

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 20, 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	Michael D. Dunlap
Robin Baker	Jerry Ware
David J. Pueschel	John L. Dobberteen

Absent: Gerald E. Loudenslager

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

AGENDA

Ms. West-Wing stated that an out-of-state travel request from the Sheriff's Department; a request to fill a vacancy in the Clerk's Office; and a request to fill a possible vacancy in the Clerk's Office should be added to the agenda under New Business.

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

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Pueschel and supported by Commissioner Dobberteen that the minutes for April 6, 2010 be approved. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the Michigan Association of Counties, Re: MAC Legislative Update, April 16, 2010.
2. Letter from the City of Sturgis, Re: Notice of public hearing on April 28, 2010 to consider an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate to Sturgis Molded Products.
3. Letter from Julie Taylor, Re: Protesting Planned Parenthood in the Sturgis Hospital Building.
4. Letter from the Michigan Public Service Commission, Re: Notice of hearing on May 13, 2010 to consider the application of Indiana Michigan Power Company to reconcile its power supply cost recovery costs and revenues for January 1 to December 31, 2009.
5. Resolution from Allegan County, Re: Stop the migration of the Asian carp into the Great Lakes.
6. Resolution from Allegan County, Re: Calling for modification of State Act 312 of 1969 (Arbitration of law enforcement contracts.)
7. Minutes of the Commission on Aging Board meeting of March 17, 2010.

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

FRIEND OF THE COURT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009

William Thistlethwaite, Friend of the Court, stated that this is the 19th annual report that he has presented.

He made some revenue corrections to the first page of the report stating that their revenues are 90% federal funds and 10% user fees.

Mr. Thistlethwaite introduced some staff that was present: Andi Guy, who has worked for 26 years as the prime investigator; Mary Herendeen, who has worked for 14 years, and is the customer service support caseworker and Assistant Friend of the Court; Sheila Clancy, who has worked for 13 years as a caseworker; and Nancy Schultz who has worked for 5 years as a caseworker.

They are trained investigators and handle 5,000 cases. In 2009 102 cases were given to the caseworkers for investigation and only 11 resulted in contested hearings.

They conduct the SMILE program which is mandatory for all parents to attend in divorce cases with children. It is a 90 minute educational video about a variety of issues that affect children when their parents divorce. Comments that they have received about this program are overwhelmingly positive. 227 attended in 2009.

Commissioner Shaffer stated that he believes that their staff gets into many he said/she said scenarios and he admires Mr. Thistlethwaite and staff for helping families.

Commissioner Pueschel stated that this is a hard job, but staff does a good job.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Ware that the Friend of the Court Annual Report for 2009 be accepted. Motion carried.

COUNTY CLERK'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009

Pattie S. Bender, County Clerk, gave an overview of the 2009 Annual Report. She introduced staff present: Sandra Bowen, Chief Deputy; Kathy Kline, Deputy, Court Division; Dena Wyckoff, Deputy, Court Division; Phyllis Lung, Election Specialist, General Division; Joan Skinner, Deputy, General Division; and Jackie Wells, Deputy, General Division.

She gave highlights of the accounting system that was split into 2 systems in order to more efficiently track payments in criminal and juvenile cases. Also, mentioned was training that the staff in the General Division attended to get ready for the new imaging system that was installed this year.

Ms. Bender commented on the awesome staff that works in the office.

She mentioned that revenues were down, likely due to the economy, but also stated that hopefully with the new accounting system and other systems in place, that revenues in the court cases will increase this year. She also mentioned that marriages were down, but so were divorces.

She further stated that the May Election is upon us and that they are gearing up for the August Primary and November General Elections.

The financial report follows:

2009 St. Joseph County Clerk's Annual Revenue Report
January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009
General Fund

		2008		2009
Pistol Permits				
County Share	312	\$ 8,112.00	556	\$ 14,456.00
Replacements	5	50.00	4	40.00
Marriage Licenses				
County	444	2,220.00	404	2,020.00
Out Of State	39	585.00	22	330.00
Professional Registrations	6	150.00	2	50.00
Drug Caseflow Reimbursement		936.39		660.22
Juror Comp. Reimbursement		17,172.50		8,205.00

COUNTY CLERK'S ANNUAL REPORT, Continued

Entry Fees		16,616.00		15,004.00
Fee Cases	537		483	
Waiver Cases	105		92	
No Fee Cases	685		583	
Motion Fees		5,330.00		4,915.00
Jury Fees		2,580.00		2,075.00
Appeal to Appeals Court	4	100.00	2	50.00
Filiation (Paternity) Fee		326.25		287.45
Court Cost (Probation)		54,307.45		41,505.98
Attorney Fees		25,761.45		20,777.75
Crime Victim Rights		1,377.98		1,320.50
Forensic Fee		88.84		155.82
Garnishment Fee/Judgment Debtor		1,920.00		2,115.00
10% County Share DNA		49.25		32.63
20% Late Penalty		9,061.64		8,403.53
Interest Earned		85.69		
Certified Copies		70,922.00		67,685.00
Partnership Filings	5	50.00	4	40.00
Assumed Names Filings	464	4,640.00	464	4,640.00
Assumed Names Dissolutions	22	220.00	14	140.00
Assumed Name Non-Resident	3	6.00	3	6.00
Notary Bond Filing Fees	107	856.00	44	352.00
Notarial Certificates		45.00		25.00
Passport Execution Fees	613	15,905.00	545	13,625.00
Photo Fees	704	4,224.00	909	5,454.00
Laminating Fees	306	306.00	574	574.00
Qualified Voters File		344.45		297.75
Voter Registration Processing		897.92		687.68
Copies & Searches		3,283.44		3,185.56
Marriage Waivers	35	175.00	26	130.00
Services				
Marriages performed by Clerk	21	\$ 420.00	31	\$ 620.00
Video Recording		266.00		99.00
Secret Marriage	2	50.00	3	75.00
License Correction	5	125.00	4	100.00
Notarizing		204.00		99.00
Business Under Assumed Name Listing		22.95		97.50
Sale of Divorce Packets		168.00		1,454.00
FOIA Request		6.23		
Sale-Business Under Assumed Name Books		2.50		
Tape of Commissioner Meeting		4.50		
Clerk's Sale			2	50.00
Firearms Restoration			1	10.00
Election Reimbursement		26,518.56		45,914.18
State Election Reimbursement - Presidential Primary		9,464.06		
Filing in Lieu of Petitions	5	500.00	5	500.00
Late Campaign Filing		20.00		175.00
Cremation Permits	225	1,125.00	184	920.00
10% Bond Cost		4,725.00		2,420.00
Bond Forfeitures		0.00		380.00
Cash short/over		142.00		-1.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND		\$ 292,469.05		\$ 272,158.55

COUNTY CLERK'S ANNUAL REPORT, Continued

	2008	2009
FRIEND OF THE COURT FUND		
Custody and/or Parenting Time	\$ 14,910.00	\$ 14,743.75
Support Fee	1,470.00	1,570.00
MARRIAGE COUNSELING FUND	\$ 7,215.00	\$ 6,390.00
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS	\$ 2,443.50	\$ 1,427.00
LIBRARY FUND (Court Ordered Fines)	\$ 4,696.54	\$ 6,916.83

Circuit Court
Trust and Agency Fund

	2008	2009
Pistol Permits due State	\$ 19,968.00	\$ 36,608.00
Notary Fees due State	216.00	86.00
Crime Victim Rights due State	12,885.20	12,153.61
State Court Fee due State	5,330.00	5,065.00
Filiation (Paternity) Fee due State	1,436.22	1,395.48
Jury Reimbursement Fund	1,125.00	950.00
Civil Filing Fee	63,784.00	59,024.00
Misdemeanor & Felony State Cost	14,811.43	14,862.53
65% DNA Fee due State	320.16	212.10
Forensic Fee due State	503.41	882.96
Child Support Bench Warrant	2,620.00	2,706.25
25% DNA Investigating Agency	126.84	81.57
Bonds Payable	80,967.70	80,562.38
Courts Orders Payable	97,400.00	96,734.50
Restitutions Payable	118,679.16	86,091.50
Receipts Refundable	1,355.10	1,646.91
Customer Deposits Payable	0.00	40.00
OUIL Reimbursement	1,005.00	990.83
TOTAL CIRCUIT COURT T&A FUND	\$ 422,533.22	\$ 400,093.62

Juvenile Division
General Fund

	2008	2009
Court Appointed Attorney Fees	\$ 43,049.96	\$ 41,094.76
Juvenile Court Service Fees	4,364.00	3,903.00
Court Cost	844.99	
Crime Victim Rights	174.25	105.75
Probation Service Fees	5,058.36	2,963.64
Probate Court Fees	393.00	
Juvenile Child Care - Parent	5,894.01	23,483.95
TOTAL JUVENILE DIVISION GENERAL FUND	\$ 59,778.57	\$ 71,551.10

Juvenile Division
Trust and Agency Fund

	2008	2009
Crime Victim Rights due State	\$ 1,766.25	\$ 951.75
Misdemeanor & Felony State Cost	5,413.50	4,290.87
Bonds Payable	5,014.84	6,201.19
Restitutions Payable	13,883.86	13,683.34
Probate Court - Due State	552.00	492.00
TOTAL JUVENILE T&A FUND	\$ 26,630.45	\$ 25,619.15

Recapitulation

	2008	2009
Credit to County Clerk General Fund	\$ 292,469.05	\$ 272,098.55
Credit to Juvenile Court General Fund	59,778.57	71,551.10
Friend of the Court Fund	6,380.00	16,313.75
Marriage Counseling Fund	7,215.00	6,390.00
Community Corrections Fund	2,443.50	1,427.00
Library Fund	14,696.54	6,916.83
Trust and Agency Fund	422,533.22	400,093.62
Trust and Agency Fund - Juvenile	26,630.45	25,619.15
	\$ 842,146.33	\$ 800,410.00

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Ware that the 2009 County Clerk's Annual Report be accepted. Motion carried.

EQUALIZATION REPORT

Judy Nelson, Equalization Director, presented the 2010 Equalization Report. She stated that Michigan is being hit from a global financial crisis, a state-wide dependence on the auto industry job loss and a poorly functioning tax base. She further stated that our property tax system is so complicated and diluted that financial experts struggle to make sense of the system.

Mrs. Nelson further commented that schools are struggling and hospitals are on the verge of closing while crime increases and law enforcement officers are fewer in numbers. But, we continue to legislatively provide property tax exemptions. She stated that in the 2007-2008 legislative year there were 312 bills submitted in the legislature which resulted in 31 bills being passed to change tax law. Sixteen of those bills provided additional exemptions and for every exemption granted it means that someone else must make up the lost revenue or government must cut services.

She stated that the Industrial Facility Tax Exemptions are granted to businesses for 12 years and at the end of those 12 years the business closes or moves out of the area.

Mrs. Nelson further stated that in 2010 St. Joseph County is at a 1% loss in its tax base with a loss of State Equalized Value (SEV) at 3.4%. The significance of the loss in SEV puts the County at property values seen in 2008. There was very little growth from 2008 to 2009 and this year there is a significant decrease which translates to a county-wide loss in taxable value dollars of \$141,684. The loss of the County's tax revenue is \$87,419 and she stated that next year she expects it to be the same or worse.

She also predicts that there will be more foreclosures next year and stated that Michigan ranks 5th in the country in foreclosures.

She mentioned that the Michigan Association of Counties invited her to attend their conference in Lansing on March 30th to talk about equalization and she developed and presented a power point presentation on “What is Equalization?” There was standing room only and the response was overwhelmingly positive. The room was packed and all stayed longer than the one and one half hours that were scheduled for the presentation with many asking questions.

She is offering to present this program to any group including the Board of Commissioners.

Mrs. Nelson reported that we received good marks on this year’s classification studies.

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that he saw Mrs. Nelson’s presentation in Lansing and it was excellent.

Commissioner Shaffer thanked Mrs. Nelson and Brenda Babcock, Deputy Equalization Director, and stated that he would like to know more about the Equalization process.

Chairman Dunlap stated that Equalization and property taxes are one of the core functions of County government and is the least understood.

Following is the report for 2010:

TOWNSHIP OR CITY	ACRES 100THS	TOTAL REAL PROPERTY VALUATIONS		PERSONAL PROPERTY VALUATIONS		TOTAL REAL PLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY	
		ASSESSED VALUE	EQUALIZED VALUE	ASSESSED VALUE	EQUALIZED VALUE	ASSESSED VALUE	EQUALIZED VALUE
BURR OAK	21.90	\$81,568,850	\$81,568,850	\$2,464,100	\$2,464,100	\$84,032,950	\$84,032,950
COLON	21.03	\$135,274,800	\$135,274,800	\$4,220,200	\$4,220,200	\$139,495,000	\$139,495,000
CONSTANTINE	20.98	\$121,129,200	\$121,129,200	\$27,333,600	\$27,333,600	\$148,462,800	\$148,462,800
FABIUS	20.10	\$211,764,300	\$211,764,300	\$6,532,500	\$6,532,500	\$218,296,800	\$218,296,800
FAWN RIVER	12.26	\$50,334,700	\$50,334,700	\$709,400	\$709,400	\$51,044,100	\$51,044,100
FLORENCE	21.39	\$58,302,100	\$58,302,100	\$1,469,600	\$1,469,600	\$59,771,700	\$59,771,700
FLOWERFIELD	22.79	\$69,488,170	\$69,286,773	\$4,683,794	\$4,683,794	\$74,171,964	\$73,970,567
LEONIDAS	22.65	\$55,343,646	\$55,343,646	\$1,053,600	\$1,053,600	\$56,397,246	\$56,397,246
LOCKPORT	18.15	\$120,086,700	\$120,086,700	\$4,059,400	\$4,059,400	\$124,146,100	\$124,146,100
MENDON	21.69	\$93,242,300	\$93,242,300	\$16,935,400	\$16,935,400	\$110,177,700	\$110,177,700
MOTTVILLE	12.37	\$60,122,800	\$60,122,800	\$10,652,200	\$10,652,200	\$70,775,000	\$70,775,000
NOTTAWA	21.97	\$164,312,100	\$164,312,100	\$3,987,300	\$3,987,300	\$168,299,400	\$168,299,400
PARK	22.26	\$129,424,200	\$129,424,200	\$12,011,500	\$12,011,500	\$141,435,700	\$141,435,700
SHERMAN	21.00	\$162,593,200	\$162,593,200	\$3,273,100	\$3,273,100	\$165,866,300	\$165,866,300
STURGIS	11.30	\$63,268,875	\$63,268,875	\$2,785,100	\$2,785,100	\$66,053,975	\$66,053,975
WHITE PIGEON	15.03	\$209,845,200	\$209,845,200	\$30,073,400	\$30,073,400	\$239,918,600	\$239,918,600
STURGIS CITY	0.00	\$212,632,700	\$212,632,700	\$59,712,500	\$59,712,500	\$272,345,200	\$272,345,200
THREE RIVERS	31.33	\$169,525,100	\$169,525,100	\$60,435,900	\$60,435,900	\$229,961,000	\$229,961,000
	338.20	\$2,168,258,941	\$2,168,057,544	\$252,392,594	\$252,392,594	\$2,420,651,535	\$2,420,450,138
		AGRICULTURE	COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	RESIDEN'TL	DEVELOP- MENTAL	TOTAL REAL PROPERTY
BURR OAK		\$32,559,000	\$1,028,800	\$1,097,600	\$46,883,450		\$81,568,850
COLON		\$35,170,200	\$4,845,800	\$3,535,300	\$91,723,500		\$135,274,800
CONSTANTINE		\$24,938,300	\$4,889,600	\$26,022,200	\$65,279,100		\$121,129,200
FABIUS		\$15,764,500	\$5,016,000	\$4,905,900	\$186,077,900		\$211,764,300
FAWN RIVER		\$16,796,100	\$1,742,400	\$0	\$31,796,200		\$50,334,700
FLORENCE		\$34,982,200	\$0	\$152,500	\$23,167,400		\$58,302,100
FLOWERFIELD		\$23,923,090	\$1,470,030	\$217,370	\$43,676,283		\$69,286,773
LEONIDAS		\$37,125,046	\$887,300	\$0	\$17,331,300		\$55,343,646
LOCKPORT		\$22,410,700	\$4,588,200	\$971,800	\$92,116,000		\$120,086,700
MENDON		\$33,639,100	\$3,440,000	\$5,250,300	\$50,912,900		\$93,242,300
MOTTVILLE		\$16,456,300	\$2,315,300	\$12,177,600	\$29,173,600		\$60,122,800
NOTTAWA		\$39,881,200	\$16,750,600	\$249,200	\$107,431,100		\$164,312,100
PARK		\$36,591,400	\$6,276,600	\$5,712,400	\$80,843,800		\$129,424,200

2010 EQUALIZATION REPORT, Continued

	AGRICULTURE	COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	RESIDENTIAL	DEVELOP- MENTAL	TOTAL REAL PROPERTY
SHERMAN	\$22,924,500	\$1,437,600	\$187,000	\$138,044,100		\$162,593,200
STURGIS	\$17,458,200	\$11,613,000	\$2,082,300	\$31,545,275	\$570,100	\$63,268,875
WHITE PIGEON	\$19,318,500	\$11,972,900	\$9,004,700	\$169,549,100		\$209,845,200
STURGIS CITY	\$611,400	\$44,403,300	\$52,491,800	\$115,126,200		\$212,632,700
THREE RIVERS	\$0	\$61,004,900	\$33,818,000	\$74,702,200		\$169,525,100
	\$430,549,736	\$183,682,330	\$157,875,970	\$1,395,379,408	\$570,100	\$2,168,057,544
	AGRICULTURE	COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	RESIDENTIAL	DEVELOP- MENTAL	TOTAL REAL PROPERTY
BURR OAK	\$32,559,000	\$1,028,800	\$1,097,600	\$46,883,450		\$81,568,850
COLON	\$35,170,200	\$4,845,800	\$3,535,300	\$91,723,500		\$135,274,800
CONSTANTINE	\$24,938,300	\$4,889,600	\$26,022,200	\$65,279,100		\$121,129,200
FABIUS	\$15,764,500	\$5,016,000	\$4,905,900	\$186,077,900		\$211,764,300
FAWN RIVER	\$16,796,100	\$1,742,400	\$0	\$31,796,200		\$50,334,700
FLORENCE	\$34,982,200	\$0	\$152,500	\$23,167,400		\$58,302,100
FLOWERFIELD	\$23,923,090	\$1,470,030	\$217,370	\$43,877,680		\$69,488,170
LEONIDAS	\$37,125,046	\$887,300	\$0	\$17,331,300		\$55,343,646
LOCKPORT	\$22,410,700	\$4,588,200	\$971,800	\$92,116,000		\$120,086,700
MENDON	\$33,639,100	\$3,440,000	\$5,250,300	\$50,912,900		\$93,242,300
MOTTVILLE	\$16,456,300	\$2,315,300	\$12,177,600	\$29,173,600		\$60,122,800
NOTTAWA	\$39,881,200	\$16,750,600	\$249,200	\$107,431,100		\$164,312,100
PARK	\$36,591,400	\$6,276,600	\$5,712,400	\$80,843,800		\$129,424,200
SHERMAN	\$22,924,500	\$1,437,600	\$187,000	\$138,044,100		\$162,593,200
STURGIS	\$17,458,200	\$11,613,000	\$2,082,300	\$31,545,275	\$570,100	\$63,268,875
WHITE PIGEON	\$19,318,500	\$11,972,900	\$9,004,700	\$169,549,100		\$209,845,200
STURGIS CITY	\$611,400	\$44,403,300	\$52,491,800	\$115,126,200		\$212,632,700
THREE RIVERS	\$0	\$61,004,900	\$33,818,000	\$74,702,200		\$169,525,100
	\$430,549,736	\$183,682,330	\$157,875,970	\$1,395,580,805	\$570,100	\$2,168,258,941

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the 2010 Equalization Report be adopted.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Loudenslager.

Report adopted.

REVISED PLANNING COMMISSION ORDINANCE

Robert Horton, Chairman of the Planning Commission, stated that according to the planning and enabling act passed on March 18, 2008 several sections of the Planning Commission Ordinance needed to be changed. These changes have been approved by the Planning Commission and they are recommending that the Board of Commissioners approve them as well.

Brad Neumann, Land Use Policy Educator, stated that they worked on the amended ordinance and one of the major changes will be that the members' interests are listed in the ordinance. Planning and Zoning, in regards to taxes is now more complex, but Mr. Neumann mentioned that MSUE educates people in this area.

Another requirement in the ordinance is that the members attend some type of training within their 3 year appointment on the Planning Commission.

Another stipulation is that the Planning Commission must prepare a capital improvement program unless exempted. Mr. Neumann stated that they will be exempt as the Administrator will prepare this during the budget process each year.

Mr. Neumann stated that the ordinance also addresses conflicts of interest.

Commissioner Shaffer added that he knows that a considerable amount of time was spent on revising this ordinance and is glad that they now have a committee structure.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Dobberteen that the Planning Commission Ordinance be adopted.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Loudenslager.

Ordinance adopted.

ENERGY GRANT CONSULTANT

Undersheriff Mark Lillywhite, stated that he is recommending that a consultant be hired to develop requests for proposals for the Kilowatts for Cops Grant and to also oversee the project. He stated that he is trying to get the grant budget amended to pay for the consultant through the grant. The paper work to amend the budget is into the State and he is waiting to hear whether or not it has been approved.

The consultant that he is recommending is Comfort First which is the lowest bid received. Representatives from the company have done a walk around at the jail and they know how to install the system.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Ware that Comfort First be awarded the bid for consulting services for \$7,000 pending approval by the grant administrator of the requested budget amendment.

Chairman Dunlap stated that the people at the jail have done a lot of work on this grant project.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Loudenslager.

Motion carried.

ENERGY GRANT JAIL WASHERS/DRYERS

Mr. Lillywhite stated that part of the Kilowatts for Cops grant is to purchase new washers and dryers. Also, an electrical upgrade needs to be made for the installation of the new appliances. Mr. Lillywhite is recommending SpinTechs, Inc., out of South Bend, Indiana.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Baker that the washers and dryers for \$23,746.70 and electrical upgrade for \$525.00 be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Puschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Loudenslager.

Motion carried.

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST

Ms. West-Wing stated that Andy Goldberger, Central Dispatch Director, is requesting that Deputy Director Gary LeTourneau be allowed to attend the National Emergency Number Association 9-1-1 Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana with him from June 5th through June 10th. Mr. Goldberger's expenses are paid by the Michigan Chapter of this organization and he would like Mr. LeTourneau to also attend. He estimates the cost to be \$1,700 which is the amount that is in the budget.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Baker that the request for out of state travel for Gary LeTourneau be approved. Motion carried.

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

Ms. West-Wing stated that the Human Services Commission, in response to the Commissioners' request to pay the unemployment benefits for 2 Healthy Family workers that were laid off on October 1, 2009 from the Health Agency, will contribute \$1,000.00 towards this cost.

Commissioner Dobberteen asked how much the Administrative Fee was that the HSC paid to the Health Agency for these 2 workers.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Baker that we accept the \$1,000 towards unemployment benefits from the Human Services Commission and that the County pay the balance of the \$24,000 to the Health Agency. Motion carried.

Ms. West-Wing stated that she has been holding \$8,000 in dues to the HSC until resolution of the unemployment issue and wants to know if she can pay them now. It was the consensus that the \$8,000 be released to the HSC.

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST

Ms. West-Wing stated that the Sheriff is asking permission to have Mike McCoy attend out of state schooling for clandestine laboratory clean up in Quantico, Virginia from May 10th through the 14th. The schooling is free along with all meals, airfare and lodging.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Ware that the out-of-state travel request for Mike McCoy be approved. Motion carried.

REQUEST TO FILL VACANT ELECTION SPECIALIST POSITION

Ms. West-Wing stated that a request has been received from the County Clerk regarding the transfer of the employee in the Election Specialist Position to a part time position in the Treasurer's Office and she would like that position filled and if that position is filled from within her department, then she would like the position being vacated filled.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Baker that the Election Specialist Position, grade 6 in the Clerk's Office be filled and if it is filled from within the department, then the vacant grade 5 position be filled. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-2010

Stop Asian Carp Species from Entering Lake Michigan

Commissioner Shaffer presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes is the largest freshwater system in the world; and

WHEREAS, the states and Canadian provinces bordering the Great Lakes, and everyone that uses the Great Lakes for sport fishing, boating and recreation face a dire threat by the Asian carp that are literally at the threshold of Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, these silver and bighead carp (both species of Asian carp) presented themselves in the 1990's in fish farms on the Mississippi River and reproduce quickly, eat vast amounts of organisms at the base of the food chain, and have driven out native fish populations; and

WHEREAS, the carp have moved quickly up the Mississippi River, into the Illinois River, into the Des Plaines River and are now likely into the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal and the Calumet-Sag Channel; and

WHEREAS, efforts to stop the migration of these fish to Lake Michigan resulted in an electric barrier that was fully operational in 2009 although it now appears as though carp may be past the barrier and as close as seven miles to Lake Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Asian carp are a hyper-aggressive exotic species that threaten to ruin the ecology and economy of the Great Lakes.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners supports all efforts at the state and federal level to stop the migration of the Asian carp into the Great Lakes by whatever means necessary and appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State of Michigan should prepare a contingency plan for dealing with this threat should these carp enter Lake Michigan to include but not limited to closing fish ladders at dams on the St. Joseph River.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution of support be forwarded to Governor Jennifer Granholm, State Representative Matt Lori, State Senator Cameron Brown, U.S. Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow, Congressman Fred Upton, the Michigan Association of Counties, and all Michigan counties.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Baker that the resolution be adopted and 2nd reading waived.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Loudenslager.

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 9-2010

National Day of Prayer - May 6, 2010

Commissioner Shaffer highlighted the following resolution when presenting:

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners supports the efforts of all Americans of goodwill who choose to consecrate the first Thursday in May as a National Day of Prayer; and

WHEREAS, the observance of National Day of Prayer encourages Americans to affirm the nation's spiritual roots and to enlist prayer for local, state, and national leaders; and

WHEREAS, from battlefield and hamlet to congress hall and harvest field, this nation has been upheld by the belief inscribed on our coins that boldly states "In God We Trust"; and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners proclaims twice-monthly the pledge declaring "one nation under God"; and

WHEREAS, in Michigan, we are fortunate to have been blessed with beautiful rivers, lakes, fields, forests and a people who, through hard work and intellectual effort and toil, have made cultural, industrial, agricultural and educational advancements for the enrichment of life for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is eminently fitting and proper that we observe a day when community members may acknowledge our many blessings and express gratitude to God.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners affirms the foundational principles upon which this country has been established and does hereby support the presidential decree proclaiming the first Thursday of May 2010 as a National Day of Prayer.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the resolution be adopted and 2nd reading waived.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Loudenslager.

Resolution adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Commissioner Baker stated that there was no report.

Judiciary

Commissioner Pueschel stated that the Judiciary Committee met on April 14th and everyone has a copy of the minutes.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Ware stated that he has recently learned that there was a small nail that had come through the roof membrane causing the moisture damage to the Commission Room ceiling. It will be repaired under warranty. While on the roof, the contractor inspected several areas of the chimneys, bell tower and cornice and was recommending repairs. The Physical Resources Committee will meet, Thursday, April 22, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.

Executive Committee

Commissioner Shaffer stated that the Executive Committee met on April 15, 2010, everyone has a copy of the minutes and he would answer questions if anyone has any.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

TEMPORARY/SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT:

Rodney Mills has been hired as seasonal Cade Lake Park Caretaker/Attendant at \$7.75/hr. effective April 27, 2010.

Linda Mills has been hired as seasonal Cade Lake Park Office at \$7.75/hr. effective April 27, 2010.

Michelle Kelly has been hired as seasonal Cade Lake Campground Supervisor at \$10.00/hr. effective April 27, 2010.

Jacqueline Diekman to work temporary, part-time for Animal Control at \$7.50/hr. effective April 20, 2010.

RESIGNATION:

Phyllis Lung, Deputy County Clerk/Election Specialist, has resigned effective May 6, 2010.

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

REQUISITION

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

Thirteen Motorola Portable Radios, XPR 6550 with remote speaker mic, earpiece, leather case belt clip and 3 year warranty for Sheriff’s Department - \$866/radio with \$100 rebate. County’s match is 10% or \$1,126.22. We will actually order 19 radios, 6 of which will go to Mendon, Constantine, Burr Oak, Colon and White Pigeon. The villages will pay the County for radios which will be recorded as revenue. Total grant revenue \$ 14,808.00

Village revenue	519.78
Net cost to County	<u>1,126.22</u>
	\$ 16,454.00

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Baker that the requisition be approved. Motion carried.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

DECREASE GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY:

Line item 101-890-941.000 (Contingency) \$ 16,454.00

INCREASE JAIL & TURNKEY’S BUDGET:

Line item 101-301-977.000 (Communications Equipment) \$ 16,454.00

DECREASE PROBATE COURT’S BUDGET:

Line item 101-148-802.020 (Court Appointed Attorney) \$ 2,000.00

INCREASE PROBATE COURT’S BUDGET:

Line item 101-148-707.000 (Wages- Part Time) \$ 2,000.00

Please consider the following amendments to the **2009** budget:

GENERAL FUND:

Building & Grounds

INCREASE:

\$ 4,000.00 Payroll
5,200.00 Operating

DECREASE:

\$ 9,200.00 Contingency

Family Counseling Fund

\$ 2,600.00 Operating

INCREASE:

\$ 2,600.00 Use of Fund Balance

Drug Law Enforcement Fund

\$ 7,500.00 Operating

\$ 7,500.00 Revenue

Community Dev. Block

\$ 24,500.00 Operating

\$ 17,000.00 Revenue

Grant Fund

7,500.00 Use of Fund Balance

Veterans’ Trust Fund

\$ 2,000.00 Operating

\$ 1,200.00 Revenue

800.00 Use of Fund Balance

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

FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Carey presented the following reports:

Per Diem

Robin Baker - 5 half days 3/17, 3/24, 3/25, 3/31 & 4/15/10 & 3 full days 3/18, 3/30 & 4/14/10	\$ 535.00
John Dobberteen - 2 half days 3/24 & 4/13/10 & 3 full days 3/29, 3/30 & 4/19/10	385.00

Michael Dunlap - 5 half days 3/17, 3/25, 4/14, 4/16 & 4/20/10 & 1 full day 3/25/10	\$ 345.00
Gerald Loudenslager - 3 half days 3/23, 4/12 & 4/14/10 & 1 full day 4/10/10	245.00
David Pueschel - 6 half days 3/17, 3/25, 4/1, 4/14, 4/15 & 4/19/10	300.00
Rick Shaffer - 5 half days 3/22, 3/31, 4/1, 4/6 & 4/15/10	250.00
Jerry Ware - 1 half day 4/7/10	<u>50.00</u>
	\$1,938.44

Expenses

Robin Baker	\$ 275.50
John Dobberteen	164.00
Michael Dunlap	125.00
Gerald Loudenslager	27.00
David Pueschel	32.00
Rick Shaffer	56.00
Jerry Ware	<u>15.00</u>
	\$ 694.50

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

Financial Statements

	Revenues	Expenditures
March	\$ 1,172,609	\$ 1,099,955
Year to Date	3,345,079	3,283,032
Period Fund Balance	\$72,654.00	
Year to Date	\$62,047.00	
Percent of budget year elapsed year to date.	25.00%	
Percent of total budgeted funds earned year to date	22.92%	
Percent of total budgeted funds expended year to date	22.49%	

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

WORK SESSION

Ms. West-Wing stated that several dates should be set aside in order to get one date with Judge Shumaker and Chris Kudalski to meet concerning Child Care.

The 4 dates are as follows with the work session beginning at 3:30:

- May 10th
- May 11th
- May 25th
- May 26th

The 2nd subject matter to be discussed would be Brad Neumann's position which will be vacant on July 1, 2010 and whether or not the County wants to re-contract with Rand Bowman of the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council as an advisor to the Planning Commission.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the Board go into closed session to discuss contract negotiations and pending litigation.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 6 - Commissioners Shafer, Dunlap, Baker, Ware, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Loudenslager.

Motion carried.

OPEN SESSION

The Board resumed business in open session.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Road Commission has asked if the grant writer could write a grant to purchase some equipment and after discussion it was the consensus of the Board that that would be fine if the grant writer has time.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until May 3, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Pattie S. Bender, County Clerk

Michael D. Dunlap, Chairman