

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 19, 2024, at 5:00 pm.

Chairman Malone called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Commissioner Shaffer.

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

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

Also present: Jessica Miller, Assistant to County Administrator; Angie Steinman, Finance Director

Adoption of Agenda

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

Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Allen to approve the minutes of February 20, 2024. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Craig Crabill of Sturgis read a letter from Barry County Sheriff's Office regarding an investigation of election fraud in their county.

Michael Whitney of Constantine handed out an invitation to a meeting with Dr. Douglas Frank, on May 21, 2024.

Rebecca Shank talked about the need to have a tourism guide for our county again.

Presentation

Julie Pioch, District 13 MSU-e Director Michigan, presented Michigan State University's Annual Report. Pioch stated that the staff is at 100% and full of talent. Eric Anderson was leaving, and Nicole Ritchie would be taking his place for Field Crops. Pioch introduced Kayla Mitchell, the new 4-H Program Coordinator. Mitchell announced that 4-H Youth Camp was back and that the County Conservation Tour was scheduled May 14th and 15th.

County Administrator's Report

Jessica Miller wanted the Commission to know there would be a ribbon cutting with Barton Group for the Three Rivers Campus. A final date had not been determined, but possible dates were April 29th or 30th.

Committee Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Allen to reappoint Henry Miller and Carolyn Grace to the 2024 Agriculture Preservation Board. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Baker to reappoint Bill Walters, Nathan Brown, and Frederick Yager to the 2024 VA Advisory Board. Motion carried.

Commission on Aging Millage Renewal

Resolution 4-2024

WHEREAS, St. Joseph County Commission on Aging requested that the Board of Commissioners consider a millage ballot question to be placed on the August 2024 ballot; and

WHEREAS, St. Joseph County Prosecuting Attorney Dave Marvin has reviewed and approved the language.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following ballot millage renewal question language for a special election to be called and held in August of 2024:

Shall the Constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one year upon all property within the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, be renewed by the County and authorized to levy $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mill (\$0.75 per \$1,000.00 of taxable valuation) for a period of six (6) years, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029, inclusive, for the sole purpose of operating millage for the continuation of Senior Services through the St. Joseph County Commission on Aging? It is estimated that if this tax levy were spread in 2024 it would generate \$1,849,040.00 in additional revenue.

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to adopt the Commission on Aging Millage Renewal and Resolution. Motion carried 5-0 upon roll call vote.

Branch, Hillsdale, and St. Joseph Community Health Agency Agreement

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

Deputy Medical Examiner Appointments

It was moved by Commissioner Rosado and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the appointment of; Anna Lane Tart, MD, Jared Brooks, MD, Amanda O. Fisher-Hubbard, MD, Edmund Donoghue, MD, and Christine James, DO with terms expiring December 31, 2024. Motion carried.

Budget Amendments

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

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Shaffer invited everyone to the Human Service Commission Senior Resource Fair. The fair would be held in Three Rivers.

Commissioner Baker wished the Mendon Girls Basketball Team good luck at Quarter Finals.

Commissioner Allen thanked the public for coming out.

Commissioner Malone wished Mendon Girls Basketball Team good luck.

Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 pm. Motion carried.

Ladena M. Clark, Chief Deputy County Clerk