

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

APRIL 11, 2023

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Equalization Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 11, 2023, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

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

Present: Comrs. Kathy-Sue Vette, Steve Frisbie, Derek King, Tommy Miller, Rochelle Hatcher (arrived 7:27pm), Diane Thompson, and Monique French.

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

2. Moment of Silence/Invocation

Comr. Thompson called a Moment of Silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Comr. Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Res.049-2023

"Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Miller to approve the agenda of the April 11, 2023, Equalization Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, as presented."

On a **VOICE VOTE**, Motion **CARRIED**.

5. Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes of the March 16, 2023 Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting

Minutes of the March 16, 2023, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting.

Res.050-2023

"Moved Comr. Frisbie, second by Comr. French to approve the Minutes of the March 16, 2023, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting, as presented."

On a **VOICE VOTE**, Motion **CARRIED**.

6. Citizens' Time

Sheridan Township Supervisor Richard Porter, and numerous other residents, expressed concerns related to the severity of potholes and roadway conditions.

The Sheridan Township Supervisor further requested to table the vote of the proposed new Policy 520 - Road Infrastructure Failure Policy.

Residents of Clarence Township, Eckford Township, Fredonia Township, and Marengo Township, expressed concerns related to the return-to-gravel policy, conditions of the roadways and the bridge located on 24 Mile Road.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

There were none.

8. Special Order of Business

A. Proclamation - National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week April 9-15, 2023

Res.051-2023

“Moved Comr. Frisbie, second by Comr. King to approve the Proclamation - National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week April 9-15, 2023, as presented.”

On a **VOICE VOTE**, Motion **CARRIED**.

B. Proclamation - National County Government Month - April 2023

Res.052-2023

“Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Proclamation - National County Government Month, as presented.”

On a **VOICE VOTE**, Motion **CARRIED**.

C. 2023 Equalization Report and Resolution

Chair Vette introduced Matt Hansen, Equalization Director, and Tom Scott, Deputy Equalization Director. Mr. Scott provided an overview of the 2023 Report and Resolution.

In follow up to a question from Comr. Frisbie, Tom Scott explained how assessments are evaluated and the totals are calculated.

Res.053-2023

“Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Miller to approve the 2023 Equalization Report and Resolution, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**, Yes – 7, Comrs. Vette, Frisbie, King, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, and French. Motion **CARRIED**.

9. Consent Agenda

A. *Petitions, Communications, Reports*

B. *Resolutions*

1. *Other County Resolutions to be acknowledged*

2. *2023 BCBSM Renewal Documents*

3. *CCRD Local Road Agreement: Return to Gravel - K Drive South between 10 Mile Rd & 11 Mile Rd - Newton Township*

4. *Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation Reappointment*

5. *Community Mental Health Authority (Summit Pointe) Board Appointment*

Res.054-2023

“Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Frisbie to approve the Consent Agenda of the April 11, 2023, Board of Commissioner’s Equalization Session, as presented.”

On a **VOICE VOTE**, Motion **CARRIED**.

10. Special Committee/Workshop/Board Reports

Comr. French reported that the Calhoun County Broadband Task Force met April 11 and highlighted efforts to promote the federal Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), with county staff meeting with Health Department Women and Infant Children program staff to provide materials for WIC recipients, who are automatically eligible for the internet discount program.

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 mentioned an email update she recently sent to the Board highlighting the status of the Countywide Public Transit initiative, noting that there is a new project page within the County website explaining the background and need for public transit services for residents of Calhoun County.

B. ***New Business***

1. ***New CCRD Policy: Road Infrastructure Failure--Policy #520***

Ms. Scott explained that the proposed new policy is actually language previously removed from Policy 509 - Local Road Improvement Policy, and that its purpose is simply to clarify the County's legal responsibilities to keep roads safe for travel, and make transparent the process to be used when there are no immediate road improvement solutions for a failed portion of a local road.

Kelli Scott emphasized the importance of working together with townships and responding to residents' that might petition for a road to be made gravel, and added that this proposed new policy does not diminish any efforts to get increased funding, to reduce costs, or to find longer-term solutions to improving roads. She reiterated that the County's legal counsel continues to advise that the County does have legal responsibilities and liabilities to address failed roads even with the current status of the lack of a formal policy.

Res.055-2023

"Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Frisbie to approve the new Calhoun County Road Department Policy: Road Infrastructure Failure --Policy #520, as presented."

There was discussion related to the proposed policy and the need to work with local townships to create solutions to improve the current conditions of the roadways.

Comr. Miller requested a Motion to Table the Vote.

Res.056-2023

"Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Thompson to Table the New Calhoun County Road Department Policy: Road Infrastructure Failure--Policy#520, as presented."

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**, Yes – 4, Comrs. French, Miller, Thompson, and Hatcher.
No - 3, Comrs. Frisbie, King, and Vette
Motion **CARRIED**.

Comr. Miller followed with a Motion to Reinstate the Road Commission Task Force Similar to What Existed in 2012.

The commissioners discussed the motion presented and their reasoning why they were for or against the proposed Motion.

Road Department Director, John Midgley was present to answer questions related to the Policy, current pothole patching and the status of HMA paving.

Res.057-2023

"Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Thompson to Reinstate the Road Commission Task Force Similar to What Existed in 2012, as presented."

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**, Yes – 1, Comr. Miller.
No - 6, Comrs. Vette, Frisbie, King, Hatcher, Thompson, and French.
Motion **FAILED**.

2. Contract Amendment: Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Inmate Boarding

Administrator/Controller Scott noted that the contract amendment was negotiated by the Sheriff's Office with the U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. She added that the amendment includes an increase in the per diem inmate boarding rate for a two-year period, reflecting cost increases related to staffing, medical, and building costs, among others.

Sheriff Hinkey was present to answer any questions.

Res.058-2023

"Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. French to approve the Contract Amendment: Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Inmate Boarding, as presented."

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**, Yes – 7, Comrs. Vette, Frisbie, King, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, and French. Motion **CARRIED**.

3. CCRD Bid Award: Countywide HMA Paving

Kelli Scott reported that this bid awards is for the annual hot mix asphalt contract paving for the 2023 construction season, and includes multiple projects across the County. Scott added that the recommendation was to award the contract to Lakeland Asphalt, as the lowest and most responsive bidder.

Res.059-2023

"Moved Comr. Frisbie, second by Comr. French to approve the Calhoun County Road Department Bid Award: Countywide HMA Paving, as presented."

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**, Yes – 6, Comrs. Vette, Frisbie, King, Hatcher, Thompson, and French.
No - 1, Comr. Miller
Motion **CARRIED**.

4. Semco Energy Raymond Road Easement Request

Ms. Scott noted this easement request to replace a pipeline for natural gas in Emmett Township, Raymond Road area.

Administrator/Controller Scott added that the replacement is due to the age and safety concerns of that line and the proximity to the right-of-way.

Jason Livingston with Semco Energy was present to answer any questions and informed them that the current pipeline is roughly 60 years old and a 16 inch pipe.

Res.060-2023

"Moved Comr. King, second by Comr. Thompson to approve the Semco Energy Raymond Road Easement Request, as presented."

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**, Yes – 7, Comrs. Vette, Frisbie, King, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, and French. Motion **CARRIED**.

13. Citizens' Time

Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority Director Mike Armitage thanked the board for the Proclamation recognizing emergency dispatchers and provided a copy of the Authority's 2022 annual report. Mr. Armitage thanked the communications department for their assistance in creating the report. Director Armitage added that new radios purchased with the recent bond proceeds were being distributed to dispatchers, police and first responders.

Several residents addressed the board regarding the vote related to Policy #520 and the proposed reinstatement of the Road Commission Task Force.

Resident Mike Heisler spoke related to prior Road Department agreements and questioned milestones over the past decade.

Various residents addressed the boarding follow up to rural townships and funding for road improvements.

14. Commissioners' Time

Comr. Hatcher shared her opinion of the denial of the advisory committee.

Comr. Miller shared information about Clarence Township and meal tickets available for the youth.

Comr. King added comments related to the mileage rates.

Comr. Frisbie informed of the SMAC (Senior Mileage Allocation Committee) meeting.

Comr. French stated her reasoning behind her vote related to Policy #520 and the proposed task force.

15. Claims Payable Listing

A. Claims Payable for March 9, 2023 through April 4, 2023, in the amount of \$10,231,978.71

Res.061-2023

“Moved Comr Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for March 9, 2023, through April 4, 2023, in the amount of \$10,231,978.71, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**, Yes – 5, Comrs. Vette, Frisbie, King, Miller, and Hatcher.

Absent (excused prior to the vote) - 2, Comr. Thompson and French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

Comr. Miller announced the Sheriff's Posse Breakfast at Mar Lee School April 15 and Albion Township's Spaghetti Dinner April 15.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners