

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 Chairman Shafer calling the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

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

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

Staff Members Present: John Lindsey, Managing Director
Garrett Myland, Assistant Manager / PE
Sarah Linn, Human Resources and Payroll Clerk
Don Preston, Director of Operations
Nate Taylor, Director of Fleet and Facilities

Visitors: Robert Tomilson, Three Rivers Commercial
Kathy Roberts

Citizens Comments:

Kathy: I want to get educated but I want to say thank you to everyone for being here.

Motion by Commissioner Miars seconded by Commissioner Mifsud to approve the agenda of November 5 and the Minutes of October 15, 2025, Board Meeting, October 22, 2025, and October 29, 2025.

Motion carried.

Garrett Myland was announced as the new Managing Director effective February 1, 2026.

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

Motion by Commissioner Mifsud seconded by Commissioner Miars to approve the PPO12, HSA, and HSA POS Plan with the 80/20 method of Public Act 152 option for SEIU and Management employees for the January 1, 2026, renewal.

Roll Call Vote taken: Bippus, Miars, Mifsud, Chupp, Shafer
Absent: None Abstained: None

Nays: None
Motion carried.

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

Motion by Commissioner Chupp seconded by Commissioner Bippus to purchase a Diamand All-American Disc with Hydraulic Swing kit and three-point mount from AIS Construction Equipment in the amount of \$13,470 (Thirteen Thousand Four Hundred and Seventy Dollars and 00/100).

Roll Call Vote Ayes: Bippus, Miars, Mifsud, Chupp, Shafer
Absent: None Abstained: None

Nays: None
Motion carried.

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

Motion by Commissioner Mifsud seconded by Commissioner Miars to purchase a 2026 Ford F450 4x4 Cab and Chassis form Gorno Ford in the amount of \$58,379.00 (Fifty-Eight Thousand Three Hundred and Seventy-Nine Dollars and 00/100).

Roll Call Vote Ayes: Bippus, Miars, Mifsud, Chupp, Shafer
Absent: None

Abstained: None

Nays: None
Motion carried.

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

Motion by Commissioner Bippus seconded by Commissioner Miars to purchase a 2024 Chevy 3500 Silverado 4x4 Chassis form Berger Chevrolet in the amount of \$42, 898.00 (Forty-Two Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-Eight Dollars and 00/100).

Roll Call Vote Ayes: Bippus, Miars, Mifsud, Chupp, Shafer
Absent: None

Abstained: None

Nays: None
Motion carried.

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

Motion by Commissioner Chupp seconded by Commissioner Mifsud to purchase a stainless-steel dump body form Hoekstra Equipment in the amount of \$22,428.00 (Twenty-Two Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Eight Dollars and 00/100).

Roll Call Vote Ayes: Bippus, Miars, Mifsud, Chupp, Shafer
Absent: None

Abstained: None

Nays: None
Motion carried.

MOTION

Motion by Commissioner Mifsud seconded by Commissioner Miars to amend the Road Commissioner Code of Conduct Policy of the St. Joseph County Road Commission as dated May 1, 2024.

Roll Call Vote Ayes: Bippus, Miars, Mifsud, Chupp, Shafer

Nays: None
Motion carried.

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

Motion by Commissioner Bippus seconded by Commissioner Miars that the Commissioners of the St. Joseph County Road Commission, are authorized to sign the Resolution to Defend, Indemnify and Hold Harmless the County Highway Engineer(s) for Professional Liability.

A roll call vote Aye: Bippus, Miars, Mifsud, Chupp, Shafer
Absent: None

Abstained: None

Nays: None
Motion carried.

Citizens Comments:

Kathy: I heard a lot of good things. As far as gravel being pushed off the edge and having to be brought in, my opinion is that people go around vehicles and that is part of the problem. They go off to the right and go around vehicles when they shouldn't. I think that whenever something new comes into an area, like a roundabout there is always going to be people who complain but all in all I know it is done for safety purposes. Everyone is doing great.

Commissioners Comments:

John: I was thinking on the new policy and expanding on the definitions, can you put these guys in for an

impress award?

Dave: A lot of my questions got answered during individual reports. I'm just glad to be here, it's a great organization. Last night when I went to vote, I gave them a good run down of what was happening here. They enjoyed it, they were going to take it back and relay it to others.

Vince: Nothing

Rodney: Often times we thank our staff for doing a good job, which is always a good thing to do. This morning, I heard a quote that I want to read "the requirements of leadership come down most importantly to moral credibility, it comes down to this if you lose your credibility you've lost everything" It is really a pleasure to get to serve on this board and its an honor to get to serve. I enjoy it and I appreciate it, often times I've heard John Bippus say this is probably his favorite board he's served on, and I think it's my favorite board I've ever served on. I don't take that for granted, it could be a real nightmare if we didn't have good staff. The fact that our staff does a good job, from drivers to office staff. The fact that they operate in an honorable way saves us our credibility and it builds it to. If you don't have that, you really don't have anything. I sincerely thank them; it makes it a real pleasure to be here.

Eric: 3 months ago I got a comment about the intersection Michigan and Silver street, you guys went out and graded it up. I got the same comment again they said thank you took care of it but its back. Is there a permanent fix for this? I would like to reiterate what Rod just said too, the fact that you can be on a board like this, other than getting some phone calls and a random Facebook post being on this board is genuinely rewarding. I've enjoyed my time here and the basis of that really is the staff. We can trust our staff to do the right thing and stay on top of stuff. I really appreciate it.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Eric B Shafer, Chairman

Brittany Hinn, Clerk of the Board