

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 March 2, 2010, at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Michael Dunlap called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

The Pledge to the American Flag was given.

The Clerk, Pattie S. Bender, called the roll and the following Commissioners were present:

Rick Shaffer	Gerald E. Loudenslager
Michael D. Dunlap	Robin Baker
Jerry Ware	David J. Pueschel
John L. Dobberteen	

Also present were Judy West-Wing, Administrator/Controller, Dan Carey, Finance Director and Elishia Arver, Human Resource Director.

AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the agenda be approved. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the minutes for February 16, 2010 be approved. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the Michigan Association of Counties, Re: MAC Legislative Updates, February 19 and February 26, 2010.
2. Letter from the City of Three Rivers, Re: Notice of public hearing on March 2, 2010 to consider the request for an Obsolete Property and Rehabilitation District at 132 West Michigan Avenue, Three Rivers.
3. Letter from the Reverend Meredith Hunt, St. John's Episcopal Church in Sturgis, Re: Urging the continuation of funds to the Community Healing Center.
4. Resolution from Alger County, Re: Objecting to Election Management System license renewal fees.
5. Resolution from Saginaw County, Re: State Mandated Services.
6. Resolution from Bay County, Re: State Mandated Services.
7. Resolution from Wexford County, Re: Modification of State Act 312 of 1969 (Limit on arbitration awards in labor disputes.)
8. Resolution from Berrien County, Re: Stopping the migration of the Asian carp into the Great Lakes.
9. Minutes of the Commission on Aging Board meeting of January 20, 2010.
10. Minutes of the St. Joseph River Basin Commission meeting of December 1, 2009.

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the communications be accepted and placed on file. Motion carried.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Doug Spade, Democratic Candidate for State Senate, introduced himself to the Board. He said that he served with Commissioner Shaffer when both were State Representatives. He was in the House from 1999-2004 and has been a radio announcer, a radio talk show host, and a business partner in 4 successful businesses. He said that people are sick of partisan politics and he believes that the people should come first and not the parties. Our number one priority is the economy and jobs. There are tough State budget issues and all must work together.

Charles Agosti spoke concerning the funding request for vehicular repeaters for some of the county's fire departments that is on tonight's agenda. This request is to pay \$5,594.00 out of the 911 fund to help fund this equipment. This request has been approved by the 911 Policy Board.

Mr. Agosti stated that he believes that if any department(s) should have repeaters then he believes that it should be police departments and if the Board approves this expenditure then the police departments will be requesting the same thing soon. He said that often policemen go onto a scene alone and having the repeaters makes more sense for them rather than firefighters. Mr. Agosti further stated that 2-way radios are sufficient for firefighters because they are never alone on scene. If a firefighter is in a burning building there is someone outside for him to communicate. Also, each fire scene should have an "incident command" and that is the person who will be contacting Central Dispatch if need be and all he has to do is switch channels.

He stated that the County has paid a lot of money to TeleRad for infrastructure and this would be another expenditure and he does not believe that this is a good idea. A FEMA grant was awarded to the fire departments with Tri-Township being the fiduciary and it was suggested to them that they not buy the most expensive new radios, but rather they were encouraged to buy a more inexpensive product that would work just as well, and if they had done that, they could afford to buy the repeaters without asking for funds from the 911 Fund.

Mr. Agosti further stated that it makes no sense to him to spend money on fire departments and not look at police departments. He also said that TeleRad owes the County a working system.

Tim Carls, 63044 Klinger Lake Road, Centreville agrees with Mr. Agosti saying that the system should work without the repeaters.

Mr. Carls than asked the Board what they planned to do with the \$600,000 profit from 2009. Were they going to put it into the bank like they did last year and not use it? He suggested last year that they should be able to assist the food bank. The money needs to go back into the economy. He encouraged the County to share the profit.

COMPREHENSIVE TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANT APPLICATION – PROJECT S.A.B.R.E.

Ms. West-Wing stated that the Sheriff's Department is requesting approval of a multi-jurisdictional grant to the Traffic Safety Commission for \$42,679, of which \$11,740 would remain with the Sheriff's Department, to pay for overtime for officers to enforce seat belt usage, impaired driving, red light enforcement and child seat safety. The County would act as fiduciary for all police agencies participating and the County's match would be the Sheriff's wages and fringe benefits.

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Baker that the grant application be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shaffer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

FUNDING REQUEST FROM 911/FIRE DEPARTMENTS TO PURCHASE REPEATERS

Ms. West-Wing stated that the 911 Board is recommending approval of an expenditure of \$5,594 to help fund repeaters for some fire departments in the County. A FEMA grant was received by the departments and they have \$15,970 in left-over funds which FEMA says they can use for repeaters, but they need an additional \$5,594 for the purchase. The Central Dispatch Policy Board has approved this request and are recommending approval by the Board of Commissioners.

Andy Goldberger, Central Dispatch Director, was asked about the update on the Sturgis tower site for an antenna which would complete all tower sites in the County for the new radio system. Mr. Goldberger stated that currently the Federal Aviation Administration is in the public comment stage until March 13th. Then it goes to the State of Michigan, Aeronautics Division of the Department of Transportation, Tall Structures Committee, who will review the request for the placement of the antenna on the Sturgis water tower.

Commissioner Baker asked if the repeaters are purchased for the fire departments will they have to be purchased for the police departments.

Mr. Goldberger said that he could not answer that question, but he did say that of 32 Central Dispatch Directors that he recently polled at a meeting, that none have 100% coverage 100% of the time.

He agreed with Mr. Agosti that the fire departments received \$350,000 in FEMA funds for the purchase of radios and other equipment. Some of the fire department chose not to participate. The fire chiefs feel that they need the repeaters to enhance their portable radios. Mr. Goldberger added that the Incident Command should be directing the scene and could contact Central Dispatch by changing channels. He suggested that if the repeaters are purchased that they spend the money on the first trucks out only.

Mr. Goldberger responded that the final payment has not been made for the entire installation of the radio project.

He further stated that when the antenna is installed in Sturgis that it will require some tweaking and the coverage will not be known until this time. The system was designed to provide 95% to 98% coverage and only the very fringe areas of the County are sometimes without coverage while using portable radios (mobile radios work 100% of the time) which is where the fire departments feel that the repeaters are needed.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that this matter be tabled. Motion carried.

PLAT BOOK REVISED FEES

Andrew Hartwick, G.I.S. Director, stated that the new plat book was printed in-house and is finished and he would like to recommend some revised fees for purchase as follows:

Purchase of plat book	\$35 (same price)
Purchase of 20 or more	\$30 per book
CD version	\$20
Hard Copy & CD	\$45

Mr. Hartwick stated that he plans to update the plat book every year.

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the revised fees be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shaffer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that the Law Enforcement Committee met before the last meeting and everyone has copies of the minutes and he would answer any questions that anyone may have.

Judiciary

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that the Judiciary Committee would be meeting in about a month and a half.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Ware stated that the Physical Resources Committee did not meet.

Executive Committee

Commissioner Shaffer stated that everyone has a copy of the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting held on February 26, 2009 and he would answer any questions that anyone may have. He further stated that most of the issues discussed at that meeting have been covered tonight. One issue not discussed is a Courthouse roof issue that Ms. West-Wing is investigating.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

RESIGNATION:

Susan Wolford, COA In-home Services Aide, resigned effective February 24, 2010.

Shirley Beachey, COA In-home Services Aide, resigned effective February 25, 2010.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Kelli Lusk, part-time Telecommunicator, increase rate of pay to \$10.25/hr. effective March 2, 2010. (Ms. Lusk has completed her in-house training.)

Cynthia Jarratt, Register of Deeds, will be on medical leave commencing March 8, 2010.

Tom Cripe, Animal Control Officer, will be on medical leave commencing March 10, 2010 under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

NEW HIRE:

Gloria Whitmore has been hired as In-home Services Aide at \$10.05/hr. (COA, grade 5, minimum) effective February 23, 2010.

Diane Urquizo has been hired as In-home Services Aide at \$10.05/hr. (COA, grade 5, minimum) effective February 23, 2010.

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the personnel report be approved. Motion carried.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

FROM APPROPRIATION:

\$7,033.60 from Tri-County District Health Appropriation to District Health. (Board of Commissioners by consensus agreed at Work Session of January 12 to allow up to \$24,132.00 in 2010 toward Healthy Family unemployment claims.)

\$50,000.00 from Probate Child Care Appropriation to Probate Child Care Fund.

BUDGET AMENDMENT:

DECREASE COUNTY COMMISSION'S BUDGET:

Line item 101-101-802.000 (Legal Attorney) \$ 25.00

INCREASE COUNTY COMMISSION'S BUDGET:

Line item 101-101-728.000 (Printing) \$ 25.00

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the budget adjustments be approved. Motion carried.

BILLS

Mr. Carey presented the following bills for payment:

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>
Due from State	\$ 1,805.37	\$
Due from Employees	17,801.56	
County Commission	1,191.50	5,675.24
Circuit Court	1,697.50	13,445.88
District Court	482.78	59,918.86
Friend of the Court	3,118.46	41,260.23
Probate Court	1,545.10	18,542.04
Juvenile Branch	15,127.30	29,547.80
Appeals Court	394.85	
Public Defender	695.70	
Administration		9,749.30
Finance Department	2,410.34	10,798.44
County Clerk	7,540.83	22,978.04
Equalization Department	4,372.60	13,725.13
Human Resources	7,403.61	8,710.14
Geographic Information Systems	237.52	7,288.63
Prosecutor's Office	3,979.49	35,514.20
Register of Deeds	294.90	12,511.79
County Treasurer	4,315.00	15,322.32
Cooperative Extension	20.50	8,661.40
Information Technology	2,806.24	12,563.45
Buildings & Grounds	5,955.00	10,889.74
Courts Building Security	224.00	6,646.74
Drain Commission	114.00	3,970.92
Sheriff Department	13,767.78	94,786.81
Sheriff Reserves	40.00	
Jail & Turnkey	19,816.29	102,313.76
Planning Commission	500.00	
Emergency Services	497.34	
Animal Control	314.90	9,053.94
Board of Public Works		711.35
Medical Examiners	750.00	
Child Care - Probate	2,602.48	511.58
Veterans' Services	84.00	1,686.16
Utilities & General Services	32,432.78	
Total	\$ 154,339.72	\$ 556,783.89
<u>OTHER FUNDS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>
County Road Commission	\$ 514,323.56	\$
Parks & Recreation	237.41	7,536.24
Emergency 911 Service	21,001.78	57,846.87
Central Dispatch - Wireless	41.40	4,237.91
Meyer Broadway/Coon Hollow Park	1,626.03	
Family Counseling	1,206.50	
Cade Lake Park	115.55	
Traffic Safety Program Fund	707.94	
Economic Development Fund	1,519.01	7,878.10

<u>OTHER FUNDS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>
Victims' Rights Advocate Fund	\$	\$ 3,351.83
Community Corrections Advisory Board	7,426.67	3,010.12
Community Corrections Program	1,558.63	179.11
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	1,377.51	
Law Enforcement Fund		14,611.47
Secondary Road Patrol		9,393.48
Homeland Security Grant Fund	1,785.26	
Law Library Fund	341.00	
Principal Residence Denial Fund	2,305.00	712.70
Commission on Aging	65,997.32	57,920.91
Community Development Block Grant	31,841.00	
Child Care: Probate Court	27,566.51	11,354.70
Facilities Maintenance Fund	2,700.00	
Forfeiture and Foreclosure Fund	32,762.76	
Tax Payment Fund	3,486.71	
Inmate Store	414.19	
Three Rivers Community Center	2,740.14	983.84
Long Lake Level Revolving Fund	9,519.77	
Flexible Benefits Insurance Fund	<u>208,404.14</u>	
Total	\$ 941,005.79	\$ 179,017.28
 Grand Total	 \$ 1,095,345.51	 \$ 735,801.17
 General Fund Operating Expenditures		
Pre-Authorized	\$129,422.65	
Accounts Payable	<u>24,917.07</u>	
	\$ 154,339.72	
 General Fund Payroll Expenditures	 \$ 556,783.89	
 Other Funds Operating Expenditures		
Pre-authorized	\$924,017.81	
Accounts Payable	<u>16,987.98</u>	
	\$ 941,005.79	
 Other Funds Payroll Expenditures	 \$ <u>179,017.28</u>	
Total Recorded for the Month	\$ 1,831,146.68	

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the bills be approved for payment. Motion carried.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR'S AGREEMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Baker that the Independent Contractor's Agreement with Transitions Wellness Center, LLC, who will be Jail Mental Healthcare Assessors, be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shaffer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Baker that the Board go into closed session to discuss contract negotiations.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shaffer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

OPEN SESSION

The Board resumed business in open session.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that Cathy Abbs, Executive Director of the Sturgis Area Chamber of Commerce, recently told him that the Community Healing Center in Sturgis closed with no warning to employees.

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that the Smart Person group will meet at the MAC Conference.

Commissioner Shaffer spoke to his fellow Commissioners regarding pamphlets that are available in the lobby at the Planned Parenthood Office at the Health Department site in Sturgis. He believes that new mothers need counsel on nutrition and many other things. All of the material that he was provided is good material but he called Steve Todd and wondered where the information from the Department of Human Services is located. It is not there with the other pamphlets and he thinks that it should be. He thought that the information that could be picked up at this Health Department location was supposed to be neutral information.

Commissioner Ware agreed that there should be neutral information available.

Commissioner Baker stated that the Smart Person group will meet at the MAC Conference on March 30th at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Pueschel provided information to the Commissioners regarding the Resource Conservation and Development Council.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Shaffer that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until March 16, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Pattie S. Bender, County Clerk

Michael D. Dunlap, Chairman