

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 August 7, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Baker 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 Dobberteen	

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

#### AGENDA

Ms. West-Wing asked that the Friend of the Court Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement be added to the 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 Shafer that the minutes for July 17, 2007 be approved. Motion carried.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the Michigan Association of Counties, Re: MAC Legislative Updates, July 20, July 27 and August 3, 2007.
2. Letter from Harriet Miller-Brown, State 9-1-1 Administrator, Re: Upcoming 9-1-1 funding workshops.
3. Letter from Ronald Hamilton, Re: Discontinuation of recycling drop-off bins.
4. Copy of Letter to Editor (unknown author), Re: Transportation Authority.
5. Letter from Representative Rick Shaffer, Re: Thank you for resolution in support of 9-1-1 funding.
6. Resolution from Hillsdale County, Re: Opposing House Bill 4852 (surcharge on phones.)
7. Minutes of the Community Mental Health Services Board meeting of June 26, 2007.
8. Minutes of the Community Action Agency Board meeting of May 21, 2007.

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

#### CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Tom Meyer, 610 Tulip Lane, Three Rivers asked about the lake special assessments that are being levied around a couple of lakes in Fabius Township. He asked if this was something new and wanted to know how this happens.

It was explained to him that the Circuit Court establishes lake levels. For years the County has been paying for the maintenance of the control structures and the Board of Commissioners, a few years ago, directed the Drain Commissioner to set up special assessment districts so that the people that benefit from maintaining the legal lake level pay for it and he has begun to do this for lake levels that do not have special assessment districts.

Discussion ensued on this matter.

## 2007 PROPOSED COUNTY MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Brad Neumann is asking for approval from the Board of Commissioners to distribute the Proposed County Master Plan Update to the local units of government. Hopefully by October the Planning Commission will be able to adopt the Master Plan.

Mr. Neumann introduced Chuck Eckenstahler who gave a brief overview of the proposed plan. He stated that they began work on October 5, 2006.

They conducted several workshops to receive public input and approximately 175 people have participated in the drafting of the plan. They have also looked at every local government's Master Plan or Zoning Ordinance as they developed this draft.

Future land use recommendations in the plan are 45% farmland preservation; 35% for development purposes which could accommodate 500,000 people and 20% has been preserved as open space.

Mr. Eckenstahler stated that a lot of time was spent on Economic Development. He further stated that every township should be eligible under the Farmland Preservation Program which has been certified.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Shafer that the Planning Commission be authorized to distribute the proposed plan for review and public hearing.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Puschel, Bordner & Dobberteen

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

Commissioner Shafer stated that Flowerfield Township is in the process of amending their Master Plan and will comply with the County's Proposed Master Plan.

Mr. Neumann stated that they will be providing to each local unit of government sample language that will be in compliance.

Commissioner Bordner thanked Mr. Neumann and Mr. Eckenstahler and all others for all of their hard work. They displayed a masterful application of leadership.

Mr. Eckenstahler thanked the Board of Commissioners and especially the Master Plan Committee of the Planning Commission. He is very proud of this document that has been crafted.

## SHORT TERM TAX BOND BID AWARD

The Clerk opened the 2 Short Term Tax Bond Bids that were received:

Burnham Flowerfield of Kalamazoo - \$1,687  
IBEX of Farmington Hills - \$1,462

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the Short Term Tax Bond Bid be awarded to IBEX for \$1,462. Motion carried.

## REQUEST TO FILL VACANT JUVENILE DIVISION CASEWORKER SUPERVISOR/REFEREE POSITION

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Shafer that the vacant Juvenile Division Caseworker Supervisor/Referee position be filled. Motion carried.

## EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH LORI MILLIMAN

Ms. West-Wing recommended approval of the Employment Agreement with Lori Milliman who is the Juvenile Day Treatment Supervisor for 2 years. From August 1, 2007 through July 31, 2008 the wages are \$37,901 and from August 1, 2008 through July 31, 2009 the wages are \$38,659. All other conditions are the same.

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Bordner that the Employment Agreement with Lori Milliman be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

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

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

#### PURCHASING POLICY REVISION

Ms. West-Wing stated that the major revision in the Purchasing Policy is that the Information Technology Department will now be authorized to complete all of their own purchases.

It was moved by Commissioner Bordner and supported by Commissioner Dobberteen that the Purchasing Policy Revision be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

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

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

#### COMMERCIAL NATURAL GAS SUPPLY AGREEMENT

Ms. West-Wing recommended approval of a Commercial Natural Gas Supply Agreement with Volunteer Energy Services, Inc., of Gahanna, Ohio. She stated that this is a 3rd Party Agreement and we will buy our natural gas through them. There is nothing guaranteed, but there is little risk and she believes this is worth trying. We could save up to \$9,000 annually on natural gas usage. This agreement is on a month to month basis so we are not locked in for more than 30 days. Most other companies were 18 months.

It was moved by Commissioner Dunlap and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the Commercial Natural Gas Supply Agreement be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

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

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

#### COOPERATIVE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT FOR FRIEND OF THE COURT

Ms. West-Wing stated that the Prosecuting Attorney's Cooperative Reimbursement and the Friend of the Court Cooperative Reimbursement Agreements have been merged into one agreement and the one being recommended today is the first that we have had only one agreement. The merger will take place effective October 1, 2007 and the total amount is \$545,842 which is a reimbursement of 66%.

It was moved by Commissioner Bordner and supported by Commissioner Dobberteen that the Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement for the Friend of the Court be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

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

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-2007  
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OPPOSING PRIVATIZATION OF FOSTER CARE AND OTHER DHS SERVICES IN SENATE BILL 232

Commissioner Shafer read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, proposed Senate Bill 232 provides for the transfer of 2961 current non-relative foster care cases and all new foster care cases to the private sector; and

WHEREAS, under the proposed Bill all responsibility for adoption services and all delinquent youth services below the maximum security level would be transferred to the private sector; and

WHEREAS, all public Juvenile facilities in the State would be closed except Maxey Boys Training School; and

WHEREAS, private agencies have a higher per diem rate for services which would result in increased costs to the Courts and their counties; and

WHEREAS, the State has a unified system of administration and policies while private agencies apply their own policies that could result in disparate treatment of children; and

WHEREAS, no good reason has been present to change the system as it exists except private agencies say they are more outcome performance driven but DHS is developing similar measures with Court Improvement Dollars; and

WHEREAS, there are not enough private sector providers to serve the entire State especially in areas of low population and may not be enough services for female offenders as now exist. Currently there are waiting lists for private providers in some levels of treatment which if that is the only system, youth will have to be held in detention longer and result in increased cost to counties.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners express their opposition to Senate Bill 232 that requires the privatization of DHS services to youth for the reason it will not be in the best interest of juveniles and children and will cost counties more for services that may not be as effective as existing services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Jennifer Granholm, Senator Cameron Brown, Representative Rick Shaffer and the Michigan Association of Counties.

It was moved by Commissioner Shafer and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager 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, Pueschel, Bordner & Dobberteen

Nay votes cast: 0

Resolution adopted.

Commissioner Bordner stated that he supports this resolution and mentioned that he was recently in Lansing on MAC-PAC day and he discussed this bill with 2 Senators who could not answer his question on whether or not this bill is the best thing for the kids.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Law Enforcement

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that there was no report.

### Judiciary

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that there was no report.

### Physical Resources

Commissioner Shafer stated that they had not met.

### Executive Committee

Commissioner Bordner stated that everyone has a copy of the Executive Committee minutes of August 1st and he would answer any questions that anyone may have.

Commissioner Shafer commended the Administrator on her response to Mr. Hamilton regarding the removal of the recycle bins.

### Investment Advisory Committee

Commissioner Dunlap stated the Investment Advisory Committee met today and the interest that we are receiving is steady at 5% and everything is in order.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ms. West-Wing presented the following reports:

### Personnel Report

#### RESIGNATION:

Alice Easterday, Juvenile Division Caseworker Supervisor/Referee, has resigned effective August 31, 2007.

#### TEMPORARY/SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT:

Robin Fanning to work temporary, part-time for District Court at \$7.75/hr. effective August 14, 2007.

#### MISCELLANEOUS:

Change date of hire for Joanna Schrock, part-time Parks Secretary, from July 17 to July 20, 2007.

Sally Wickum, District Court Deputy Clerk, was on family leave from July 11 to July 26, 2007 under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993.

#### NEW HIRE:

Francisco Ortiz has been hired as Juvenile Division Caseworker Supervisor/Referee effective September 4, 2007. Wage to be determined but a minimum of \$44,216.00 (Rye system grade 10, minimum).

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

REQUISITIONS

Eleven T8 Semaphore, 4 tube fluorescent fixtures, bulbs, hangers, material and labor for Jail Security Garage (Evercom Capital Funds)	\$ 3,400.00
Five T8 waterproof, 2 tubs, 4 ft, fluorescent fixtures, bulbs, hangers, material and labor for Jail Wash Garage (Evercom Capital Funds)	\$ <u>1,360.00</u>
	\$ 4,760.00
Two ArcEditor Use Licenses; ArcGIS Spatial Analyst Use License; MicroData x9GIS data Maintenance software; Data conversion, installation, training, travel; Dell OptiPlex 745 Minitower PC; Microsoft Office Pro; Symantic PC Anywhere (for GIS and Central Dispatch)	\$ 39,920.06

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

Budget Adjustments

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

INCREASE REVENUES ANIMAL SHELTER DONATION FUND #254:

Line item 254-430-676.000 (Budgeted Use of Fund Balance) \$ 1,500.00

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

Line item 254-430-826.000 (Board and Vet Fees) \$ 1,500.00

LOAN REPAYMENT TO GENERAL FUND #101 FROM HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUND #268:

Repayment to General Fund from Homeland Fund \$315,000.00

DUE FROM OTHER FUNDS:

Line item 101-000-084.000 \$315,000.00

DUE TO OTHER FUNDS:

Line item 268-000-214.000 \$315,000.00

INCREASE REVENUES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

Line item 101-301-539.000 Michigan State Police Highway Safety Grant \$ 30,077.00

INCREASE EXPENDITURES:

Line item 101-301-712.000 (Wages-Overtime) \$ 5,773.00

Line item 101-301-715.000 (FICA) 442.00

Line item 101-301-718.050 (Retirement-MERS) 635.00

Line item 101-301-716.100 (Worker's Compensation) 160.00

Line item 101-301-816.000 (Contractual Services) 23,067.00

\$ 30,077.00

INCREASE JAIL AND TURNKEY'S BUDGET:

Line item 101-351-712.000 (Wages-Overtime) \$ 14,000.00

Line item 101-351-707.000 (Wages-Part time) 9,000.00

\$ 23,000.00

DECREASE:

Line item 101-351-706.380 (Wages-Corrections Officers) \$ 14,000.00

Line item 101-351-706.470 (Wages-Corporal) 5,000.00

Line item 101-351-760.000 (Medical Supplies) 4,000.00

\$ 23,000.00

TRANSFER:

Transfer \$20,000.00 from Probate Child Care Fund line item 292-662-844.040 to Department of Human Services Child Care Fund line item 293-663-400.000.

FROM GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY:

\$30,000.00 to Department of Human Services Child Care Appropriation line item 101-001-965.120.

FROM APPROPRIATION:

\$40,000.00 from Probate Child Care Appropriation to Probate Child Care Fund.

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

BILLS

Mr. Carey presented the following bills for payment:

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>
Due from State	\$ 6,144.98	\$
Appropriations	45,568.00	
County Commission	709.55	6,848.62
Circuit Court	181.50	12,888.40
District Court	1,842.58	58,679.89
Friend of the Court	1,212.75	32,155.91
Jury Commission	63.58	
Probate Court	1,424.95	18,453.39
Juvenile Branch	15,042.03	38,097.43
Appeals Court	3,676.42	
Administration	219.00	9,906.48
Finance Department	1,863.10	16,262.14
County Clerk		21,576.21
Equalization Department	8,644.32	14,991.09
Human Resources	274.95	6,789.70
Geographic Information Systems	189.84	6,285.31
Prosecutor's Office	1,265.24	40,500.38
Central Services	12,134.45	5,301.27
Register of Deeds	367.20	12,462.70
County Treasurer	165.00	14,090.81
Cooperative Extension	39,532.20	8,172.54
Information Technology	917.43	11,352.96
Buildings & Grounds	19,097.09	14,553.71
Courts Building Security	261.48	5,467.10
Drain Commission		5,322.26
Sheriff Department	22,442.28	90,604.65
Sheriff Reserves	1,162.50	276.12
Marine Patrol	1,939.67	7,203.02
Jail & Turnkey	32,477.81	103,254.34
Emergency Services	457.84	5,239.00
Animal Control	1,212.46	9,027.99
Board of Public Works		618.68
Medical Examiners	3,865.00	
Child Care - Probate	12,317.04	132.35
Department of Veterans' Affairs	180.00	
Veterans' Services	5,889.96	1,103.80
Utilities & General Services	25,396.61	
Total	\$ 268,138.81	\$ 577,618.25

OTHER FUNDSEXPENDITURESPAYROLL

County Road Commission		\$ 516,459.45	\$
Parks & Recreation		1,218.34	8,969.39
Emergency 911 Service		16,563.03	56,744.77
Central Dispatch - Wireless		16,999.70	3,773.08
Meyer Broadway/Coon Hollow Park		234.18	2,719.46
Friend of the Court			1,111.36
Cade Lake Park		2,531.34	4,707.67
Waste Management Fund			
County Commission		16,685.46	
Traffic Safety Program Fund		1,335.83	
Economic Development Fund		2,427.68	4,265.99
Animal Shelter Donation Fund		1,060.00	
Register of Deeds Automation Fund		2,186.57	426.29
Victims' Rights Advocate Fund			3,128.13
Community Corrections Advisory Board		7,936.67	2,847.76
Community Corrections Program		2,795.00	
Drug Law Enforcement Fund		3,503.59	
Law Enforcement Fund		66.17	13,771.79
Secondary Road Patrol			8,527.04
Homeland Security Grant Fund		5,136.21	
Law Library Fund		234.50	
Principal Residence Denial Fund		8,398.13	619.25
Commission on Aging		39,990.08	49,270.86
Sheriff's Justice Training und		185.00	
Child Care - Probate Court		30,532.77	4,478.24
Forfeiture & Foreclosure Fund		16,713.78	
Tax Payment Fund		18,244.83	
Inmate Store		2,407.43	
Three Rivers Community Center		1,152.56	807.92
Flexible Benefits Insurance Fund		144,755.47	
Total		\$ 859,753.77	\$ 166,169.00
Grand Total		\$ 1,127,892.58	\$ 743,787.25
General Fund Operating Expenditures			
Pre-Authorized	\$237,590.98		
Accounts Payable	30,547.83		
		\$ 268,138.81	
General Fund Payroll Expenditures		\$ 577,618.25	
Other Funds Operating Expenditures			
Pre-authorized	\$833,021.22		
Accounts Payable	26,732.55		
		\$ 859,753.77	
Other Funds Payroll Expenditures		\$ 166,169.00	
Total Recorded for the Month		\$ 1,871,679.83	

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

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Baker reminded everyone that the polls will be open until 8:00 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Bordner stated that he has had some constructive criticism for the County Road Commission and he recently read in the Kalamazoo Gazette that the bridges in our County are in really good shape. We have 14% that are in a critical state whereas other counties in the region have up to 40% that are critical. The Board of Commissioners has appropriated \$30,000 to the Road Commission's Bridge Fund since 1962 and it has been money well spent.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Shafer and supported by Commissioner Dobberteen that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until August 21, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

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Pattie S. Bender, County Clerk

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Robin Baker, Chairman