

Regular Session of the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held at 5:00 p.m.

Board Chairman Chupp called the meeting to order and the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag was given.

Present: Chairman Rodney Chupp, Vice Chairman Vince Mifsud, Commissioner Dave Miars, Commissioner John Bippus, and Clerk of the Board Brittany Hinn

Absent: Commissioner Rea Brown

Staff Members Present: Managing Director Garrett Myland

Visitors: Kemp Kotschevar
Robert Tomilson
Luis Rosado

Motion by Commissioner Mifsud seconded by Commissioner Bippus to approve the agenda of September 16, 2026.

Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Miars seconded by Commissioner Mifsud to approve the minutes of September 2, 2026 meeting.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Commissioner Miars seconded by Commissioner Mifsud to approve the August payroll in the amount of \$249,780.06

Roll Call Vote taken: Bippus, Miars, Mifsud, Chupp

Nays: None

Absent: Brown

Abstained: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Miars seconded by Commissioner Bippus to approve the August A/P in the amount of \$1,772,905.40

Roll Call Vote taken: Bippus, Miars, Mifsud, Chupp

Nays: None

Absent: Brown

Abstained: None

Motion carried.

The Board began its annual review of the Strategic Plan and SWOT Analysis.

Citizens Comments:

Kemp: You are taking samples now, kudos to you. I was on the tar wagon for 10 years. No one ever took a sample. We brought it up, changes were made to the equipment so we could take samples, but we still didn't. There used to be rubber balls that would clog up the screens. We would be on the side of the road trying to unclog the screens so we could keep going. You were talking about bridges too. I used to plow bridges, and you could see the sides of the bridge caved in with the weight of the truck as you drove over it. They always told us to drive slow over them, and I would drive as fast as I could because I didn't want to be on it if it fell in the river. I was also on the bridge crew for 10 years; it was fun I enjoyed it. I think the bridges we did had good quality, if not better than the professionals. I think I'd be great if the county was doing them again. Bridge weight limit signs need to be put in different places. Fairchild and Lutz, the sign is on the other side of the hill, it needs to be moved back. There's no place for a semi to turn around before the bridge so they are just going over it.

Commissioner's Comments:

John: Today's training was time well spent. I learned a lot. One thing mentioned was about horse and buggies. There is a softer shoe that causes less damage to the roadway, maybe we can do some education for the Amish.

Dave: I had one call on Kuhlmeier Road and the apron on Centreville Constantine Road. They went straight out and didn't do the whole intersection. How's the stone on Truckenmiller holding up to the Amish? I am going to talk as a citizen to Steve and Jonathon about doing what Indiana does and licensing buggies.

Vince: All good reports and no phone calls so I have nothing.

Rodney: I agree with John, the class was good. He is a down to earth, practical guy. He gave good analogies, stuff I could use to explain to people why we do what we do. Why we chip seal roads right after paving. Thank you for letting them come and use our facility. Thank you for handling the situation and getting the job posted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Rodney D Chupp, Chairman

Brittany Hinn, Clerk of the Board
