

CALHOUN COUNTY
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 4, 2005

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Marshall County Building, 315 West Green Street, Marshall, Michigan.

Roll call: Present: Comrs. Bolger, Miller, Moore, Segal, Solis, Strowbridge and Todd.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

A Moment of Personal Prayer was observed; followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Comr. Bolger.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM:

“Motion by Comr. Segal, supported by Comr. Todd, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the August 4, 2005 agenda and addendum, as amended, with deletion of Item 8. B. - Amtrak’s Blue Water Service Funding Resolution of Support.”

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

“Motion by Comr. Bolger, supported by Comr. Moore, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the July 7, 2005 minutes as presented.”

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

CITIZENS’ TIME:

Mr. Gardy Berezonsky, Marengo Township resident, noted no appeal process within the Purchase of Development Rights Program process should a township deny an individual’s application, and questioned why the applications must be approved by the township(s). Mr. Berezonsky pointed out that most township planning boards consist of five individuals with only three of the five being a majority to either approve or deny the applications.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS -- Men For Change Presentation

Prosecutor John Hallacy stated that the Board may have noted within the newspaper the Program's kickoff conducted a couple of weeks ago. Prosecutor Hallacy advised that there had been a tremendous turn out of approximately 50 individuals, mostly men.

Prosecutor Hallacy stated that every year during domestic violence awareness month in October he presents a proclamation to make the community aware of domestic violence, and this year in partnership with Safe Place, they are attempting to expand and provide a new twist to the awareness campaign.

Prosecutor Hallacy presented a video entitled Battered Hearts which has been sold nationally since its creation in the early 1990s.

Prosecutor Hallacy advised that the majority of the county's domestic violence cases, 80 to 90 percent, are perpetrated by men, and that statistically kids that grow up in an environment of violence are taught to abuse or are the recipients of abuse. Prosecutor Hallacy stated that domestic abuse is not a family issue, it is a community issue that needs to change, and that as leaders, fathers, uncles and mentors to young men in the community they have an opportunity to change that perspective for a better society.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Res. 123-2005

"Motion by Comr. Segal, supported by Comr. Bolger, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the following August 4, 2005 Consent Agenda as presented:

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports:

- (1) Resolution received from Clare County requesting the Governor and the Legislature reduce state spending on corrections and shift the savings to other state budgets by increasing the use of parole. (Referred to the Legislative Liaisons, with a copy remitted to Sheriff Allen Byam)
- (2) Resolution received from Washtenaw County urging Congress to reject House Resolution No. 2726 as introduced {Preserving Innovation in Telecom Act of 2005}. (Referred to the Legislative Liaisons)

B. Resolutions:

(1) Community Corrections Advisory Board Appointment

- {a} Eric Smith -- Alternate for Barbara Frederick
(Business Community Representative)”

Voice Vote: Motion CARRIED

PETITIONS AND NEW BUSINESS:

County Administrator/Controller’s Report

Purchase of Development Rights Program Application and Selection Criteria

Planning Director Jennifer Bomba stated that the program shall attempt to protect idle farmland through zoning classification and is not to purchase development rights to any parcels that might have a future development potential. Ms. Bomba advised that the Calhoun County Agricultural Preservation Board spent considerable time reviewing the application and selection criteria and request approval to move forward with the goals of the program.

Res. 124-2005

“Motion by Comr. Moore, supported by Comr. Bolger, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the Application and Selection Criteria for the Calhoun County Purchase of Development Rights Program, as required by the Calhoun County Farmland Preservation Ordinance.”

Comr. Bolger inquired whether the program expends any Calhoun County general funds or property tax dollars. Ms. Bomba responded No.

Roll call vote: Yes - 7 Motion CARRIED Unanimously

Chairman Miller acknowledged Ms. Bomba’s and Ms. Seymour’s participation on behalf of the Community Development Department in the Canoe the Kzoo.

FY 2006 Community Corrections Comprehensive Plan and Grant Application

County Administrator/Controller Greg Purcell stated that the plan and application is for fiscal year 2006 funding in the amount of \$874,626.

**Board of Commissioners
August 4, 2005**

Community Corrections Manager Roselynn Goff requested that the Board authorize submission of the plan and application which provides funding for three program areas; e.g., planning and services, probation residential services, and the Drunk Driving Jail Reimbursement/Community Treatment Program.

Res. 125-2005

“Motion by Comr. Segal, supported by Comr. Bolger, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve the FY 2006 Calhoun County Community Corrections Comprehensive Plan and Application for grant funds in the amount of \$874,626; further, authorize submission of said Grant Application to the Michigan Department of Corrections, Office of Community Corrections, on behalf of Calhoun County.”

Roll call vote: Yes - 7 Motion CARRIED Unanimously

CITIZENS' TIME:

Mr. Berezonsky again addressed the lack of appeal process for denial of Purchase of Development Rights Program applications.

Mr. Berezonsky inquired whether the county is ever going to adopt a cellular phone policy to prohibit cell phone usage by county employees; e.g., road patrol officers, while driving county vehicles.

Mr. Berezonsky addressed the cost of private legal counsel, and questioned why the Prosecutor can not have an attorney provide legal counsel for the departments.

Mr. Berezonsky requested a copy of the procedures which the Battle Creek dispatchers use for car accidents, downed power lines or downed trees, advising that Emmett Township calls the fire department in every instance.

Comr. Strowbridge advised that each fire department has their own procedures for emergency response and that the dispatchers in the City of Battle Creek simply follow the individual fire department's procedures.

CLAIMS PAYABLE LISTINGS:

Res. 126-2005

“Motion by Comr. Segal, supported by Comr. Moore, adopt the following: Resolved by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approve payment of the list of claims against the county in the total amount of \$468,279.85 for the week of July 20, 2005; further, approve payment of the list of claims against the county in the total amount of \$846,634.03 for the week of July 26, 2005.”

**Board of Commissioners
August 4, 2005**

Roll call vote: Yes - 7 Motion CARRIED Unanimously

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Miller reminded Board members that Thursday, August 11 at 6:00 p.m. at Schulers Restaurant is the joint session with the Economic Development Corporation.

Chairman Miller announced that on Wednesday, August 10 at 4:30 p.m. at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation is the reception for the two finalist candidates for health officer, and encouraged Board members to attend to meet the candidates.

RECESS:

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

mlb