

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 April 4, 2006, at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Bordner called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Pueschel.

The Pledge to the American Flag was given.

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

Eric Shafer	Gerald E. Loudenslager
Michael D. Dunlap	Robin Baker
Monte Bordner	David J. Pueschel

Absent: John L. Dobberteen

Also present were Dan Carey, Finance Director and Charles Cleaver, Human Resource Director.

AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Shafer that the agenda be approved. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the minutes for March 21, 2006 be approved. Motion carried. Commissioner Loudenslager abstained due to absence.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the Michigan Association of Counties, Re: MAC Legislative Updates, March 24 and March 31, 2006.
2. Letter from the St. Joseph County Planning Commission, Re: Resignation of Kenneth Crafts.
3. Resolution from Lenawee County, Re: Urging the United States Congress to fund the JAG law enforcement programs at the authorized level of \$1.1 billion.
4. Resolution from Antrim County, Re: 9-1-1 Funding.
5. Resolution from Van Buren County, Re: 9-1-1 Funding.
6. Minutes of the Community Mental Health Services Board meeting of February 28, 2006.
7. Minutes of the Community Action Agency Board meeting of January 23, 2006 and February 27, 2006.

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

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Brad Neumann, MSUE Land Use Educator, presented each Commissioner a booklet of "St. Joseph County Agriculture, Past, Present and Future." This outlines agriculture in St. Joseph County and will be a valuable resource for land use education. He thanked the support staff for putting the material together. He would like the Commissioners to look at it and make any comments regarding the information to him.

Commissioner Dunlap stated that it was a nice booklet and it took a lot of work to compile.

Mr. Neumann stated that they will be getting it out into the community and there will be a \$2 charge.

COMMISSION ON AGING MILLAGE REQUEST

Andy Rogness, Chairman of the Commission on Aging, requested the Board of Commissioners approve an operating millage proposal for the Commission on Aging. They are requesting .75 of a mill for 6 years. He stated that they did an extensive budget analysis. They have studied what the state and federal budget cuts will be and also where they want to be with their services.

It was moved by Commissioner Pueschel and supported by Commissioner Shafer that a .75 of a mill for 6 years for the Commission on Aging operating millage be placed on the August 8, 2006 ballot.

Commissioner Shafer stated that there were 2 lengthy meetings held with Lynn Coursey, Director of the Commission on Aging and Judy West-Wing. He further stated that the COA had to dip into the fund equity for operating. In St. Joseph County 20% of the population is over 60 and it is predicted that by 2010 there will be 25%. Hopefully in the future with this millage more services could be offered.

Chairman Bordner stated that their information packets included a good explanation of why they need this millage. The COA has done due diligence.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Pueschel and Bordner.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Dobberteen.

Motion carried.

DRAIN COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2005

David Hassenger, Drain Commissioner, gave an overview of the annual report for 2005. He stated that they always continue to educate the property owners and lake residents in the districts. The Drain Commissioner is now required to obtain Michigan Department of Environmental Quality permits any time they work on county drains. Storm water is a big issue and Ledy Design Group has been hired to develop storm water rules and regulations for St. Joseph County.

Petitioned Drain Issues

Portage Lake Drain, Mendon Township, the clean out has been completed. The assessment has been spread over 7 years.

Grover and Coohon Drain, Colon Township, this project is at the construction stage. It was assessed in 2005 for 15 years.

Colon Number One Drain, Colon and Nottawa Townships, a Day of Review and Day of Letting were held and a contractor hired. Construction is to start in February or March of 2006. The plan is to assess in 2006 for a 10 year spread.

Felker Drain, Park Township, a Day of Review and Day of Letting were held and a contractor hired. Construction is to start in February or March of 2006. This will be our first bonded project as the computation of cost was over \$300,000. The plan is to assess in 2006 for a 10 year spread.

Maintenance Drain Issues

Section Four Drain, Park Township

The summer of 2005 Millburn Peat declared bankruptcy. We were fortunate as our Day or Review had been held for assessments that were put on Millburn Peat's three properties before they declared bankruptcy. The new buyer is required to pay the assessments.

Section Four Drain, Henry Drain, Hill Drain

These drains were assessed again in 2005 to pay for the remaining balance of the Millburn Peat court battle. These were costs we could not legally make Millburn pay.

Moe Drain and Branch, Burr Oak Township, Fawn River Township and City of Sturgis

This drainage district was assessed for inspection costs and costs incurred in beaver removal that was creating flooding problems.

Stewart Lake Drain, Burr Oak Township

In 1999 this drain was cleaned out as a petitioned project. Now in 2005 we are planning to do a spraying and maintenance program to keep this drain in good working shape. Our goal is to follow petitioned projects in 5 years by performing a spraying and maintenance program that will reduce the high cost of future cleaning.

Lake Issues

Klinger Lake, White Pigeon Township

On May 31, 2005, the order was made in circuit court to establish the Klinger Lake Special Assessment District. We plan to assess for engineering costs, attorney costs and any estimated maintenance on the dam, in 2006.

Lake Templene Nottawa and Sherman Townships

In June of 2005 our office was given a copy of the appraisal for Lake Templene Dam and Sand Lake outlet. The appraisal was acquired and paid for by Mr. Floyd Templin. The appraisal indicated a market value of \$1,288,900. In this office's opinion this appraisal did not indicate any liabilities that a control structure generally carries. We are currently in negotiations with Floyd Templin over a considerably lower offer.

Clear Lake, Fabius Township

In March of 2006 we will be in circuit court to ask the judge to establish a special assessment district for Clear Lake.

Assessments

The following assessments were filed the last Wednesday in September of 2005:

Long Lake and Palmer Lake - Lake Improvement, Colon Township (Weed Control Assessment) - Filed by the Colon Township Assessor	\$58,037.50
Benedict Lake Drain, Colon and Leonidas Township (Inspection and Maintenance Assessment)	\$4,417.13
Copenhafer Drain, Colon Township (Inspection Assessment)	\$2,858.41
Stewart Lake Drain, Burr Oak Township (Maintenance Assessment)	\$11,043.46
Portage Lake Drain, Mendon Township (Petition Cleanout)	\$31,824.28
Section Four Drain, Park Township (Millburn Peat)	\$51,503.84
(Costs distributed to all properties in the district)	\$12,680.71
Henry Drain, Park Township (Court Costs)	\$4,180.22
Hill Drain, Park Township (Court Costs)	\$2,087.00

Carter Bowers Intercounty Drain, Leonidas Township (Petition Cleanout)	\$3,831.40
Moe Drain & Branch, Burr Oak Township, Fawn River Township and City of Sturgis (Maintenance Assessment)	\$13,000.00
Grover & Coohon Drain, Colon Township (Petitioned Cleanout)	\$26,951.90

Drain Funds

Following are the summaries for the drain accounts. There are several individual drains that are a negative balance. This is due to some projects that have been through the assessment process and we are waiting for the assessment money to come in.

FUND	BALANCE AS OF 12-31-05
Long Lake Revolving Fund (Fabius)	\$5,995.71
Drain Assessment Fund (*)	\$455,747.43
Klinger Lake Level Fund	\$721.37
Revolving Drain Fund	\$61,057.46
Revolving Drain Maintenance Fund	\$8,612.88
Omena Lake	\$0.00
Palmer & Long Lake Level Fund (Weed Control)	\$79,672.65
Fish Lake Drain Fund	\$278.11
Eberhard Lake Level	\$4,430.23
Grey Lake Level Study Fund	\$1,211.56
Corey Lake	\$0.00
Pleasant Lake	\$0.00
Clear Lake	\$816.75
Kaiser Lake	\$0.00
Debt Service	\$8,772.39
Beaver Lake	\$0.00
Lake Templene	\$207.71
TOTALS	\$627,524.25

Individual Drain Accounts

AINSLEY	\$0.00
AMBS	\$0.01
BARTHOLOMEW/SPRING CREEK	\$2.86
BEAVER LAKE & EXTENSION	\$634.47
BENEDICT LAKE	-\$1,109.38
BENNETT & BIRCH	\$1.87
BERKLEY & REED	\$451.46
BLACK RUN	\$201.44
BRICKER	\$21.62
BRISTOL	\$5.46
BROOKS	\$6.62
BURR OAK VILLAGE	\$1.47
BURR OAK/COUNTYLINE	\$5,603.43
CALVERT & FOUR COUNTY	\$2,146.39
CARL	\$71.84
CARTER-BOWER	\$635.56
CLARKS	\$2.72
COLE & DARLING	\$37.91

DRAIN	BALANCE
COLON NO. 1	\$229,013.96
COOPER	\$35.70
COPENHAFFER	-\$1,531.69
COREY LAKE (DRAIN)	\$158.49
DAVIS TILE	\$27.98
DELONG	\$3.18
DENT EXTENSION	\$3.34
DRY LAKE	\$2.57
FABIUS NEWBERG	\$0.00
EBERHARD LAKE (DRAIN)	\$22.76
EDWARDS-STARKWEATHER	\$1.00
FARNHAM	\$45.31
FAWN RIVER	\$0.00
FELKER	\$33,777.61
FLETCHER	\$44.00
FOUR COUNTY	\$40.20
FOUR COUNTY BRANCH	\$39.26
FOWLER	\$0.00
FREEMAN	\$5,935.86
GARMAN FOSTER BRANCH	\$1,086.88
GEMBERLING	\$230.04
GILL & TRY	\$271.88
GILLETT	\$7.06
GOOSE LAKE	\$91.52
GRAVES	\$17.56
GROVER-COOHON	\$138,880.74
HALLWOOD - BRANCH #1	\$185.70
HANSHAW	\$0.00
HASBROOK & MUMBY	\$0.15
HASSINGER	\$878.30
HAZZARD	\$45.54
HENRY-HILL	\$4,362.36
HILL	\$5,824.28
HIMEBAUGH & NOBLE	\$21.92
HOG CREEK & BRYANT LAKE	\$606.44
HOOVER-KELLY	\$142.52
JOHNSON & KELLY	\$40.52
KEIGHTLY	\$217.62
KIBBIE & AKEY	\$3.42
KISER & BICKLE	\$0.00
KLADY	\$0.00
LAIRD TOMPKINS & DOANE	\$5.31
LEONIDAS VILLAGE	\$20.59
LEONIDAS/MENDON/LITTLE PORTAGE	\$5.89
LITTLE PORTAGE CREEK EXTENSION	\$0.00
LEVERANCE & REED	\$246.59
LITTLE SWAN CREEK	\$4,317.44
MARVIN	\$21.33
METTY RICE	\$45.01
MOE	\$7,484.73
MOORE & BURGNER	\$19.18
MOOREPARK	\$39.49

DRAIN	BALANCE
NOTTAWA LOCKPORT	\$57.68
NOTTAWA NO. 1	\$84.08
NYE	\$3,026.97
OLDORF	\$19.99
OUTWATER	\$4.65
PARK	\$262.18
PIERCE-SHERMAN	\$10.50
PLUG EXTENSION	\$44.66
PLUM	\$0.01
PORTAGE CREEK INTERCOUNTY	\$92.50
PORTAGE LAKE	\$34,131.38
PROFILE LAKE	\$129.06
RAILROAD STREET & TRY	\$55.42
REED	\$0.00
REED & HAGAR	\$1.44
RUMSEY	\$0.00
SADAWASSER	\$80.77
SAMUEL CLYDE	\$16.93
SAM METTA	\$0.00
SANBORN & HOG CREEK	\$172.01
SECTION FIFTEEN	\$0.00
SECTION FOUR	-\$36,559.63
SECTION FOUR & FIVE	\$33.47
SECTION LINE	\$191.46
SECTION SEVEN	\$150.50
SECTION SIXTEEN	\$0.91
SECTION THIRTY-ONE	\$23.18
SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT	\$9.20
SHAW & AKEY	\$4.08
SIMPSON	\$6.91
SKIRVIN	\$7.69
SMITH & TYLER	\$50.00
SMITH WOODWORTH	\$37.11
SNAKE	\$14.90
STEPHENSON	\$331.32
STEWART LAKE	\$4,904.10
SWEET LAKE	\$0.00
THORNTON-BEAVER MARCH	\$27.73
TRECKLE	\$2.64
TUTEWILER & TOWN LINE & PLUG	\$6,190.07
WAITS	\$13.38
WANEER	\$87.29
WASEPI	\$10.12
WILCOX	\$97.23
WINGER	\$0.00
WOOD & WATSON	\$23.02
YAPLE	\$60.85
YEATTER JOINT	\$301.93
YODER	\$82.45
TOTALS	\$455,747.43

It was moved by Commissioner Shafer and supported by Commissioner Baker that the Drain Commissioner's Annual Report for 2005 be accepted and placed on file. Motion carried.

Mr. Hassenger introduced the Deputy Drain Commissioner, Cheri Bouterse.

REMONUMENTATION CONTRACTS

Mr. Cleaver stated that 3 remonumentation contracts need to be approved. They reflect the recently approved increase in fees.

Mostrom and Associates, Inc.

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the remonumentation contract with Mostrom and Associates, Inc., be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Pueschel and Bordner.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Dobberteen.

Motion carried.

Carr & Associates Land Surveying

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Shafer that the remonumentation contract with Carr & Associates Land Surveying be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Pueschel and Bordner.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Dobberteen.

Motion carried.

Ingersoll Watson & McMachen, Inc.

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Shafer that the remonumentation contract with Ingersoll Watson & McMachen, Inc. be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Pueschel and Bordner.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Dobberteen.

Motion carried.

2004 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT AGREEMENT

Captain Jim Barnes requested approval of an additional grant with remaining monies from 2004. In 2004 we had a grant and spent all but \$100. Not everyone used their money and the State put out another grant opportunity so that the money was not turned back to the federal government. The grant is for \$22,000 and we have a short window until August 31, 2006 to spend the money.

He has met with Andy Goldberger, Central Dispatch Director, and the best use of the money will be to enhance the patch system on the 8700 mghtz radios for police and fire which would reduce the transmission delay. Also, 2 new mobile 800 mghtz radios will be purchased for the homeland security trucks. Some radios will be switched from VHR to 800 mz. Work will be done on the fire service.

Mr. Barnes will be looking at funding for 2006 to do more of this radio work.

The maintenance for the radios is written into the contract.

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Dunlap that the Homeland Security Grant Agreement for \$22,000 be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Pueschel and Bordner.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Dobberteen.

Motion carried.

REQUEST TO FILL VACANT FRIEND OF THE COURT SECRETARY POSITION

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the request to fill the vacant Friend of the Court Secretary Position be approved. Motion carried.

SELF-FUNDED CHIROPRACTIC MANIPULATION VISITS

Mr. Cleaver stated that the Executive Committee discussed self-funded chiropractic manipulation as this was inadvertently omitted from our policy by Blue Cross.

The Executive Committee recommended that this be self-funded.

It was moved by Commissioner Shafer and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the County self-fund the chiropractic manipulation visits.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Pueschel and Bordner.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Dobberteen.

Motion carried.

COUNTY MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Commissioner Shafer stated that the Planning Commission is requesting that the County look at updating the County Master Plan in order to get funding for the Purchase of Development Rights from State Land Use Resource funds.

The Townships and the County need to update their plans and the Planning Commission would like the County to take the lead. He is suggesting that Brad Neumann develop a Request for Proposal.

Commissioner Dunlap asked if the townships would be updating their master plans. Commissioner Shafer said that some would and some would not.

It was moved by Commissioner Shafer and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that Brad Neumann be asked to put together a request for proposal for updating the County's Master Plan. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that the Law Enforcement Committee met on March 24th and everyone has a copy of the minutes and he would answer any questions that anyone may have.

Judiciary

Commissioner Baker stated that the next Judiciary Committee Meeting is scheduled for April 12th at noon.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Shafer stated that the Physical Resources Committee met on March 24th and is suggesting that the Maintenance Staff build the new referee room for the Friend of the Court. There was one bid submitted and it was deemed too high.

Executive Committee

Commissioner Baker reported on the Executive Committee Meeting held on March 30th:

- discussion on the Juvenile Division's Request for Part-time Fund.
- Rick Eickhoff's retirement.
- Chairman Bordner reported on a recent MDOT meeting held in Kalamazoo.
- Commissioner Dunlap supplied some information on Drain Commissioner issues.
- William Rye may be hired to review new job classifications and requests to change descriptions.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Mr. Cleaver presented the following report:

MISCELLANEOUS:

Mark Lillywhite, Road Patrol Sergeant, is on medical leave commencing March 23, 2006 under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

NEW HIRE:

Roger Schrock has been hired as part-time Court Security at \$12.14/hr. and seasonal Marine Patrol at \$14.35/hr. effective April 11, 2006.

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

REQUISITIONS

Mr. Cleaver presented the following report:

Enlarge present Friend of the Court referee room in the lower level	\$ 8,000.00
Move and install existing moveable shelving system from the Circuit Court Law Library area to the lower level "junk" room storage area	\$ 6,450.00

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the requisitions be approved. Motion carried.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Mr. Cleaver presented the following report:

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS:

DECREASE FAMILY DIVISION - JUVENILE BRANCH'S BUDGET:

Line item 101-149-802.020 (Court Appointed Attorney) \$ 4,205.00

INCREASE FAMILY DIVISION - JUVENILE BRANCH'S BUDGET:

Line item 101-149-707.000 (Wages – Part time) \$ 3,890.00

Line item 101-149-715.000 (FICA) 298.00

Line item 101-149-716.100 (Worker's Compensation) 17.00

\$ 4,205.00

INCREASE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REVENUES:

Line item 101-301-539.000 (Michigan State Police Highway Safety Grant) \$ 34,919.00

INCREASE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURES:

Line item 101-301-712.000 (Wages – overtime) \$ 6,475.00

Line item 101-301-715.000 (FICA) 495.00

Line item 101-301-718.050 (Retirement – MERS) 713.00

Line item 101-301-716.100 (Worker's Compensation) 152.00

Line item 101-301-816.000 (Contractual Services) 25,335.00

Line item 101-301-999.000 (Operating Transfers Out) 1,749.00

\$ 34,919.00

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager 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>
Employee Receivable	\$ 11,729.22	\$
Prepaid Insurance	18,044.00	
Due to Townships	93.00	
County Commission	376.70	6,965.86
Circuit Court	7,804.50	12,988.00
District Court	2,890.76	65,669.41
Friend of the Court	2,432.00	36,109.57
Probate Court	1,771.98	20,721.93
Juvenile Branch	7,229.19	43,013.32
Appeals Court	3,001.76	22.77
Administration		9,636.38
Elections	66.68	
Finance Department	1,461.68	11,853.49
County Clerk	65.00	22,805.45
Equalization Department	687.13	12,210.46
Human Resources		6,839.10
Geographic Information Systems		7,128.82
Prosecutor's Office	3,825.70	41,499.55
Central Services	3,400.68	5,490.35
Register of Deeds		12,764.06
County Treasurer	3,815.00	14,088.80
Cooperative Extension	489.67	8,344.01

GENERAL FUNDEXPENDITURESPAYROLL

Information Technology	\$ 774.07	\$ 11,101.98
Buildings & Grounds	3,823.24	15,044.30
Courts Building Security		5,839.16
Drain Commission	1,089.76	5,142.64
Sheriff Department	9,880.85	86,347.81
Sheriff Reserves	855.93	
Jail & Turnkey	4,827.20	93,161.75
Planning Commission	1,556.25	
Emergency Services	843.89	5,272.14
Animal Control	2,570.04	10,839.51
Board of Public Works		618.28
Child Care - Probate	9,876.18	92.59
Department of Veterans' Affairs	1,500.00	
Veterans' Services		278.28
Utilities & General Services	<u>30,214.66</u>	<u>215.03</u>
Total	\$136,996.72	\$572,104.80

OTHER FUNDSEXPENDITURESPAYROLL

County Road Commission	\$ 411,094.59	\$
Parks & Recreation	25,999.27	6,981.15
Emergency 911 Service	3,037.04	51,900.47
Central Dispatch - Wireless	195.97	3,761.48
Meyer Broadway/Coon Hollow Park	301.49	1,021.65
Friend of the Court		1,438.84
Family Counseling	115.00	
Cade Lake Park	510.73	
Waste Management Fund		
County Commission	6,250.00	
Resource Recovery Program		746.28
Traffic Safety Program Fund	2,407.02	
Economic Development Fund	2,967.10	4,274.46
Survey & Remonumentation	52,093.26	
Register of Deeds Automation Fund	923.02	879.88
Victims' Rights Advocate Fund		3,212.56
Community Corrections Advisory Board	4,986.67	2,938.80
Community Corrections Program	1,678.95	344.48
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	2,371.51	
Law Enforcement Fund	17.98	16,480.83
Secondary Road Patrol		8,592.53
Homeland Security Grant Fund	5,715.00	
Law Library Fund	70.00	
Principal Residence Denial Fund		618.28
Commission on Aging	38,325.35	44,369.06
Community Development Block Grant	10,672.61	
Sheriff's Justice Training Fund	320.00	
Department of Human Services	38,879.93	
Child Care - Probate Court	9,744.63	3,772.59
Child Care - Department of Human Services	17,871.47	
Forfeiture and Disclosure Fund	2,553.01	
Tax Payment Fund	6,625.61	

<u>OTHER FUNDS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>
Inmate Store	\$ 630.67	\$
Three Rivers Community Center	2,312.39	846.83
Flexible Benefits Insurance Fund	158,934.08	
Total	\$ 807,604.35	\$ 152,180.17
Grand Total	\$ 944,601.07	\$ 724,284.97
General Fund Operating Expenditures		
Pre-Authorized	\$111,043.17	
Accounts Payable	<u>25,953.55</u>	
	\$ 136,996.72	
General Fund Payroll Expenditures	\$ 572,104.80	
Other Funds Operating Expenditures		
Pre-authorized	\$764,249.84	
Accounts Payable	<u>43,354.51</u>	
	\$ 807,604.35	
Other Funds Payroll Expenditures	\$ <u>152,180.17</u>	
Total Recorded for the Month	\$ 1,668,886.04	

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

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Bordner stated that the State Beef Expo was held over the weekend with a lot of activity, things are good in the beef business in this state particularly in some areas in this County. This bodes well for agriculture in this County.

There will be a couple of resolutions forthcoming. One of them is on the 25/25 initiative which is for Michigan agriculture to be producing by 2025, 25% of the country's bio fuel needs. He is working on the wording for that resolution and will hopefully have it for the next Commission Meeting.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Tim Carls, 62044 Klinger Lake Road, Centreville asked if the County had a tax identification number. He was referred to the County Treasurer.

He also wanted to know why the County does not have to comply with zoning. Chairman Bordner referred this issue to an attorney.

Robert Ray, Constantine Township, stated that he has dealt with the Farmland Preservation and P.A. 116 monies 4 years ago and could not get any monies as they were all dried up. He finds it interesting that since the State is going broke that now they have money. He is referring to the issue that Commissioner Shafer previously talked about and he is trying to make sure that we are set to get money.

In regards to long range planning, people in this County like the rural atmosphere. He has noticed that there are a lot of trees being cut down and wondered whose trees they are. He wanted to know if there is a long range plan of cutting down all the trees in the rural areas. Some are just lying on the ground and some are being cut up. Some individuals from Fremont, Indiana are felling the trees and they split 50/50 with the farmer and that's fine if the farmer owns the trees, but if the County owns the trees then he has a problem with that.

Chairman Bordner stated that this sounds like a Road Commission issue. Mr. Ray said that he has talked to Bruce Jones and Mr. Jones said that some roads are owned by the County and some are owned by the property owners. He said that the Land Resource Centre cannot tell unless there is a survey. There are 35 trees on Brick Chapel Road that are devastated in a 2 block area. He wonders whose trees these are.

Commissioner Dunlap believes that the land owner owns the trees and does not believe that the County Road Commission would have a problem with land owners cutting down trees.

Chairman Bordner stated that he suggests that Mr. Ray put his concerns in writing and address them to the Road Commission.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Loudenslager drew everyone's attention to the flyer on Relay for Life that will be held at the Centreville High School track on June 24-25.

Commissioner Baker stated that the Meth Task Force will be meeting on April 20th and Mike Wilson, the coordinator, will be leaving for Iraq in May. Commissioner Baker will be giving him recognition through the newly adopted program adopted for this purpose.

The Clerk reminded everyone that the next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on Monday, April 24, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Shafer and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioner adjourn until April 24, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Pattie S. Bender, County Clerk

Monte Bordner, Chairman