

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

January 6, 2026

The Organizational Session of the Board of County Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Commission Chambers on January 6, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

1. Clerk Everson called the meeting to order.
2. An invocation was given, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Deputy Clerk Bliss called roll:

Present: Terry Conklin, Jared Hoffmaster, Ken Malone, Luis Rosado, Rick Shaffer, Christina Yunker, Rusty Baker

Also Present: County Administrator Teresa Cupp and Finance Director Angie Steinman

Absent: None

4. ELECTION OF CHAIR

Nomination was made by Commissioner Shaffer to appoint Commissioner Hoffmaster as Chair. Commissioner Hoffmaster accepted the nomination.

Nomination was made by Commissioner Baker to appoint Commissioner Rosado as Chair. Commissioner Rosado declined the nomination.

It was moved by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to close the floor to nominations. Motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to appoint Commissioner Hoffmaster as Board Chair for 2026.

Commissioner Conklin provided comments.

Commissioner Shaffer – Yes

Commissioner Baker – No

Commissioner Rosado – Yes

Commissioner Yunker – No

Commissioner Malone – Yes

Commissioner Conklin – No

Commissioner Hoffmaster – Yes

Motion carried 4-3, by a roll call vote.

5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Nomination was made by Commissioner Malone to appoint Commissioner Rosado as Vice Chair. Commissioner Rosado accepted the nomination.

It was moved by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Shaffer to appoint Commissioner Rosado to Vice Chair.

Commissioner Conklin provided comments.

Motion carried.

6. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Rosado to adopt the agenda, as presented. Motion carried.

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to adopt the minute from December 16, 2025, as presented. Motion carried.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Hoffmaster opened the floor to public comment at 5:09 p.m.

Regina Chapman, Ron Adams, Robin Burpee and Deborah Davis provided comments.

Commissioner Hoffmaster closed the floor to public comment at 5:21 p.m.

9. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Teresa Cupp provided an update on 2025 projects, staffing, planning and 2026 goals.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None reported.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Board Meeting Dates for 2026

It was moved by Commissioner Yunker and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the 2026 Board meeting dates, with a start time of 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Malone, Shaffer, Conklin, Rosado and Hoffmaster provided comments.

Commissioner Baker - Yes

Commissioner Malone - Yes

Commissioner Shaffer - Yes

Commissioner Conkin - Yes

Commissioner Rosado - Yes

Commissioner Yunker - Yes

Commissioner Hoffmaster – No

Motion carried 6-1, by a roll call vote.

B. Executive Meeting Dates for 2026

It was moved by Commissioner Yunker and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the 2026 Executive meeting dates, with a start time of 5:00 p.m.

Commissioner Malone - No

Commissioner Yunker – Yes

Commissioner Rosado – Yes

Commissioner Baker – Yes

Commissioner Shaffer – No

Commissioner Conklin – No

Commissioner Hoffmaster – No

Motion fails 3-4, by a roll call vote.

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Malone to approve the 2026 Executive meeting dates, with a start time of 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Yunker – No

Commissioner Malone – Yes

Commissioner Shaffer – Yes

Commissioner Baker – No

Commissioner Conklin – Yes

Commissioner Rosado – Yes

Commissioner Hoffmaster – Yes

Motion carried 5-2, by a roll call vote.

12. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Malone, Shafer, Conklin, Rosado, Yunker, Baker and Chairman Hoffmaster provided comments.

13. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Malone to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 p.m. Motion carried.

Melissa J. Bliss

Melissa J. Bliss,
Deputy County Clerk/Election Coordinator