

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

JUNE 26, 2025

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00pm, Thursday, June 26, 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, and Gary Tompkins

Excused: Comr. Matt Saxton.

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

2. Moment of Silence/Invocation

Chair King called a Moment of Silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Comr. Tompkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Res.083-2025

"Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. Oo to approve the agenda of the June 26, 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 June 5, 2025, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting*

Minutes of the June 5, 2025, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting.

Res.084-2025

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Strowbridge to approve the Minutes of the June 5, 2025, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting, as presented."

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

6. Citizens' Time

Athens Township resident and Consumers Energy Community Affairs Manager, Greg Moore, shared his support for the proposed new business item related to the Road Use Agreement with the Road Department. Mr. Moore noted the agreement timeframe was six years in the making with investments in Barry and Calhoun County.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

Calhoun County Treasurer, Melinda Weaver, reported that she had met her goal as the new County Treasurer to create a local Treasurer's Association. Weaver noted that the Association plans to meet quarterly and that their first meeting was held in June, with a positive turnout and support.

8. Special Order of Business

A. Proclamation - 52nd Annual Battle Creek Club Founder's Day and Sojourner Truth Awards Banquet Celebration

Comr. French read the following Proclamation - 52nd Annual Battle Creek Club Founder's Day and Sojourner Truth Awards Banquet Celebration:

Proclamation
52nd Annual Battle Creek Club Founder's Day
And Sojourner Truth Awards Banquet Celebration

WHEREAS, it is with deep appreciation for their commitment and dedication to the Battle Creek community that we recognize The Battle Creek Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (NANBPWC, Inc.) for their Annual Battle Creek Club Founder's Day and Sojourner Truth Awards Banquet Celebration; and

WHEREAS, this year's event will be held on Friday, June 27, 2025, at 6:00pm at the Maranatha Original Church of God; and

WHEREAS, this year's Guest Speaker is, Pastor Monique French, who serves as Pastor/Director of Washington Heights United Methodist Church and Community, Battle Creek, MI and as Calhoun County Commissioner for District 2. Pastor French is a member of many boards throughout the area and is a dynamic speaker; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners recognizes The Battle Creek Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. on its 52nd Annual Battle Creek Club Founder's Day and Sojourner Truth Awards Banquet Celebration. Calhoun County encourages residents to attend and extends our appreciation for their continued commitment to the community.

Dated this 26th day of June 2025

Signed: Derek King, Chair Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Res.085-2025

“Moved Comr. French, second by Comr. Oo to approve the Proclamation - 52nd Annual Battle Creek Club Founder's Day and Sojourner Truth Awards Banquet Celebration, as presented.”

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

9. Consent Agenda

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

- 1. Other County Resolutions to be Acknowledged*
- 2. Financial Statements for Information Only: May 2025*

B. Resolutions

- 1. BCATS FY2026 Local Funding Resolution*
- 2. 2025 Opioid Settlement Funds Updated Committee Roster and RFP Process*
- 3. Calhoun County Veterans Affairs Committee Appointment - Al Morehart*
- 4. 2025 Parks Millage Allocations: Albion and Emmett Townships*
- 5. Calhoun Public Safety Information Alliance (RMS Board) Appointment - Michael Farmer*

Res.086-2025

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Strowbridge to approve the Consent Agenda of the June 26, 2025, Board of Commissioner’s Regular Session, as presented.”

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

10. Special Committee/Workshop/Board Reports

Comr. Tompkins provided highlights from the recent County Senior Millage Allocation Committee (SMAC) meeting; the Homer Lake Board; and the Calhoun County Agricultural and Industrial Society (CCAIS) Board.

Comr. Oo noted he also attended the recent SMAC meeting and a Parks and Recreation Allocation Committee (PARC) meeting; and sat in on the Summit Pointe orientation for County

Commissioners.

Comr. Morehart highlighted the 2024 impact report from the Community Action Board meeting, noting that over 107,000 volunteer hours supported local residents last year.

Comr. King reported that the Calhoun County Land Bank Authority Board met on June 26. King added that the Firekeepers Local Revenue Sharing Board met in June and completed this year's distribution of checks, and that he participated in a virtual press conference held on June 25 related to the MAJOR campus. King noted that he has an upcoming radio interview with Richard Piet and would be attending the orientation at Summit Pointe on June 27.

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 she would send to the Commissioners a link to the Marshall Area Economic Development Alliance (MAEDA) press conference on June 25 that included Commissioner King.

Ms. Scott shared the Opioid Settlement Steering Committee met on June 9, and that on the consent agenda for the current Board of Commissioners meeting three was the approval for the second round of community funding in the amount of \$600,000 for 2025 through a competitive request for proposals process starting July 1.

Administrator/Controller Scott added the quarterly meeting with City Managers and Mayors was held on June 12 with Mallory Avis from the City of Battle Creek giving an update on the status of the Transportation Authority of Calhoun County (TACC).

Kelli Scott reported on the Firekeepers Local Revenue Sharing Board distribution of checks, noting that approximately 6.1 million dollars was allocated to local governments within the county. Scott stated that the Michigan Native American Heritage Fund Board met on June 20 and awarded 11 grants to school districts and local governments, adding that the check ceremony will be held at Firekeepers Casino Hotel on September 19.

Ms. Scott acknowledged Lucy Hough from Community Development for her leadership of the parks millage allocations and congratulated Comr. Morehart on his appointment to the Veteran Affairs Committee.

B. *New Business*

1. *13 Mile Rd Culvert Replacement*

Kelli Scott invited Calhoun County Road Department Managing Director Kristine Parsons to approach the podium for this item. Scott noted that this project had already been approved by the Board of Commissioners and the Township, and that this item was to award the construction bid, for which the cost will be split with Convis Township.

Kristine Parsons informed the bidder had previously worked with the Water Resources Commissioner, but this will be the first project with the Road Department.

Comr. Tompkins asked why the range of bid amounts was so wide, and Parsons explained that she believed it was due to scheduling, availability and the time of year.

Res.087-2025

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Strowbridge to approve the 13 Mile Road Culvert Replacement, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 6, Comrs. King, French, Morehart, Oo, Strowbridge, and Tompkins.

Excused - 1, Comr. Saxton.

Motion **CARRIED**.

2. CCRD Road Use Agreement with Consumers Energy

Ms. Scott thanked Greg Moore for his attendance and support, noting the agreement was drafted by Calhoun County Corporate Counsel Kate Ambrose.

Road Director Kristine Parsons noted that the solar development work will be done by Consumers Energy within Bedford Township, on primary roadways and slated to begin in 2026.

Comr. Tompkins asked if there will be a modification to costs given the time of the scheduled work. Kristine Parsons replied that she was comfortable with the cost estimate, which included a contingency for price inflation.

Res.088-2025

“Moved Comr. Strowbridge, second by Comr. Oo to approve the Calhoun County Road Department Road Use Agreement with Consumers Energy, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 6, Comrs. King, French, Morehart, Oo, Strowbridge, and Tompkins.

Excused - 1, Comr. Saxton.

Motion **CARRIED**.

3. *CCPHD Grant Request: Community Public Health FY25 Gilead Pharmaceuticals FOCUS FAMP*

Administrator/Controller Scott noted Calhoun County Health Officer Eric Pessell was present to answer any questions related to the proposed grant request.

Kelli Scott mentioned the funding will be allocated to current staff to expand services for the Health Department's Syringe Support Services program, and that there is no request for additional staffing associated with this grant request.

Mr. Pessell noted that the State of Michigan recommended the Calhoun County Public Health Department for this grant.

Director Pessell shared FAMP stands for Focus Award Management Portal.

Res.089-2025

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Morehart to approve the Calhoun County Public Health Department Grant Request: Community Public Health Fiscal Year 2025 Gilead Pharmaceuticals FOCUS FAMP, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 6, Comrs. King, French, Morehart, Oo, Strowbridge, and Tompkins.

Excused - 1, Comr. Saxton.

Motion **CARRIED**.

13. Citizens' Time

Jeff Franklin, Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS) Executive Director, thanked the board for their approval of the 2026 Local Funding Resolution.

Mr. Franklin mentioned the work within the City of Battle Creek, Springfield and the proposed railroad crossing project with the Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority.

14. Commissioners' Time

Comr. Tompkins wished everyone a Happy 4th of July.

Comr. French stated that National budget matters are impacting local services and people, and that they were not just a matter of politics.

Comr. Oo shared that he attended the Juneteenth Day celebration in Battle Creek, and announced the upcoming July 4 Battle Creek Balloon Festival and Field of Flight.

Comr. Strowbridge thanked BCATS for their support and potential funding for the railroad crossing project with the CCCDA.

15. Claims Payable Listing

A. *Claims Payable for May 29, 2025, through June 18, 2025, in the amount of \$8,657,891.93*

Res.090-2025

“Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. Oo to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for May 29, 2025, through June 18, 2025, in the amount of \$8,657,891.93, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 6, Comrs. King, French, Morehart, Oo, Strowbridge, and Tompkins.

Excused - 1, Comr. Saxton.

Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

Comr. Tompkins mentioned numerous upcoming events and activities in Battle Creek, Albion, Marengo, Eckford, and Homer.

Comr. French shared she will be a guest speaker at the Day of Hope community event.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners