

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MARCH 6, 2025

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00pm, Thursday, March 6, 2025, 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. Derek King, Monique French, Al Morehart, Dominic Oo, Dan Strowbridge, Matt Saxton, and Gary Tompkins.

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Assistant County Administrator-Internal Services Megan Banning, Assistant County Administrator-Community Services Doug Ferrall, 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

Comr. King called a moment of silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Comr. Oo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Res.032-2025

"Moved Comr. French, second by Comr. Strowbridge to approve the agenda of the March 6, 2025, 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 February 7, 2025 Board of Commissioners' Orientation - Special Meeting

B. Minutes of the February 12, 2025 Board of Commissioners' Orientation - Special Meeting

C. Minutes of the February 20, 2025 Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting

Res.033-2025

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Oo to approve the Minutes of the February 6th and

12th, 2025, Board of Commissioners' Orientation - Special Meetings and Minutes of the February 20, 2025, Regular Meeting, as presented."

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

6. Citizens' Time

Battle Creek resident Mary Fields expressed concerns related to Calhoun County Land Bank policies and procedures and requested to meet with commissioners to discuss.

James Jennings, resident of Marengo Township Township, questioned broadband and fiberoptic availability at his residence.

Autumn Smith of Battle Creek shared concerns regarding Comr. King and county policies/procedures related to public statements.

Marshall resident Barry Wayne Adams requested the board review county board policies and procedures related to Commissioner conduct and concerns related to federal tariffs.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

There was none.

8. Special Order of Business

A. Proclamation to Declare March 2025 as the 23rd Annual March for Meals Month

Comr. Tompkins read the Proclamation to Declare March 2025 as the 23rd Annual March for Meals Month, as follows:

**A PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING MARCH 2025 AS THE
23rd ANNUAL MARCH FOR MEALS MONTH**

WHEREAS, on March 22, 1972, President Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 to include a national nutrition program for individuals 60 years and older.

WHEREAS, for more than five decades, this landmark law has helped to fund community-based organizations – like Meals on Wheels – and it is still the only federal program designed specifically to meet the nutritional and social needs of older adults.

WHEREAS, this year, Meals on Wheels programs from across the country are joining together for the March for Meals awareness campaign to celebrate its success and garner the support needed to ensure these critical programs can continue to address food insecurity and malnutrition, combat social isolation, enable independence and improve health for years to come.

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs – both congregate and home-delivered, in Calhoun County have served our communities admirably for over 50 years and

WHEREAS, volunteers for Meals on Wheels programs in Calhoun County are the backbone of the program and they not only deliver nutritious meals to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at significant risk of hunger and isolation, but also caring concern and attention to their welfare; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Calhoun County provide nutritious meals to seniors throughout the county that help them maintain their health and independence, thereby helping to prevent unnecessary falls, hospitalizations and/or premature institutionalization; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Calhoun County provide a powerful opportunity for social connection for millions of seniors to help combat the negative health effects and economic consequences of loneliness and isolation; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels programs in Calhoun County deserve recognition for the heroic contributions and essential services they have provided amid the COVID-19 pandemic, inclement weather and other emergencies.

WHEREAS, the senior population is increasing substantially, and action is needed now to support local Meals on Wheels programs through federal, state and local funding; volunteering; donations; and raising awareness to ensure these vital services can continue to be delivered for years to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, do hereby proclaim March 2025 as a month celebrating Meals on Wheels and urge every community member to take this month to honor our senior nutrition programs, the individuals they serve and the volunteers who care for them. Our recognition of, and involvement in, the national March for Meals celebration can enrich our entire community and help combat senior hunger and isolation in America.

Dated this 6th day of March, 2025

Signed: Derek King, Chair

Res.034-2025

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Saxton to approve the Proclamation to Declare March 2025 as the 23rd Annual March for Meals Month, as presented.”

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

9. Consent Agenda

A. *Petitions, Communications, Reports*

B. *Resolutions*

1. *Calhoun County Local Jail Population Management Committee Appointments*

2. *Correction to Previous Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Board Appointments*

3. *Transportation Authority of Calhoun County (TACC) Board Appointment*

4. *Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Board Reappointment*

5. *Updated 2025 Board of Commissioners' Meeting Schedule*

Res.035-2025

“Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. Oo to approve the Consent Agenda of the March 6, 2025, Board of Commissioner’s Regular Session, as presented.”

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

10. Special Committee/Workshop/Board Reports

Comr. Saxton reported that the County's Risk Management Committee met on Mar.6 and discussed the 2025 training schedule.

Comr. King reported that a Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS) Policy Board meeting was held recently, and that the Board discussed federal funding for 2025 projects.

Comr. King added that the FireKeepers Local Revenue Sharing Board (FLRSB) met on Mar.6 and noted that the Tier II actual cost reimbursement application is now posted with a deadline to submit by April 17.

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 noted that the consent agenda item which modified the Board Meeting Schedule was necessary to change the Equalization Session from April 8 to April 15 to be in compliance with MCL 209.5.

Ms. Scott reminded that Board that the annual Michigan Association of Counties (MAC)

Legislative Conference will be held April 7 - 9.

Kelli Scott added that Greg Moore was voted as Chair and Derek King Vice Chair of the FireKeepers Local Revenue Sharing Board for 2025. Scott invited the commissioners and the public to the FLRSB check distribution ceremony scheduled for March 18 at FireKeepers Casino Hotel.

Ms. Scott announced that Kristine Parsons has been named Managing Director of the Road Department and Kori Albrecht Deputy Managing Director, effective March 7, following their service in interim capacities for the past year.

B. New Business

1. CCRD Bid Award: RFP#102-25 Asphalt Emulsions

Kelli Scott stated that this bid was to get pricing for asphalt emulsion materials for various road projects for 2025, noting that three bids were received and of those, two were being recommended for contract awards.

Ms. Scott noted the importance of the location of the vendor related to the needs of the projects assigned, and added that Kristine Parsons and Kori Albrecht were present to answer any questions.

Res.036-2025

“Moved Comr. Saxton, second by Comr. Morehart to approve the Calhoun County Road Department Bid Award RFP#102-25 Asphalt Emulsions, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 7, Comrs. King, French, Morehart, Oo, Strowbridge, Saxton, and Tompkins.

Motion **CARRIED**.

13. Citizens' Time

Marshall resident Barry Wayne Adams shared comments related to the US Constitution.

Battle Creek resident Autumn Smith expressed concerns about Commissioner King's social media posts disclosing the name of her employer.

William Martin of Olivet shared comments related to the federal government's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE).

14. Commissioners' Time

Comr. Tompkins highlighted a 100th birthday celebration of a resident of the 7th district.

Comr. Strowbridge expressed condolences on the passing of an active-duty firefighter with the Pennfield Township Fire Department.

15. Claims Payable Listing

- A. *Claims Payable for February 13, 2025 through February 26, 2025 in the amount of \$3,988,898.76*

Res.037-2025

“Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. Strowbridge to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for February 13, 2025, through February 26, 2025, in the amount of \$3,988,898.76, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 7, Comrs. King, French, Morehart, Oo, Strowbridge, Saxton, and Tompkins.

Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

Comr. Tompkins congratulated Kristine Parsons and Kori Albrecht on their new roles in the Road Department.

Comr. Tompkins announced information about the Albion Knights of Columbus Fish Fries on Fridays.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners