

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on January 3, 2023, at 5 pm.

County Clerk Lindsay Oswald called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

County Clerk Oswald called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Ken Malone
Terrance Conklin	Luis Rosado
	Rick Shaffer

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

Election of Chair

Chair Oswald stated that nominations were in order for chair.

Commissioner Allen nominated Commissioner Malone.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Allen that the nominations be closed, and a unanimous ballot cast for Commissioner Malone for Chair. Motion carried.

Election of Vice-chair

Commissioner Allen nominated Commissioner Hoffmaster as vice-chair.

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer that Commissioner Hoffmaster be appointed as vice-chair. Motion carried.

Agenda

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

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to approve the minutes of December 20, 2022. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Rebecca Shank of Constantine commented on the commission comment time.

County Administrator's Report

Ms. Doehring had nothing further to report.

Board Meeting Dates for 2023

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to approve the commission meeting schedule as presented. Motion carried.

Executive Meeting Dates for 2023

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to hold executive meetings the second Tuesday of the month at 4 pm. Motion carried.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Shaffer commented on the number of commissioners on committees with the change in the number of commissioners.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on February 21, 2023, at 5 pm.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

Deputy County Clerk Megan Gauthier called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Dennis Allen	Ken Malone
Rusty Baker	Luis Rosado
Jared Hoffmaster	Rick Shaffer

Commissioner Conklin was absent.

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

Agenda

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

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to approve the minutes of January 17, 2023. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Craig Crabill of Sherman Township commented on elections.

Stacy Linihan of Covered Bridge Healthcare commented on support from the commission.

Rebecca Shank of Constantine commented on prehistoric items in Mendon.

2021-2022 Annual Grant Report

James Hissong presented the report.

County Administrator's Report

Ms. Doehring had nothing further to report.

Committee Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve the appointment of Kathy Pangle to the Community Mental Health Board with a term to expire March 31, 2024. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve the appointment of Roger Gentz to the Agricultural Preservation Board with a term to expire March 6, 2026. Motion carried.

Resolution Honoring the Michigan Association of Counties

Resolution 4-2023

WHEREAS, Michigan’s 83 county governments play a central role in the proper delivery of, and oversight for, critical public services for the state’s approximately 10 million residents; and

WHEREAS, Michigan county governments are led by Boards of Commissioners, who are elected from their communities; and

WHEREAS, the State Association of Supervisors of Michigan was formed by representatives of 16 counties on Feb. 1, 1898, in the Senate chamber of the Michigan State Capitol in Lansing; and

WHEREAS, the association’s name was changed to the Michigan Association of Counties on July 17, 1969; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association of Counties is the oldest association representing local governments in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, 48 of Michigan’s 83 counties have had at least one of their commissioners (or supervisors prior to 1968) serve as president of the association’s Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the association created the Michigan Counties Workers’ Compensation Fund in 1979 to help county members provide workplace safety and injury insurance services to its employees; and

WHEREAS, the association created the Michigan Association of Counties Service Corporation in 1986 to partner with service providers to help counties save money on everything from health insurance to telecommunications services; and

WHEREAS, the association hosts two major conferences every year to bring together county leaders for briefings on trending public policy issues and to hear from state newsmakers and others; and

WHEREAS, the association’s advocacy work in Lansing and beyond has advanced the interests of county governments and the residents they serve; and

WHEREAS, no fewer than five association presidents have served or are serving in the Michigan Legislature in the 21st century, a testament to the culture of public service inculcated by the association

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ST. JOSEPH COUNTY wishes to commend and honor the Michigan Association of Counties on its 125th Anniversary year.

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to adopt the resolution and waive the second reading. Motion carried 6-0 upon roll call vote.

Commissioner Comments

Commission Shaffer commented on the Community Mental Health Board.

Commissioner Allen commented on the Road Committee Meeting.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Allen to adjourn the meeting at 5:31 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on March 21, 2023, at 5 pm.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

County Clerk Lindsay Oswald called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Rusty Baker	Ken Malone
Terry Conklin	Luis Rosado
Jared Hoffmaster	Rick Shaffer

Commissioner Allen was absent.

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

Agenda

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

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the minutes of February 21, 2023. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Craig Crabill of Sherman Township commented on elections.

Tim Carls of Florence Township commented on roads.

Carol Slavic from Nottawa County commented on the recreation coordinator position.

Rebecca Shank of Constantine commented on water resources.

2022 Annual Drain Commissioner Report

Drain Commissioner Jeff Wenzel presented the report.

2022 Annual MSU Extension Report

Director Julie Pioch presented the report.

County Administrator's Report

Administrator Doehring commented on ARPA funds and on the board practice of allowing a commissioner to call into the executive meeting.

Committee Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to appoint Gerald Loudenslager to the Board of Public Works with a term to expire January 1, 2024. Motion carried.

Child Care Fund Basic Grant Increase

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to approve the grant increase to \$56,300. Motion carried.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Hoffmaster commented on the Prairie River reclassification.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on April 18, 2023, at 5 pm.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

Chief Deputy County Clerk Dena Clark called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Ken Malone
Terry Conklin	Luis Rosado
	Rick Shaffer

Also present: Teresa Doehring, County Administrator

Agenda

Commissioner Rosado asked to add a property purchase to the agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve the minutes of March 21, 2023. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Michelle Avery of Burr Oak commented on elections.

Craig Crabill commented on elections.

Matthew Avery of Burr Oak commented on elections.

Rebecca Shank of Constantine commented on water resources.

Andrew Brandt commented on the Sheriff's Department.

2022 Annual Prosecutor Report

Prosecutor David Marvin presented the report.

2022 GIS Report

Director Jerry Happel presented the report.

County Administrator's Report

Ms. Doehring had nothing further to report.

Committee Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Allen to appoint Bill Walters with a term expiring March 1, 2024 and Steven Holt with a term expiring March 1, 2025 to the Veterans Advisory Board. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to appoint Stoney Summey to the Transportation Authority Board with a 2-year term. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Baker to appoint Damon Knapp, Elisabeth Roberts, Robert Horton, and Sandy Hall with terms expiring March 31, 2026 and Stacy Linihan with a term expiring March 31, 2025 to the Community Mental Health Board. Motion carried.

2023 Equalization Report

Resolution 5-2023

WHEREAS, MCL 211.34(1) requires the County Board of Commissioners to meet in April each year to determine county equalized valuations; which equalization shall be completed and submitted along with the tabular statement required by Section 5 of Act No. 44 of the Public Acts of 1911, as amended no later than May 1 of each year; and

WHEREAS, the assessment rolls of the various assessment jurisdictions have been reviewed by the various local Boards of Review throughout the County of St. Joseph and submitted to your Equalization Department in the appropriate timely manner; and

WHEREAS, those assessment rolls have been audited and balanced by your Equalization Department in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan and the guidelines of the State Tax Commission; the results of such being listed on the attached equalization report and on the prescribed Michigan Department of Treasury Form L-4024 (County Equalization Directors Report of County Equalization).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners approves the County Equalized Valuations as indicated within the attached equalization report a cumulative total for Real Property of \$3,447,195,540 (Three Billion, Four Hundred Forty-Seven Million, One Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand, Five Hundred Forty Dollars) and a cumulative total for Personal Property of \$301,155,110 (Three Hundred One Million, One Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand, One Hundred Ten Dollars). The combined total of Real and Personal Property of the Cities and Townships in St. Joseph County is \$3,748,350,650 (Three Billion, Seven Hundred Forty-Eight Million, Three Hundred Fifty Thousand, Six Hundred Fifty Dollars).

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to adopt the resolution approving the 2023 Equalization Report. Motion carried 7-0 upon roll call vote.

2023 Equalization Report

Resolution 5-2023

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to adopt the resolution approving the 2023 Equalization Report. Motion carried 7-0 upon roll call vote.

2023 Opioid Response 2 Project Grant Award

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Baker to accept the grant for \$27,500. Motion carried.

Sturgis Area Community Foundation Grant Award

It was moved by Commissioner Conklin and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to accept the grant for \$5,000. Motion carried.

Rural Broadband Inventory Study Proposal

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Allen to approve the study proposal. Motion carried.

**Prairie River Reclassification
Resolution 6-2023**

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is considering the reclassification of the Prairie River in St. Joseph County, Michigan.

WHEREAS, the Prairie River has been classified as a Type 4 Trout stream from Bowers Road to McKale Road since 2006. A change in the Mi-WW AT temperature classification does not protect the fish populations. No streamflow depletion or detrimental water temperature changes have been observed or measured despite significantly increased irrigation in the watershed; and

WHEREAS, the proposed reclassification is the first one attempted in the State and will set precedent for future reclassifications. The stream temperature data is limited and was collected without following the cited EPA protocols. The precedent for future potential reclassifications must be set to a much higher standard of data collection, data analysis, and public presentation in reports and public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the benefits to the trout and the river of decreasing the allowable streamflow depletion by nearly 5 times the current limits are unclear and unstated. At the same time, the devastating impacts that would be directly caused by severely restricting the water use on the communities, residents, businesses, and municipalities are not being considered. No impact studies or cost-benefit analyses have been conducted: and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ST. JOSEPH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, strongly objects to the reclassification of the Prairie River and recommends that the DNR disapprove the reclassification or pause their decision to analyze further data for a more informed decision; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be shared with DNR, EGLE, State Senator Lindsey, and Representative Fink.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to adopt the resolution for the reclassification of the Prairie River. Motion carried 7-0 upon roll call vote.

Budget Amendments

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

Budget Amendments

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Allen to authorize and direct Teresa Doehring, County Administrator, to enter into any and all agreements, to take any and all action, and to execute and deliver any and all documents, in the name of and on behalf of St. Joseph County, Michigan, in order to complete the purchase and acquisition of the property located at 920 West Michigan Avenue, Three Rivers, Michigan. Motion carried.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Hoffmaster commented on the broadband study.

Commissioner Allen commented on the audience.

Chair Malone commented on the broadband study.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 pm. Motion carried.

Dena Clark, Chief Deputy County Clerk

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on May 16, 2023, at 5 pm.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

Chief Deputy County Clerk Dena Clark called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Ken Malone
Terry Conklin	Luis Rosado
	Rick Shaffer

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

Agenda

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

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to approve the minutes of April 18, 2023. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Craig Crabill commented on the Second Amendment and elections.

Terry Krull from Constantine Township commented on Northrup Road.

Andrew Brandt commented on the Sheriff's Department.

2022 Annual Sheriff's Office Report

Undersheriff Jason Bingaman presented the report.

2021/2022 Community Mental Health Report

Cameron Bullock presented the report.

County Administrator's Report

Ms. Doehring clarified the bids for the Three Rivers project would be open on May 18, 2023 at 2:00 pm.

Committee Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Allen to appoint Steven Houts and Jeffrey Knautz to the Parks and Recreation Commission with a term expiring January 1, 2025. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to appoint Jessica Eyster with a term expiring September 30, 2024 and Jared Hoffmaster, and Alan Ives with terms expiring September 30, 2023 to the Workforce Development Board. Motion carried.

Indigent Defense Agreement Addendum

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Allen to approve the indigent defense agreement. Motion carried.

Three Rivers Area Community Foundation Award

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to accept the \$5,000 grant award for Community Corrections. Motion carried.

FY 2024 Community Corrections Grant Award

Resolution 7-2023

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County Board of Commission serves as the Fiscal Agent and Program Manager for the St. Joseph County Community Corrections Advisory Board (CCAB), and

WHEREAS, this County strongly desires to continue to participate with Community Correction's Programs and Services, and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County CCAB has worked with the OCC to develop a Community Corrections FY 2024 Grant Application, and

WHEREAS, the FY 2024 Community Corrections Grant Application has been prepared by the St. Joseph County CCAB in the amount \$102,065 for Community Corrections Programs and Services in St. Joseph County, and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County CCAB, has approved this Grant Application, and recommends its approval by the Board of Commission.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that St. Joseph County Board of Commission hereby approves the St. Joseph County Community Corrections Advisory Board's, FY 2024 Grant Application in the annual amount of \$102,065 for Programs and Services.

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to adopt the resolution for the grant award. Motion carried 7-0 upon roll call vote.

Hazardous Waste Contract

It was moved by Commissioner Conklin and seconded by Commissioner Allen to approve the household hazardous waste contract with the County of Kalamazoo. Motion carried.

Advocate Dog Ownership and Use Agreement

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Allen to approve the agreement. Motion carried.

Budget Amendments

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

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Shaffer commented on Older Americans Month.

Commissioner Hoffmaster commented on the donations received and the hard work of the staff at Pivotal.

Chair Malone commented on the struggle with hiring law enforcement. He congratulated Kelly Hostetler on her Liberty Bell award.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 pm. Motion carried.

Dena Clark, Chief Deputy County Clerk

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on June 20, 2023, at 5 pm.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

County Clerk Lindsay Oswald called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Ken Malone
Terry Conklin	Luis Rosado
	Rick Shaffer

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

Agenda

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

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the minutes of May 16, 2023. Motion carried.

Public Comment

St. Joseph County Conservation Director Carolyn Grace commented on the availability of the Conservation District's annual report and grant funding.

Paige Willis from White Pigeon commented on property taxes.

Rebecca Shank from Constantine commented on Corey Lake.

2022 Annual Central Dispatch Report

Director Stacy Bower presented the report.

2022 Annual Community Health Agency Report

Director Rebecca Burns presented the report.

County Administrator's Report

Ms. Doehring had no further business.

Committee Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to appoint Warren Atkins, Taylor Snow, Diana Liston, Sarah Beckle, Tina Cronkhite, Jared Hoffmaster, and Stoney Summey to the Transportation Authority with terms expiring March 1, 2025. Motion carried.

2023 L-4029 Millage Request

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Allen to approve the L-4029 tax rate request form. Motion carried.

Corey Lake Petitioned Drain Project

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to approve the financing of the project and the note to the Core Lake Intercounty Drainage District. Motion carried 6-1 with Commissioner Rosado dissenting.

GIS Department Structure Change & Letter of Agreement

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to approve the GIS structure change and letter of agreement. Motion carried.

**Oppose State Senate Bills 76-86
Resolution 8-2023**

Whereas, the right of the people to keep and bear arms for defense of life, liberty, and property is regarded as an inalienable right by the people of St. Joseph County, Michigan;

Whereas, the people of St. Joseph County, Michigan, derive economic benefit from all safe forms of firearms recreation, hunting, and shooting conducted within St. Joseph County using all types of firearms allowable under the United States Constitution;

Whereas, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners, being elected to represent the people of St. Joseph County and being duly sworn by their oath of office to uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Michigan;

Whereas, the Michigan House of Representatives and the Michigan Senate, being elected by the people of the State of Michigan and being duly sworn by their oath of office to uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Michigan;

Whereas, the Governor of Michigan, being elected to represent the people of the State of Michigan and being duly sworn by her oath of office to uphold the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Michigan; and

Whereas, proposed legislation of any bills similar to, or under consideration by the Michigan State Legislature, would infringe upon the right to keep and bear arms of commonly owned firearms by the individual citizens of St. Joseph County, Michigan, and is a direct violation of the 2nd Amendment to the US Constitution.

Now therefore be it resolved by the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners to hereby oppose the enactment of any legislation that would infringe upon the Right of the People to keep and bear arms and consider such laws to be unconstitutional and beyond lawful Legislative Authority.

Be it further resolved that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners demands that the Michigan Legislature cease further actions restricting the rights of the people to keep and bear arms.

Be it further resolved that the Clerk of St. Joseph County is hereby directed to deliver copies of this Resolution to all 82 County Clerks, Michigan Association of Counties, Representative Brad Paquette, Representative Steve Carra, Senator Jonathon Lindsey, and the Office of the Governor.

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Allen to adopt the resolution to oppose the Senate Bills and waive second reading. Motion carried 7-0 upon roll call vote.

Animal Control Grants

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to approve the grant. Motion carried.

Budget Amendments

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

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Shaffer commented on the Florence presentation of the new fire truck in Constantine Fire Department.

Commissioner Baker commented on Mendon Township fire station.

Commissioner Hoffmaster commented on Mendon's softball success.

Commissioner Allen commented on Mendon's success.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on July 18, 2023, at 5 pm.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

Chief Deputy Gina Everson called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Ken Malone
Terry Conklin	Luis Rosado
	Rick Shaffer

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

Agenda

Commissioner Rosado asked to move the Land Bank to the first order of business.

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Malone to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve the minutes of June 20, 2023. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Craig Crabill commented on elections.

Kathleen Olsen commented on Michigan Works and the St Joseph County Human Services Commission.

Penny Howard commented on a bed bug issue with the Three Rivers Senior Center.

Maxine Kennedy commented on the bed bug issue with the Three Rivers Senior Center.

Greg Algier, union representative for Sheriff deputies, commented on essential worker pay.

Joe Bingaman commented on ARPA funds for the Sheriff's Office.

Christine Yunker introduced herself as the new director for the St Joseph County Grange Fair.

Rebecca Shank commented on the Three Rivers library and displays in downtown Three Rivers.

Paige Willis commented on the water problems in the Village of White Pigeon.

State Land Bank Authority Presentation

Jeff Hunting presented the information, and a special meeting was scheduled for July 24, 2023 at 8 am.

FY 2024 Area Agency on Aging Report

Director Laura Sutter presented the report.

2022 Human Services Commission Report

Kathy Olsen and Laura Brott presented the report.

County Administrator's Report

Ms. Doehring had no further business.

Committee Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to appoint Jeff Coney to the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council with a term expiring July 18, 2026. Motion carried.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Shaffer commented on the anniversary of Covered Bridge Healthcare.

Commissioner Baker commented on the bedbug issue.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Special session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on July 24, 2023, at 8 am.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

Chief Deputy Gina Everson called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Ken Malone
Terry Conklin	Luis Rosado
	Rick Shaffer

Also present: Teresa Doehring, County Administrator

Agenda

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

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Land Bank Authority Resolution

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to approve the resolution approving the intergovernmental agreement establishing the St. Joseph County Land Bank Authority. The motion failed 2-5 upon a roll call vote with Commissioners Allen, Baker, Conklin, Rosado, and Shaffer dissenting.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on August 15, 2023, at 5 pm.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

County Clerk Lindsay Oswald called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Luis Rosado
Terry Conklin	Rick Shaffer
	Ken Malone

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

Agenda

Commissioner Baker asked that item 11A be moved to 7A. It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the minutes of July 18, 2023 and July 24, 2023. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Kevin Kane commented on the suicide prevention network event. He also announced his intention to run for Probate Court Judge in the non-incumbent, regular term.

FY2022 Audit

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to accept the audit and place it on file. Motion carried.

Sheriff's Office Report

Sheriff Mark Lillywhite provided a review of the responses the Sheriff's Office has been a part of since the start of the year.

2022 Juvenile Division Family Court Report

Juvenile Division Director Kevin Kane presented the report.

County Administrator's Report

Ms. Doehring commented on the excellent audit and work from the finance director. She mentioned upcoming budget meetings and the status of ongoing building projects.

Committee Reports

Commissioner Rosado provided a Road Commission update.

Commissioner Allen also commented on Road Commission business.

Detention Placement Contract

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to approve the detention placement contract. Motion carried.

POAM Letter of Understanding

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to approve the POAM letter of understanding. Motion carried.

Budget Amendments

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

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Shaffer commented on his disappointment with Sheriff Lillywhite's report.

Commissioner Hoffmaster commented on the Sheriff's unwillingness to stay long enough to answer questions and his disappointment in the outside employment Sheriff Lillywhite held while collecting a paycheck from the County.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to initiate a complaint pursuant to MCL 168.207. Discussion included Sheriff Lillywhite's absence from the office and legal liability and asking Sheriff Lillywhite if he planned to return before sending the letter. Upon a roll call vote, the motion passed 6-1 with Commissioner Rosado dissenting.

Chair Malone commented on recall options.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Annual session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on September 19, 2023, at 5 pm.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

Chief Deputy County Clerk Dena Clark called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Luis Rosado
Terry Conklin	Rick Shaffer
	Ken Malone

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

Agenda

Commissioner Hoffmaster asked to remove the contract with Brussee/Brady.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to approve the minutes of August 15, 2023 and July 24, 2023. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Craig Craybill commented on the GOP.

Kelly Weaver commented on hand counting ballots.

Rebecca Shank commented on the Daughters of the American Revaluation and Constitution week.

2021/2022 Commission on Aging Report

COA Director Pam Riley presented the report.

2022 Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Kathy Humphreys presented the report.

County Administrator's Report

Ms. Doehring spoke on appropriations.

Committee Reports

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to reappoint John Gelvin, Pat Dane, Deborah Davis to the Commission on Aging with a term to expire June 30, 2025, and appointment of Kathy Pangle to the Commission on Aging with a term to expire June 30, 2024. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to reappoint Michael O'Rourke, Glenn Nissley, Frank Kalasky, Doris Ripplinger, Carol Higgins, and Mark Ripplinger to the Solid Waste Management Planning Committee with terms to expire September 1, 2025. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Baker to reappoint Jessica Eyster, Jared Hoffmaster, and Alan Ives to the Workforce Development Board with terms to expire September 30, 2025. Motion carried.

Child Care Budget

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to approve the budget as presented. Motion carried.

Rawson's King Mill Dam Lake Level

Resolution 9-2023

WHEREAS, Part 307 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, MCL 324.30701, et seq. ("Part 307") outlines a process to establish a normal lake level on an inland lake; and

WHEREAS, Part 307 allows a County Board of Commissioners, on its own motion, to initiate action to take the necessary steps to cause to be determined the normal level of an inland lake. MCL 324.30702(1); and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners ("Board") desires the establishment of a normal level for the waterbody located in Leonidas Township, St. Joseph County, Michigan known as Rawson's King Mill Dam; and

WHEREAS, Part 307 provides that the Board may require that a preliminary lake level study be conducted by a licensed professional engineer before proceeding on its motion. MCL 324.30703(1); and

WHEREAS, Part 307 further provides that the Board may determine that the whole or a part of the cost of a project to establish and maintain a normal level for an inland lake shall be defrayed by special assessments against those benefited, including privately owned parcels of land, political subdivisions of the state, and state owned lands under the jurisdiction and control of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. MCL 324.30711(1).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. Establish Lake Level. On its own motion, the Board authorizes the St. Joseph County Drain Commissioner ("Drain Commissioner") to begin the process under Part 307 to establish a lake level on the waterbody known as Rawson's King Mill Dam.
2. Delegated Authority. The Drain Commissioner shall serve as the delegated authority under Part 307 for the Rawson's King Mill Dam Lake Level and shall have all powers granted to a delegated authority under Part 307. MCL 324.30702(2).
3. Engineer and Preliminary Study. The Drain Commissioner may retain the engineering firm Fleis & VandenBrink to conduct a preliminary lake level study and perform any other services related to a Rawson's King Mill Dam Lake Level.
4. Legal Counsel and Circuit Court Petition. The Drain Commissioner may retain legal counsel Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes, PLC to assist with legal matters related to the Part 307 lake

level process. Said legal counsel is specifically authorized to file a petition in the St. Joseph County Circuit Court on behalf of St. Joseph County to establish a lake level for Rawson's King Mill Dam and to establish and confirm the boundaries of a lake level special assessment district.

5. **Costs of Activities:** All costs associated with the lake level activities authorized in this resolution, including retaining all necessary consultants (e.g., legal counsel and engineers), shall be reimbursed by a lake level special assessment district to the extent permitted by Part 307.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to adopt the resolution. Motion carried 7-0 upon a roll call vote.

Meyer Broadway Park Fall Color Tour

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve the special license as presented. Motion carried.

Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health Regional Contract

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Allen to approve the intergovernmental contract. Motion carried.

Budget Amendments

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

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Shaffer commented on Project Connect and Veteran Stand Down.

Commissioner Rosado commented on the Road Commission SWAT analysis.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to adjourn the meeting at 5:51 pm. Motion carried.

Ladena M. Clark, Chief Deputy County Clerk

Special session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on September 26, 2023 at 4 pm.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

Chief Deputy Register Gina Everson called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Luis Rosado
Terry Conklin	Rick Shaffer
	Ken Malone

Also present: Teresa Doehring, County Administrator.

Agenda

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

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Brussee Brady Contract for Jail Door and Control Room

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to authorize Teresa Doehring, County Administrator, to execute the scope of work as identified in the contract. Motion carried 4-3 upon a roll call vote with Commissioners Baker, Conklin, and Malone dissenting.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Allen commented on the jail and the training facility and Sheriff Lillywhite.

Commissioner Hoffmaster commented on changing the policy for accepting bids and on Sheriff Lillywhite.

Commissioner Conklin commented on Sheriff Lillywhite.

Commissioner Rosado commented on Sherriff Lillywhite.

Chairman Malone commented on Sheriff Lillywhite.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Baker to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on October 17, 2023 at 5 pm.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

Chief Deputy Gina Everson called the roll, and the following commissioners were present.

Rusty Baker	Ken Malone
Terry Conklin	Luis Rosado
Jared Hoffmaster	Rick Shaffer

Absent: Dennis Allen

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

Agenda

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

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the Board Minutes of September 19, 2023 and September 26, 2023. Motion carried.

Employee Service Recognition

Staff were recognized for years of service from 10 to 35 years.

Public Comment

Rebecca Shank commented on removal of Dams.

County Administrator's Report

Ms. Doehring commented on Building Authority meeting with Veteran's Services; open enrollment; and the budget session on October 24.

Community Corrections Advisory Board Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to appoint Luke Lori to the Community Corrections Advisory Board with a term expiring December 31, 2023. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to appoint Randy Chupp and Rick Anderson to the Board of Canvassers with terms expiring October 31, 2027. Motion carried.

**Apportionment Report 2023
Resolution 10-2023**

WHEREAS, MCL 211.37 as amended, requires the County Board of Commissioners at their October session, to apportion the amount of property taxes to be raised by the various taxing jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, the attached Apportionment Report contains a summary of the requests for millages to be levied by the various taxing jurisdictions and the County of St. Joseph; and

WHEREAS, MCL 207.12, as amended, requires the Director of the County Tax Equalization Department to make and submit to the Department of Treasury, State Tax Commission, a detailed report of such actions by the County Board on a form prescribed by the Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners approves the attached summary of millage requests by the various taxing jurisdictions and further authorizes the St. Joseph County Equalization Director to certify such forms and submit them as required by law to the appropriate departments.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to adopt the 2023 apportionment resolution. Motion carried 6-0 upon roll call vote.

**Local Control for Solar and Wind
Resolution 11-2023**

Whereas Executive Directive 2020-10 aims to achieve 100 percent carbon neutrality in Michigan by 2050;

Whereas industry leaders have pledged to reduce carbon emissions to help achieve this goal;

Whereas efforts to expand renewable energy projects will continue to increase in this state;

Whereas the governor has proposed the Michigan Public Service Commission be the sole regulating authority for solar and wind projects to expedite these efforts;

Whereas by granting the Michigan Public Service Commission this authority, local control will be preempted;

Whereas should local control be preempted, a county, township, city or village would be unable to determine the location, size, setback distance, decibel level or any other criteria for a solar or wind facility;

Whereas should local control be preempted, a county, township, city, or village would be unable to determine requirements for construction, operation, use, or maintenance of a solar or wind facility;

Whereas if a county already has a solar or wind policy, practice, regulation, rule or ordinance on record it would be null and void;

Whereas all other types of energy facilities, while regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission, must adhere to local zoning;

Whereas this proposal grants far more regulating authority to the Michigan Public Service Commission than for any other energy source; and

Whereas the Michigan Association of Counties opposes any legislative action that may grant the Michigan Public Service Commission this power.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ST JOSEPH COUNTY opposes the pre-emption of local control in solar and wind siting and zoning.

It was moved by Commissioner Conklin and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to adopt the resolution. Motion carried 6-0 upon roll call vote.

FY2023 Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG)

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to approve the EMPG work agreement and grant agreement. Motion carried.

FY24 Specialty Court Grant

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve the FY 24 Specialty Court Grant Awards – Adult Drug Treatment Court, Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program, 3B Sobriety Court, and Community Corrections Grant Award. Motion carried.

FOC Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Program

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to approve the Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Program contract. Motion carried.

FY24 Indigent Defense Agreement

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the Indigent Defense Agreement. Motion carried.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Hoffmaster commented on county transportation.

Commissioner Rosado commented on the Road Commission projects.

Commissioner Conklin thanked employees.

Commissioner Schaffer commented on the annual Candlelight Vigil.

Commissioner Malone thanked employees.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Schaffer and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers at 5 pm on November 21, 2023.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

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

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Ken Malone
Terry Conklin	Luis Rosado
	Rick Shaffer

Also present: Angie Steinman, Finance Director

Agenda

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

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Allen to approve the minutes of October 17, 2023. Motion carried.

2024/2025 Budget Public Hearing

Chair Malone opened the floor to public comment at 5:02 pm.

Hearing no other comments, Chair Malone closed the public hearing at 5:03 pm.

Public Comment

There were no comments.

2022 Medical Examiner Annual Report

Dr. deJong presented the annual report.

2022 Information Technology Annual Report

IT director Dustin Bainbridge presented the annual report.

County Administrator's Report

There was no further business.

Board Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to reappoint Ivan Riddle to the Department of Health and Human Services with a term expiring October 31, 2026. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to appoint John Kroggel and reappoint Rick Shaffer and Ken Malone with terms expiring January 1, 2027 to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to appoint Amanda Miller to the Community Mental Health Pivotal Board with a term expiring March 31, 2026. Motion carried.

Commissioner Rosado provided a Covered Bridge construction and Road Commission update.

Commissioner Hoffmaster provided a Transportation Authority update.

FY23 Region 5 Homeland Security Grant Program Agreement

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the agreement. Motion carried.

Staffing Changes

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Hoffmaster to approve the early vote coordinator, part-time program coordinator for community corrections, and election inspectors. Motion carried.

Year-end Budget Amendments

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to authorize the Finance Director after review by the County Administrator to make any budget amendments necessary after the date of this board meeting to ensure the County's budget is compliant with State requirements. Motion carried.

2024/2025 Budget Adoption

Resolution 12-2023

WHEREAS, Public Act 621 of 1978 otherwise known as the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act provides a system of unified procedures for the preparation and execution of budgets for units of local government; and

WHEREAS, the County Administrator/Controller has provided the recommended 2024 & 2025 budget, as well as supporting documentation as required by Public Act 621; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board of Commissioners to provide for the solvency of County Fiscal Operations by adopting a General Appropriations Act as required by law; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board of Commissioners to articulate policy relative to monitoring, maintenance accounting and implementation of the General Appropriations Act as required by law; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board of Commissioners to continue its allocation for substance abuse services of 50% of the convention facility/liquor tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 & 2025 Budget are based on the intent of the Board of Commissioners to levy property tax millages as follows: County Operating 4.5217, 9-1-1 .9942, Commission on Aging .7456, Transportation .33, County Roads .9942 and Park & Recreation .2492; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 & 2025 Budget has been apportioned to the various County departments in the categories of Total Personnel Services, Total Operating Expenditures, and Total Capital Expenditures; and

WHEREAS, the following County Budget Policy shall apply to the management of these categories:

Total Personnel Services (Wages and Fringe Benefits): Budgeted expenditures are predetermined by the Board of Commissioners. Permission of the Board of Commissioners is required for transfers to, from, or between line items within this category.

Total Operating Expenditures: Permission of the Board of Commissioners is required for transfers to or from line items within this category if the transfer is to or from a different category. Budgeted expenditures and transfers between line items within this category are at the discretion of management in accordance with the County Purchasing Policy. Commissioners have determined a list of approved dues that will be paid for 2024. Only those dues approved shall be paid from County funds.

Total Capital Expenditures: Budgeted expenditures to the extent of the Board approved capital listing contained in the adopted 2024 & 2025 budget documents are at the discretion of management in accordance with the County Purchasing Policy. Permission of the Board of Commissioners is required to purchase items not previously approved if the request exceeds \$5,000. Non-budgeted capital requests under \$5,000 shall be presented to the County Administrator/Controller, or his designee, in accordance with the County Purchasing Policy. Transfers between line items within this category shall be presented to the County Administrator/Controller, or his designee, for consideration.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the General Appropriations Act including such documents as the General Fund revenues and expenditures, special revenue budgets, elected officials' salary schedule, non-contract pay ranges, part-time wage schedule, capital budget, and Planning Enabling Act Capital Improvements Program for its financial operations.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to adopt the 2024/2025 budget resolution. Motion carried 5-2 upon roll call vote with Commissioners Baker and Conklin dissenting.

Budget Amendments

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

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Schaffer commented on the land bank discussion.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Schaffer and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk

Regular session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers at 5 pm on December 19, 2023.

Chair Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

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

Dennis Allen	Jared Hoffmaster
Rusty Baker	Ken Malone
Terry Conklin	Luis Rosado
	Rick Shaffer

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

Agenda

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

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the minutes of November 21, 2023. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Craig Crabill, 66274 Meyers Road, invited officials to an election summit.

Kelly Weaver, 70503 Sevison Road, commented on voting machines.

Deb Howell, 20872 Roys Road, commented on election equipment.

Bryce Dent, 906 North Main, commented on drones and the Eagleview project.

Matt Avery, 441 Halfway Road, commented on drone use.

Andrew Brandt commented on the law.

Tim Carls, Florence Township Supervisor, commented on the land bank.

2022 Circuit and Probate Annual Report

Court Administrator Kathy Griffin presented the annual report.

2022 District Court Annual Report

Judge Pattison presented the annual report.

Road Commission Audit and Review of 2023

IT director Dustin Bainbridge presented the annual report.

County Administrator's Report

County Administrator Doehring commented on end of year activities.

Board Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Baker to reappoint Gregg Dohm, Kathy Pangle, Robert Horton, and Rick Shaffer to the Planning Commission with terms expiring January 1, 2027. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Allen to reappoint Teresa Doehring, Bronwyn Drost, and Andrew Kuk with terms expiring July 21, 2026 and to appoint Jessica Miller with a term expiring July 21, 2025 to the Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Baker to appoint Luis Rosado, Luke Nofsinger, Paul Stutesman, Lisa Martin, Edward MacKay, Gerald Loudenslager, Robert Pattison, David Marvin, Jeffrey Middleton, Kitt Buchner, Autumnne Keifer, Thomas Miles, David Tomlinson, Alek Haak-Frost, Sam Smallcombe, Thomas Lowry, Luke Lori, and Clarence James to the Community Corrections Advisory Board with terms expiring December 31, 2024. Motion carried.

FY24 Agreement for Extension Services

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to approve the agreement. Motion carried.

County of Kalamazoo Household Hazardous Waste Agreement

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Allen to approve the County of Kalamazoo and St. Joseph County Household Hazardous Waste Agreement to provide funding to a maximum amount of \$5,000 for the services at the Kalamazoo County HHW Center. Motion carried.

Medical Examiner Appointment

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to appoint Dr. Patrick Hansma as the Medical Examiner. Motion carried.

2023 Apportionment Report**Resolution 13-2023**

WHEREAS, MCL 211.37 as amended, requires the County Board of Commissioners at their October session, to apportion the amount of property taxes to be raised by the various taxing jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners approved the tax spread containing the summary of requests for millages to be levied via resolution No. 10-2023 on October 17, 2023; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the tax spread is required which reflects a voted Special Assessment District on November 7, 2023 for Constantine Township: Fire Protection and Ambulance Services Special Assessment of 0.7500 Mill; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the tax spread is required which reflects a revised Special Assessment for Colon Township: Ambulance Services Special Assessment of 0.2940 Mill corrected to 0.3965; and

WHEREAS, an amendment to the tax spread is required which reflects a revised Special Assessment for Colon Township: Fire Operating Special Assessment of 0.7680 Mill corrected to 1.0360; and

WHEREAS, MCL 207.12, as amended, requires the Director of the County Tax Equalization Department to make and submit to the Department of Treasury, State Tax Commission, a detailed report of such actions by the County Board on a form prescribed by the Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners approves the attached amended summary of millage requests by the various taxing jurisdictions and further authorizes the Director of the St. Joseph County Tax Equalization Department to make, sign, and submit such forms as are required by law to the appropriate departments.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to adopt the resolution. Motion carried 7-0 upon roll call vote.

**Pivotal and Substance Abuse Services Appropriation
Resolution 14-2023**

WHEREAS, St. Joseph County appropriates monies to Pivotal for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph County has budgeted \$257,268.00 for Pivotal for 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Treasurer of St. Joseph County be respectfully directed to make quarterly transfers of \$64,317.00 in 2024 to Pivotal around the first of the month for the months of January, April, July and October 2024.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Allen to adopt the resolution. Motion carried 7-0 upon roll call vote.

**Community Health Agency Appropriation
Resolution 15-2023**

WHEREAS, St. Joseph County is a member of the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency (CHA); and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph County is committed to supporting programs that provide access to appropriate health care services for low-income residents of St. Joseph County; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph County has budgeted \$322,977 in 2024 to finance a portion of the Community Health Agency; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 St. Joseph County and the Community Health Agency entered into a building lease agreement for 1110 Hill Street, Three Rivers, for an annual rent of \$1.00 per year payable by January 15th; and

WHEREAS, it would be appropriate to reduce the appropriation by \$1.00 to represent the yearly rent payment.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Joseph County Treasurer is respectfully directed to make quarterly transfers at the direction of the CHA. The CHA will determine the amounts and the timing for each quarterly transfer.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoffmaster and seconded by Commissioner Baker to adopt the resolution. Motion carried 7-0 upon roll call vote.

Budget Amendments

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

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Schaffer commented homelessness in the county.

Commissioner Rosado commented on an animal control donation received.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm. Motion carried.

Lindsay Oswald, County Clerk