

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 20, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman John Dobberteen, called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

The Pledge to the American Flag was given.

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

Allen Balog	Donald Eaton
Rick Shaffer	Robin Baker
John Dobberteen	

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

AGENDA

Chairman Dobberteen stated that the Hoeskstra Roofing Proposal will be added to the agenda under new business.

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

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Eaton that the minutes for August 6, 2013 be approved. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the City of Three Rivers, Re: Notice of public hearing on August 20 to consider an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate to Precision Wire Forms, Inc.
2. Letter from the Township of Mottville, Re: Notice of public hearing on September 12 to consider an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate to Banks Hardwoods, Inc.
3. Resolution from Oceana County, Re: Urging the State of Michigan to participate in the passage of the Healthy Michigan Plan (Medicaid Expansion).
4. Resolution from Cheboygan County, Re: Requesting full funding of Revenue Sharing.
5. Minutes of the Animal Control Advisory Board meeting of June 19, 2013.
6. Minutes of the Commission on Aging Board meeting of July 17, 2013.

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

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Cheryl Strohm, 68578 Vistula Road, White Pigeon stated that she was here at the last meeting speaking about a neighbor's dog and the behavior of Animal Control Officer, Brooke Bingaman. She believes that Mrs. Bingaman lashed out at her because she was rattled. She believes that Mrs. Bingaman would be courageous if she admitted that this is not the type of work for her. Ms. Strohm hopes that the County could find her another job. She then proceeded to read from the Animal Control Ordinance and hopes that the County takes care of the items that she mentioned.

Carol Higgins, Mendon Township, Chairman of the St. Joseph County Conservation District Board, announced that she was here to share some good news. The Conservation District Board works hard to promote the local economy. They have been awarded a State grant and they are now on a sturdier track. She also stated that this County is blessed with abundant locally grown foods.

They work with the farmers that irrigate and also with small farmers.

This Saturday they are having a Food Festival promoting local foods; there will be music; and a 4-H club will be serving the food. She invited the Board of Commissioners to attend.

REQUEST TO FILL A VACANT DISTRICT COURT POSITION

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and supported by Commissioner Eaton that when a District Court position becomes vacant due to a retirement in November that the position be filled. Motion carried.

REQUEST FO FILL A VACANT JUVENILE REGISTER POSITION

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Balog that the vacant Juvenile Register position that has been vacant for a few years be filled. Motion carried.

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR MSHDA GRANT APPLICATION

It was moved by Commissioner Balog and supported by Commissioner Baker that a public hearing on the MSHDA Grant Application be held on September 3, 2013 at 5:10 p.m. Motion carried.

SECONDARY ROAD PATROL GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Yoder recommended approval of the Secondary Road Patrol Grant Application in the amount of \$74,793.00.

It was moved by Commissioner Balog and supported by Commissioner Baker that the Secondary Road Patrol Grant Application 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.

VICTIM RIGHTS GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Yoder recommended approval of the Victim Rights Grant Application.

It was moved by Commissioner Balog and supported by Commissioner Baker that the Victim Rights Grant Application 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.

FRIEND OF THE COURT'S PROPOSAL FOR ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

Bill Thistlethwaite, Friend of the Court, requested approval of ImageSoft's electronic document management using OnBase software as discussed with the Committee of the Whole on Friday.

He explained that we have been talking about partnering with Cass County, but they are not as far into the process as we are.

The document management would begin with the Friend of the Court and the Circuit Court domestic relations cases in the County Clerk's Office.

The OnBase software can integrate with JMS and JIS case management software currently being used by the County Clerk's Office.

The software allows for electronic filing of documents; the ability for signatures to be completed electronically; and the electronic verification capability as well.

Eventually this would be expanded to the Prosecutor; the rest of the Courts; and the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Thistlethwaite explained that 66% of the cost of this system can be reimbursed through the Cooperative Reimbursement Program.

He further explained that while we wish to partner with Cass County we will still need to purchase a server plus 12 new work stations for the Friend of the Court Office. The total cost he is requesting at this time is for St. Joseph County only in the amount of \$229,587.00.

It was moved by Commissioner Balog and supported by Commissioner Eaton that the ImageSoft OnBase electronic management system as presented be approved and the appropriate documents be signed.

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.

HOEKSTRA ROOFING PROPOSAL

Mr. Yoder is recommending approval of a proposal from Hoekstra Roofing for repairs to the Courts Building roof.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Balog that the Hoekstra Roofing proposal in the amount of \$25,410.00 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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Commissioner Baker stated that the committee had not met.

Judiciary

Commissioner Eaton stated that the committee met last week and everyone has a copy of the minutes.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Balog stated that the committee had not met.

Committee of the Whole

Chairman Dobberteen stated that the Committee of the Whole met on August 16, 2013 and everyone has a copy of the minutes.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Mr. Yoder presented the following report:

RETIREMENT:

Sally Wickum, Deputy District Court Clerk, will retire effective November 1, 2013.

TEMPORARY/SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT:

Donna Schrock to work temporary, part-time in the Land Resource Centre at \$14.00/hr. effective August 21, 2013.

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

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Smith presented the following report:

Per Diem

Robin Baker - 8 half days 7/17, 7/23, 7/25, 8/7, 8/14 x 2, 8/15 & 8/16/13 & 1 full day 7/18/13	\$ 495.00
Allen Balog - 10 half days 7/17 x 2, 7/25, 7/26, 7/30, 8/13, 8/14, 8/15 x 2 & 8/16/13 & 1 full day 8/7/13	595.00
John Dobberteen - 8 half days 7/12, 7/13, 7/16, 7/23, 7/24, 7/25 & 7/26/13 x 2 & 1 full day 1 full day 7/25/13	<u>495.00</u>
	\$1,585.00

Expenses

Robin Baker	\$ 132.21
Allen Balog	212.44
John Dobberteen	<u>168.37</u>
	\$ 513.02

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Eaton that the per diem and expenses be approved. Motion carried.

Financial Statement

	Revenues	Expenditures
Year to Date - July 31, 2013	\$ 8,503,008.54	\$ 8,417,252.80
Available Balance - Revenues & Expenditures	\$ 6,650,088.46	\$ 6,735,844.20
Percent of total budgeted funds earned year to date	56.28%	
Percent of total budgeted funds expended year to date	54.92%	

It was moved by Commissioner Eaton and supported by Commissioner Baker that the financial statement be accepted. Motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Dobberteen stated that he has received notification that the P.A.2 Funding will be cut.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Cheryl Strohm stated that she has provided pictures of her neighbor's dog to the Prosecuting Attorney and they have not responded. She called that office because she is still concerned with the actions of Mrs. Bingaman and they told her that Mr. Yoder was responsible for the Animal Control Officers. She said that the Prosecutor can

act by bringing charges. Mr. Yoder stated that he did some investigation by talking to Mr. Miller to make sure that Mrs. Bingaman acted appropriately.

Lynn Coursey, Executive Director of the Commission on Aging, stated that she wanted to thank Jon Uribe, Central Dispatch Director, who made arrangements to do CPR training for COA employees on August 1st. She stated that they want to be part of the solution not part of the problem.

Rebecca Shank, 12302 Corey Lake Road, Three Rivers stated that for years the Republican Party was a class act in St. Joseph County. Commissioner Eaton's recent behavior was not conservative.

Tim Carls, 63044 Klinger Lake Road, Centreville, requested Commissioner Eaton resign as County Commissioner because of his recent reported behavior.

Carol Higgins again spoke stating that Michigan is one of the States that does not fund the Conservation Districts. Having a Conservation District Office is mandated by the federal government. She hopes that the State Legislature will get to a point where they will provide funding for a full time director. And, she also hopes that the County will continue to support them.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Baker suggested to Mr. Carls and Mrs. Shank that they let an investigation be completed before anyone passes judgment on Commissioner Eaton.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:29 p.m. it was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and supported by Commissioner Eaton the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until September 3, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Pattie S. Bender, County Clerk

John Dobberteen, Chairman