

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00pm, Thursday, September 5, 2024, in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

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

Present: Comrs. Steve Frisbie, Derek King, Tommy Miller, Rochelle Hatcher, Diane Thompson, Monique French, and Al Morehart.

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Assistant County Administrator Brad Wilcox, Corporation Counsel Kate Ambrose, HR/Labor Relations Director Kim Archambault, Communications Director Amber LeClear, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Susan Connolly.

2. Moment of Silence/Invocation

Comr. King called a Moment of Silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Comr. Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Res.106-2024

"Moved Comr. Frisbie, second by Comr. King to amend the agenda to remove New Business Item 12B3, as presented."

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

Motion **CARRIED**.

"Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Thompson to approve the Amended Agenda of the September 5, 2024, 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 August 15, 2024, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting*

Minutes of the August 15, 2024, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting.

Res.107-2024

"Moved Comr. Frisbie, second by Comr. Thompson to approve the Minutes of the August 15, 2024, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting, as presented."

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

6. Citizens' Time

Marshall resident Barry Wayne Adams stated opposition to the formation of the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County.

Jim Bailly, who resides on Old 27 South, expressed concerns related to roadway conditions of loose gravel and the height of weeds along the shoulder.

Autumn Smith of Battle Creek noted concerns related to recent elections.

Ben Livingston of Fredonia mentioned the status of road conditions on G Drive.

County residents Rick Newcomb and William Martin noted concerns related to the development of the Marshall Ford Blue Oval Battery Park.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

Sheriff Steve Hinkley reported that he's working with Assistant Community Development Director, Doug Ferrall regarding complaints at Ott Biological Preserve related to off-road vehicles trespassing and damaging property. Hinkley added that they are working with Emmett Township, residents, and the media on ways to notify the public about trespassing and reporting misbehavior.

8. Special Order of Business

A. 2023 Annual Report - Presentation by Dr. Patrick Hansma, Office of the Medical Examiner, WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine

Dr. Patrick Hansma provided an overview of the 2023 Annual Report of the Office of the Medical Examiner.

Dr. Hansma noted a return to pre-COVID statistics for Calhoun County's deaths, which he viewed as a positive sign, and added that the 2023 Report showed the gift of life donor activity is on an upward trend along with cremations. Hansma clarified that the Medical Examiner's office does not solicit organ donations and instead refers families of decedents to staff from the Gift of Life organization.

A slight increase in homicides for 2023 was highlighted.

Comr. Hatcher questioned how the Medical Examiner can differentiate drug related deaths by accident versus suicide. Dr. Hansma explained the use of forensic pathology to do the best they can to determine manner and cause of deaths, noting that sometimes there is no clear and definite answer.

9. Consent Agenda

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

B. Resolutions

- 1. Updated Bylaws and Intergovernmental Agreement of the Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board, 2024-2026 and Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board Reappointments*

Res.108-2024

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Consent Agenda of the September 5, 2024, Board of Commissioner’s Regular Session, as presented.”

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

10. Special Committee/Workshop/Board Reports

There was none.

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 introduced and welcomed Amber LeClear as the County's new Communications Director.

Ms. Scott shared that the County's Board of Public Health met August 19 and recommended for Board of Commissioners' approval the Health Department's 2025 fiscal year budget, which will be before the Board of Commissioners on September 19.

Kelli Scott invited the board to attend the Native American Heritage Fund Board's meeting and grant award ceremony at 11:00 AM on Sept.13 at Firekeepers Casino Hotel.

B. New Business

1. Jail Security Technology and Equipment Grant and Contract Award

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott stated that this grant award was the result of federal congressionally directed community funding through the assistance of Congressman Walberg and Senator Peters, totaling \$4.5 million dollars.

Ms. Scott added that the funds will be used to upgrade locks and other security measures throughout the jail and replace the intercom system, and that through a competitive Request for Proposals process through the Purchasing Department, Allied Universal was recommended as the contractor to implement the equipment.

Sheriff Hinkley added that the updates will extend the life of the jail.

Res.109-2024

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Morhart to approve the Jail Security Technology and Equipment Grant and Contract Award, as presented.”

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

Motion **CARRIED**.

2. CCPHD Strengthening Public Health Workforce and Infrastructure in Michigan Grant

Kelli Scott reported that these 3-year state grant funds to all County Health Departments across the state are intended for staff training and recruitment, along with infrastructure and technology improvements.

Administrator/Controller Scott added the grants funds will go toward improvements to the Toeller Building for lighting, security, interior finishes, and other updates to common areas and Health Department offices within the building and in the parking lot, as well as upgrades to the conference room located in the basement.

Res.110-2024

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Thompson to approve the Calhoun County Public Health Department Strengthening Public Health Workforce and Infrastructure in Michigan Grant, as presented.”

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

Motion **CARRIED**.

3. Sheriff's Office Contract Amendment - Animal Shelter Services

This item was removed from the agenda.

4. *Resolution to Approve 2024 Opioid Settlement Funds Appropriation*

County Administrator/ Controller Kelli Scott highlighted the work over the past year of the County's Opioid Settlement Steering Committee and its RFP subcommittee, noting that Comr. Frisbie serves on the Steering Committee and RFP subcommittee.

Ms. Scott noted that this resolution would approve up to \$600,000 in settlement funding over the next year to eight community organizations for projects focused on opioid remediation efforts, and that legal grant award agreements would be negotiated and executed with each applicant and approved by the County's Corporation Counsel. Scott added that the RFP Subcommittee recommended potentially modifying scope and amounts for three applications and that this resolution authorizes County Administration to finalize these elements and incorporate them into the Grant Agreements.

Res.111-2024

“Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Resolution to Approve the 2024 Opioid Settlement Fund Appropriation, as presented.”

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

Motion **CARRIED**.

13. Citizens' Time

Mr. Bailey addressed concerns related to roadway safety on Old 27.

Barry Wayne Adams and Autumn Smith commented on the Medical Examiner's report and findings.

14. Commissioners' Time

Comr. Miller expressed concerns related to the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County.

Comr. Hatcher recognized the recent high school shooting in Georgia and noted 9/11 is upcoming.

Comr. Hatcher noted this Sunday is Grandparents Day.

Comr. King reported that the annual Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Conference is scheduled for Sept. 24-26 at the Grand Traverse resort.

15. Claims Payable Listing

- A. *Claims Payable for August 8, 2024, through August 28, 2024 in the amount of \$8,087,641.55*

Res.113-2024

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. French to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for August 8, 2024, through August 28, 2024, in the amount of \$8,087,641.55, as presented.”

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

Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

There were none.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners