

Work Session of the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of St. Joseph, State of Michigan, was held in the Board Room at the St. Joseph County Road Commission, 20914 M-86, Centreville, Michigan with Clerk of the Board Julie Mayuiers calling the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

The Clerk of the Board led the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

Present: Commissioner Eric Shafer, Commissioner Rodney Chupp, Commissioner Vince Mifsud, Commissioner Jack Coleman, and Clerk of the Board Julie Mayuiers

Absent: Commissioner Dave Miars

Staff Members Present: John Lindsey, Managing Director  
Garrett Myland, Assistant Manager / PE  
Nate Taylor, Director of Fleets & Facilities  
Don Preston, Director of Operations  
Brittany Hinn, Accounting Clerk

Visitors: Luis Rosado and Christina Yunker SJC Commissioners  
Robert Tomlinson, Three Rivers Commercial  
Kelly Weaver, Park Township  
Sara Mann, Park Township

The Clerk of the Board asked for nominations for the Chairman of the Board of County Road Commissioners of St. Joseph County for the year 2025.

Motion was made by Commissioner Coleman nominating Commissioner Shafer to act as the Chairman of the Board of County Road Commissioners of St. Joseph County for the year 2025 seconded by Commissioner Chupp.

Clerk Mayuiers stated that a Motion was made by Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Chupp nominating Commissioner Shafer to act as the Chairman of the Board of County Road Commissioners of St. Joseph County for the year 2025 and asked if there were any additional nominations. No one responded.

Vote was unanimous in favor of Commissioner Shafer as the new Chairman. Motion carried.

Commissioner Shafer motioned to nominate Commissioner Rod Chupp for Vice-Chairman of the Board of County Road Commissioners of St. Joseph County for the year 2025 seconded by Commissioner Mifsud.

Chairman Shafer stated that a Motion was made and seconded by Commissioner Mifsud nominating Commissioner Chupp to act as the Vice-Chairman of the Board of County Road Commissioners of St. Joseph County for the year 2025 and asked if there were any additional nominations.

Vote was unanimous in favor of Commissioner Chupp as the new Vice-Chairman. Motion carried.

**2025 Committees:**

Executive & Finance Committee: Chairman Shafer & Vice Chairman Chupp

Policies Committee: Commissioners Coleman & Miars with Chairman Shafer will oversee.

Parks Committee: Vice Chairman Chupp & Commissioner Mifsud as alternate

Motion by Commissioner Coleman seconded by Commissioner Mifsud to approve the agenda of

January 8, 2025, Board Meeting and the Minutes of December 18, 2024 Board Meeting. Motion carried.

Citizens Comments: None

Motion by Commissioner Mifsud seconded by Commissioner Coleman for the Chairman to sign the 2024 Certification Maps. Motion Carried.

4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. Safety Drawing winners: Kemp Kotschevar, Jason Stewart, Paul Swanwick, and Duane Hout.

### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

Motion by Commissioner Mifsud seconded by Commissioner Coleman to purchase One (1) Limb Shear for the Gradall from AIS Construction in the amount of \$21,250.00 (Twenty-one thousand, two hundred fifty and 00/100).

Roll Call Vote Ayes: Chupp, Mifsud, Coleman, Shafer  
Absent: Miars  
Abstained: None  
Nays: None  
Motion carried.

I, Julie A. Mayuiers, Clerk of the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of St. Joseph, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy as recorded in the minutes of the meeting of January 8, 2025.

*Julie A. Mayuiers*

Julie A. Mayuiers  
Clerk of the Board

Citizens' Comments:

Luis Rosado – On Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> Julie Pioch will be facilitating Parliamentary Procedures training from 9A – 1P at the Sheriff's Office Training Center behind the MSU Extension office. Sponsors have been obtained to cover the cost of the training and snacks.

He asked how often the lines on the roads were painted and if the road commission applies the glass beads when the lines are painted. Garrett Myland responded that there is a 3-year rotation in which we spend between \$100-150K, and we do have the glass beads applied during the process. The price of painting the white side lines has skyrocketed over the years and is getting more expensive each year. If we painted every road every other year in the county it would be \$200K. The glass beads last an average of 1 – 1.5 years.

He congratulated Commissioner Vince Mifsud for being reappointed to the Road Commission Board for another six-year term. Everyone at the road commission does a great job.

He suggested that either the Chairman, Manager or Assistant Manager make personal individual presentations to each of the County Commissioners regarding why we need to continue with the Failed Road Policy as some of the County Commissioners are not in favor of continuing this. He also suggested that if any of these four wanted to make a presentation to the County Commission Executive Committee Meeting to contact, he or Commissioner Christina Yunker and one of them would see that they get on their agenda.

Christina Yunker – What is the Failed Bridge Fund of \$200K and how long has it been that amount? Manager Lindsey responded that it was started many years ago. The county commission committed to a four-year term of \$200K per year and we are now in the third year. Christina asked what a good amount going forward would be? Lindsey responded that \$200K would be good. Myland responded that bridges have doubled in costs since 2019. Constantine bridge is going to be between \$5-6M with the probability of a Grant for 90%, still leaving a huge chunk for all the other costs of about \$250K.

She then said she has a long history with the road commission from living here and her husband was a Road Commission Commissioner a few years ago. She encourages others to drive the back roads in

other counties and see how good our roads in St. Joseph County are compared to others. She knows the costs of daily maintenance and she is pretty fiscally minded and tells others to slow down while driving. You always hear negative comments about our roads, but SJCRC does a great job.

Commissioner's Comments:

Coleman: He drove most of the roads in the county in December in his delivery vehicle and they are much better than neighboring counties. One of the neighboring counties has adopted a policy not to treat any of their gravel roads. The last couple of months he has received calls from other counties up north asking for guidance as to what we are doing in our county as they have county commissioners and road commissioners arguing about what to do to their roads this winter. So even though we have problems, ours are minuscule compared to other counties. He always tells them he is giving his personal opinion and not telling them how to run their road commissions.

Mifsud: Asked if we are going to put signs "stay back 200'" on the back of our trucks. Manager Lindsey said as soon as the trucks leave our parking lot those signs would be covered from blowing snow.

Chupp: He received a call from a guy in Indiana and passed it along to Garrett Myland who spoke with him. He thinks we are doing a good job. He has received really good feedback from people. Most people are just concerned about what is going on. Thank you for getting Findley Road on the agenda to get it fixed. Thank you for the vote of confidence in his role as Vice-Chairman for 2025.

Shafer: Thank you for the vote of confidence in his role as Chairman for 2025. Congratulations to Vice Chair Chupp for his "Big Piece of Chicken Award" he received from Manager Lindsey. Thank you to the folks that put together the Parliamentary Procedure training coming up.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am

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Eric B. Shafer, Chairman

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Julie A. Mayuiers, Clerk of the Board

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