

Regular Meeting 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 December 5, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Balog called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Czajkowski.

The Pledge to the American Flag was given.

County Clerk Oswald called the roll and the following Commissioners were present:

Dennis Allen	John L. Dobberteen
Daniel R. Czajkowski	Kathy Pangle
	Allen J. Balog

Also present: Teresa Doehring, Assistant County Administrator; and Ryan Post, Finance Director.

AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Pangle and seconded by Commissioner Czajkowski to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Czajkowski and seconded by Commissioner Allen that the minutes for November 21, 2017 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Copy of letter from Tim Carls to Governor Rick Snyder, Re: St. Joseph County Road Commission's Budget.

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tim Carls, 63044 Klinger Lake Road of Centreville, commented on the parks millage.

Lynn McLeod, 3620 Middlebury Road of Kalamazoo, commented on parks and commission decisions.

Nancy Percival commented on the upcoming Walk for Warmth and the service Mr. Summey has provided through the Veterans' Department.

Mike Friesner, Lockport Township Clerk, commented on the county litigation with the City of Three Rivers.

Don Schrock, Flowerfield Township Trustee, commented on the parks millage cost.

Rebecca Shank, 385 S. Washington of Constantine, commented on the amount of time for public comment, finance reporting, and DAR partnerships for Vietnam Veterans.

Rich Baker, Burr Oak Township Trustee, commented on Plumb Lake Park planning process.

Gordon Evilsizor, Florence Township Supervisor, asked about using a ballot instead of a resolution to raise taxes.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2018 BUDGET

At 5:20 p.m., Chairman Balog opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. Carls asked about money to the Building Authority and why funds were invested. Mr. Post responded and noted that he would meet with Mr. Carls.

Ms. McLeod commented on operating millage funds; mean household income; and purchase of Covered Bridge Farm property.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT

It was moved by Commissioner Pangle and seconded by Commissioner Allen to place the report on file. Motion carried.

JUVENILE CASEWORKER SUPERVISOR/REFEREE POSITION

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Pangle to approve filling the vacant position. Motion carried 5-0 upon a roll call vote.

VETERANS' AFFAIRS BOARD BYLAWS

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and seconded by Commissioner Pangle to adopt the bylaws. Motion carried 5-0 upon a roll call vote.

E-911 TELECOMMUNICATORS' ASSOCIATION LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Czajkowski to approve the letter of understanding. Motion carried 5-0 upon a roll call vote.

UNIFORM GUIDANCE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

It was moved by Commissioner Pangle and seconded by Commissioner Allen to adopt the policies and procedures. Motion carried 5-0 upon a roll call vote.

APPOINTING TERESA DOEHRING AS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR/CONTROLLER
RESOLUTION 21-2017

Commissioner Dobberteen presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, J. Patrick Yoder has retired as St. Joseph County Administrator/Controller; and

WHEREAS, the County Administrator Selection Committee reviewed applications, conducted interviews and unanimously recommended Teresa Doehring as the top candidate for the position; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approved the appointment of Teresa Doehring as the County Administrator/Controller while meeting in regular session on October 17.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints Teresa C. Doehring as the St. Joseph County Administrator/Controller effective December 1, 2017.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and seconded by Commissioner Allen to adopt the resolution and waive second reading to appoint Teresa Doehring as the County Administrator/Controller and approve her employment agreement. Motion carried 5 - 0 upon a roll call vote.

PARKS MILLAGE
RESOLUTION 22-2017

Commissioner Dobberteen presented the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the funding received to support the operation of St. Joseph County Parks is not adequate to maintain or expand St. Joseph County parks Facilities; and

WHEREAS, research has shown the positive impacts that parks and recreation can have on the physical, mental, and social health of individuals and their communities. Public parks provide a place for physical activity that helps to control obesity, boost the immune system, diminish the risk of disease and increase life expectancy not diminishing the social bonds that are improved when families recreate together; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph County Parks are a public amenity involving little or no cost at which every county resident can enjoy the benefit of living in Michigan's Great Southwest; and

WHEREAS, under Public Act 90 the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners may raise the funds for the improvement, maintenance or acquisition of public parks through an ad valorem property tax levy on property; and

WHEREAS, a millage of 0.25 mills for a period of four years would provide funding for the improvements, maintenance, and acquisition of St. Joseph County public parks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners approves the St. Joseph County Parks Millage to be assessed upon all property within the County of St. Joseph, in the amount of 0.25 mills (\$0.25 per \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of four (4) years (2018-2021). It is estimated that the revenue generated by this levy will be \$484,542 in the first year of the levy.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and seconded by Commissioner Czajkowski to adopt the resolution. Discussion included the burden to taxpayers; lack of supportive comment at the meeting; the funds would free funds from general operating and would save some positions; revenue had not increased in decades yet costs continue to climb; only for a limited 4 years; and moving forward, budget process will focus on living within our means.

Motion carried 3-2 upon a roll call vote with Commissioners Allen and Pangle dissenting.

NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Dobberteen to appoint Lola Gross to the Board of Public Works. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR AND PERSONNEL REPORT

Ms. Doehring thanked the Commission for the opportunity.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Mr. Post presented the following reports:

	<u>Bills</u>		
	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
Expenditure Type			
Operating	606,049.18	1,332,876.36	1,938,925.54
Payroll	<u>727,285.15</u>	<u>239,162.07</u>	<u>966,447.22</u>
	1,333,334.33	1,572,038.43	2,905,372.76

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Pangle to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Chairman Balog stated that the Committee had not met.

Judiciary

Chairman Balog stated that minutes were available.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that the Committee had not met.

Executive/Committee of the Whole

Chairman Balog stated that the minutes were available.

Road Committee

Commissioner Allen provided an update.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Balog noted the combination of the Administrator/HR positions for cost savings.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Pangle commented on the Walk for Warmth.

Commissioner Allen noted the 911 millage in May.

Commissioner Czajkowski thanked the townships for their work with the Roads Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:01 p.m., it was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Pangle that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until December 19, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Allen J. Balog, Chairman