

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

AUGUST 21, 2025

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 pm, Thursday, August 21, 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, HR/Labor Relations Director Kim Archambault, Communications Director Amber Coco, and Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners Teri Zadigian.

2. Moment of Silence/Invocation

Chair King called a Moment of Silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Comr. Saxton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Res.097-2025

"Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. Oo to approve the agenda of the August 21, 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 August 7, 2025, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting*

Minutes of the August 7, 2025, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting.

Res.098-2025

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Saxton to approve the Minutes of the August 7, 2025, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting, as presented."

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

6. Citizens' Time

There was none.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

There was none.

8. Special Order of Business

A. Calhoun County 2024 Audited Financial Statements, 2024 Act 51 Report and Related Communications:

- 1. Presentation by Nathan Balderman, Rehmann*
- 2. Acceptance of 2024 Audit and 2024 Act 51 Report*

Nathan Balderman with Rehmann provided an overview of the audit process and shared that the audit firm issued an unmodified or clean opinion on the County's 2024 financial statements.

Mr. Balderman noted the general fund balance at Dec.31, 2024 was \$6,190,072, up by approximately \$500,000 from the prior year-end. Balderman added that the County adopted the requirements of GASB 100: Accounting Changes and Error Corrections, and GASB 101: Compensated Absences, in 2024, and that in the Single Audit, two programs were identified for required testing for the year ending December 31, 2024: Congressionally Recommended Awards and State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund.

Res.099-2025

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Morehart to approve the Calhoun County 2024 Audited Financial Statements, 2024 Act 51 Report and related communications, as presented."

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

9. Consent Agenda

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

- 1. Financial Statements for Information Only: July 2025*

B. Resolutions

- 1. Michigan Works! Southwest Workforce Development Board Membership Renewals & New Appointments*
- 2. Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Board Appointment*

3. *Lyon Lake Improvement Board Appointment*
Res.100-2025

“Moved Comr. Oo, second by Comr. Strowbridge to approve the Consent Agenda of the August 21, 2025, Board of Commissioner’s Regular Session, as presented.”

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

10. Special Committee/Workshop/Board Reports

Commissioner French reported on a recent meeting at which CareWell Services discussed the Forks Senior Center, which will be celebrating its twentieth anniversary and is exploring outreach, advocacy, and fund-raising ideas.

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

Kelli Scott reported that the County's Public Health Board met on August 18th and reviewed the fiscal year 2026 budget, which will be presented to the Board of Commissioners in September. She added that Jack Carlson, the new Veterans Affairs manager, was introduced to the Veterans Affairs Committee on August 13th.

Scott stated that the County's Opioid Settlement Funds Steering Committee met on Aug.21 and reviewed the 2025 RFP Subcommittee's recommendations, which offered \$600,000 to community organizations. She noted that nine applications were submitted for the grant and seven organizations were chosen, which will be presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval in September.

Scott thanked Megan Banning for her leadership throughout the Audit.

B. *New Business*

1. *Authorization to Issue Capital Improvement Bonds*

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott summarized the purpose of the proposed Capital Improvement Bonds, with \$3.7 million being allocated to the Road Department for electrical, building control, HVAC, solar panels and emergency generators, which will improve safety, health and a return on energy investment savings. Costs will be offset by a tax credit of \$260,000. Scott stated that the remainder will be allocated to various other county facilities and equipment projects, including: county-wide bathroom renovations, added costs to complete the youth center renovations, security gate at the justice center, upgraded tasers for

the Sheriff's Deputy's, elevator and fire alarms upgrades, and the replacement of the roof on the Toeller Building.

Res.101-2025

“Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. Saxton to approve the authorization to issue capital improvement bonds, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

NO - 0

Motion **CARRIED**.

2. Health Department Grant Application: FY26 Community Health Worker

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott stated that this \$200,000 grant request is to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, to enable the Health Department to create a county-wide community health worker collation. Scott added that the funding will assist in providing training for community organizations, as the grant requires the county to subcontract some of the grant to community-based organizations, which will be: The Share Center, Calhoun County Senior Services, and the Albion/Homer Substance Abuse Center Services, each to receive \$25,000 for training and certification to have community health workers on staff.

Res.102-2025

“Moved Comr. Saxton, second by Comr. Tompkins to approve the Calhoun County Health Department Grant Application: Fiscal Year 2026 Community Health Worker, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

NO - 0

Motion **CARRIED**.

3. Sheriff's Office FY2026 Secondary Road Patrol Grant

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott stated that this state grant of \$216,800 is an allocation from state liquor tax sales, to cover the approximate cost of two Sheriff's road patrol deputies, and does not require a match.

Res.103-2025

“Moved Comr. Strowbridge, second by Comr. Oo to approve the Calhoun County Sheriff's Office Fiscal Year 2026 Secondary Road Patrol Grant, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

NO - 0

Motion **CARRIED**.

13. Citizens' Time

There was none.

14. Commissioners' Time

Commissioner French congratulated the Battle Creek Community Foundation on their amazing Block Party event.

Commissioner Saxton congratulated Clerk/Register Kim Hinkley on her new role as President of the Association of Clerks for 2026.

Commissioner King thanked Harper Creek Schools Superintendent, Rob Ridgeway, regarding the letter received thanking the road department for its diligent work and great communication on completing the road in front of their middle school prior to school opening.

15. Claims Payable Listing

- A. *Claims Payable for July 31, 2025, through August 13, 2025, in the amount of \$6,428,269.61*

Res.104-2025

“Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. Oo to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for July 31, 2025, through August 13, 2025, in the amount of \$6,428,269.61, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

NO - 0

Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

Comr. French announced that the City of Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce will be hosting Backyard Burgers and Brew Fest on August 23, 2025.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

taz

Teri A. Zadigian
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners