

Regular Session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held via Zoom on February 2, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Dennis Allen called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Czajkowski.

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

Daniel R. Czajkowski	Ken Malone
Jared Hoffmaster	Kathy Pangle
	Dennis Allen

Also present: Teresa Doehring, County Administrator; Angie Steinman, Finance Director

AGENDA

Commissioner Hoffmaster asked that a resolution be added.

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

Chair Allen requested that law enforcement funding be added.

County Administrator Doehring noted it was a budget amendment.

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

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Pangle and seconded by Commissioner Malone that the minutes for January 19, 2021 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Minutes of the Commission on Aging Advisory Board meeting of November 18, 2020.

It was moved by Commissioner Pangle and seconded by Commissioner Malone to place the communications on file.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

There were none.

REVISE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES FOR 2021

Discussion included time for executive meetings. No decisions were made.

REQUEST FOR EXCEPTION TO HIRING FREEZE – CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER

It was moved by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Pangle to approve the exception to the hiring freeze. Motion carried.

REQUEST FOR EXCEPTION TO HIRING FREEZE – EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Pangle to approve the exception to the hiring freeze. Motion carried.

URGING THE SUSPENSION ON WINTER HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT SPORTS BE LIFTED
RESOLUTION 4-2021

WHEREAS, an estimated 60,000 children play winter contact sports per year in the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the bordering states of Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin are allowing their children the opportunity to play contact sports this winter; and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners understands the seriousness of keeping children, teachers, coaches, parents and administrators healthy and safe in our County. Consequently, we urge all our residents to follow CDC guidelines and socially distance, mask up and use proper hygiene; and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners also understands the serious mental health crisis that COVID-19 has had on our County residents and urges the State to allow our children to return to participation in contact sports this winter with proper precautions and testing; and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners urges the Governor and the MDHHS to follow the science and the data. According to the Michigan Health and Human Services' statistics:

- 5,376 individuals were tested during the MHSAA rapid testing pilot program this last fall/winter
- 57 tests were positive
- 30,000 rapid antigen tests were given
- 99.8% of tests were negative; and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners wants to support our County Schoolboards, Superintendents, Coaches and Students in their effort to get back to playing winter contact sports.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners urges Governor Whitmer and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to lift the suspension on winter high school contact sports and allow play to resume immediately.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Malone to adopt the resolution and waive second reading. Motion carried 5-0 upon a roll call vote.

NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Malone to appoint Ryan Banaszak and Sandy Hall to the Community Mental Health board with terms March 31, 2023. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Doehring noted an unexpected payment for an energy rebate from Semco, resulting from the ABM project that was completed.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Bills

It was moved by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve payment of the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Budget Amendments

It was moved by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve the budget amendments as presented. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Commissioner Hoffmaster provided an update.

Judiciary

Commissioner Malone stated that the Committee had not met.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Malone stated that the Committee had not met.

Executive/Committee of the Whole

Chairman Allen stated that the Committee had met, and minutes were available.

Other Committees

Commissioner Pangle provided an update for the Commission on Aging.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Allen commented on Zoom meetings.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Czajkowski commented on the COA roof project and traffic speeds.

Commissioner Hoffmaster commented on Meyer Broadway Park.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:43 p.m., it was moved by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Pangle that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until February 16, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Dennis Allen, Chairman