

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MAY 19, 2022

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:02p.m., Thursday, May 19, 2022, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

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

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

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox, Corporation Counsel Jim Dyer, HR/Labor Relations Director Kim Archambault, Communications Manager Lucy Blair, and Deputy Clerk Susan Connolly.

2. Moment of Silence/Invocation

Chair Frisbie called a Moment of Silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

After a moment of silence, Comr. Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Res.089-2022

"Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the agenda of the May 19, 2022, 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 May 5, 2022, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting

Minutes of the May 5, 2022, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting.

Res.090-2022

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Minutes of the May 5, 2022, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting, as presented."

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

6. Citizens' Time

Residents of numerous townships shared concerns related to road projects and the proposed new business items related to Board Policy 509 and its proposed amendments concerning turning primary roads to gravel.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

There was none.

8. Special Order of Business

A. MSU Extension Annual Report Presentation

Julie Pioch, MSU Extension District Director, shared an annual presentation on the impact that MSU Extension programming has provided Calhoun County residents.

Kathy Fischer, 4-H Program Coordinator, highlighted upcoming summer programs offered to local youth.

9. Consent Agenda

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

1. Resolutions from Other Counties to be Acknowledged:

1) Kalamazoo County re Auto Insurance Legislation Reform:

B. Resolutions

1. Contract Amendment: Senior Services Ramps for Accessibility

2. Financial Statements For Information Only: April 2022

Res.091-2022

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Consent Agenda of the May 19, 2022, Board of Commissioner’s Regular Session, as presented.”

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

10. Special Committee/Workshop/Board Reports

Comr. Tompkins reported that the Senior Millage Allocation Committee met on May 6 and approved numerous proposals.

Comr. Tompkins shared that the Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health Board (SWMBH) Substance Use Disorder Policy Oversight Board (SUDOPB) met on May 16, adding that they did not have a quorum but reviewed 2021-2022 financials.

11. Unfinished and Old Business

There was none.

12. New Business and County Administrator's Report

A. *Administrator/Controller's Report*

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott wished Comr. Tompkins a Happy Birthday on May 25.

Kelli Scott also thanked the County's IT and Communications Departments for their time to help implement the new software for Board meetings.

Ms. Scott noted job title changes for Lucy Blair, Communications Director and David Hackett, IT Director.

B. *New Business*

1. *Authorization to Issue Capital Improvement Bonds*

Administrator/Controller Scott explained that this item requested the authorization to issue up to \$13 Million in capital improvement bonds for the renovation and expansion of the Calhoun County Juvenile Home, and energy improvements to all county-owned facilities.

Kelli Scott noted that the Board's approval would encompass three items: 1. authorization to publish the required notice of intent; 2. authorization to issue the bonds; and 3. engaging Veregy to take the next steps for the design and engineering.

Dick Williams, with Veregy shared a presentation to the Board and highlighted the long-term benefits and savings from the proposed improvements and renovations to the Juvenile Center.

Tori Benden, Director of the Juvenile Center was present to answer any questions.

Comr. Smith questioned if the facility required closure during construction, and Mr. Williams replied that it would be phased to minimize disruption but may involve closure of various wings at designated times.

Comrs. Frisbie and Miller noted the energy savings and reduced long-term maintenance costs.

Res.092-2022

"Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Authorization to Issue Capital Improvement Bonds, as presented."

On a roll call vote, Yes – 7, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, Tompkins, Vette, Hatcher, and Smith.
Motion **CARRIED**.

2. *FY23 County Veterans Service Fund Grant from Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency*

Kelli Scott noted that the grant application presented was for the FY23 County Veterans Service Fund Grant from the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.

Aaron Edlefson, Veterans Affairs Director, informed the Board that the application was supported by the Veterans Affairs Committee to meet the needs of local veterans and the community.

Res.093-2022

“Moved Comr. King, second by Comr. Tompkins to approve the FY23 County Veterans Service Fund Grant from Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency, as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 7, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, Tompkins, Vette, Hatcher, and Smith.
Motion **CARRIED**.

3. Amendment to Policy 509 - Primary Road Stabilization

Kelli Scott reported the amendment to Policy 509 was in response to the Board's vote at the last meeting to not turn primary roads to gravel without a relevant policy in place. Ms. Scott noted the redlined changes to the policy by Corporation Counsel, Jim Dyer.

Kelli Scott noted that the Policy amendments emphasize the County's responsibility to make roadways safe, and that turning them to gravel would be a last resort in order to protect the County from liability, noting that first there would be a lot of effort put into forward planning and communication with the townships as to the condition of all roads, so that a failing road would not be announced as a surprise. She reminded the Board that the Road Department's funding was completely separate from the County's general fund and that road improvements were not funded with any taxpayer dollars. Ms. Scott highlighted the County's past three-year investment of more than 15 million dollars in primary roads, including grants from the State and Federal government and partnerships with local townships.

Jim Dyer, Corporation Counsel explained what the policy requires and the legal obligation to keep the roadways reasonably safe and fit for immunity from lawsuits and liability due to the condition of the roadway.

Open discussion among numerous commissioners regarding the policy and proposed amendments.

John Midgley, Road Department Managing Director was present and answered numerous questions from the commissioners.

Res.094-2022

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. King to approve the Amendment to Policy 509 - Primary Road Stabilization, Amended that Return to Pavement would Occur within 5 years of Return to Gravel on Primary Roads, as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 6, Comrs. King, Miller, Tompkins, Vette, Hatcher, and Smith.
No - 1, Comr. Frisbie
Motion **CARRIED**.

Res. 095-2022

“Moved Comr. Miller , second by Comr. Smith to Amend the Policy so that if a road is turned to gravel, there should be a contract with the township on when it will be returned to pavement.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 3, Comrs. Miller, Hatcher, and Smith.

No - 4, Comrs. Tompkins, Frisbie, King, and Vette.

Motion **FAILED**.

Res. 096-2022

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to Amend the Policy that Return to Pavement would occur within 5 years of Return to Gravel on Primary Roads.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 4, Comrs. Tompkins, Miller, Smith, and Hatcher.

No - 3, Comrs. Frisbie, Vette and King.

Motion **PASSED**.

4. Calhoun County Safe Schools Initiative Grant Application.

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott reported that the grant application presented was to the U.S. Department of Justice for the Calhoun County Safe Schools Initiative through the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Steve Hinkley noted the application was in response to a federal appropriation received with the support of Congressman Meijer. Sheriff Hinkley shared that the new school security systems and related improvements will aid in the response time for 911 calls during school incidents.

Comr. King asked whether schools that currently have cameras or security systems would be included and how they would communicate with dispatch. Sheriff Hinkley replied that schools without cameras would get new ones, and schools with some components of camera systems would be improved to enable the connection to the Dispatch Center.

Res.097-2022

“Moved Comr. Vette, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Calhoun County Safe Schools Initiative Grant Application, as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 7, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, Tompkins, Vette, Hatcher, and Smith.

Motion **CARRIED**.

13. Citizens' Time

Numerous residents approached to follow up their comments related to road conditions, repairs and Policy 509.

14. Commissioners' Time

Numerous commissioners followed up their comments related to the Amended Policy 509 item and vote.

15. Claims Payable Listing

- A. *Claims Payable for April 28, 2022, through May 11, 2022, in the amount of \$11,983,144.95.*

Res.098-2022

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for April 28, 2022, through May 11, 2022, in the amount of \$11,983,144.95, as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 7, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, Tompkins, Vette, Hatcher, and Smith.
Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

Comr. Tompkins highlighted upcoming Memorial Day services.

Comr. Miller noted the CCIS Fair this weekend at the fairgrounds.

Comr. Frisbie informed the event this Sunday was cancelled.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners