

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

NOVEMBER 7, 2024

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00pm, Thursday, November 7, 2024, 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, Tommy Miller, Rochelle Hatcher, Diane Thompson, Monique French, and Al Morehart.

Absent/Excused: Comr. Derek King

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Assistant County Administrator-Internal Services Megan Banning, Corporation Counsel Kate Ambrose, HR/Labor Relations Director Kim Archambault, Communications Director Amber LeClear, and Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners Susan Connolly.

2. Moment of Silence/Invocation

Vice-chair Frisbie called a Moment of Silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Comr. Hatcher led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Res.142-2024

"Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Miller to approve the agenda of the November 7, 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 October 17, 2024, Board of Commissioners' Property Tax Apportionment Session*

Minutes of the October 17, 2024, Board of Commissioners' Property Tax Apportionment Session.

Res.143-2024

“Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Hacher to approve the October 17, 2024, Board of Commissioners’ Property Tax Apportionment Session, as presented.”

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

6. Citizens' Time

Gary Tompkins of Homer Township introduced himself to the Board and noted he is the Commissioner-elect for the 7th District.

Autumn Smith of Battle Creek shared concerns related to election tabulations in Battle Creek while serving as a volunteer on election day.

Barry Wayne Adams of Marshall expressed opposition to the limitation on citizens' time and shared local election results.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

There was none.

8. Special Order of Business

A. Proclamation - Red Ribbon Week - October 23-31, 2024

Comr. Morehart read the following Proclamation on the record:

PROCLAMATION
Red Ribbon Week
October 23-31, 2024

WHEREAS, Red Ribbon Week is celebrated annually October 23-31 and is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention awareness program; 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, Calhoun County values the health and safety of all our citizens and recognizes the value of the Red Ribbon to serve as a catalyst to mobilize communities to educate youth and encourage participation in drug prevention activities; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of Red Ribbon Week to encourage 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 National Family Partnership (NFP) has declared the theme for the 2024 Red

Ribbon Week: "Life is A Movie, Film Drug Free.™", inspiring individuals to play their part in fostering safe, healthy, and drug-free communities; and

WHEREAS, there were many encouraging activities that took place 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, 2024 as Red Ribbon Week, and encourages everyone to participate in drug prevention education activities throughout the year, making a visible statement that we are committed to keeping our kids healthy and drug-free.

Dated this 7th day of November 2024

Signed: Derek King, Chair Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Res.144-2024

"Moved Comr. Hatcher second by Comr. Miller to approve the Proclamation-Red Ribbon Week - October 23-31, 2024, as presented."

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

B. Proclamation - Operation Green Light for Veterans - November 4-11, 2024

Comr. Frisbie read the following Proclamation on the record:

PROCLAMATION
Operation Green Light for Veterans
November 4-11, 2024

WHEREAS, the residents of Calhoun County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Calhoun County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community through various organizations such as the American Legion, Vietnam Veterans of America, Disabled American Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars in Calhoun County, as well as through religious groups and civil service; and

WHEREAS, Calhoun County Veterans Affairs and National Service Officers are dedicated to helping local veterans access health, disability, and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, Calhoun County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Calhoun County encourages its citizens to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 4th through the 11th, 2024.

Dated this 7th day of November 2024

Signed: Derek King, Chair Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Res.145-2024

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Morehart to approve the Proclamation-Operation Green Light for Veterans - November 4-11, 2024, as presented.”

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

9. Consent Agenda

- A. *Petitions, Communications, Reports*
- B. *Resolutions*
 - 1. *Lease Agreement Renewal - Forks Senior Center*
 - 2. *Transportation Authority of Calhoun County (TACC) Board Reappointments*
 - 3. *CCRD Interlocal Agreement with Branch County for Old US 27 Safety Grant Project*
 - 4. *Fiscal Year 2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Agreement*

Res.146-2024

“Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. French to approve the Consent Agenda of the November 7, 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*

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott congratulated the incoming elected commissioners for the 2025-2028 term and thanked those who are outgoing at the end of the 2024 term.

Kelli Scott congratulated Comr. Miller for being elected as the new Water Resources Commissioner and thanked Ron Smith for his service.

Ms. Scott thanked Clerk Kimberly Hinkley, her staff, County Maintenance, IT, GIS and others involved in providing early in-person voting in the County building, noting that the turnout for the Nov. 5 election was approximately 5,500 voters.

B. *New Business*

1. *Publicly Funded Health Insurance Act of 2011 (PA-152) Resolution for 2025*

Administrator/Controller Scott stated that this item is in compliance with the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, PA152, of 2011. She add that the Act requires that the County comply with the terms of the Act including an option to exempt itself from both the 80%/20% option and the Hard Cap option, by a 2/3 vote of the governing body.

Kelli Scott added for 2025, the County illustrated rates for health care have a significant increase for both the Employer and the employees.

Administrator/Controller Scott recommended that the Board choose option #3, Exemption.

Res.147-2024

“Moved Comr. Thompson, second by Comr. Miller to approve the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Act of 2011 (PA-152) Resolution for 2025, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 6, Comrs. Frisbie, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, French, and Morehart.

Excused - 1, Comr. King

Motion **CARRIED**.

2. *Bid Award - Jail Medical Services*

Kelli Scott informed the Board that the current Inmate Health Services contact expires on December 31, 2024.

Ms. Scott noted that the County engaged the services of Morse Correctional Healthcare & Consulting (MCHC) to conduct an assessment of medical services for inmates, and that following their report, an RFP was created to be within nationally accepted standards and provide medical services to inmates.

Sheriff Hinkley and Jail Command Staff were present to support the positive impact the services will provide on the community and the jail.

Sheriff Hinkley noted that legislative efforts to end the Medicaid Exclusion for inmates is encouraging as it would allow the County to get services covered by the insurance, at least for the 90 days prior to release.

Kelli Scott thanked Corporation Counsel Kate Ambrose for her assistance in this matter.

Res.148-2024

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. French to approve Bid Award - Jail Medical Services, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 6, Comrs. Frisbie, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, French, and Morehart.

Excused - 1, Comr. King

Motion **CARRIED**.

3. CCRD Contract - T Dr. S Safety Grant Tree Removal

Ms. Scott noted the proposed contract is for tree removal and related work along T Drive S from Jackson Road to M-99.

Interim Managing Director for the Road Department, Kristine Parsons added that the project is a total of 8.5 miles based on crash history and would be funded through a federal safety grant program.

Res.149-2024

“Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. French to approve the Calhoun County Road Department Contract - T Drive S Safety Grant Tree Removal, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 6, Comrs. Frisbie, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, French, and Morehart.

Excused - 1, Comr. King

Motion **CARRIED**.

4. TPOAM-Road Collective Bargaining Agreement 11/1/2024 to 10/31/2027

Administrator/Controller Scott noted Human Resources/Labor Relations Director Kim Archambault was the lead negotiator.

Kim Archambault was present to answer any questions.

Kristine Parsons noted the agreement clarifies discipline and other administrative processes.

Kristine Parsons shared the Road Department is happy with the bargaining agreement.

Res.150-2024

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Thompson to approve the TPOAM-Road Collective Bargaining Agreement 11/1/2024 to 10/31/2027, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 6, Comrs. Frisbie, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, French, and Morehart.

Excused - 1, Comr. King

Motion **CARRIED**.

13. Citizens' Time

Autumn Smith informed that she had heard that the Collective Bargaining Agreement approved under New Business agenda Item B4 was negotiated in a local bar.

Barry Wayne Adams addressed social media conspiracy theories.

14. Commissioners' Time

There was none.

15. Claims Payable Listing

- A. *Claims Payable for October 10, 2024, through October 30, 2024, in the amount of \$30,567,633.98*

Res.151-2024

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for October 10, 2024, through October 30, 2024, in the amount of \$30,567,633.98, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 6, Comrs. Frisbie, Miller, Hatcher, Thompson, French, and Morehart.

Excused - 1, Comr. King.

Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

There was none.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners