

Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commissioners' Room, Courthouse at the Village of Centreville, Michigan on February 2, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Balog called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

The Pledge to the American Flag was given.

The Clerk, Lindsay Oswald, called the roll and the following Commissioners were present:

Robin Baker	Rick Shaffer
Donald Eaton	Allen J. Balog

Commissioner Dobberteen was absent.

Also present: Pat Yoder, Administrator/Controller and Teresa Doehring, Human Resources Director.

AGENDA

Chairman Balog noted the addition of a FOIA appeal and release of a CDBG mortgage.

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Eaton that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer that the minutes for January 19, 2016 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from Michigan State Housing Development Authority, Re: St. Joseph County's Housing Resource Fund Grant #HRF-2015-1067 was not awarded.
2. Letter from Residents of Meadows Condominiums, Re: Pat Dane is listed as representing the Meadows Condominiums on the River Country Recreation Authority, however they feel Pat Dane does not speak for them.
3. Letter from Southwest Michigan Solid Waste Consortium, Re: The \$500 per county annual membership dues will be waived again this year.
4. Letter from County Treasurer Judith Ratering, Re: Copy of valid surety bond of not less than \$1,000,000 as required.
5. Letter from County Treasurer Judith Ratering, Re: Quarterly Investment Reports for October, November and December, 2015.
6. Minutes of the Community Action Board of Directors meeting of November 23, 2015 and January 15, 2016.
7. Minutes of the Animal Control Advisory Board meeting of November 18, 2015.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Baker that the communications be placed on file. Motion carried.

CITIZENS' COMMENT

There were no citizen comments.

ROAD COMMISSION MILLAGE BALLOT LANGUAGE
RESOLUTION 5-2016

Mr. Yoder read the ballot language.

WHEREAS, St. Joseph County Road Commission requested that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners consider a millage ballot question to be placed on the May 3, 2016 ballot; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph County Prosecuting Attorney John McDonough has reviewed and approved the language.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following ballot question language for a special election to be called and held on May 3, 2016:

PRIMARY/MAJOR/LOCAL ROADS AND BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS

Shall the limitation on the amount of general ad valorem taxes which may be imposed against all property in St. Joseph County, Michigan, under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution be increased by up to 2.5 mills (which is two and half dollars (\$2.50) per each one thousand dollars of taxable value) and be levied and billed for a period of ten (10) years (2017-2026 inclusive) for road purposes within the incorporated cities and villages in St. Joseph County, Michigan and for the construction, improvement, repair and maintenance of primary roads, major streets, local roads, and bridges under the jurisdiction of the St. Joseph County Road Commission, with .5 mill (which is fifty cents (\$.50) per each one thousand dollars of taxable value) of the money to be collected, to be used for the construction, improvement, repair and maintenance of roads in either the primary road system, or local road system, under the discretion of road commission, and 2.0 mills (which is two dollars (\$2.00) per each one thousand dollars of taxable value) of the money to be collected, to be for the construction, improvement, repair and maintenance of roads in the local road system, and allocated to each Township based on the taxable value of the given Township, under the discretion of each township, based on recommendations by the St. Joseph County Road Commission. It is estimated that this proposal would produce revenue of \$5,427,211 during the first calendar year after its approval.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Eaton to adopt a resolution authorizing the ballot language on the May Election. Motion carried 3-1 upon a roll call vote with Commissioner Baker dissenting.

VETERANS SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

Stoney Summey, Veterans' Services Director, presented the annual report.

Commissioner Eaton thanked Mr. Summey for the tremendous job of increasing services and funds to veterans in the County.

Commissioner Shaffer expressed his appreciation of the work Mr. Summey had done.

Chairman Balog noted that Mr. Summey had accomplished much in a short amount of time.

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to accept the annual report and place it on file. Motion carried.

RIVER TRAIL PHASE III MARKETING

Mr. Yoder presented the marketing plan from eStudio Design.

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Baker to accept the proposal at a cost of \$5,760 per month. Motion carried.

CADE LAKE CAMPGROUND WATER/SEWER EXTENSION, ENGINEERING PHASE

Mr. Yoder reviewed the proposal and noted the design was to get water/sewer to the campsites.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Eaton to approve the agreement with Jones Petrie Rafinski for design engineering services at Cade Lake for \$33,600. Motion carried.

AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Eaton to approve the agreement with Rehmann for a not-to-exceed amount of \$31,800. Motion carried.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL APPRAISALS

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the agreement with CSZ Services industrial appraisals at a not-to-exceed amount of \$7,500. Motion carried.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT FOR COMMERCIAL APPRAISALS

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to approve the agreement with CSZ Services commercial appraisals at a not-to-exceed amount of \$15,000. Motion carried.

REQUEST TO FILL ADDITIONAL COA POSITION

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Eaton to approve the additional part-time receptionist position. Motion carried.

REQUEST TO FILL NEW PARKS LEAD RANGER POSITION

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Eaton to approve the new parks lead ranger position. Motion carried.

FOIA APPEAL

Ms. Doehring noted that the FOIA request had been denied because the request was for emails that the County was not in possession of and were not in the performance of an official function.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Eaton to uphold the denial of the January 21, 2016 FOIA request from Lynn McLeod. Motion carried.

RELEASE OF CDBG MORTGAGE

Mr. Yoder noted the property owner with the mortgage was deceased, and the property at 409 George Street in Sturgis was being sold for \$17,000, which leaves net proceeds of the sale at \$14,133.49. The mortgage amount was \$24,400, and Mr. Yoder requested that the partial payment be accepted as payment in full.

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to accept the \$14,133.49 as payment in full and discharge the mortgage. Motion carried.

NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Eaton to appoint Cathi Abbs and Emily Frohriep to the Animal Control Shelter Advisory Board with terms to expire on December 31, 2018.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Yoder clarified that the FOIA request that was denied had been for emails.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Mr. Yoder presented the following report:

	<u>Bills</u>		
<u>Expenditure Type</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
Operating	\$ 714,529.55	\$3,776,007.20	\$4,490,536.75
Payroll	<u>849,215.11</u>	<u>262,654.99</u>	<u>1,111,870.10</u>
Total	\$1,563,744.66	\$ 4,038,662.19	\$5,602,406.85

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Commissioner Baker stated that the Committee had not met.

Judiciary

Commissioner Baker stated that the Committee had not met.

Physical Resources

Chairman Balog stated that the Committee had not met.

Executive/Committee of the Whole

Chairman Balog stated that the Committee had met.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to set a work session for February 9, 2016 at 4 p.m. Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Rebecca Shank of 385 S. Washington in Constantine asked if the marketing proposal was from a company that was in the State. Mr. Yoder responded that it was.

Ms. Shank also commented on the historic district legislation that could be detrimental to the communities, the Flint water crisis, and the importance of remembering Presidents' Day.

Bruce Bart, Sherman Township Supervisor, thanked the Commission for allowing the road millage to go for a vote. He noted the need for people to step up and fix the roads now to prevent further deterioration.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Eaton noted the hard work the Road Commission and Townships did to bring the road millage to a vote.

Commissioner Baker noted that he had voted no on the road millage language because he felt it was too much for too long.

Commissioner Shaffer thanked Mr. Bart for his comments and noted that he should share his ideas with others.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:38 p.m., it was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Eaton that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until February 16, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Allen J. Balog, Chairman