

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

NOVEMBER 2, 2023

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00pm, Thursday, November 2, 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, Diane Thompson, and Monique French.

Staff Present: 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

Comr. Vette called a moment of silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Comr. King led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Comr. Vette congratulated Comr. French on receiving her honorary doctorate degree.

Comr. Thompson verified Comr. Hatcher's request for the removal of the Amended Articles of Incorporation of the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County from the Consent Agenda to Item 12.B.3. New Business.

Res.141-2023

"Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. French to approve the amended agenda of the November 2, 2023, 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 October 19, 2023 Board of Commissioners' Property Tax Apportionment Session according to MCL211.37*

Minutes of the October 19, 2023, Board of Commissioners' Property Tax Apportionment Session according to MCL211.37.

Res.142-2023

"Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Frisbie to approve the Minutes of October 19, 2023, Board of Commissioners' Property Tax Apportionment Session according to MCL211.37, as presented."

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

6. Citizens' Time

Richard Logan expressed concerns related to the Loganwood Development and litigation related to the County.

Albion Resident Tom Hunsdorfer shared news related to the Senior Millage Allocation Committee.

Barry Adams noted his opposition to local government Citizens Time rules.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

HR and Labor Relations Director Kim Archambault introduced Deputy HR and Labor Relations Director Catherine Lessnau and highlighted her work related to a new employee onboarding platform, and various policy changes.

Assistant Director of Community Development Doug Ferrall informed the Board of the background related to the Consent Agenda item that will provide funding to the County for North Branch Park. Ferrall added announcements of recent and upcoming recycling events.

8. Special Order of Business

A. Proclamation - Family Court Awareness Month - November 2023

Comr. King read the following Proclamation into the record:

**Family Court Awareness Month
November 2023**

WHEREAS, the mission of the Family Court Awareness Month Committee (FCAMC) is to increase awareness on the importance of a family court system that prioritizes child safety and acts in the best interest of children, and;

WHEREAS, the mission at the FCAMC is fueled by the desire to create awareness and change in the family court system for the conservatively estimated, 58,000 children a year ordered

into unsupervised contact with abusive parents, while honoring the hundreds of children who have been reported as murdered during visitation with a dangerous parent, and;

WHEREAS, the mission of the FCAMC is to increase awareness on the importance of empirically-based education and training on domestic violence and child abuse, including emotional, psychological, physical, and sexual abuse, as well as childhood trauma, coercive control, and post separation abuse for judges and all professionals working on cases within the family court system, and;

WHEREAS, the mission of the FCAMC is to increase awareness on the importance of using scientifically valid, evidence-based, treatment programs and services that are proven in terms of safety, effectiveness, and therapeutic value, and;

WHEREAS, the mission at the FCAMC is to educate judges and other family court professionals on evidence-based, peer-reviewed research. Such research is a critical component to making decisions that are truly in the best interest of children. This research includes The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Study (co-principal investigator: Vincent Felitti, Kaiser Permanente-CDC); Child Custody Evaluators' Beliefs About Domestic Abuse Allegations (principal investigator: Daniel Saunders, University of Michigan, sponsored by the National Institute of Justice); and Child Custody Outcomes in Cases Involving Parental Alienation and Abuse Allegations (principal investigator: Joan S. Meier, GW Law School, sponsored by the National Institute of Justice), and;

NOW, THEREFORE, The Calhoun County Board of Commissioners hereby declare the Month of NOVEMBER, to be FAMILY COURT AWARENESS MONTH. Calhoun County encourages all residents to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the harm of children in the hands of family members and to honor and value the lives of children.

Dated this 2nd day of November 2023

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

Comr. French noted CASA as a potential asset for Calhoun County.

Res.143-2023

"Moved Comr. French, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Proclamation - Family Court Awareness Month - November 2023, as presented."

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

9. Consent Agenda

A. *Petitions, Communications, Reports*

1. *Other County Resolutions to be acknowledged*

B. *Resolutions*

1. *Sheriff's Office FY23 Emergency Management Grant Agreement*

2. *(Moved to New Business with Agenda Amendment): Amended Articles of Incorporation of the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County*

3. *Enbridge Energy Agreement for North Branch Park*

Res.144 -2023

"Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Amended Consent Agenda of the November 2, 2023, Board of Commissioner's Regular Session, as presented, with the Amended Articles of Incorporation of the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County moved to New Business."

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

10. Special Committee/Workshop/Board Reports

Comr. Miller noted that November 14 is the next Calhoun County Agricultural and Industrial Society (CCAIS) meeting.

Comr. King expressed interest in membership forms for the CCAIS.

Comr. Vette shared that the Calhoun County Visitors Bureau Board was invited to tour the remodeled DoubleTree hotel, formerly McCamly Plaza scheduled to open in August 2024.

Comr. Thompson commented on the successful senior event recently held.

11. Unfinished and Old Business

There was none.

12. New Business and County Administrator's Report

A. ***Administrator/Controller's Report***

Assistant Administrator/Controller Brad Wilcox was present in place of Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott.

B. ***New Business***

1. *Equalization Director and Appraisal services 2024 Contracts.*

Assistant Administrator/Controller Brad Wilcox shared that these contracts are a continuation of current contracts for the services of Matt Hansen, Equalization Director and CSZ Services,

the contractor engaged to perform over 700 appraisals for the County annually.

Deputy Equalization Director, Tom Scott was present to answer any questions.

Res.145-2023

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Thompson to approve the Equalization Director and Appraisal services 2024 contracts, as presented.”

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

Motion **CARRIED**.

2. *Policy Revisions: Policy #212 (Controlled Substances...) and Policy #306 (New Positions & Vacancies)*

HR and Labor Relations Director Kim Archambault stated that the policy revisions will assist in the recruitment process and streamline the interview process for new employees.

Comr. Miller questioned if there would be any liability for the Sheriff, the Road Department or the County in general.

Brad Wilcox replied that there are mandatory testing policies for various departments including the Sheriff's Office and the Road Department workers.

Res.146-2023

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve Policy Revisions: Policy #212(Controlled Substances...) and Policy #306 (New Positions & Vacancies), as presented.”

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

Motion **CARRIED**.

3. *(Moved from Consent Agenda with Meeting Agenda Amendment): Amended Articles of Incorporation of the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County*

Doug Ferrall informed the board of responses to the opt-out notification following the initial mailing.

Mr. Ferrall noted the board member seats will change due to the opt-out of townships and villages. Ferrall added that the Amended Articles of Incorporation will need to be posted, published and mailed to the State.

Assistant Director of Community Development Ferrall highlighted the revised boundaries, excluding the townships and villages.

Comr. Thompson expressed concerns related to operating boundaries and the assignment of members of the board.

Comr. King noted all townships have opted out. Therefore, there will be no obligation by TACC to route to the opt-out locations, which will reduce services to those areas.

Comr. Miller added concerns related to the current cut back in transportation hours.

Comr. French noted the current transportation issues related to BC Go, lack of funding and need for employees.

Res.147-2023

“Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. French to approve the Amended Articles of Incorporation of the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County, as presented.”

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

13. Citizens' Time

Mr. Adams expressed concerns with the Friend of the Court.

14. Commissioners' Time

Comr. French shared her appreciation of the Board's open communication.

Comr. Thompson noted current fibernet work by Midwest Energy Communications.

Lucy Blair shared the current status of the County's broadband and fibernet status.

Comr. Vette commented on the Harper Creek High School girls volleyball team.

15. Claims Payable Listing

- A. *Claims Payable for October 12, 2023 through October 25, 2023 in the amount of \$11,428,025.71*

Res.148-2023

“Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Frisbie to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for October 12, 2023, through October 25, 2023, in the amount of \$11,428,025.71, as presented.”

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

French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

Comr. Miller noted the upcoming CCAIS meeting on November 14.

Comr. King shared that there are some upcoming tree removal projects through grant funds received by the Road Department.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners