

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 November 6, 2006 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Bordner called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Commissioner Pueschel.

The Pledge to the American Flag was given.

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

Eric Shafer	Gerald E. Loudenslager
Michael D. Dunlap	Robin Baker
Monte Bordner	David J. Pueschel
John L. Dobberteen	

Also present were Judy West-Wing, Administrator/Controller, Dan Carey, Finance Director and Charles Cleaver, Human Resource Director.

AGENDA

Ms. West-Wing stated that the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant Agreement should be added under New Business.

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

MINUTES APPROVED

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the minutes for October 24, 2006 be approved. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter from the Michigan Association of Counties, Re: Proposal 5.
2. Letter from the Michigan Association of Counties, Re: Three resolutions passed by the MAC Board of Directors.
 - Support for Senate Bill 1360 regarding the optional issuing of bonds to pay for retiree health care obligation.
 - Support of stronger enforcement of Michigan's Casino Gaming Compacts.
 - Opposition to appeals filed against the United States Forest Service Management Plans in the Ottawa, Hiawatha and Huron-Manistee national forests.
3. Letter from the Michigan Association of Counties, Re: Thank you for St. Joseph County's resolution opposing the K-16 Spending Mandate.
4. Letter from Colon Township, Re: Notice of public hearing on November 20, 2006 to consider an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate from Maxitrol Company and Remington Hybrid Seed Company, Inc.
5. Resolution from Allegan County, Re: Opposition of amendment to the General Property Tax Act (HB 6391).
6. Minutes of the Department of Human Services Board meeting of September 26, 2006.
7. Minutes of the Community Mental Health Services Board meeting of September 20, 2006.

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

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Joyce Dailey-Spence, 1020 Millard Drive, Three Rivers, who is the new on-site and senior therapist for the Community Healing Center in Three Rivers appeared before the Board. She thanked the Board for their support of their substance abuse services. They use the Center for Juvenile and Senior assessments and treatments. They get a lot of referrals from schools, courts, the community and from families.

Barbara Funk, from the Community Healing Center in Sturgis also thanked the Board for their support for their programs. They provide women's specialty programs including the Hope Group where they teach parenting and relationship building skills. They also provide the Hope Center which offers a place for women to stay with their children for up to a year. They provide whatever services are needed to these women to get and stay clean and provide a better life for their children.

Sally Reames, Director of the Community Healing Center, thanked the Board for the money that the Board uses from the Alcohol Tax to support their services including the Methamphetamine Task Force. Of the allocation, \$35,000 goes to women's specialty program; \$18,000 to Hope House; \$3,000 for prevention; and \$18,000 for treatment at the Centers in Sturgis and Three Rivers.

She thanked Commissioner Baker for serving on the Board.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED ON 2007 BUDGET

Chairman Bordner declared the public hearing opened on the 2007 budget. Ms. West-Wing explained a document that had been distributed regarding the changes in the budget since the Commissioners work sessions.

The folks that spoke from the Community Health Center intended for their comments to be taken into consideration for the 2007 budget.

Chairman Bordner stated that he had received a letter regarding a request to increase the veterans' estate minimum for burial eligibility from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

Chairman Bordner declared the public hearing closed on the 2007 budget.

ANIMAL CONTROL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2005

Tom Miller, Animal Control Officer gave an overview of the 2005 Annual Report with a comparison to the 2004 Report.

He stated that the numbers are fairly consistent from year to year. They have been laterally transferring a lot of dogs therefore there have been no dogs sold to other institutions.

Mr. Miller stated that they rely on their many volunteers. Tom Molter recently put the finishing touches on the grooming room. This is where the volunteers can do grooming, obedience, clipping, etc., which better prepares a dog for adoption.

He also stated that they have re-established a relationship with the Leader Dog Society in Kalamazoo and provide dogs to them by lateral transfer.

Two of their volunteers transport the dogs to Kalamazoo often.

Mr. Miller also does many programs for schools and civic organizations.

Beginning in October of this year Mr. Miller began his term as President of the State Animal Control Organization. In addition he has been teaching animal control at Grand Valley State University.

He is also a watchdog on their Advisory Board.

Chairman Bordner applauds Mr. Miller for being active serving on committees.

Population-wise there is 1 dog for every 5 people in this County.

In response to a question regarding dog bites, Mr. Miller stated that this County does a better job investigating dog bites than do the counties of Branch and Hillsdale who are a part of our District Health Agency.

Commissioner Shafer complimented Mr. Miller and his staff.

It was moved by Commissioner Shafer and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the 2005 Animal Control Annual Report be accepted. Motion carried.

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH ADMINISTRATOR/CONTROLLER JUDY WEST-WING

Ms. West-Wing gave the highlights of her employment agreement with the County stating that the benefits are consistent with non-contract employees.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Shafer that the Employment Agreement with Administrator/Controller, Judy West-Wing be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Bordner, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

Chairman Bordner stated that it is important to recognize the Administrator for the job that she does. He stated that she does a whale of a job crunching numbers and shows good leadership skills that permeate throughout the departments.

REQUEST FOR SHORT TERM LOAN FROM COMMISSION ON AGING

Commissioner Shafer stated that he had met with the Executive Committee and Lynn Coursey, Executive Director of the Commission on Aging regarding the COA's request for a loan up to \$200,000 from the Board of Commissioners to be repaid next year when their millage funds are received.

It was moved by Commissioner Shafer and supported by Commissioner Loudenslager that the short term loan up to \$200,000 to the Commission on Aging be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Bordner, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

Commissioner Dunlap asked if the COA would be paying interest and the Administrator/Controller answered in the affirmative.

Commissioner Shafer stated that it is important to note that the citizens passed the COA millage and there are currently citizens in need of services. The COA is also cognizant of the fact that they need to save funds so that they have enough money to carry them through the 6 year life of the millage.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ST. JOSEPH COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Ms. West-Wing stated that the Transportation Authority is requesting that the County rescind the current Letter of Understanding and approve the one presented tonight identifying their goals. The director will meet quarterly with the Executive Committee of the Board of Commissioners on the progress of their goals. The Letter of Understanding will be for the years 2007 and 2008 with their funding based on their goals.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Dunlap that the Letter of Understanding with the St. Joseph County Transportation Authority be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Bordner, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM PROGRESSIVE ENGINEERS (RAWSON'S DAM)

Ms. West-Wing stated that Progressive Engineers is requesting additional funds for work done on the Rawson's Dam stating that with this added amount that the total project expenses are still under budget.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Shafer that the request from Progressive Engineers be denied.

Commissioner Shafer stated that there was discussion regarding this at the Parks and Recreation Meeting the other night and if there is no change in the scope of a project then there should be no additional engineering fees.

Chairman Bordner stated that he agrees that this may give them pause to reflect how they project the cost of these projects.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Bordner, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY PLANNING GRANT AGREEMENT

Ms. West-Wing stated that this grant agreement request will be to upgrade throughout the County sites where hazardous materials are stored, if necessary. The grant requires a 20% match which we will match with staff time.

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Dobberteen that the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant Agreement be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Bordner, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

Commissioner Loudenslager stated that this is money well spent.

NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Board of Public Works

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Dunlap that Gerald Loudenslager and Eric Shafer be nominated and appointed to the Board of Public Works for a 3 year term to expire January 1, 2010. Motion carried.

Central Dispatch Advisory Board

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Shafer that Phyllis Youga be nominated and appointed to the Central Dispatch Advisory Board for a 2 year term expiring December 31, 2008. Motion carried.

Community Corrections

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Dunlap that the following people be nominated and appointed to the Community Corrections Advisory Board for a term to expire December 31, 2007:

Jeffrey C. Middleton, Chief District Court Judge
Tony Callaway, Day Reporting Center
Henry VanGemert, St. Joseph County District Court Probation
Tom Koenig, Michigan Department of Corrections
Paul Stutesman, Circuit Court Judge
Thomas Shumaker, Circuit Court/Family Division Judge
Lt. Mark Books, St. Joseph County Sheriff's Department
Gerald Loudenslager, St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners
Douglas F. Fisher, Prosecuting Attorney
Christina Amones, St. Joseph County Domestic Assault Shelter Coalition
Howard Bush, Attorney at Law
Eddie MacKay, Citizen at Large
William D. Welty, District Court Judge

Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Law Enforcement

Commissioner Dobberteen stated that there was no report.

Judiciary

Commissioner Baker stated that the Judiciary Committee had not met.

Physical Resources

Commissioner Shafer stated that the Physical Resources Committee had not met but would like to schedule a meeting date tonight.

Executive Committee

Commissioner Baker stated that the Executive Committee met on November 1st and everyone has a copy of the minutes and he would answer any questions that anyone may have.

PERSONNEL REPORT

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

RESIGNATION:

Jill Sangalli-Bissett, Road Patrol Officer, has resigned effective November 23, 2006.

NEW HIRE:

Debra Lynn Flock has been hired as Family Division Caseworker at \$16.06/hr. (Soltysiak system, grade 9, minimum) effective November 14, 2006.

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

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Ms. West-Wing presented the following report:

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

<u>INCREASE JAIL AND TURNKEY’S BUDGET:</u>	
Line item 101-351-712.000 (Wages – Overtime)	\$ 7,500.00
Line item 101-351-707.000 (Wages – Part time)	7,000.00
<u>DECREASE JAIL AND TURNKEY’S BUDGET:</u>	
Line item 101-351-706.380 (Wages – Corrections Officers)	\$14,500.00

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the budget adjustments be approved. Motion carried.

BILLS

Mr. Carey presented the following bills for payment:

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>
Employee Receivable	\$ 395.95	\$
Appropriations	43,918.00	
County Commission	7,244.92	8,214.60
Circuit Court	2,375.50	13,259.90
District Court	1,783.83	60,745.99
Friend of the Court	2,771.39	35,219.43
Probate Court	1,644.85	17,698.87
Juvenile Branch	13,347.60	51,224.78
Appeals Court	1,390.42	495.19
Administration		10,174.63
Elections	14,570.25	
Finance Department	1,492.18	11,626.44
County Clerk	214.00	23,077.64
Equalization Department	3,310.68	15,160.49
Human Resources	451.65	6,937.46
Geographic Information Systems	2,533.75	6,347.86
Prosecutor's Office	2,826.83	45,934.82
Central Services	12,319.77	5,490.02
Register of Deeds		12,615.14
County Treasurer	20.00	14,105.11
Cooperative Extension	1,232.56	10,806.08
Information Technology	929.44	11,101.70
Buildings & Grounds	3,713.32	15,061.97
Courts Building Security	135.50	5,334.47
Drain Commission	2,720.00	5,371.02
Sheriff Department	18,815.02	90,120.02
Sheriff Reserves	1,184.50	562.47
Marine Patrol	87.38	46.34
Jail & Turnkey	26,465.76	98,488.67
Planning Commission	2,077.52	
Emergency Services	597.45	5,272.14
Animal Control	2,445.46	8,928.96

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>
Board of Public Works	\$	\$ 636.84
Child Care - Probate	12,411.61	1,365.36
Veterans' Services	250.63	392.11
Utilities & General Services	23,014.38	
Total	\$208,692.10	\$591,816.52
<u>OTHER FUNDS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>PAYROLL</u>
County Road Commission	\$ 447,078.75	\$
Parks & Recreation	844.91	8,538.03
Emergency 911 Service	25,660.21	50,584.80
Central Dispatch - Wireless		4,187.38
Meyer Broadway/Coon Hollow Park	1,506.00	2,420.20
Friend of the Court	10,302.77	1,490.10
Family Counseling	656.60	
Cade Lake Park	1,099.35	3,320.13
Waste Management Fund		
County Commission	7,798.05	
Resource Recovery Program		607.14
Traffic Safety Program Fund	1,622.59	
Economic Development Fund	37,001.89	4,180.92
Animal Shelter Donation Fund	179.98	
Register of Deeds Automation Fund	1,799.94	1,261.83
Victims' Rights Advocate Fund		3,230.23
Community Corrections Advisory Board	2,485.00	2,938.82
Community Corrections Program	3,256.00	
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	581.38	
Law Enforcement Fund	5,181.94	18,581.91
Secondary Road Patrol		8,673.68
Homeland Security Grant Fund	5,160.00	
Law Library Fund	2,280.75	
Principal Residence Denial Fund		733.73
Commission on Aging	41,768.64	47,551.15
Department of Human Services	59,904.19	
Child Care - Probate Court	23,578.35	3,648.79
Child Care - Department of Human Services	29,352.52	
Veterans Trust Fund	1,574.35	
Forfeiture and Foreclosure Fund	229.42	
Tax Payment Fund	34,770.41	
Inmate Store	384.05	
Three Rivers Community Center	1,173.76	913.63
Long Lake Level Revolving Fund	524.36	
Flexible Benefits Insurance Fund	139,102.99	
Total	\$ 886,859.15	\$ 162,862.47
Grand Total	\$ 1,095,551.25	\$ 754,678.99

General Fund Operating Expenditures		
Pre-Authorized	\$151,796.30	
Accounts Payable	<u>56,895.80</u>	
		\$ 208,692.10
General Fund Payroll Expenditures		\$ 591,816.52
Other Funds Operating Expenditures		
Pre-authorized	\$803,421.17	
Accounts Payable	<u>83,437.98</u>	
		\$ 886,859.15
Other Funds Payroll Expenditures		\$ <u>162,862.47</u>
Total Recorded for the Month		\$ 1,850,230.24

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

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT

Mr. Carey recommended that an Independent Contractor Agreement with the Jail Medical Director, Dr. Glendora Greene be approved.

It was moved by Commissioner Dobberteen and supported by Commissioner Pueschel that the Independent Contractor Agreement with Dr. Glendora Greene be approved.

The aye and nay vote was called as follows:

Aye votes cast: 7 - Commissioners Shafer, Loudenslager, Dunlap, Baker, Bordner, Pueschel and Dobberteen.

Nay votes cast: 0

Motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A planning work session with Ann Nieuwenhuis was set for November 20, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Bordner encouraged everyone to vote tomorrow and wishes good luck to the Clerk. He mentioned that the media has done a good job this year with election issues.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Loudenslager reminded everyone of the Adoption Day scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on November 21st in the Probate Court.

Commissioner Dunlap stated that he hoped that he would win the election tomorrow and thanked the Commissioners for the appointment and for being so helpful to him.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Loudenslager and supported by Commissioner Shafer that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners adjourn until November 21, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Pattie S. Bender, County Clerk

Monte Bordner, Chairman