

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 March 4, 2014, at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Dobberteen called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was given.

County Clerk, Pattie S. Bender, called the roll and the following Commissioners were present:

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

Also present were Pat Yoder, Administrator/Controller, Elishia Arver, Human Resources Director and Joni Smith, Finance Director.

#### AGENDA

Chairman Dobberteen stated that Dr. David Devier, President of Glen Oaks is here to give an update on the college; a public hearing needs to be set for March 18, 2014 on a Parks and Recreation Grant; and Mr. Yoder stated that a request from the Sheriff to fill a vacant position be added to the agenda.

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

#### MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Eaton that the minutes for February 18, 2014 be approved. Motion carried.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from Mottville Township, Re: Notice of public hearing on March 13, 2014 to consider an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate to The Andersons, Inc.
2. Letter from Enbridge Energy, Re: Update on Line 6B Replacement Project.
3. Letter from Enbridge Energy, Re: Deactivation of Line 6B pipeline has been delayed.
4. Letter from Cass County, Re: Notice that Cass County's draft Master Plan is available for review and comment.
5. Resolution from Bay County, Re: Request the Governor and Michigan Legislature retain current income tax rate and direct the generated funding surplus to improve Michigan roads, bridges and highways.
6. Resolution from Bay County, Re: 2015 Revenue Sharing.
7. Resolution from Livingston County, Re: 2015 Revenue Sharing.
8. Resolution from Gratiot County, Re: Support of restoration of the Community Mental Health general fund appropriation in the State's FY 2014 budget.
9. Resolution from Oceana County, Re: Support of House Bill 5215.
10. Minutes of the Animal Control Advisory Board meeting of January 15, 2014.
11. Minutes of the St. Joseph River Basin Commission meeting of December 3, 2013.
12. Minutes of the Community Action Board meeting of November 25, December 16, 2013 and January 27, 2014.

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Dr. David Devier, President of Glen Oaks Community College, introduced himself to the Board stating that he is happy to be here. He is a graduate of Ohio State University. He has appreciated the welcome that he has received from everyone. Dr. Devier stated that this is his 38th year in education.

He stated that he appreciates the County Commissioners service saying that his father-in-law and wife have held elected positions. He also stated that he began as the President of Glen Oaks on January 20, 2014. He remarked that many things are a foot and says that the institution will look dramatically different. They will be serving a broader base; have a presence on the weekends; offer on-line classes; and be involved in career tech. They are building bridges with many 4 year colleges in Michigan. He welcomes any comments or any suggestions that anyone may have.

Chairman Dobberteen thanked him for being here.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH VANBUREN COUNTY  
(HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT)

Scott Hopkins, Emergency Services Director, requested approval of the Intergovernmental Funding Agreement with VanBuren County which acts as fiduciary for the 5th District for Homeland Security Grant funds. All Homeland Security funds to all Counties are distributed through VanBuren County.

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Eaton that the Intergovernmental Funding Agreement with VanBuren County be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 5 - Commissioners Balog, Eaton, Shaffer, Baker and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST

Mr. Yoder stated that Tom Miller, Animal Control Director, has requested out-of-state travel to attend the Animal Care Expo from May 20-23, 2014. He has received a grant from the ASPCA that pays for the conference registration and room plus \$500 travel expense. Mr. Miller is asking that he receive his regular salary while attending the conference and if he is there longer than the conference he will use his vacation. Mr. Yoder is recommending that this be approved.

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and supported by Commissioner Balog that the request for out-of-state travel for Tom Miller to attend a conference in Florida be approved. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING - PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

John Pence, Parks and Recreation Director, gave an overview of the process to update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan including the distribution of surveys asking for public comments that were placed in many locations. Comments have been very positive. One of the goals in the plan is to acquire 210 acres as the idea is to have 10 acres of parks for every 1,000 persons. Instead of numerous parks, having larger multi-use parks is better. Some comments requesting more kayaking sites were received. Also, in the plan is the hope to develop indoor facilities for recreation, possibly at Meyer-Broadway Park and Rawson's King Mill Park. Mr. Pence requested that a resolution be adopted and the Master Plan approved.

They will be pursuing grants through the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the DNR Trust Fund for infrastructure. A great parks system adds to the quality of life for the residents of St. Joseph County.

Chairman Dobberteen opened the public hearing for comments on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update.

Rebecca Shank, Fabius Township, supports the plan. She is also involved with the Southwest Michigan Land Conservatory as well at the Coon Hollow Preserve where they are in the process of constructing an observation deck. She stated that this may draw people into the County and spend some money here.

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and supported by Commissioner Baker that the public hearing be closed. Motion carried.

Commissioner Shaffer stated that it is a privilege for him and Commissioner Baker to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission and they have been focused on updating the Master Plan. He stated that Mr. Pence did a nice job of presenting the updated plan to the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Shaffer presented the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 4-2013  
COUNTY OF ST. JOSEPH  
PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN  
RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF ST. JOSEPH, MICHIGAN

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of St. Joseph County has undertaken a Five-Year Parks and Recreation Plan which describes the physical features, existing recreation facilities and the desired actions to be taken to improve and maintain recreation facilities for the period 2014 through 2018; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing and comment session was held March 4, 2014, at the St. Joseph County Courthouse to provide an opportunity for citizens to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of St. Joseph County has developed the plan for the benefit of the entire community and to adopt the plan as a document to assist in meeting the recreation needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, after the public meeting, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners voted to adopt said Recreation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the County of St. Joseph Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the St. Joseph County Parks and Recreation Plan as a guideline for improving recreation for the residents of the County of St. Joseph.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer 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: 5 - Commissioners Balog, Eaton, Shaffer, Baker and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Resolution adopted.

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Pence requested a public hearing for a grant that he will be applying for through the DNR trust fund to acquire some property.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Baker that a public hearing be held on March 18, 2014 at 5:10 p.m. regarding the Parks and Recreation Grant Application. Motion carried.

REVENUE SHARING

Mr. Yoder recommended approval of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 5-2014  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, MICHIGAN

WHEREAS, in the Governor's recommendation for the FY 2015 budget, counties are scheduled to receive 100% full funding of revenue sharing of \$169 million and CIP's final 20% at \$42.2; and

WHEREAS, this marks the first time in fourteen years that the administration has recommended full funding for county revenue sharing; and

WHEREAS, counties have worked diligently for the past decade by leading the effort to reform, consolidate, and right-size government in an effort to increase efficiency and adjust declining revenues; and

WHEREAS, revenue sharing is used by counties to pay for numerous state-mandated services including the courts, the jails, the constitutional officers, elections and the public health system and, with the recent reduction in property values and increased mandated state service delivery, counties are stretched to the financial limit.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that St. Joseph County thanks the Governor for recommending full funding of county revenue sharing payments for FY 2015;

THEREFORE BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that St. Joseph County requests the state legislature adopt the Governor's recommendation for full funding of county revenue sharing in FY 2015.

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

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 5 - Commissioners Balog, Eaton, Shaffer, Baker and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Resolution adopted.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Ms. Arver presented the following report:

NEW HIRE:

Ross L. Truckey has been hired as Abuse/Neglect Specialist at \$13.56/hr. (Soltysiak system, grade 4, step 2) effective March 4, 2014.

Renea Edson has been hired as COA In-home Services Assistant at \$11.56/hr. (COA system, grade 5, minimum) effective February 18, 2014.

Jay Woehmyer has been hired as part-time Transport at \$13.95/hr. effective March 4, 2014.

Luke A. Pickens has been hired as COA Sub Driver at \$9.09/hr. effective February 24, 2014.

RETIREMENT:

Peter VanCamp, Road Patrol Officer, will retire effective March 14, 2014.

RESIGNATION:

Richard Shingledecker, COA Meals-on-Wheels Driver, has resigned effective February 3, 2014.

Dru Carney, Road Patrol Officer, has resigned effective March 22, 2014.

Terry Baker, Road Patrol Officer, has resigned effective March 3, 2014 to accept Director of Assessment position.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Terry L. Baker has been hired as Director of Assessment Diversion Center (non-union position) at \$37,500.00/yr. effective March 4, 2014.

Chad Spence changed from Road Patrol Sergeant to Detective/Sergeant (same rate of pay) effective October 23, 2013.

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

REQUEST TO FILL VACANT UNIFORM SERVICE POSITION

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and supported by Commissioner Shaffer that the vacant Uniform Service position at the Sheriff's Department be filled. Motion carried.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bills

Mrs. Smith presented the following bills for payment:

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>
Due from State & Miscellaneous	\$ 11,027.90	\$
Appropriations	90,423.50	
County Commission	18,903.53	4,369.54
Circuit Court	982.22	14,819.24
District Court	2,488.75	56,754.39
Friend of the Court	16,290.00	40,956.88
Jury Commission	67.92	
Probate Court	1,158.28	15,740.43
Juvenile Branch	8,979.83	27,507.93
Department of Corrections	189.90	
Appeals Court	135.60	
Public Defender	39,166.66	
Administration		12,647.20
Elections	314.04	
Finance Department	2,606.27	11,102.47
County Clerk	430.13	27,839.50
Equalization Department	2,955.68	8,403.17
Human Resources	2,397.88	9,906.58
Geographic Information Systems		8,307.45
Prosecutor's Office	1,449.42	30,117.10
Register of Deeds		8,693.48
County Treasurer		21,391.41
Cooperative Extension		6,090.68
Information Technology	243.00	12,998.55
Buildings & Grounds	7,321.47	12,279.98
Courts Building Security		6,581.99
Drain Commission		7,871.09
Sheriff Department	6,182.60	144,356.23
Sheriff Reserves	50.00	178.44
Jail & Turnkey	12,581.60	107,373.31
Animal Control	2,834.25	8,475.21
Medical Examiners	825.00	

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>	
Child Care - Juvenile	\$ 1,799.36	\$	
Veterans' Services		1,909.32	
Grant Writer		4,418.78	
Utilities & General Services	<u>108,943.80</u>	<u>                    </u>	
 Total General Fund	 \$ 340,748.59	 \$ 611,090.35	
 <u>OTHER FUNDS</u>	 <u>EXPENDITURES</u>	 <u>PAYROLL</u>	
Parks & Recreation	\$ 557.90	\$ 5,188.37	
Emergency 911 Service	14,054.04	61,050.79	
Central Dispatch - Wireless		6,800.16	
Meyer Broadway/Coon Hollow Park	111.91	2,800.08	
Cade Lake Park	197.33		
Traffic Safety Program Fund	400.00		
Register of Deeds Automation Fund	1,791.00		
Victims' Rights Advocate Fund		3,366.98	
Community Corrections Advisory Board	6,338.00	3,068.76	
Community Corrections Program	3,043.47		
Local Corrections Officer's Training Fund	285.00		
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	2,547.36		
Law Enforcement Fund	405.45	24,470.15	
Secondary Road Patrol		9,258.24	
Homeland Security Grant Fund	472.08	3,217.44	
County Law Library	547.34		
Commission on Aging	17,885.61	68,091.63	
SCAO Swift & Sure Grant	3,750.00		
Child Care: Probate Court & DHS	29,561.90	11,969.33	
Veterans' Trust Fund	4,000.00		
Forfeiture & Foreclosure Fund	7,764.36		
Inmate Store Fund	3,008.48		
Building Authority	240.00		
Three Rivers Community Center	2,367.80	658.02	
Long Lake Level Revolving - Fabius	29.16		
Information Technology Improvement Fund	7,841.75		
Flexible Benefits Insurance Fund	213,539.25		
Trust & Agency	<u>4,678,954.60</u>	<u>                    </u>	
 Total Other Funds	 \$ 4,999,693.79	 \$ 199,939.95	
	\$ 5,340,442.38	\$ 811,030.30	
 Grand Total			
 <u>Expenditure Type</u>	 <u>General Fund</u>	 <u>Other Funds</u>	 <u>Total</u>
Operating	\$340,748.59	\$4,999,693.79	\$5,340,442.38
Payroll	<u>611,090.35</u>	<u>199,939.95</u>	<u>811,030.30</u>
	\$951,838.94	\$5,199,633.74	\$6,151,472.68

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

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

Judiciary

Commissioner Eaton stated that there was nothing to report.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Balog stated that the committee had not met.

Executive Committee

Chairman Dobberteen stated that the Executive Committee had not met.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Del Martin, Fabius Township, thanked the drivers at the Road Commission for the good job that they have done this winter. But, he said that there will be a lot of potholes this year and he is suggesting to the Board of Commissioners that since there is \$10 million in the Delinquent Tax Fund, that each township should be given \$50,000 for a total of \$800,000 to get the roads repaired.

Rebecca Shank, Fabius Township, spoke again in favor of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and also mentioned again as she did in January of the need to keep people in this County. We need to attract people to move here. We need to have good recreational opportunities, diversified educational opportunities, good roads and good technology.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Balog stated that he attended a luncheon today with representatives from Southwest Michigan First and Dr. Devier was there and he was thoroughly impressed with his past experience and his vision for the college which is very exciting.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:26 p.m. it was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Baker that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until March 18, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

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Pattie S. Bender, St. Joseph County Clerk

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John L. Dobberteen, Chairman