

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

OCTOBER 19, 2023

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Property Tax Apportionment Session according to MCL211.37 of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:01 p.m., Thursday, October 19, 2023, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

Vice Chair Frisbie called the meeting to order and requested the Deputy Clerk call the roll.
Present: Comrs. Steve Frisbie, Derek King, Tommy Miller, and Rochelle Hatcher.
Absent/Excused: Comrs. Kathy-Sue Vette, Diane Thompson, and Monique French.

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

2. Moment of Silence/Invocation

Vice Chair Frisbie called a Moment of Silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Comr. Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Res.133 -2023

"Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the agenda of the October 19, 2023, Property Tax Apportionment Session according to MCL211.37 of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, as presented."

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

5. Approval of Minutes

A. *Minutes of the October 5, 2023, Board of Commissioners' Annual Meeting According to MCL46.1*

Minutes of the October 5, 2023, Board of Commissioners' Annual Meeting according to MCL46.1.

Res.134-2023

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Minutes of the October 5, 2023, Board of Commissioners’ Annual Meeting according to MCL46.1, as presented.”

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

6. Citizens' Time

A resident of Newton Township shared concerns related to the 30-day response deadline for local units of government to opt out of the newly created Transportation Authority of Calhoun County.

A resident of Marshall expressed opposition to the time limitation for Citizen's Time and opposition to the Marshall Ford BlueOval site.

Art Kale spoke in support of the Albion Homer Substance Abuse Prevention Services organization, and the Red Ribbon Proclamation on the current agenda.

Mr. Laws of the Kalamazoo Youth Development Network which supports local youth, thanked the board for the Lights On After School Proclamation and shared the importance of the organization.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

There was none.

8. Special Order of Business

A. Proclamation - Keeping The Lights On After School - October 26, 2023

Comr. King read the following Proclamation on the record:

**Keeping the Lights On After School: A Proclamation
2023**

WHEREAS, the citizens of Calhoun County stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they:

- * Provide nurturing, high quality, and engaging learning experiences that help youth develop social, emotional, physical, and academic skills; and
- * Support families by ensuring youth are engaged in supportive learning environments after the regular school day ends; and
- * Build stronger communities by involving youth, parents, business leaders in the lives of young people, thereby ensuring all youth thrive.

WHEREAS, Kalamazoo Youth Development Network (KYD Network) has provided significant leadership in improving outcomes for youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our youth thrive.

WHEREAS, Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 26th, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of youth, families and communities.

WHEREAS, many after school programs in our community are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights.

WHEREAS, Calhoun County is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help to ensure all youth thrive.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim October 26th, as "Lights On Afterschool Day"; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Board of Commissioners enthusiastically endorses Lights On Afterschool and commits our community to engage in innovative after school programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all youth after school.

Dated this 19th day of October 2023

Signed: Kathy-Sue Vette, Chair Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Res.135-2023

“Moved Comr. King, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Proclamation - Keeping The Lights On After School - October 26, 2023, as presented.”

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

B. Proclamation - NAACP 88th Annual Freedom Fund Dinner - October 27, 2023

Comr. Miller read the following Proclamation on the record:

**BATTLE CREEK SENIOR BRANCH OF THE NAACP
FREEDOM FUND DINNER
PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was created in 1909 by a small group of black and white citizens, and has grown to be the largest and most influential civil rights organization in the country; and

WHEREAS, For more than 100 years, the NAACP has led the civil rights battle to destroy barriers to equality for minority groups, and has launched many programs to assist in eliminating the scourges of racial hatred and poverty; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of minority groups, to achieve equality of rights and eliminate racial

prejudice among the citizens of the United States; to remove barriers of racial discrimination through the democratic process and seek to enact and enforce all federal, state and local laws securing civil rights; and

WHEREAS, the Battle Creek Senior Branch of the NAACP hosts its 88th Annual Freedom Fund Dinner on Friday, October 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Kool Family Community Center in Battle Creek; and

NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, it is my honor and privilege to extend our very best wishes for a most successful 88th Annual Freedom Fund Dinner.

Dated this 19th day of October 2023

Signed: Kathy-Sue Vette, Chair Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Res.136-2023

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Proclamation - NAACP 88th Annual Freedom Fund Dinner - October 27, 2023, as presented.”

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

C. Proclamation - Red Ribbon Week - October 23-31, 2023

Comr. Hatcher read the following Proclamation on the record:

**Red Ribbon Week
October 23-31, 2023**

WHEREAS, Red Ribbon Week is celebrated annually October 23-31 and is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention awareness program; and

WHEREAS, Calhoun County values the health and safety of all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, substance abuse is particularly damaging to one of our most valuable resources, our children, and a contributing factor in the three leading causes of death for teenagers- accidents, homicides, and suicides; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of Red Ribbon Week and Calhoun County to involve families, schools, businesses, churches, law enforcement agencies and service organizations in all aspects of this campaign to establish an atmosphere that supports awareness, education and on-going initiatives to prevent illegal drug use; and

WHEREAS, the Red Ribbon Week Campaign theme promotes family and individual

responsibilities for living healthy, drug-free lifestyles, without illegal drugs or the illegal use of drugs; and

WHEREAS, there are many activities planned during the Red Ribbon Week Campaign in Calhoun County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED: that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim October 23rd - October 31st, 2023 as Red Ribbon Week, and encourage everyone to participate in drug prevention education activities, not only during Red Ribbon Week, but also throughout the year, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to a drug-free lifestyle.

Dated this 19th day of October 2023

Signed: Kathy-Sue Vette, Chair Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Res.137-2023

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Proclamation - Red Ribbon Week - October 23-31, 2023, as presented.”

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

D. 2023 Apportionment Report Presentation and Approval

Deputy Equalization Director Tom Scott read the memo included with the Apportionment Report and signed by Equalization Director, Matthew Hansen, who was also present at the meeting, Mr. Scott informed the Board of Commissioners that the resolution approving the apportionment process serves as each taxing jurisdiction's authority to levy property taxes in the county.

Mr. Scott noted that the report includes information for each township, authority, city, village, school district, intermediate school district and community college reflecting their millage rates and taxable values with comparisons to the prior year.

Res.138 -2023

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

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**, Yes – 4, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, and Hatcher.
Absent/Excused - 3, Comrs. Vette, Thompson, and French.
Motion **CARRIED**.

9. Consent Agenda

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

- 1. Other County Resolutions to be Acknowledged*
- 2. Financial Statements For Information Only: September 2022*

B. Resolutions

- 1. Calhoun County Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) Board Appointment: Dr. Tino Smith*
- 2. Public Act 325 Certification of the Calhoun County Road Department's Transportation Asset Management Plan*

Res.139-2023

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Consent Agenda of the October 19, 2023 Board of Commissioners Property Tax Apportionment Session according to MCL211.37, as presented.”

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

10. Special Committee/Workshop/Board Reports

Comr. Miller shared the Calhoun County Agricultural and Industrial Society (CCAIS, aka Fair Board) held a meeting on October 18 and addressed the recent Halloween Camping Week and preparation for the holiday Merry Mile to be held at the fairgrounds.

Comr. Frisbie reported that the Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority (CCCD, aka "911 Board") began their 2024 budgeting process, and heard updates on the progress of the radio upgrade program.

Comr. Frisbie noted the County's 2024 budget hearings were held October 18.

11. Unfinished and Old Business

There was none.

12. New Business and County Administrator's Report

A. Administrator/Controller's Report

County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott thanked Tom Scott and Matt Hansen of the Equalization Department for their leadership and work in the preparation of the 2023 Apportionment Report and presentation.

Ms. Scott acknowledged Art Kale for his continued community involvement.

Administrator/Controller Scott highlighted the launch of a new partnership with Richard Piet to offer County podcasts twice a month.

Kelli Scott noted that the Board would be requested to amend the recently adopted Articles of Incorporation for the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County, to reflect the local units of government that opted out of the Authority.

Scott also acknowledged Road Department Engineering Director, Kristine Parsons and staff related to their work obtaining local agreements for next year's road improvements.

B. New Business

There was none.

13. Citizens' Time

Mr. Adams of Marshall addressed freedom of speech rights.

14. Commissioners' Time

Comr. Miller expressed concerns related to culvert and road repairs.

15. Claims Payable Listing

- A. *Claims Payable for September 28, 2023 through October 11, 2023 in the amount of \$11,457,716.34*

Res.140-2023

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for September 28, 2023, through October 11, 2023, in the amount of \$11,457,716.34, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**, Yes – 4, Comrs. Frisbie, King, Miller, and Hatcher.

Absent/Excused - 3, Comrs. Vette, Thompson, and French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

Comr. Miller shared that youth recreational football is underway.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners