

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

March 4, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00p.m., Thursday March 4, 2021 via Zoom Meeting and aired live on YouTube.

Chair Frisbie called the meeting to order, requested the Deputy Clerk call the roll and requested all commissioners note their physical location for the current Board of Commissioners meeting in accordance with the Amended Open Meetings Act. All members indicated they were in Calhoun County, MI.

Present: Comrs. Gary Tompkins, Kathy-Sue Vette, Rochelle Hatcher, Jake Smith, Steve Frisbie, Derek King and Tommy Miller.

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Corporation Counsel Jim Dyer, Assistant Administrator Brad Wilcox, , Communications Manager Lucy Blair, and Deputy Clerk Susan Connolly.

2 and 3. MOMENT OF SILENCE/INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

After the moment of silence, Comr. Tompkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Res. 031-2021

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the agenda of the March 4, 2021 Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented.”

Comr. Smith noted a potential conflict regarding the SWMBH Intergovernmental Contract on the Consent Agenda. Corporation Counsel Jim Dyer informed there would not be a conflict in his opinion and that Comr. Smith could vote on the agenda item if he agreed with Mr. Dyer’s opinion.

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

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Board of Commissioners’ February 18, 2021 Regular Session and the Board of Commissioners’ February 19, 2021 Orientation Session.

Res. 032-2021

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to approve the minutes of the Board of Commissioners’ February 18, 2021 Regular Session and the Board of Commissioners’ February 19, 2021 Orientation Session, as presented.”

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

6. CITIZENS’ TIME

There was none.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS’ COMMENTS

Prosecutor David Gilbert informed that jury trials will resume March 29, 2021 after being cancelled for one year due to the pandemic.

Assistant Treasurer Melinda Weaver shared that the Treasurer’s Office forfeited 1,200 properties, down 148 from last year, and their staff continue to work with residents to prevent forfeitures.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Proclamation to Declare March 2021 as the 19th Annual March for Meals Month within Calhoun County, Michigan.

Comr. Tompkins read the following Proclamation on the record:

**PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING MARCH 2021 AS THE
19th ANNUAL MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH**

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels America established the March for Meals campaign in March 2002 to recognize the historic month, the importance of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs, both congregate and home-delivered, and raise awareness about the escalating problem of senior hunger in America; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 observance of March for Meals celebrates 19 years of providing an opportunity to support Meals on Wheels programs that deliver vital and critical services by donating, volunteering and raising awareness about senior hunger and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs — both congregate and home-delivered, in Calhoun County have served our communities admirably for over 50 years; and

WHEREAS, volunteers for Meals on Wheels programs in Calhoun County are the backbone of the program and they not only deliver nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation, but also caring concern and attention to their welfare; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Calhoun County provide nutritious meals to seniors throughout the county that help them maintain their health and independence, thereby preventing unnecessary falls, hospitalizations and/or premature institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Calhoun County provide a powerful opportunity for social connection for millions of seniors to help combat the negative health effects and economic consequences of loneliness and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Calhoun County deserve recognition for the heroic contributions and essential services they have provided amid the COVID-19 pandemic and will continue to provide to local communities, our State and our Nation long after it is over.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 2021 as the 19th Annual March for Meals Month and urge every citizen to take this month to honor our Meals on Wheels programs, the seniors they serve and the volunteers who care for them. Our recognition of, and involvement in, the national 2021 March for Meals can enrich our entire community and help combat senior hunger and isolation in America.

Dated this 4th day of March 2021

Signed,

*Steve Frisbie
Chair, Board of Commissioners*

Res. 033-2021

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Vette to approve the Proclamation to Declare March 2021 as the 19th Annual March for Meals Month within Calhoun County, Michigan as presented.”

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

Abigail Finn with Senior Services, Inc. thanked the Board for the Proclamation and all of the volunteers for their time and services. Ms. Finn added the program is funded through the Senior Millage.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

There were none.

B. Resolutions

1. Support Resolution for E Drive North culvert replacement.
2. First Amendment to SWMBH Intergovernmental Contract.
3. MERS Service Credit Purchase: Guy Picketts.
4. Local Road Agreements with Albion & Eckford Townships.
5. Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Board Reappointments (terms ending December 31, 2026):
 - (a) Mark Montross, Bronson Healthcare Group; and
 - (b) Joe Sobieralski, Battle Creek Unlimited.

Res. 034-2021

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Miller to approve the consent agenda as presented.”

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

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

Comr. Tompkins reported that the Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation Board met virtually and that officers were elected for this year.

Comr. Vette informed that a few Board members from Summit Pointe met February 25 in a meeting hosted by CEO Jeannie Goodrich via Zoom to hear a presentation on the County’s Stepping Up program designed to help incarcerated individuals with mental health disorders.

11. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

12. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

A. County Administrator/Controller’s Report

County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott shared an update regarding County operations and pandemic reopening plans, noting that with the March 5 MDHHS Gathering and Mask Order coupled with the MIOSHA Emergency Rules still in effect through mid-April, she continues to recommend remote meetings and employee work through the month of April, when the situation will be reevaluated.

Kelli Scott added the Summit Point Board of Directors met on March 2 virtually, and heard a presentation about statewide changes to cost allocation plans and other measurement data with goals to develop consistent cost tracking and funding models for all community mental health agencies.

Administrator/Controller Scott informed that the Marshall Area Economic Development Alliance (MAEDA) Board meeting on March 2, and accepted the 2020 audit and approved a 2021 budget amendment. She added that under the leadership of CEO James Durian, MAEDA continues to increase investments in supporting businesses impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, bringing tourists to Marshall's downtown, marketing available development sites and providing learning and networking opportunities for Chamber members.

Ms. Scott added to Comr. Tompkins' report on the Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation Board meeting Feb. 23, noting the officers for the new year as follows: President, Greg Moore, Consumers Energy; Vice-President, County Commissioner Gary Tompkins; Treasurer, Mark Montross, Bronson Battle Creek; and Secretary, Vic Potter. She added that Community Development Director Jen Bomba updated the Board on various economic development projects the County is helping to support and suggested a follow up meeting soon to discuss more formal ways for our economic development efforts across the county to be aligned.

B. New Business

1. 2021 Native American Heritage Fund Board Administrative Services Agreement.

Administrator/Controller Scott shared that this Agreement is a continuation of the services provided by County Administration since the inception of the NAHFB, and that the NAHF Board met February 26 and approved the agreement. She added that the contract provides \$15,000 in annual unrestricted income to offset county general fund costs within County Administration.

Res.035-2021

"Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the 2021 Native American Heritage Fund Board Administrative Services Agreement as presented."

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

2. Inmate Medical Contract Amendment.

Ms. Scott reported this Amendment will provide a higher level of mental health services within the County jail. She noted that Corizon has proposed and the Sheriff and County Administration support the slight increase in cost, which is expected to be offset with current year savings within the Sheriff's budget.

Res.036-2021

"Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Inmate Medical Contract Amendment as presented."

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

3. Waiver of 2021 Food Licenses, Other Inspection Fees.

Kelli Scott noted this waiver will provide relief to businesses affected by COVID-19 operating restrictions, totaling \$288,000 for 2021 fees. She added that the Board of Public Health discussed and supports this waiver.

Health Officer Eric Pessell added his support of the waiver.

Comr. King shared his support as a member of the Public Health Board and credited Kelli Scott for bringing forth this idea.

Res.037-2021

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Waiver of 2021 Food Licenses and other Inspection Fees as presented."

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

13. CITIZENS' TIME

There was none.

14. COMMISSIONER'S TIME

Comr. Tompkins shared County resident Ms. Goodwill, age 114, passed away recently.

Comr. Vette reported she volunteered at the Crossroads Church vaccination clinic today and expressed continued appreciation for how well the clinics have been running.

Health Officer Eric Pessell informed over 30,000 vaccinations have been distributed to Calhoun County citizens to date.

Comr. Frisbie shared that business owner Joel Fulton sent positive comments regarding the waiver for Health Department fees, mainly for restaurants, approved earlier by the board.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

Res.038-2021

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for February 12, 2021 through February 25, 2021 in the amount of \$3,201,571.50 as presented.”

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

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board