

**GARY TOMPKINS
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
7TH DISTRICT**



Proudly serving:

Lee Twp	Clarence Twp
Sheridan Twp	Albion Twp
Homer Twp	Clarendon Twp
City of Albion	Village of Homer

YOUR COUNTY CONNECTION

Monthly Newsletter

ISSUE 41 PAGE 1

JUNE 2020

COUNTY ACTIONS/DISCUSSION

June 4 Meeting

Canceled due to lack of Business Items

Upcoming Meetings (July)



June 18 Meeting

- 1.) Had the honor of reading the Juneteenth Day Proclamation into the record and offering it into the agenda.
- 2.) Approved the appointment of Mr. Tino Smith, PHD to the Calhoun County Jury Board.
- 3.) Motion to approve a waiver of Policy 509 (return to gravel policy) for Leroy Township failed 3-4 (Tompkins, Smith, Miller & Hatcher dissenting). No residents on the road identified had been contacted & the township board did not want to take a position. The provision in the policy was created to build collaborative relationships with township boards so they could have a say in turning roads back to gravel which was much appreciated by the township boards. This waiver would have compromised the integrity of the policy and set a precedent. Although ACT 51 does state that counties have the ultimate responsibility of roads, having a collaborative relationship with township boards is important. As a result of this good relationship building, the new 50/50 share policy has seen a significant increase in participation. The CCRD budget had called for \$700k in road share and to date the county has seen \$1.08 million in sharing. Good policy brings good results.
- 4.) Approved (7-0) the letter recommendation from the Senior Millage Allocation Committee to President Trump regarding COVID-19 affect on seniors and ideas to improve the Federal Govt. response.
- 5.) Approved (7-0) the Calhoun County financials for May 2020. Admin Scott stated that the finalization of the 2019 budget will be next week and based on COVID-19 having an impact on the 2020 budget., the county see as much as a \$2 million shortfall. The budget will be closely monitored by Admin Scott and Finance.

Senior Millage Allocation Committee	7/2	8am VIRTUAL
Albion City	7/6	7pm
Trailway Alliance	7/8	8am
Lee Twp		7pm
Drug Free Community Grant Committee	7/10	9am VIRTUAL
Clarence Twp	7/13	7pm
Homer Village		7pm
Albion Twp		730pm
Clarendon Twp		730pm
Albion-Homer SAPS	7/14	9am
Homer Lake Board		4pm
Homer Twp		7pm
County Commission	7/16	7pm
SWBH SUD board	7/20	4pm
Albion City		7pm
Sheridan Twp	7/21	7pm
Forks senior Center Board mtg	7/22	1pm
Drug Free Community Grant Committee	7/24	9am VIRTUAL

PHONE: 517-607-5202

EMAIL: TOMPKINSCC7@GMAIL.COM



Like my Facebook page @ [Facebook.com/garytompkinscc7](https://www.facebook.com/garytompkinscc7)



If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter in the comfort of your home/office or on your phone, please e-mail me @ tompkinscc7@gmail.com

**GARY TOMPKINS
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
7TH DISTRICT**



Proudly serving:

Lee Twp	Clarence Twp
Sheridan Twp	Albion Twp
Homer Twp	Clarendon Twp
City of Albion	Village of Homer

YOUR COUNTY CONNECTION

Monthly Newsletter

ISSUE 41 PAGE 2

JUNE 2020

ROAD/BRIDGE UPDATES

1.) Primary & Local Road Construction Projects for the 2020 year can be found on Page 4 & 5 of the Newsletter.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

- 1.) Participated in a mental health virtual meeting on June 2. Meagan Taft of Summit Pointe discussed issues surrounding mental health and I had the opportunity to present on the 2021 Federal Drug Free Community Grant. The Albion-Homer Substance Abuse Prevention Services Coalition has put together a grant committee that I co-chair to work on bringing additional resources to the area focusing on our youth.
- 2.) Participated in weekly (June 3, 10, 17 & 24) Calhoun County Joint Information Center virtual meetings to discuss the county's response to COVID-19 and actions going forward. In addition, on the dates above, participated in weekly White House Intergovernmental Affairs briefings with leaders from across the county on COVID-19, economy and other topics impacting the area and country.
- 3.) Participated in a virtual Albion Social Injustice meeting on June 9 with local officials discussion on the current state of affairs and potential solutions.
- 4.) Was honored to be part of a June 10 virtual meeting with Homer Boy Scout Troop 156 in which each of the scouts posed incredible thought provoking questions (all created by the scouts themselves) on my elected service. A big thank you to the BSA troop 156 for the opportunity to share my experiences in elected service and making a positive impact in our communities.
- 5.) Was most honored to assist Carewell Services Southwest & Village of Homer of delivering fresh produce on June 18 & 25 to Barneyville Senior Apts in Homer as part of the Farmers to Families program through the USDA. Always doing my part to help.
- 6.) Was honored to participate in a listening session at Kingdom Builders Worldwide in Battle Creek under the direction of Dr. Tino Smith on June 20. Bishop Smith had a powerful message on understanding races & racism with an open dialogue question and answer session.
- 7.) Participated in a Federal Office of National Drug Policy phone call on June 24 where Director Jim Carroll unveiled the new rural community toolbox website where drug prevention coalitions and other organizations can find additional resources & funding. The office is focusing a great deal of attention on rural communities and their needs.
- 8.) Attended Albion's Call for Unity meeting on June 25 at Holland Park. Discussion centered around areas that need highlighted to move the city forward including 4 main areas which include; public relationships, education, economic development & health. Additional topics discussed were housing, transportation, recreation, child care & job creation.
- 9.) Participated in a special virtual meeting on June 29 with Senator John Bizon to discuss the 2020/21 education budget and integration of mental health and substance abuse services.

7th District in Focus

Position Announcement

Gary Tompkins, Calhoun County Commissioner, 7th District, was voted unanimously to become Albion-Homer United Way's Board President replacing Shane Williamson who stepped down from that position but will remain on the board.

County Recycling

The Marshall Recycling Center will re-open on July 7th at noon. There are specific plans to keep patrons safe and some new requirements. Please visit calhouncountyclerycling.com for more details.

Residents can recycle at the C&C Land-fill center. It is free for residents who have a Solid Waste Program recycling pass. The pass can be obtained through your local township/village/city office. The cost is \$4 a load if you don't have a pass. The address is 14800 P Dr N and the center is open M-F 7AM- 4:30pm.

County Offices Status:

County offices reopened June 15th by appointment only. For more details on contact information and safe start requirements go to calhouncounty-mi.gov and click on safe start plan.



June 14
Flag Day
Ceremony
at the
Albion
Elks

PHONE: 517-607-5202

EMAIL: TOMPKINSCC7@GMAIL.COM

If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter in the comfort of your home/office or on your phone, please e-mail me @ tompkinscc7@gmail.com

**GARY TOMPKINS
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
7TH DISTRICT**



Proudly serving:

Lee Twp	Clarence Twp
Sheridan Twp	Albion Twp
Homer Twp	Clarendon Twp
City of Albion	Village of Homer

YOUR COUNTY CONNECTION

Monthly Newsletter

ISSUE 41 PAGE 3

JUNE 2020

COMMITTEE CORNER



COMMITTEES/ORGANIZATIONS SERVING:

1.) Senior Millage Committee met June 5. Items discussed/actions taken included;

A.) Doug Ferrall, Program Manager for Calhoun County Community Development, was on hand to present information regarding the Parks & Recreation Millage and an update on the Countywide Transportation recommendations.

B.) Approved the recommendation to move the SMAC meeting originally scheduled for July 10 to Thursday July 2 at 8am.

C.) Entered into a preliminary discussion on the Senior Millage vision statement which will be fully addressed at our strategic planning session on August 28.

2.) Trailway Alliance, scheduled for June 10th, was canceled due to no pressing issues and COVID-19.

3.) Calhoun County Planning Commission, scheduled for June 22, was canceled due to no agenda items to review.

4.) Drug Free Community Grant Committee met on June 12 & 26. Items discussed included:

June 12

A.) Discussed the Coalition Involvement Agreements, reviewed the timeline and had a preliminary discussion on the mission statement.

June 26

A.) Reviewed the revised mission statement submitted by the sub-committee and made additional recommendations to complete.

B.) Discussed additional resources available as community profiles are being written.

C.) Discussed in detail the expectations of each sector representative who sign the Coalition Involvement Agreements and the need to seek additional names if some can't commit to the expectations.

- *Senior Millage Allocation Committee (SMAC) - Chair*
- *Calhoun County Planning Commission*
- *Calhoun County Trailway Alliance*
- *Homer Lake Mgmt. Board -Chair, Secretary & Admin.*
- *Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health (SWBH) Substance Abuse SUD Oversight Policy Board*
- *Potawatomi Resource Conservation & Development Council*
- *Forks Senior Center Board - Policy Chair*
- *Homer Downtown Development Authority*
- *Albion/Homer Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition— Co-Chair*
- ***Albion/Homer United Way— President***
- *VFW Auxiliary Post 9411-Homer*
- *County Board of Commissioners Parliamentarian*
- *SLF/Blair Scholarship Review Committee*
- *Homer Athletic Hall of Fame Committee President*
- *Albion City Infrastructure Advisory Committee.*
- *Albion Suicide Prevention Coalition*
- *Albion COVID-19 Task Force*
- *Albion/Homer Drug Free Grant Co-Chair*

PHONE: 517-607-5202



Like my Facebook page @ [Facebook.com/garytompkinscc7](https://www.facebook.com/garytompkinscc7)

EMAIL: TOMPKINSCC7@GMAIL.COM



If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter in the comfort of your home/office or on your phone, please e-mail me @ tompkinscc7@gmail.com



YOUR COUNTY CONNECTION

Monthly Newsletter

ISSUE 41 PAGE 4

JUNE 2020

2020 COUNTY ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN THE 7TH PRIMARY & LOCAL BY TOWNSHIP

Albion Township

Local Road Construction:

- Skip pave on B Drive South between 25 1/2 Mile Rd and 25 1/2 Mile Rd
- Chip seal on B Drive South between 24 Mile Rd and 25 1/2 Mile Rd
- Fiberized HMA 2.0 on D Drive South between 24 Mile Rd and 25 1/2 Mile Rd
- Chip seal on Condit Rd between M-99 and D Drive South

No Primary Road Construction

Clarence Township

No Local Road Construction

Primary Road Construction

- 28 1/2 mile road from S Dr. N to Just south of O Dr N (crack sealed)

Clarendon Township

Primary Road Construction (Chip Seal):

- 22 Mile Rd near M-60 and L Drive South

No local road construction

Lee Township

No Primary Road Construction

No Local Road Construction

50/50 Road Share Policy

The new revised policy has created a good collaborative relationship with townships as the original 2020 budget had \$700K allocated for the road share. To date, the county has received and contracted with townships to the tune of \$1.08 million. Good governance is about good relationships.

**GARY TOMPKINS
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
7TH DISTRICT**



Proudly serving:

Lee Twp	Clarence Twp
Sheridan Twp	Albion Twp
Homer Twp	Clarendon Twp
City of Albion	Village of Homer

YOUR COUNTY CONNECTION

Monthly Newsletter

ISSUE 41 PAGE 5

JUNE 2020

2020 COUNTY ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN THE 7TH PRIMARY & LOCAL BY TOWNSHIP CON'T

Homer Township

Primary Road Construction (Chip Seal):

- P Drive South near M-99 and 29 Mile Rd
- 29 Mile Road near P Drive S and R Drive S
- R Drive South near 29 Mile Rd and 30 Mile Rd

No local road construction

Sheridan Township

Local Road Construction:

- Chip seal on C Drive North between 28 Mile Rd and 30 Mile Rd
- Chip seal on J Drive North between 27 Mile Rd and 28 Mile Rd

No primary road construction

Breakdown of projects by District (Breakdown by Commission District)

No Primary Pave road construction (All Chip & Seal)

4th District has 1 (6.6%)

5th District has 4 (26.7%)

6th District has 6 (40%)

7th District has 4 (26.7%)

Total= 15 Chip & Seal Primary Projects

Other Notes/Information

- Convis, Fredonia, Leroy, Tekonsha, Pennfield, Lee, Clarence Albion, Sheridan & Marshall has no primary work in 2020.
- Athens Township has 5 roads returning to gravel.

PHONE: 517-607-5202

EMAIL: TOMPKINSCC7@GMAIL.COM

If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter in the comfort of your home/office or on your phone,
please e-mail me @ tompkinscc7@gmail.com

**GARY TOMPKINS
COUNTY COMMISSIONER
7TH DISTRICT**



Proudly serving:

Lee Twp	Clarence Twp
Sheridan Twp	Albion Twp
Homer Twp	Clarendon Twp
City of Albion	Village of Homer

YOUR COUNTY CONNECTION

Monthly Newsletter

ISSUE 41 PAGE 6

JUNE 2020

2019 Calhoun County Transportation Study Results



The proceeding are some introductory details regarding the Transportation study that was recently completed by an outside consultant through a grant received by the MDOT.

Two Governance Options were proposed:

1.) Creation of separate public authorities for Urban and Non-Urban sections of the County

- * Similar to Kalamazoo County
- * This option would require 70 FTE's
- * This option would provide a savings of \$390K and would benefit both entities and the public by reducing redundancies.

2.) Creation of a Public Authority for Countywide Demand Response Service and continued operation of Battle Creek Transit Fixed-Route service per status quo.

- * Battle Creek Transit would remain a department of the City of Battle Creek.
- * This option would require 75 FTE's

Qualitative Benefits of Governance Alternative #1

In addition to cost savings, operational integration would have the following benefits:

- More comprehensive and streamlined planning, resulting in better coordination of services
- Easier process of establishing and running the new CCTA – i.e., the ability to take advantage of BCT staff's collective decades of experience and institutional knowledge in operating transit, federal compliance, etc.
- A service providing travel between Battle Creek and other communities – bringing employees and shoppers to Battle Creek, and giving Battle Creek residents access to jobs and services in other communities
- BCATA could remain the designated recipient for federal and state transit funding, and both entities would have access to more diverse funding sources.
- Consolidation is supported and encouraged by MDOT.
- The authorities could create millage districts for more sustainable funding for transit service.
- Potential promotion of existing transit services in Battle Creek as part of a countywide branding strategy (more visibility, awareness of the value of transit service, leading to greater usage and local support).

Preliminary Timeline (Implementation Plan)

Short Term (2020-2021)

- * Continued integration of transportation services.
- * Preparation for new authority and est. of CCTA brand.

Long Term (Beyond 2024)

- * Consider expansion, on-going service planning

NOTE: Est. Millage would be .389 mills

Mid-Term (2022-2023)

- * Est. authorities & designate as funding recipient.
- * Implement policies regarding trip request priorities & fares .
- * Negotiate & carry out asset lease and/or transfer agreements.
- * Hold referendum on millage funding for public transit.
- * Expand services to gen. public in participating jurisdictions.

PHONE: 517-607-5202

EMAIL: TOMPKINSCC7@GMAIL.COM

If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter in the comfort of your home/office or on your phone,
please e-mail me @ tompkinscc7@gmail.com