

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 17, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Rick Shaffer called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Chairman Shaffer.

The Pledge to the American Flag was given.

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

Rick Shaffer	Gerald E. Loudenslager
Allen Balog	Robin Baker
Jerry Ware	Donald Eaton
John L. Dobberteen	

Also present were Judy West-Wing, Administrator/Controller, Elishia Arver, Human Resources Director and Joni Smith, Finance Director.

AGENDA

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

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Baker that the minutes for April 3, 2012 be approved. Motion carried. Commissioner Dobberteen abstained due to absence.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the Michigan Association of Counties, Re: MAC Legislative Update, April 13, 2012.
2. Letter from Enbridge Inc., Re: Notification of the replacement of an additional 210 miles of Line B crude oil pipeline in 2012 and 2013.
3. Copy of letter from Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to Rand Bowman, Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC), Re: MDOT's termination of its Master Agreement and subsequent project authorizations with the SMPC effective April 2, 2012.
4. Minutes of the Commission on Aging Board meeting of March 21, 2012.

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

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Carol Higgins from Mendon Township stated that she was here today on behalf of the Soil Conservation District. She reminded everyone that their annual tree sale will be this weekend at the fairgrounds.

She addressed the issue of their fee schedule regarding the Soil and Sedimentation Act. She stated that they have requested additional funding from the Board of Commissioners but have received the same appropriation from the County since 2001.

John Nelson, Soil Conservation Board Member, is certified to issue permits under this Act and he suggested that that they would need a $\frac{3}{4}$ FTE person plus a vehicle, insurance and gasoline to fulfill the requirements of the Act.

Mrs. Higgins stated that the only way to get the job done and be in compliance was to increase fees.

Chairman Shaffer stated that this time was for citizens' comments and after discussion at the Executive Committee meeting last Friday, Commissioner Eaton agreed to address the Board's concerns about the fee schedule to the Soil Conservation Board and will then come back to the Board of Commissioners with more information.

Bruce Bart, 26106 Schrader Road and Sherman Township Supervisor stated that there are a number of properties in Sherman Township that are on lakes and he is concerned with the fee schedule of the Soil Conservation District. Many residents are planning construction including some seawalls. He noted that the permits in this County are good for 6 months and in other Counties they are good for 1 year. In addition, Mr. Bart stated that the permits to construct a new home are \$90 and in this County they are \$420. He has been getting several complaints from residents that will be doing some construction.

JUVENILE COURT ANNUAL REPORT

Thomas Shumaker, Probate Judge, presented the Juvenile Court Annual Report. He stated that it is about the 20th one that he has done and it will be his last.

Violation of laws regarding curfew, alcohol and tobacco continue to be issues. The statistics show that meth violations are down but other drugs and alcohol are up.

He still handles most of the Circuit Court Personal Protection Orders and they certainly have an effect on domestic violence and drugs are a factor in these cases too.

Meth is hard to get off of, much harder than alcohol, and there is no good therapy for meth users.

He gave his personal background history and said that he moved from Kansas because of all of the lakes and trees in this County.

He has been here 24 years and will be moving on after his retirement at the end of the year. He has a science background and used some scientific methods to work on people's problems in his career as Probate Judge.

There are a lot of things that he wants to do but will keep a low profile.

Commissioner Dobberteen thanked Judge Shumaker for the tremendous amount of effort that he has put into his position and he is just as responsible as others in his efforts to make the County fiscally sound. A few years ago the Department of Human Services seemed to frequently ask for additional funds from the County and because of Judge Shumaker's efforts they have not been back to the Board.

Judge Shumaker stated that on May 1st Eva Sylvester, Probate Register, will be getting the Liberty Bell Award, but it is really a team effort. They consider themselves a safety net for the kids.

He also commented that he believes that it is wrong that the Apportionment Commission reduced the size of the Commission to 5 beginning January 1, 2013.

Commissioner Eaton stated that he hopes that Judge Shumaker will be able to spend some time with the new Judge to share his compassion for the kids.

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that he entered the political scene at about the same time that Judge Shumaker did and he has tried to emulate his campaign style. He thanked the Judge for his years of dedicated service to the County.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the Juvenile Court Annual Report be accepted and that Judge Shumaker be thanked for his decades of dedication to the County.

Chairman Shaffer appreciates how Judge Shumaker has been so pro-active in his endeavors and also acknowledged his soft spot for the seniors in St. Joseph County.

Motion carried.

EQUALIZATION REPORT

Judy Nelson, Equalization Director and Brenda Babcock, Deputy Director, presented the 2012 Equalization to the Commissioners at the Executive Committee on April 13, 2012. It is as follows:

TOWNSHIP OR CITY	ACRES 100THS	TOTAL REAL PROPERTY VALUATIONS		PERSONAL PROPERTY VALUATIONS		TOTAL REAL PLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY	
		ASSESS. VALUE	EQUALIZED VALUE	ASSESSED VALUE	EQUALIZED VAUE	ASSESSED VALUE	EQUALIZED VALUE
BURR OAK	0.00	\$85,629,300	\$85,629,300	\$2,634,000	\$2,634,000	\$88,263,300	\$88,263,300
COLON	0.00	\$134,008,000	\$134,008,000	\$4,533,500	\$4,533,500	\$138,541,500	\$138,541,500
CONSTANTINE	0.00	\$122,829,000	\$122,829,000	\$20,232,700	\$20,232,700	\$143,061,700	\$143,061,700
FABIUS	0.00	\$215,588,200	\$215,588,200	\$6,471,000	\$6,471,000	\$222,059,200	\$222,059,200
FAWN RIVER	0.00	\$48,535,200	\$48,535,200	\$734,500	\$734,500	\$49,269,700	\$49,269,700
FLORENCE	0.00	\$66,131,300	\$66,131,300	\$1,721,900	\$1,721,900	\$67,853,200	\$67,853,200
FLOWERFIELD	0.00	\$67,945,636	\$67,945,636	\$4,274,023	\$4,274,023	\$72,219,659	\$72,219,659
LEONIDAS	0.00	\$63,656,200	\$63,656,200	\$3,678,500	\$3,678,500	\$67,334,700	\$67,334,700
LOCKPORT	0.00	\$123,519,500	\$123,519,500	\$3,626,600	\$3,626,600	\$127,146,100	\$127,146,100
MENDON	0.00	\$96,620,900	\$96,620,900	\$19,643,900	\$19,643,900	\$116,264,800	\$116,264,800
MOTTVILLE	0.00	\$60,283,000	\$60,283,000	\$10,235,700	\$10,235,700	\$70,518,700	\$70,518,700
NOTTAWA	0.00	\$152,121,500	\$152,121,500	\$4,472,300	\$4,472,300	\$156,593,800	\$156,593,800
PARK	0.00	\$128,034,100	\$128,034,100	\$12,652,100	\$12,652,100	\$140,686,200	\$140,686,200
SHERMAN	0.00	\$145,324,100	\$145,324,100	\$3,782,300	\$3,782,300	\$149,106,400	\$149,106,400
STURGIS	0.00	\$63,294,900	\$63,294,900	\$2,876,200	\$2,876,200	\$66,171,100	\$66,171,100
WH. PIGEON	0.00	\$194,613,800	\$194,613,800	\$41,916,400	\$41,916,400	\$236,530,200	\$236,530,200
STURGIS CITY	0.00	\$187,863,400	\$187,863,400	\$60,244,900	\$60,244,900	\$248,108,300	\$248,108,300
T. RIVERS	0.00	\$146,503,350	\$146,503,350	\$59,342,058	\$59,342,058	\$205,845,408	\$205,845,408
	0.00	\$2,102,501,386	\$2,102,501,386	\$263,072,581	\$263,072,581	\$2,365,573,967	\$2,365,573,967

REAL PROPERTY ASSESSED VALUATIONS APPROVED BY BOARDS OF REVIEW

	AGRICULTURAL	COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	RESIDENTIAL	DEVELOP- MENTAL	TOTAL REAL PROPERTY
BURR OAK	\$39,256,300	\$1,025,200	\$764,300	\$44,583,500		\$85,629,300
COLON	\$41,526,900	\$3,989,700	\$2,910,200	\$85,581,200		\$134,008,000
CONSTANTINE	\$30,334,300	\$4,269,400	\$25,209,900	\$63,015,400		\$122,829,000
FABIUS	\$16,853,100	\$4,633,100	\$3,785,500	\$190,316,500		\$215,588,200
FAWN RIVER	\$17,465,000	\$1,493,600	\$0	\$29,576,600		\$48,535,200
FLORENCE	\$42,540,900	\$0	\$161,900	\$23,428,500		\$66,131,300
FLOWERFIELD	\$26,725,862	\$1,386,580	\$90,140	\$39,743,054		\$67,945,636
LEONIDAS	\$44,120,500	\$961,500	\$0	\$18,574,200		\$63,656,200
LOCKPORT	\$26,772,200	\$4,119,900	\$1,070,000	\$91,557,400		\$123,519,500
MENDON	\$41,898,600	\$3,180,900	\$5,184,700	\$46,356,700		\$96,620,900
MOTTVILLE	\$20,167,000	\$2,044,400	\$9,971,300	\$28,100,300		\$60,283,000
NOTTAWA	\$41,181,000	\$8,522,500	\$470,200	\$101,947,800		\$152,121,500
PARK	\$41,725,500	\$6,831,400	\$4,819,700	\$74,657,500		\$128,034,100
SHERMAN	\$25,133,000	\$1,257,000	\$169,900	\$118,764,200		\$145,324,100
STURGIS	\$20,378,700	\$10,205,400	\$1,744,400	\$30,361,300	\$605,100	\$63,294,900
WH. PIGEON	\$21,509,700	\$10,011,400	\$9,055,500	\$154,037,200		\$194,613,800
STURGIS CITY	\$1,118,000	\$38,314,600	\$38,164,500	\$110,266,300		\$187,863,400
T. RIVERS	\$0	\$53,085,700	\$25,059,700	\$68,357,950		\$146,503,350
	\$498,706,562	\$155,332,280	\$128,631,840	\$1,319,225,604	\$605,100	\$2,102,501,386

REAL PROPERTY EQUALIZED BY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

	AGRICULTURAL	COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	RESIDENTIAL	DEVELOP- MENTAL	TOTAL REAL PROPERTY
BURR OAK	\$39,256,300	\$1,025,200	\$764,300	\$44,583,500		\$85,629,300
COLON	\$41,526,900	\$3,989,700	\$2,910,200	\$85,581,200		\$134,008,000
CONSTANTINE	\$30,334,300	\$4,269,400	\$25,209,900	\$63,015,400		\$122,829,000
FABIUS	\$16,853,100	\$4,633,100	\$3,785,500	\$190,316,500		\$215,588,200
FAWN RIVER	\$17,465,000	\$1,493,600	\$0	\$29,576,600		\$48,535,200
FLORENCE	\$42,540,900	\$0	\$161,900	\$23,428,500		\$66,131,300
FLOWERFIELD	\$26,725,862	\$1,386,580	\$90,140	\$39,743,054		\$67,945,636
LEONIDAS	\$44,120,500	\$961,500	\$0	\$18,574,200		\$63,656,200
LOCKPORT	\$26,772,200	\$4,119,900	\$1,070,000	\$91,557,400		\$123,519,500
MENDON	\$41,898,600	\$3,180,900	\$5,184,700	\$46,356,700		\$96,620,900
MOTTVILLE	\$20,167,000	\$2,044,400	\$9,971,300	\$28,100,300		\$60,283,000
NOTTAWA	\$41,181,000	\$8,522,500	\$470,200	\$101,947,800		\$152,121,500
PARK	\$41,725,500	\$6,831,400	\$4,819,700	\$74,657,500		\$128,034,100
SHERMAN	\$25,133,000	\$1,257,000	\$169,900	\$118,764,200		\$145,324,100
STURGIS	\$20,378,700	\$10,205,400	\$1,744,400	\$30,361,300	\$605,100	\$63,294,900
WH. PIGEON	\$21,509,700	\$10,011,400	\$9,055,500	\$154,037,200		\$194,613,800
STURGIS CITY	\$1,118,000	\$38,314,600	\$38,164,500	\$110,266,300		\$187,863,400
T. RIVERS	\$0	\$53,085,700	\$25,059,700	\$68,357,950		\$146,503,350
	\$498,706,562	\$155,332,280	\$128,631,840	\$1,319,225,604	\$605,100	\$2,102,501,386

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the Equalization Report be adopted.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shaffer, Loudenslager, Balog, Baker, Ware and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Eaton.

Report adopted.

REQUEST TO FILL VACANT FRIEND OF THE COURT ENFORCEMENT CLERK POSITION

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Ware that the FOC request to fill a vacant Enforcement Clerk Position be approved. Motion carried.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE (M.A.C.P.) REQUEST

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Baker that the Sheriff's Department's request to accept a \$3,000 grant to replace and upgrade prisms for their total station which is used for all major crime scenes and all serious vehicle crashes.

The aye and nay vote was call as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shaffer, Loudenslager, Balog, Baker, Ware, Eaton and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that there was no report.

Judiciary

Commissioner Eaton stated that he met with the Technology Committee of the Court Council on April 13th and the discussion centered around e-filing.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Ware stated that there was no meeting held but he will be a part of a committee to interview 3 candidates for the vacant Agriculture Agent position.

Executive Committee

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that the Executive Committee met on April 13, 2012 and all Commissioners were in attendance.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

RESIGNATIONS:

Heather Street, COA In-home Services Aide, has resigned effective March 29, 2012.

Phyllis Hipsher, COA In-home Services Aide, has resigned effective April 5, 2012.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Kathy Pangle, Court Security, is on medical leave commencing April 9, 2012 under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

Ashley Brewer, Deputy District Court Clerk, is on medical leave commencing April 12, 2012.

TEMPORARY/SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT:

Roger Schrock has been hired as part-time Court Security at \$13.20/hr. and seasonal Marine Patrol at \$15.00/hr. effective April 10, 2012.

Sherry L. Bowen has been hired as seasonal Park Maintenance at \$8.50/hr. effective April 24, 2012.

Michelle Kelly has been hired as seasonal Cade Lake Campground Supervisor at \$10.50/hr. effective April 24, 2012.

Kenneth M. Krontz has been hired as seasonal Cade Lake Park Caretaker/Attendant at \$8.25/hr. effective April 24, 2012.

Pamela E. Krontz has been hired as seasonal Cade Lake Park Office at \$7.75/hr. effective April 24, 2012.

Kayla M. Mitchell has been hired as seasonal Cade Lake Campground Attendant at \$7.75/hr. effective April 24, 2012.

Kyle D. Murk has been hired as temporary, part-time Telecommunicator at \$8.75/hr. effective April 24, 2012.

Kirk Graham has been hired as temporary, part-time for Animal Control at \$7.50/hr. (office) and \$8.50/hr. (road) effective April 24, 2012.

NEW HIRE:

Adam T. Stark has been hired as part-time Road Patrol at \$17.37/hr. effective April 17, 2012.

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

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

2011 BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

FROM:

TO:

Friend of the Court

101-141-862.000 - Seminar	\$ 219.00	101-141-860.000 - Travel	\$ 267.00
101-141-816.-000 - Cont. Services	<u>123.00</u>	101-141-861.000 - Convention	<u>75.00</u>
	\$ 342.00		\$ 342.00

Probate Court

101-148-931.020 - Software Maintenance	\$ 133.00	101-148-982.000 - Library	\$ 133.00
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Administration

101-172-715.000 - FICA	\$ 192.00	101-172-860.000 - Travel	\$ 192.00
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Prosecutor

101-890-941.000 - Contingency	\$17,289.00	101-229-957.010 - Trial Expense	\$17,289.00
101-890-941.000 - Contingency	<u>535.00</u>	101-229-982.000 - Library	<u>535.00</u>
	\$17,824.00		\$17,824.00

Information Technology

101-258-862.000 - Seminar	\$ 5.00	101-258-860.000 - Travel	\$ 5.00
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Drain

101-275-803.000 - Dues	\$ 59.00	101-275-860.000 - Travel	\$ 59.00
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Sheriff

101-301-715.000 - FICA	\$ 3,653.00	101-301-977.000 - Equipment	\$ 15,378.00
101-301-716.000 - Health Insurance	6,355.00	101-301-981.000 - Vehicles	<u>539.00</u>
101-301-716.100 - Work Comp	<u>5,909.00</u>		
	\$15,917.00		\$ 15,917.00

Jail

101-890-941.000 - Contingency	\$ 2,737.00	101-351-804.000 - Medical Expense	\$ 37,892.00
101-890-941.000 - Contingency	<u>37,892.00</u>	101-351-977.000 - Equipment	<u>2,737.00</u>
	\$40,629.00		\$40,629.00

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

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Smith presented the following reports:

Per Diem

Robin Baker - 7 half days 3/21, 3/22 x 2, 3/30, 4/3 x 2 & 4/13/12 & 1 full day 3/27/12	\$ 445.00
Allen Balog - 9 half days 3/21, 3/22 x 2, 3/30 x 2, 4/2, 4/5, 4/10 & 4/13/12	450.00
John Dobberteen - 6 half days 3/22, 3/27, 3/30, 4/12, 4/13 & 4/17/12 & 1 full day 4/16/12	395.00
Donald Eaton - 11 half days 2/8, 2/14, 2/22, 3/6 x 2, 3/13, 3/27, 3/28, 3/30 & 4/13/12 x 2	550.00

Gerald Loudenslager - 9 half days 3/21, 3/26 ,4/9 x 2, 4/10, 4/11, 4/12, 4/13 & 4/14/12	\$ 450.00
Jerry Ware - 4 half days 3/22, 4/4, 4/9 & 4/13/12	<u>200.00</u>
	\$2,490.00

Expenses

Robin Baker	\$ 251.87
Allen Balog	84.36
John Dobberteen	101.01
Donald Eaton	101.57
Gerald Loudenslager	69.93
Jerry Ware	<u>53.28</u>
	\$ 662.02

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Dobberteen that the per diem and expenses be approved. Motion carried.

Financial Statements

	Revenues	Expenditures
March	\$ 1,098,067	\$ 1,022,969
Year to Date	3,379,124	3,490,495
Rev over Exp (Exp over Rev)	\$75,098	
Year to Date	(\$111,371)	
Percent of budget year elapsed year to date.	25.00%	
Percent of total budgeted funds earned year to date	22.78%	
Percent of total budgeted funds expended year to date	23.53%	

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Ware that the financial statements be accepted. Motion carried.

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR’S AGREEMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Ware that an Independent Contractor’s Agreement between the County and Michael L. Haydon to conduct site visits, etc., for Emergency Services be approved.

The aye and nay vote was call as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shaffer, Loudenslager, Balog, Baker, Ware, Eaton and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Balog that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until May 1, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Pattie S. Bender, County Clerk

Rick Shaffer, Chairman