it was a level four county classification and would be fully funded through the Land Bank.

Treasurer Christine Schauer introduced Krista Trout-Edwards, Land Bank Executive Director. She stated that as the Land Bank matures, Trout-Edwards was working on more executive duties so they were looking for a property and project coordinator to go out in the field for inspections and work on grant projects. She stated the position would be fully funded by the Land Bank and a leased position was the best structural choice. She noted Trout-Edwards still did work for the Treasurer's office managing properties.

Res. 11-2014

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, Supported by Comr. VanSickle to approve the following:
Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the changes to the 2014 Authorized Staffing Allocation Report for the Treasurer's Office as presented."

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

2. Amendment to the 2014 Authorized Staffing Report for the Health Department

Health Officer Rutherford stated the Health Department was asking for a modification of the Staffing Allocation Report as a result of a retirement in the WIC program requiring the hiring of a full time nutritionist and a Program Technician being hired in the WIC program who could provide Burmese translation services.

Res. 12-2014

“Moved Comr. Dunn, Supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the changes to the 2014 Authorized Staffing Allocation Report for the Health Department as presented.”

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

3. Project Cost and Special Assessment Roll for Garfield Lake

Water Resources Commissioner Christine Kosmowski explained that in the fall the Board approved the process to raise the legal lake level at Garfield Lake to formalize what had been in place for many years. She stated it was a multi-step process, they had presented the plan to the Judge and it was approved. She explained the final part is to establish an assessment role and have a day of review. She stated they had citizen come in for the day of review and he was supportive.

Comr. Frisbie stated he wished we could have done it without an engineer to lower the costs but it was the right decision to have one involved. He appreciate Comr. Kosmowski's efforts.

Res. 13-2014

“Moved Comr. VanSickle, Supported by Comr. Dunn to approve the following: Resolved the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the project cost dated January 28, 2014, and the special assessment roll dated January 30, 2014, for Garfield Lake as presented.”

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

13. CITIZEN’S TIME

Matthew Hall, Sheridan Township, Road Department Employee and Teamsters Steward gave a comparison of how Hillsdale County handles drifts versus how Calhoun County handles them.

14. COMMISSIONERS TIME

Comr. King stated the Commissioners were getting a lot of calls about road so he advised that the best way for residents to report a road problems was to go to calhouncountyroads.com, use "See, Click, Fix", email info@ccrc.net or call the Road Department at 269-781-9841. He explained that the Road Department's phone system was getting updated soon, but right now it would only hold between twenty and thirty calls so it was checked regularly. He stated things would only get better from here.

Comr. Frisbie stated he went to Detroit to hear Governor Snyder and he actually talked about Calhoun/Jackson collaboration which is groundbreaking. He stated he was happy when Road Department Managing Director Peterson stood up and talked about plans for repair and replacement of equipment; those were things the Road Commission never talked about in the past.

Comr. Frisbie stated that with those twenty-four early retirements came opportunity and he challenged each one of the county departments to do more with less bodies. He stated that just because revenue was coming back didn't mean we would be flush with cash. He challenged everyone to do more with less for the betterment of our citizens.

Comr. Kale stated he attended an event with Julian Bond, who was active in the civil rights movement, and spent a few minutes talking with him.

Comr. Kale recognized the Sheriff's efforts, stating his negotiations with Livonia should not be taken lightly and his efforts were a huge step to help fill the gap in budget deficits.

Comr. Kale gave a strong shout out to the Road Department workers and staff. He stated we recognized there were equipment issues and when the County took over in 2012 there was no game plan to replace equipment but we are developing one. He stated he had confidence in Managing Director Peterson. He stated we weren't going to let such issues impact our goal of making this the best road department in the state.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

- A. Calhoun County Claims Payable January 10 - 31, 2014 in the Amount of \$2,248,260.91 and the P-Card Claims for January 2014 in the Amount of \$75,492.96.

Res. 14-2014

"Moved Comr. Haadsma, supported by Comr. Todd to approve the following: Resolved, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable January 10 - 31, 2014 in the Amount of \$2,248,260.91 and the P-Card Claims for January 2014 in the Amount of \$75,492.96 as presented."

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

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comr. Frisbie announced the Pennfield Exchange Club was having a pancake supper at the Pennfield High School from 4:30 – 7 on February 7 to raise funds for the womens co-op.

Comr. VanSickle announced MarLee School was having a spaghetti supper on February 7 from 5 - 7, cost was \$9, it was catered by Fazoli's and funds were for 6th grade camp.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

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Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Clerk
Calhoun County