

## **Resolution blocked over use of the Dredged Materials Disposal Facility by Dow Chemical Company**

A resolution prepared by Saginaw County Commissioner Tim Novak, a Carrollton Township Democrat, would have stopped Dow Chemical Company from using the DMDF for any required cleanup of Tittabawassee or Saginaw river contaminants.

The resolution passed the Saginaw County Commission's County Services Committee. But on October 26, 2006, it was made available to the Saginaw Board of Commissioners and sent back to committee.

Several members of the public spoke for the resolution including Frankenlust Township supervisor Hilda Dijak, Zilwaukee Township clerk, Pat Bradt, and former Saginaw Education Association union president, Joel Tanner. They spoke to concerns they had over the location of the proposed DMDF, and were critical of the facility's use by a third party, the Dow Chemical Company. The additional liability to residents if Dow Chemical were to use the site was also listed as a cause of concern. The Commissioner's were encouraged to pass the resolution, and no one spoke in opposition.

Commissioner Carl Ruth, a Saginaw County Democrat used "commissioner's privilege" to send the resolution back to the County Services Committee. After the meeting, Commissioner Ruth stated that his reason for reconsidering the resolution was based on a call from the Dow Chemical Company suggesting that there was information it had that the Committee had not considered, and requesting an opportunity to present it.

Although the resolution was to be discussed at the County Services Committee meeting scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on October 31, 2006, the meeting was cancelled. Commissioner Novak, instead, requested a committee-of-the-whole be held, wherein all concerned parties would be heard from. The date for that meeting is sometime in December.