

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

JUNE 18, 2026

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00pm, Thursday, June 18, 2026, 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, Al Morehart, Dominic Oo, Dan Strowbridge, and Matt Saxton.

Excused: Comrs. Gary Tompkins and Monique French.

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

2. Moment of Silence/Invocation

Chair Derek King called for a moment of silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Comr. Morehart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Res.073-2026

"Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. Oo to approve the Agenda of the June 18, 2026, 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 4, 2026 Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting*

Minutes of the June 4, 2026, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting.

Res.074-2026

"Moved Comr. Saxton, second by Comr. Strowbridge to Approve the Minutes of the June 4, 2026, Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting, as presented."

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

6. Citizens' Time

Battle Creek resident Karen Weideman expressed concerns about a recent appointment to the Calhoun County Board of Public Health.

Barry Wayne Adams of Marshall shared public health concerns related to the proposed data center south of Marshall.

7. Elected/Appointed County Officials' Comments

Managing Director of the Road Department Kristine Parsons commented regarding items on the Consent Agenda, including a resolution to certify and decertify certain roadways as required by MDOT; the acceptance of phase 2 of the Loganwood subdivision development; and the memorandum of agreement for bridge replacement in Sheridan Township, with state grant funds that were supported by State Representative Steve Frisbie.

Prosecutor Dave Gilbert shared his support for the proposed new policy, Artificial Intelligence Workplace Use.

8. Special Order of Business

A. Proclamation - National Juneteenth Day

Comr. King read the following Proclamation into the record:

Proclamation National Juneteenth Day

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, observed annually on June 19th, is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Union Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, and issued General Order No. 3, which informed the enslaved African Americans of that region that they were free, nearly two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, this momentous day—also known as Emancipation Day, Jubilee Day, and Freedom Day—has been celebrated by generations of Americans to honor the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of chattel slavery; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Juneteenth serves as both a celebration of joy, resilience, and the rich cultural contributions of Black Americans, as well as an important opportunity for education and reflection on our nation's history and the continuous journey toward a more perfect union; and

WHEREAS, as we recognize this day, we reaffirm our shared commitment to actively

eradicating systemic racism, inequity, and injustice wherever it persists in our society;

WHEREAS, Calhoun County's primary celebrations center on the Battle Creek Juneteenth Family Day and various community events across the region:

Battle Creek Juneteenth Celebration

- Friday, June 19, 2026: Kick-off the weekend at Washington Heights United Methodist Church (153 N. Wood St.) with a special movie screening of GOAT starting at 5:30 PM.
- Saturday, June 20, 2026: The main Family Day event takes place at Claude Evans Park (320 N. Washington Ave.) from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. It features live performances by Larry Lee and Back in the Day Band and contemporary jazz flautist Brandon Marceal, a gospel showcase, a free food giveaway, pony rides, and a Kids Korner.
- Details & Updates: Visit the Juneteenth Battle Creek official site for scheduling updates and vendor information.

Albion Juneteenth Events

- Saturday, June 20, 2026: Albion hosts a vibrant community festival at 100 N. Albion St. from 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM. This free, family-oriented event includes live musical acts, historical speakers, games, and a variety of local food and retail vendors.
- Details & Updates: Check the Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce event calendar for full schedules and additional lead-up activities.

Noir Lux Venue "Black Out" Event (Battle Creek)

- Friday, June 19, 2026: An evening of culture, unity, and community celebration runs from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM. More information is available via Eventbrite.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim June 19, 2026, as Juneteenth Day in Calhoun County and encourage all residents and members to observe this day through appropriate programs, educational events, celebrations, and reflections on the ongoing cause of freedom and equality for all.

Date: June 18, 2026

Signed: Derek King, Chair Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Res.075-2026

"Moved Comr. Saxton, second by Comr. Morehart to approve the Proclamation - National Juneteenth Day 2026, 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 2026*
- B. *Resolutions*
 1. *Jury Board Appointment*
 2. *CCRD 2025 Act 51 Certification and Decertification of Certain Roads*
 3. *Loganwood Acres North Final Plat Approval & Acceptance*
 4. *Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation and Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board Appointments*
 5. *CCRD 24 Mile Road Bridge Replacements - Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)*

Res.076-2026

“Moved Comr. Strowbridge, second by Comr. Oo to Approve the Consent Agenda of the June 18, 2026, Board of Commissioner’s Regular Session, as presented.”

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

10. Special Committee/Workshop/Board Reports

There were 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 shared that the FireKeepers Local Revenue Sharing Board (FLRSB) met on June 17 and tabled for the second time a portion of the Tier II application from Emmett Township. The Board's next meeting is Wednesday, July 15.

Ms. Scott reported that the Michigan Native American Heritage Fund Board (NAHFB) met on June 18 with all new board members, two appointed by the governor's office, two appointed by the NHBP, and one by the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. Scott added that the 2026 grant application would be published soon and that the applications are due back by July 31.

Scott stated that the countywide City Managers and Mayors and County Administrator/Controller and Board Chair met on June 11 to discuss County master plan

updates and receive a presentation regarding the Wall that Heals Veterans Memorial, which will be located at Harper Creek High School in August with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on August 19.

B. New Business

1. New Policy: Artificial Intelligence (AI) Workplace Use

Ms. Scott informed that the new policy will offer training for employees and place guardrails for security purposes, and that it was drafted by the internal Artificial Intelligence (AI) Workgroup and shared for input with countywide elected officials, union leaders and department heads along with the Courts.

Information Technology Department Systems Operations Manager Austin Fraley noted the three policy pillars are awareness, training, and safety.

Comr. Saxton asked why the county is limiting employee use of generative AI to Microsoft 365 Copilot.

Mr. Fraley informed that Microsoft has a government license with the county and data is stored securely in the government cloud/servers.

Res.077-2026

“Moved Comr. Morehart, second by Comr. Oo to Approve New Policy: Artificial Intelligence (AI) Workplace Use, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

Excused - 2, Comrs. Tompkins and French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

13. Citizens' Time

Residents of Battle Creek and Homer expressed support for Dr. Rob Lyerla to fill the vacant position on the Calhoun County Board of Health and requested transparency related to the appointment process.

Residents of Battle Creek and Marshall addressed benefits and concerns related to the use of Artificial Intelligence and data centers.

14. Commissioners' Time

Comr. Strowbridge shared an expression of the Declaration of Independence, US Constitution, Civil Rights Act, and Bill of Rights, noting that there have only been 27 amendments to the US Constitution.

15. Claims Payable Listing

A. *Claims Payable for May 28, 2026 through June 10, 2026 in the amount of \$3,663,498.77*

Res.078-2026

“Moved Comr. Oo, second by Comr. Saxton to Approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for May 28, 2026, through June 10, 2026, in the amount of \$3,663,498.77, as presented.”

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES – 5, Comrs. King, Morehart, Oo, Strowbridge, and Saxton.

Excused - 2, Comr Tompkins and French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

16. Announcements

There were none.

17. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board of Commissioners



Proclamation

National Juneteenth Day



WHEREAS, Juneteenth, observed annually on June 19th, is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Union Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, and issued General Order No. 3, which informed the enslaved African Americans of that region that they were free, nearly two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, this momentous day—also known as Emancipation Day, Jubilee Day, and Freedom Day—has been celebrated by generations of Americans to honor the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of chattel slavery; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Juneteenth serves as both a celebration of joy, resilience, and the rich cultural contributions of Black Americans, as well as an important opportunity for education and reflection on our nation's history and the continuous journey toward a more perfect union; and

WHEREAS, as we recognize this day, we reaffirm our shared commitment to actively eradicating systemic racism, inequity, and injustice wherever it persists in our society;

WHEREAS, Calhoun County's primary celebrations center on the Battle Creek Juneteenth Family Day and various community events across the region:

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- **Details & Updates:** Visit the [Juneteenth Battle Creek](#) official site for scheduling updates and vendor information.

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- **Details & Updates:** Check the [Greater Albion Chamber of Commerce](#) event calendar for full schedules and additional lead-up activities.

Noir Lux Venue "Black Out" Event (Battle Creek)

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NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim June 19, 2026, as Juneteenth Day in Calhoun County and encourage all residents and members to observe this day through appropriate programs, educational events, celebrations, and reflections on the ongoing cause of freedom and equality for all.

Date: June 18, 2026

Derek King, Chair Calhoun County Board of Commissioners



**CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION**

At a Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, held in Board Chambers, Calhoun County Building, 315 West Green Street, Marshall, Michigan, on Thursday, June 18, 2026, with Chair Derek King presiding, the following action was taken:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners accepts the May 2026 financial statements for information only.

Res.076-2026

"Moved Comr. Strowbridge, second by Comr. Oo to accept the May 2026 financial statements for information only, as presented on the Consent Agenda."

On a **VOICE VOTE**

Present - 5, Comrs. Oo, Morehart, Strowbridge, King, and Saxton.

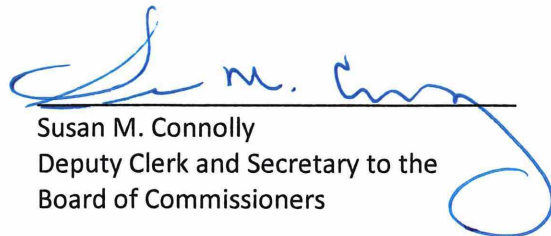
Excused - 2, Comrs. Tompkins and French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) SS
COUNTY OF CALHOUN)

I, the undersigned, Calhoun County Deputy Clerk and Secretary to the Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners at its regular meeting held on June 18, 2026, relative to adoption of the resolution therein set forth; that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be made available as required by said Act.

Dated: June 18, 2026


Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk and Secretary to the
Board of Commissioners



**CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION**

At a Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, held in Board Chambers, Calhoun County Building, 315 West Green Street, Marshall, Michigan, on Thursday, June 18, 2026, with Chair Derek King presiding, the following action was taken:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners appoints Josita Todd (Ind) - Battle Creek, to a 6-year term beginning July 2026 to the Calhoun County Jury Board, consistent with MCL 600.1301, and upon recommendation of the 37th Judicial Circuit Court Judges.

Res.076-2026

"Moved Comr. Strowbridge, second by Comr. Oo to appoint Josita Todd (Ind) - Battle Creek, to the Calhoun County Jury Board, as presented on the Consent Agenda."

On a VOICE VOTE

Present - 5, Comrs. Oo, Morehart, Strowbridge, King, and Saxton.

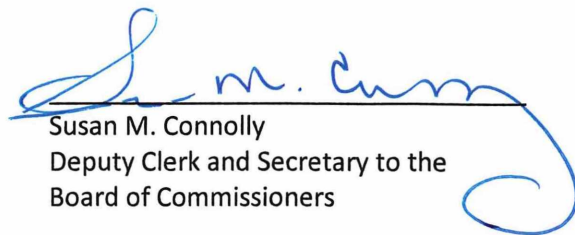
Excused - 2, Comrs. Tompkins and French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
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Dated: June 18, 2026


Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk and Secretary to the
Board of Commissioners



**CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION**

At a Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, held in Board Chambers, Calhoun County Building, 315 West Green Street, Marshall, Michigan, on Thursday, June 18, 2026, with Chair Derek King presiding, the following action was taken:

RESOLVED, the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the 2025 Road Certification, Decertification, & Reclassification Resolution, as presented, and authorizes the Managing Director to sign any necessary documents on behalf of Calhoun County.

Res.076-2026

"Moved Comr. Strowbridge, second by Comr. Oo to approve the 2025 Road Certification, Decertification, & Reclassification Resolution, as presented on the Consent Agenda."

On a **VOICE VOTE**

Present - 5, Comrs. Oo, Morehart, Strowbridge, King, and Saxton.

Excused - 2, Comrs. Tompkins and French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
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Dated: June 18, 2026



Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk and Secretary to the
Board of Commissioners



**CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION**

At a Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, held in Board Chambers, Calhoun County Building, 315 West Green Street, Marshall, Michigan, on Thursday, June 18, 2026, with Chair Derek King presiding, the following action was taken:

RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby approve the final plat and accept all rights-of-way conveyances and easements for the Loganwood Acres North subdivision located in Pennfield Township, Section 35, and authorizes the Road Department Managing Director to sign any required documents on its behalf.

Res.076-2026

"Moved Comr. Strowbridge, second by Comr. Oo to approve the final plat and accept all rights-of-way conveyances and easements for the Loganwood Acres North subdivision located in Pennfield Township, Section 35, as presented on the Consent Agenda."

On a **VOICE VOTE**

Present - 5, Comrs. Oo, Morehart, Strowbridge, King, and Saxton.

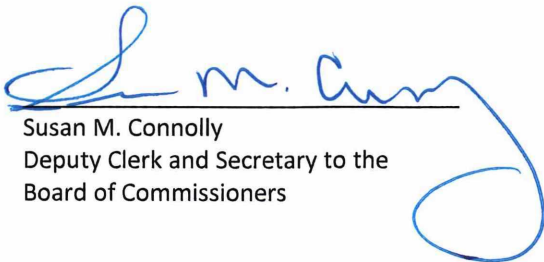
Excused - 2, Comrs. Tompkins and French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
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Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk and Secretary to the
Board of Commissioners



**CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION**

At a Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, held in Board Chambers, Calhoun County Building, 315 West Green Street, Marshall, Michigan, on Thursday, June 18, 2026, with Chair Derek King presiding, the following action was taken:

RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does hereby appoint Debbie Kelly to the Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) and Calhoun County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (CCBRA) Boards for terms to expire on December 31, 2031.

Res.076-2026

"Moved Comr. Strowbridge, second by Comr. Oo to appoint Debbie Kelly to the Calhoun County Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) and Calhoun County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (CCBRA) Boards, as presented on the Consent Agenda."

On a VOICE VOTE

Present - 5, Comrs. Oo, Morehart, Strowbridge, King, and Saxton.

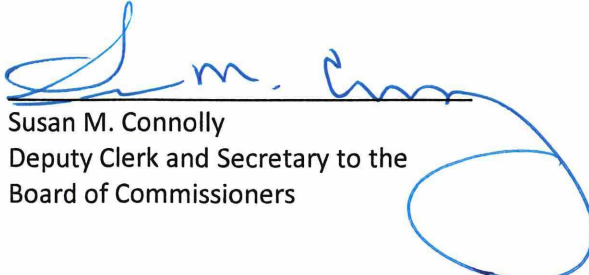
Excused - 2, Comrs. Tompkins and French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
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Deputy Clerk and Secretary to the
Board of Commissioners



**CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION**

At a Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, held in Board Chambers, Calhoun County Building, 315 West Green Street, Marshall, Michigan, on Thursday, June 18, 2026, with Chair Derek King presiding, the following action was taken:

RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners does approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Sheridan Township concerning two bridge replacement projects, as presented, and authorizes the Managing Director to sign all documents necessary to complete the projects.

Res.076-2026

"Moved Comr. Strowbridge, second by Comr. Oo to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Sheridan Township concerning two bridge replacement projects, as presented on the Consent Agenda."

On a **VOICE VOTE**

Present - 5, Comrs. Oo, Morehart, Strowbridge, King, and Saxton.

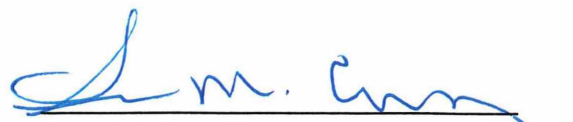
Excused - 2, Comr. Tompkins and French.

Motion **CARRIED**.

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**CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION**

At a Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners, held in Board Chambers, Calhoun County Building, 315 West Green Street, Marshall, Michigan, on Thursday, June 18, 2026, with Chair Derek King presiding, the following action was taken:

RESOLVED, the Board of Commissioners approves the new Artificial Intelligence (AI) Workplace Policy.

Res.077-2026

"Moved Comr. Strowbridge, second by Comr. Oo to approve the new Artificial Intelligence (AI) Workplace Policy, as presented."

On a **ROLL CALL VOTE**

YES - 5, Comrs. Oo, Morehart, Strowbridge, King, and Saxton.

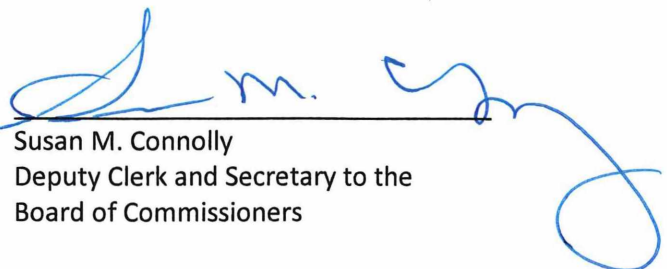
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Motion **CARRIED**.

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