

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 June 20, 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
John L. Dobberteen	

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

AGENDA

Commissioner Dobberteen asked that a nomination and appointment to the Transportation Authority be added to the agenda.

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

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Dunlap that the minutes for June 6, 2006 be approved. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the Michigan Association of Counties, Re: MAC Legislative Updates, June 9 and June 16, 2006.
2. Letter from Governor Jennifer Granholm, Re: Thank you for resolution regarding Senate Bill 1111.
3. Letter from Governor Jennifer Granholm, Re: Thank you for resolution regarding "25 x 25" Project.
4. Letter from the Michigan Association of Counties, Re: Thank you for resolution regarding "25 x 25" Project.
5. Resolution from Bay County, Re: Support for Home Help Program.
6. Minutes of the Commission on Aging Board meeting of May 17, 2006.

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

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Judy Nelson, Equalization Director, read a letter from the State Assessors Board regarding an investigation that they are conducting regarding an allegation from a taxpayer of wrongdoing on the part of the Colon Township Assessor, Marie Fisher. The letter stated that Mrs. Nelson has never filed a complaint against Mrs. Fisher and she has been asked by the State Assessors Board to assist them in the investigation.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ROAD COMMISSION FOR 2005

Bruce Jones, Engineer Manager of the Road Commission, introduced Board members Chet Dobrowolski and Robert Spillar and Clerk Cheryl Arver. He also noted the passing of Don Lancaster who had been the Chairman.

He stated that the biggest problem that they have been facing in the past few years and especially in 2005 and 2006 is the lack of revenues. Their income in 2005 was down \$263,000. Most of the funds are from the Michigan Transportation Funds which are gas taxes and license fees. The amount that they receive is not based on the price of gas but the quantities of fuel sold which is down considerably.

In addition the price of fuel, liquid asphalt, natural gas, hot plant mix etc., has considerably increased in price.

They will not be paving any primary roads this year but there are some townships that have projects this year that they will be matching. Another change is that they will have a sand/salt shelter at the Centreville garage.

They will also not be doing much bridge work this year, but they will be doing some restoration of the Covered Bridge for which they will receive most of the funding. They will be receiving \$120,000 towards the \$170,000 to make this restoration.

Mr. Jones stated that they have over 1000 miles of roads in the County and they depend on the public to keep them informed of any problems that exist.

In response to a question, Mr. Jones stated that the Sheriff's Deputies and State Police notify them when signs are missing or when trees are over the roads.

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the 2005 Annual Report of the Road Commission be accepted. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT APPLICATION

Judge Jeffrey Middleton, District Court Judge, requested permission from the Board to approve their grant application for the Community Corrections Program.

He stated that Nancy Pick who administers the program does an excellent job and thanked Commissioner Loudenslager for serving on the Board.

He stated that for the last several years they are continuing their programs and not beginning any new ones. The programs are supported, in large part, by fines and costs.

They figured that they saved 24,118 jail bed days, 10,000 in the Day Reporting Program and 11,000 in the Twin County Probation Center. This saves the County millions of dollars.

The Director of the TCPC, Harry Eberhard, is retiring on June 30th. He has been a strong voice here and in Lansing and has done an excellent job.

Judge Middleton stated that the State has programs that work in some communities, but this Board feels that we know our community best so we develop programs to fit our needs.

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that the best spent money in St. Joseph County is the Community Corrections Program.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Dunlap that the Community Corrections Grant Application be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 – Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Bordner, Pueschel & Dobberteen

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

2007 ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR AREA AGENCY ON AGING
2007-2009 MULTI YEAR AREA PLAN FOR AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Laura Sutter requested approval of the 2007 Annual Implementation Plan for Area Agency on Aging and the 2007-2009 Multi Year Area Plan for Area Agency on Aging.

Mrs. Sutter explained that this is the planning document for the Area Agency on Aging with the State for funding. In this document are the program objectives.

They have done surveys to identify the needs of the older community. Three quarters of older citizens consider in-home services the top priority. Other important factors are the dissemination of information, awareness of services and the support of family care givers. They also received valuable input by having sessions for this purpose alone and also from meal sites.

There is a pilot program through the Michigan Department of Community Health to try a single point of entry for services.

In response to a question the Commission on Aging coordinates the transportation needs in St. Joseph County working with the Transportation Authority.

They try to look at the big picture when it comes to senior citizens. Services are also supported by the COA millage and the United Way.

Mrs. Sutter reported that population projections are that 38% of the population will be 60-64 in the next 30 years and there is also growth in the 80-85 age group.

The following resolution was presented:

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2006

WHEREAS, Region III-C Area Agency on Aging (AAA) serving Branch County and St. Joseph County is required to develop a Multi-Year Area Implementation Plan for fiscal years 2007, 2008 and 2009 and an Annual Implementation Plan for fiscal year 2007; and

WHEREAS, the AAA Policy Board has developed, reviewed and accepted the Plans after two input sessions and two public hearings; and

WHEREAS, the AAA Policy Board has taken into consideration the views expressed at the public hearings for the final draft of the Multi-Year Area Implementation Plan and Annual Implementation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the AAA Policy Board substantiates that these documents meet the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging approval criteria.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners endorses the submission of this final planning document to the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging for final review and approval.

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

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 – Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Bordner, Pueschel & Dobberteen

Nay votes cast: 0

Resolution adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-2006
OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 5924

Commissioner Shafer presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, House Bill (HB) 5924 has been introduced in the House; and

WHEREAS, local consolidations have occurred among cooperating counties when operations improved service delivery to the satisfaction of all counties involved; and

WHEREAS, existing local consolidations have been accomplished in the best interest of the consumers they serve; and

WHEREAS, local consolidations have already resulted in significant reductions in the number of Community Mental Health System Programs (CMHSPs) statewide; and

WHEREAS, HB 5924 forces counties to consolidate into regional entities; and

WHEREAS, HB 5924 will remove local control from counties who continue to fund their share of CMHSPs and have done so for over 40 years; and

WHEREAS, HB 5924 removes local accountability by forcing local decisions to be made at a regional entity; and

WHEREAS, HB 5924 will further remove authority from county commissioners and restrict their ability to address local needs; and

WHEREAS, there is no evidence that the elimination of CMHSPs will result in improved efficiency or improved outcomes; and

WHEREAS, provisions of HB 5924 were considered and not supported by the Governor's Mental Health Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners hereby goes on record in strong opposition to HB 5924.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Jennifer Granholm, Senator Cameron Brown, Representative Rick Shaffer, Michigan Association of Counties, Kalamazoo Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and the other 82 Michigan counties.

It was moved by Commissioner Shafer 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: 7 – Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Bordner, Pueschel & Dobberteen

Nay votes cast: 0

Resolution adopted.

NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Department of Human Services Board

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that Betty Taylor be appointed to the Human Services Board for a term to expire October 31, 2007. Motion carried.

Commission on Aging

It was moved by Commissioner Shafer and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that Andrew Rogness, Dorothy Pagels, Polly Oliver and Lorrie Witt be appointed to the Commission on Aging for 2 year terms expiring June 30, 2008 and Jack Brooks be appointed for a 1 year term expiring June 30, 2007. Motion carried.

Road Commission

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Dobberteen that David Yunker be nominated and appointed to the St. Joseph County Road Commission to fill an unexpired term that will expire December 31, 2010. Motion carried. Mr. Yunker was introduced to the Board.

Transportation Authority

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that Monte Bordner be nominated and appointed to the Transportation Authority Board as a representative of the Department of Human Services for a term to expire April 1, 2007. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that the Law Enforcement Committee had not met.

Judiciary

Commissioner Baker stated that the next Judiciary Committee Meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2006.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Shafer stated that the Physical Resources Committee had not met.

Executive Committee

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that the Executive Committee met on June 16th and everyone has a copy of the minutes and he would answer any questions that anyone may have.

Curbside Recycling

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that he, Carl Holsinger and Tim Peterson met with the, Constantine Village Council to discuss curbside recycling and he was not real encouraged after the meeting was over.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

NEW HIRE:

Laura Beyer has been hired as Friend of the Court Secretary at \$9.80/hr. (Soltysiak system, grade 2, minimum) effective July 5, 2006.

RETIREMENT:

Carol Frohriep, District Court Administrator, will retire effective July 11, 2006.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Tabitha Wolf will change from District Court Magistrate/Judicial Associate to District Court Administrator at \$48,707.00 (Rye system, grade 11, step 1) effective July 12, 2006.

Carol Frohriep to be paid as an independent contractor at \$28.00/hr. up to a total of 80 hours to help with the

transition after her retirement.

Levi Jeffrey Terpenning will change from Marine Patrol Officer to Marine Patrol Sergeant at \$16.35/hr. effective June 20, 2006.

Carmella Jones, Corrections Officer, is on medical leave commencing June 12, 2006 under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

TEMPORARY/SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT:

Michael A. Harter has been hired as Seasonal Park Maintenance for Rawson's King Mill at \$7.00/hr. effective June 15, 2006.

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

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

FROM CONTINGENCY:

\$8,000.00 to line item 101-101-801.000 (Professional Fees).

FROM APPROPRIATION:

\$30,000.00 from Probate Child Care Appropriation to Probate Child Care Fund.

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

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Carey presented the following reports:

Per Diem

Robin Baker – 11 half days 4/27, 5/5, 5/12, 5/17 x 2, 5/25, 5/30, 5/31, 6/5, 6/7 & 6/13/06 & 5 full days 5/2, 5/3, 5/4, 5/19 & 5/22/06	\$1,025.00
Monte Bordner – 6 half days 5/19, 5/22, 6/2, 6/13 x 2 & 6/16/06 & 6 full days 5/17, 5/19, 5/22, 5/31, 6/14 & 6/19/06	870.00
John Dobberteen – 8 half days 5/12, 6/2, 6/12, 6/13 x 2, 6/16 x 2 & 6/19/06 & 3 full days 5/22, 5/31 & 6/14/06	685.00
Michael Dunlap – 7 half days 4/27, 5/1, 5/3, 5/9, 5/25, 6/7 & 6/13/06	350.00
Gerald Loudenslager – 3 half days 5/23, 6/10 & 6/15/06 & 2 full days 5/18 & 5/19/06	340.00
David Pueschel – 7 half days 5/17, 5/18, 5/23, 5/25, 5/31, 6/9 & 6/15/06	350.00
Eric Shafer – 6 half days 5/17 x 2, 5/31, 6/5, 6/6 & 6/7/06	<u>300.00</u>
	\$3,920.00

Expenses

Robin Baker	\$ 354.22
Monte Bordner	317.73
John Dobberteen	118.37
Michael Dunlap	99.68
Gerald Loudenslager	384.92
David Pueschel	<u>70.31</u>
	\$1,345.23

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Dunlap that the per diem and

expenses be approved. Motion carried.

Financial Statements

	Revenues	Expenditures
May	\$ 1,094,235	\$ 950,995
Year to Date	5,662,328	5,694,623

Period Fund Balance (\$32,295.00)

Percent of budget year elapsed year to date.	41.67%
Percent of total budgeted funds earned year to date	41.36%
Percent of total budgeted funds expended year to date	41.59%

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

CHAIRMAN'S RPEORT

A work session was set for July 18th at 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Bordner stated that he has heard some news lately regarding methamphetamine use. On Sunday on FOX News a Joe Dunham spoke as a representative of NACo and did an excellent job.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Shafer stated that he had just found out that Phil Adams had had surgery and he wishes him a speedy recovery.

Commissioner Pueschel echoed Commissioner Shafer's comment.

Commissioner Loudenslager also wishes Mr. Adams a speedy recovery and he thanked the people that work in the Community Corrections Programs.

Commissioner Dunlap commented on the building that was recently built at the Sheriff's Department to hold vehicles. It was built by employees and trustees and saved a lot of money.

The Clerk reminded everyone of the Relay for Life this weekend at the Centreville High School Track and also that Covered Bridge Days will be held this weekend.

ADJOURMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Baker that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until July 5, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Pattie S. Bender, County Clerk

Monte Bordner, Chairman