

**APPROVED**  
**PROCEEDINGS OF THE OTTAWA COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**AUGUST SESSION – WORK SESSION**

The Ottawa County Board of Commissioners met on Thursday, August 24, 2006, at 2:10 p.m. and was called to order by the Chair.

Present at roll call: Mrs. Kortman, Messrs. Kuyers, Swartout, Mrs. Ruiters, Messrs. Rinck, Rycenga, Schrottenboer, Disselkoe, Berghorst, Holtrop, Vander Kam. (11)

Public Comments and Communications

The Chair amended the agenda to move the Local and State Efforts Regarding Phosphorus Fertilizer Regulations before the Strategic Planning.

Work Session Items:

A. Local and State Efforts Regarding Phosphorus Fertilizer Regulations.

Tom Olson, Ottawa County Environmental Health, reported on the Proposed Phosphorus Amendment to the Ottawa County Health Regulations. The proposed amendment would not go into effect until January 1, 2008.

Mr. DeBruyn, DeBruyn Seed Co., Zeeland, reported that it is difficult to compare different compounds. As a retailer near the Allegan County line if he had to change to phosphorus free fertilizer, he would be at a disadvantage because his customers would just drive into Allegan County to purchase their fertilizers.

Goris Passchier, Northern Star Minerals, 3893 Heritage Ave., Suite B3, Okemos, MI 48864, formulates fertilizers and makes recommendations to growers and farmers. He is a resident of Georgetown Township and asks that the Board of Commissioners look at the whole picture, not just one aspect.

MSU Extension reported that for every lawn sample tested, that the samples are returned with no phosphorus needed.

Jeff Fisher, 7505 Fillmore, Allendale, Environmental Educator, Ferris State, and Organic Landscape Business owner, reported that we need to educate the consumer.

Kaye Nedderman, 150 Crescent, Grand Haven, representing C.O.R.E. (Cleanup Our River Environment) urges the Board to consider an ordinance to ban fertilizers.

Several Commissioners stated that they would like more research and be presented with more facts on the phosphorus issue.

It was decided to move forward with the recommended amendment from Environmental Health and have a work team continue to look at the issue and move it forward to Planning and Policy.

#### B. Strategic Planning

Al Vanderberg and Erika Rosebrook Dibble presented the booklet on Ottawa County that will be available to the general public.

B/C 06-223 Mr. Disselkoen moved to adjourn at 3:15 p.m. subject to the call of the Chair. The motion passed.

DANIEL C. KRUEGER, Clerk  
Of the Board of Commissioners

ROGER RYCENGA, Chairman  
Of the Board of Commissioners