

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

August 5, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, August 5, 2021 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, County Building, Marshall, MI.

Chair Frisbie called the meeting to order and requested the Deputy Clerk call the roll.

Present: Comrs. Rochelle Hatcher, Jake Smith, Steve Frisbie, Tommy Miller, and Gary Tompkins.

Excused: Comrs. Derek King and Kathy-Sue Vette.

Staff Present: Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott, Corporation Counsel Jim Dyer, Assistant Administrator Brad Wilcox, HR/Labor Relations Director Kim Archambault, Communications Manager Lucy Blair, and Deputy Clerk Susan Connolly.

2 and 3. MOMENT OF SILENCE/INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

After a moment of silence, Comr. Frisbie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Res.125-2021

"Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the agenda of the August 5, 2021 Regular Session of the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the July 15, 2021 Board of Commissioners' Regular Session.

Res.126-2021

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Minutes of the July 15, 2021 Board of Commissioners' Regular Session as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

6. CITIZENS' TIME

Carl Gibson of Marshall provided a letter to the Board encouraging support of the Commons Senior Enrichment Center and numerous development projects throughout Marshall.

Dan Pontius with Senior Services of Southwest Michigan shared the importance of their senior millage-funded Ramps program and the impact it makes in the community.

State Representative Jim Haadsma of Bedford Township recognized the Joanne Konkle Award recipient, Linda Grap.

Albion resident, Randy Fisher and Trustee for Sheridan Township expressed concerns with numerous road projects in Sheridan Township and his personal property. Mr. Fisher identified roadways of concern and the status of pothole work in Sheridan Township.

Homer Manager Art Kale recognized Joanne Konkle, her legacy and Linda Grap, the recipient of the 2021 Leadership Award.

7. ELECTED/APPOINTED COUNTY OFFICIALS' COMMENTS

There was none.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Presentation and Acceptance of the Calhoun County 2020 Audited Financial Statements and Related Communications:

Nathan Balderman with Rehmann provided an overview of the audit process and noted that the audit firm issued an unmodified or clean opinion, and that the County's general fund ended at 12/31/20 with a fund balance of 5.2 million.

Comr. Tompkins asked if there was any cause for concern during the audit and Mr. Balderman responded that there were none.

Res.127-2021

"Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Miller to accept the Calhoun County 2020 Audited Financial Statements and Related Communications as presented."

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

B. Senior Care Partners P.A.C.E. (Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly)

Katherine Kemp, Director of Marketing and Enrollment provided a presentation of the services available to residents and the benefits of the P.A.C.E. program.

Comr. Tompkins asked Ms. Kemp to confirm the service areas for the program and she responded that the program is open to residents across all of Calhoun and Kalamazoo Counties.

Comr. Frisbie noted the value of the P.A.C.E. program and the services it provides residents.

C. *Resolution honoring Linda Grap, recipient of the 2021 Joanne Konkle Leadership Award*

Comr. Tompkins read the following on the record:

SPECIAL TRIBUTE
Honoring
Linda Grap

WHEREAS, Linda Grap, retired at the end of December 2020, after directing the growth of Senior Health Partners for seventeen years encouraging health and wellness for hundreds of older adults in Calhoun County.

WHEREAS, Linda's work in the community has always been about providing service to others, encouraging collaboration and partnership, and providing leadership to important community work. Before directing and growing Senior Health Partners, Linda worked with a variety of non-profit organizations including Burnham Brook, the East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging, The Children's Foundation, and the American Red Cross.

WHEREAS, she has served in statewide leadership positions including the Michigan Dementia Coalition and the Michigan Parkinson's Foundation Southwest Michigan.

WHEREAS, Linda has developed new programs to improve services to older adults in Calhoun County, starting the Annual Active Aging day, bringing evidenced based programs to County residents as an instructor and coach, helping to start the Elder Education program with Michigan State University Medical students, and being an accredited provider of Advance Directives/Care Planning through Bronson Health Care.

WHEREAS, Calhoun County Senior Services and the Senior Millage Allocation Committee have created the Joanne Konkle Senior Services Achievement Award which is awarded annually to recognized individuals who have given a life-time of service providing quality services and advocacy for seniors age 60 and over in Calhoun County following the example set by Joanne Konkle.

WHEREAS, to recognize Linda Grap's service with compassion, commitment, and generosity to Calhoun County and its older adults, Linda is the recipient of the 2021 Joanne Konkle Senior Services Achievement Award.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners that **Linda Grap** is hereby honored and thanked for her many years of dedicated service to Calhoun County and older adult residents.

Steve Frisbie, Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners

Linda Grap, recipient of the award, thanked the Board for the recognition and shared her excitement for the future with Senior Services.

Res.128-2021

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the awarding of the Joanne Konkle Leadership in Senior Services Lifetime Achievement Award to Linda Grap and recognizes her with a special tribute for her exceptional service to Calhoun County citizens as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Petitions, Communications, Reports

1. Resolutions from Other Governmental Units to be Acknowledged
 - i. Wexford County Resolution re Secretary of State Offices
 - ii. Muskegon County Resolution re Support for new Casino in Muskegon County

B. Resolutions

1. Appointment to the Calhoun County Broadband Task Force (to replace Sam Lutgring):
 - i. Lorie Upright, Calhoun Intermediate School District (term indefinite)
2. MERS Service Credit Purchase - Matthew Hall
3. Submission of the Calhoun County Road Department's Act 51 Report
4. Calhoun Public Safety Information Alliance (RMS) Board Appointment:
 - i. Chief Deputy Dave Tendziegloski, replacing Randy Hazel (term indefinite)
5. Settlement of Gunthorpe v. Calhoun County, for \$235,000, as recommended by the MMRMA and Litigation Counsel
6. Resolution Approving Petition to Abandon a portion of P-Drive North

Res.129-2021

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Consent Agenda of the August 5, 2021 Board of Commissioner’s Regular Session as presented.”

On a voice vote, Motion **CARRIED**.

10. SPECIAL COMMITTEE/ WORKSHOP/BOARD REPORTS

Comr. Frisbie shared that the Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority has two potential applicants for the new Executive Director and a decision is expected by the end of August.

11. UNFINISHED AND OLD BUSINESS

There was none.

12. NEW BUSINESS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. County Administrator/Controller's Report

County Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott reported that the 2022 budget process has begun, explaining that it is a more than six-month process that includes input from all of our county elected officials, the judiciary, and our department heads.

Kelli Scott added that the kickoff of the 2022 budget process happened recently with budget meetings with the internal budget committee and the Board of Commissioners Budget Committee. She noted that the county's administration and finance staff reviewed with the committees the long-term general fund forecast and key assumptions within it. She reported that departments will be submitting budget requests during August and that the committees will come together again in September and October to review the requests and hold budget hearings.

B. New Business

1. 2021 Mid-Year Budget Amendment.

Administrator/Controller Kelli Scott reported the annual mid-year budget amendment, put together by finance staff, is a process every year that is necessary to incorporate expected shortfalls and unbudgeted additions in revenue as well as overages and reductions in expenses.

Res.130-2021

"Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the 2021 Mid-Year Budget Amendment as presented."

On a roll call vote, Yes – 5, Comrs. Frisbie, Hatcher, Miller, Smith, Tompkins, and Vette. Excused – 2, Comr. King. Motion **CARRIED**.

2. Fiber Optic Project Advancement and Feasibility Study Agreement with Aspen Wireless Technologies, Inc.

Ms. Scott stated that Aspen Wireless is being recommended to provide a feasibility study including cost and design considerations for providing internet services to all county residents and businesses. Kelli Scott noted the study will bring the County to a "shovel ready" status and in full compliance with the State's Metro Act and other relevant laws, with next steps including seeking grant funding from state and federal government sources to help keep costs affordable for our residents.

Administrator Controller Scott added Mike Green with Aspen was present to answer any questions as they have worked with other local municipalities and Branch County.

Res.131-2021

“Moved Comr. Miller, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Fiber Optic Project Advancement and Feasibility Study Agreement with Aspen Wireless Technologies, Inc. as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 5, Comrs. Frisbie, Hatcher, Miller, Smith, Tompkins, and Vette. Excused – 2, Comr. King. Motion **CARRIED**.

3. Supplemental Senior Millage funding for Senior Services, Inc. for the Ramps for Accessibility Program.

Kelli Scott highlighted this request from the Senior Millage Allocation Committee and Senior Services to authorize supplemental funding to help alleviate the growing waitlist and address the increased demand for ramps for seniors throughout the county.

Senior Services Manager Helen Guzzo was in attendance to answer any questions.

Res.132-2021

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Smith to approve the Supplemental Senior Millage funding for Senior Services, Inc. for the Ramps for Accessibility Program as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 5, Comrs. Frisbie, Hatcher, Miller, Smith, Tompkins, and Vette. Excused – 2, Comr. King. Motion **CARRIED**.

4. IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Grant Extension for Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023.

Administrator/Controller Scott noted this is a renewal and approval of the dollar amounts for the grant for the prosecutor's office, child support enforcement cooperative reimbursement program. Kelli Scott highlighted that the grant provides two-thirds of these expenses.

Prosecutor Dave Gilbert shared that attorney Dana Porter with the Prosecutor's Office manages the CRP Unit. Mr. Gilbert added that in 2018, Dana Porter received the Assistant Prosecutor of the Year Award from the Family Support Council of Michigan.

Res.133-2021

“Moved Comr. Hatcher, second by Comr. Miller to approve the IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Grant Extension for Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 5, Comrs. Frisbie, Hatcher, Miller, Smith, Tompkins, and Vette. Excused – 2, Comr. King. Motion **CARRIED**.

5. Appropriation, Phase I, of Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding.

Administrator/Controller Scott reminded the Board that at the May 29 special workshop of the Board of Commissioners she provided and discussed with them the allowable uses of the ARPA funds, as well as guiding principles, overall strategies and some examples of items to consider within each investment category. Kelli Scott noted the County will strive to not duplicate funds to be received from the State of Michigan or other local and federal sources. Kelli Scott shared that the resolution attached for Board approval is similar to an annual budget appropriations resolution in that it outlines certain provisions for the allocation of funds, including the ways in which the Board of Commissioners will maintain oversight through monthly reports and approval of contracts.

Ms. Scott noted that there were also attachments highlighting the proposed projects to be funded with this initial \$9 million Phase I Allocation, summarized by department and also by eligible uses. Kelli Scott noted funding to the road department is intended only to the extent that the Road Department is not reimbursed for lost revenue by state or federal funding.

Comrs. Miller and Smith asked corporation counsel whether their positions on various boards cause a conflict of interest with the vote.

Corporation Counsel Jim Dyer stated there would be no conflicts as the commissioners would not have a personal financial benefit from the awarding of these funds.

Res.134-2021

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Miller to approve Appropriation, Phase I, of Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 5, Comrs. Frisbie, Hatcher, Miller, Smith, Tompkins, and Vette. Excused – 2, Comr. King. Motion **CARRIED**.

13. CITIZENS’ TIME

Richard Porter of Sheridan Township commented on the 400-acre solar panel project coming to his township and the impact on local roadways.

Matthew Hall of Sheridan Township thanked the board for their support of his purchase of pension plan service credit.

Cindy Thomas representing the Calhoun County Fairground Board thanked the board for their allocation of \$200,000 in ARPA funds.

14. COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Comr. Tompkins commented on the recent Centenarians event and thanked Senior Services staff for their time and support.

Comr. Tompkins added the importance of the broadband taskforce and advocated the public to take the survey.

Comrs. Smith, Hatcher, and Miller commented regarding Sheridan Township roadway issues that were brought to their attention during public comment. Board Chair Frisbie offered to talk with the Sheridan Township representatives after the meeting.

15. CLAIMS PAYABLE

Res.135 -2021

“Moved Comr. Tompkins, second by Comr. Hatcher to approve the Calhoun County Claims Payable for July 9, 2021 through July 27, 2021 in the amount of \$28,380,700.11 as presented.”

On a roll call vote, Yes – 5, Comrs. Frisbie, Hatcher, Miller, Smith, Tompkins, and Vette. Excused – 2, Comr. King. Motion **CARRIED**.

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comr. Tompkins mentioned the upcoming Honor Flight Fundraiser.

Comr. Miller informed the Board of the upcoming Calhoun County Fair.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m. at the call of the Chair.

smc

Susan M. Connolly
Deputy Clerk to the Board