

Annual 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 September 15, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Dobberteen called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

The Pledge to the American Flag was given.

The Clerk, Lindsay Oswald, called the roll and the following Commissioners were present:

Allen J. Balog	Donald Eaton
Rick Shaffer	Robin Baker
John L. Dobberteen	

Also present: Pat Yoder, Administrator/Controller, Teresa Doehring, Human Resources Director, and Joni Smith, Finance Director.

AGENDA

Chairman Dobberteen requested that removal procedures be added to the new business.

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer that the agenda be approved as amended. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer that the minutes for September 1, 2015 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Eaton that the closed session minutes for September 1, 2015 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the City of Sturgis, Re: Notice of public hearing on September 23, 2015 to consider an amendment to the City's Brownfield Plan for the Moso Village Project.
2. Letter from the St. Joseph County Historical Society, Re: Thank you to Parks Director Jaymes MacDonald for tour of Rawson's King Mill.
3. Letter from Lockport Township, Re: Proposed Three Rivers Sports Complex.
4. Email from Lynn McLeod, Re: Proposed Three Rivers Sports Complex.
5. Notice of Community Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services of St. Joseph County's annual public hearing on September 29, 2015.
6. Resolution from Oceana County, Re: Recognizing September 17, 2015 as Constitution Day.
7. Minutes of the Commission on Aging Board meeting of August 19, 2015.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Balog that the communications be placed on file. Motion carried.

CITIZENS' COMMENT

Tim Carls of 63044 Klinger Lake Road commented on Trine in St. Joseph County.

Lynn McLeod of 3620 Middlebury in Kalamazoo spoke about using a different location for the sports complex.

Pat Dane of 1624 Nixon Lane in Three Rivers noted that she was a resident of the Meadows and spoke in favor of the complex at the proposed location.

Doug Kuhlman of 65656 Burg Road in Sturgis noted he was the Lockport Township Zoning Administrator. He reported that the Township was not opposed to the complex but was going to change the zoning so that they were defined and part of a special exception use.

Jared Hoffmaster of 701 Flower Street in Three Rivers thanked the Commission for supporting the project and participating in the grassroots efforts. He referenced letters of support from Park and Fabius Townships and stressed the benefits as an economic stimulus. He stressed that the planning process over the past 2 years had involved meetings with residents and representatives from multiple organizations.

Rebecca Shank of 385 S. Washington in Constantine noted the public input was from both sides of the issue and commented on the applause.

John McDonough of 1308 New Jersey Court in Three Rivers noted that the complex would be in his backyard and spoke in favor of the location and the project.

Janet Hall of 1631 Nixon Lane in Three Rivers noted that she lived in the Meadows and spoke in favor of the complex at a different location.

Tom Lowry of 53 1/2 North Main in Three Rivers commented on the due diligence by the partners in the project. He noted that other sites had been considered and spoke in favor of the project.

Ken Hitchcock of 57225 Buckhorn in Three Rivers noted he was a neighbor to the property being considered and spoke in favor of the complex.

Mike Friesner 20381 M-86 in Centreville noted that he was the Lockport Township Treasurer. He reported that Lockport supported the complex, but not in the proposed location.

Curt Penny of 55670 Resort Road in Three Rivers noted as an architect, he had helped review multiple sites that were considered throughout the community. He noted that 80 acres was the right amount of property, and it brought all 3 sports organizations together. He expressed a desire to work with Lockport Township and the residents to ensure property setbacks, traffic control, and other site plan considerations. He noted that the complex would be something the kids, parents, and neighbors would be proud of.

Jim Stuck, president of the Three Rivers Area Community Foundation and board member on the River Country Recreational Authority expressed support from both organizations. He noted that the project would be a collaborative effort. He also thanked the County Commission for the trail grant support.

Larry Kaylor of Marcellus noted that more information was needed.

Kendall and Kenna, two students of Three Rivers, spoke in favor of better sports fields.

ANNUAL CHILD CARE FUND PLAN AND BUDGET

Judge Tomlinson and Tom Robertson presented the plan and budget and noted that the process was scheduled ahead of the county budget process because of the State's fiscal year. Judge Tomlinson noted that there was a chance of a requested amendment if the State were to increase the age to under 18 for defining a juvenile.

It was moved by Commissioner Balog and seconded by Commissioner Eaton to approve the plan and budget subject to the County's budget process. The motion carried 5-0 upon a roll call vote.

THREE RIVERS SPORTS COMPLEX FUNDING

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Balog to approve funding for the Three Rivers Sports Complex for \$2.8 million with an established draw down schedule contingent upon a letter of agreement from a majority of the surrounding townships in support of and agreeing to use the facility; evidence of proper placement of the property and intended improvements; competitive bid process and procedure followed for all phases of the project; and an agreement between the City of Three Rivers and St. Joseph County to provide for ball park recreation on a county-wide basis and established process and procedure by which the County may assist in the funding activities.

Commissioner Balog thanked everyone for their input.

Commissioner Shaffer noted that it was exciting to be on the sidelines throughout the planning process.

Commissioner Eaton thanked everyone for all the work and noted there was still a lot left to do.

Commissioner Baker noted there were too many loose ends to vote yes.

The motion carried 4-1 upon roll call vote with Commissioner Baker dissenting.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT AGREEMENT

Mr. Yoder noted the October through September fiscal year and the State contribution of \$121,769.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the grant agreement. The motion carried 5-0 upon a roll call vote.

APPROVE 2015/2016 COMMISSION ON AGING BUDGET

Ms. Smith presented the budget changes.

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Balog to approve the budget. The motion carried 5-0 upon a roll call vote.

SET 2016 BUDGET WORK SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Balog to set the budget work session for November 12, 2015 following the Executive Committee Meeting. Motion carried.

REQUEST TO FILL VACANT ANIMAL CONTROL DIRECTOR POSITION

Ms. Doehring noted Director Miller's retirement announcement.

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to approve the request. Motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH ANN HAPPEL AS COLLEGE ACCESS SERVICE PROVIDER

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Eaton to approve the employment agreement for college access service provider. Motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH BRIAN MCDANIEL AS COLLEGE ACCESS SERVICE PROVIDER

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Eaton to approve the employment agreement for college access service provider. Motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH ANITA SCHLABACH AS COLLEGE ACCESS SERVICE PROVIDER

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Eaton to approve the employment agreement for college access service provider. Motion carried.

REMOVAL OF COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD MEMBERS

It was moved by Commissioner Balog and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to approve the procedures for removal of a St. Joseph County Community Mental Health Board Member. The motion carried 5-0 upon roll call vote.

UPDATE FROM SENATOR JOHN PROOS

Senator Proos gave a legislative update regarding energy production. He noted that road issues continued to be a focus.

NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

County Clerk Oswald noted the ballots for Board of Canvassers indicated that James Wetherbee and Tammy Elhert would be reappointed to the Board of Canvassers with terms expiring November 1, 2019.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Yoder had nothing further to report.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Mrs. Doehring presented the following report:

Tom Miller, Animal Control Director, will retire effective October 20, 2015.

Russ L. Hickey, Telecommunicator Trainee, has resigned effective September 9, 2015.

Heather Wright, COA Sub Home Care Aide, has been terminated effective August 4, 2015.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Balog that the personnel report be approved. Motion carried.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Ms. Smith presented the following reports:

Per Diem and Expenses

Robin Baker – 3 half days 8/19, 9/2, 9/10, 1 full day 8/27	\$ 245.00
Allen Balog – 6 half days 8/19 x2, 8/27, 8/28, 8/31, 9/10	\$ 300.00
Rick Shaffer – 4 half days 8/19, 9/2, 9/10, 9/14, 1 full day 8/31	<u>\$ 295.00</u>
	\$ 840.00
Robin Baker Expenses	\$ 86.25
Allen Balog Expenses	\$ 61.53
Rick Shaffer Expenses	<u>\$ 129.95</u>
	\$ 277.73

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

Financial Statement

	Revenues	Expenditures
Year to Date – August 30, 2015	\$ 10,447,588.45	\$ 11,069,476.90
Available Balance	\$ 8,912,805.55	\$ 8,290,917.10
Percent of total budgeted funds earned year to date:	53.96%	
Percent of total budgeted funds expended year to date:	57.18%	

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Commissioner Baker stated that the Committee had not met.

Judiciary

Commissioner Eaton stated that the Committee had not met.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Balog stated that the Committee had not met.

Executive/Committee of the Whole

Chairman Dobberteen stated that Commissioners had minutes.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Dobberteen had nothing further to report.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Rebecca Shank of 385 S. Washington in Constantine commented on the consequences of children not being educated in constitutional rights. She also commented on the legal rights of property owners.

Tim Carls of 63044 Klinger Lake Road commented on the sports complex and asked about the County's Planning Commission input.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Balog to adjourn to closed session to discuss matters of a property purchase. Upon a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

The Commission adjourned to closed session at 6:11 p.m.

At 6:25 p.m., the Commission reconvened in open session.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to approve the purchase of property at 56705 Covered Bridge Road for \$330,000 and authorizing an earnest deposit of \$10,000. The motion carried 5-0 upon a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:27 p.m., it was moved by Commissioner Eaton and seconded by Commissioner Baker that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until October 6, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

John L. Dobberteen, Chairman