

**Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
Committee of the Whole
Monday, August 9, 2021 – 8:00 A.M.**

Commissioner Bardwell called the regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building in the City of Caro, Michigan, on the 9th day of August 2021, to order at 8:00 o'clock a.m. local time.

Roll Call – Clerk Jodi Fetting

Commissioners Present In-Person:

- District 1 - Thomas Young
- District 2 - Thomas Bardwell
- District 3 - Kim Vaughan
- District 4 - Douglas DuRussel
- District 5 - Daniel Grimshaw – arrived at 8:04 a.m.

Others Present in-Person:

Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Clayette Zechmeister, Curtis Elenbaum, Mark Ransford, Ann Hepfer, Jennifer Leitzel, Jim Escamilla, Joe Mrak, Gene Pierce, Mike Pine, Taryn Hill, Drain Commissioner Bob Mantey, Dara Hood, Shelly Lutz

Commissioner Absent:

None

Also Present Virtual:

Brenda Dunham, Heidi Chicilli, Sandy Nielsen, Mary Drier, Debbie Babich, Cody Horton, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Mark Haney, Tara Hofmeister, Mike Miller, Kim Brinkman, Karen Haire, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Barry Lapp, Matt Brown, Brian Harris, Bob Baxter, Nick Sakon, Debbie Mika, Chris Taylor, Dara Hood, Luann Parks, Alecia Little

At 8:06 a.m., there were 24 participants attending the meeting virtually.

County Updates

-Health Officer Replacement – Hiring Solutions Update – Ann Hepfer, Health Officer, explained that she expects Huron County to hire their own Health Officer and Environmental Health Director. The job placement company that has been selected is Hiring Solutions to help fill the Health Officer position in Tuscola County. The State of Michigan is going to assist with funding to pay for the hiring company. The Board would like the County Attorney to review the contract.

New Business

1. First Amendment to Professional Services Agreement Between Tuscola County and SAFEbuilt – Clayette Zechmeister explained that the amendment was needed as the medical building property is listed under two addresses. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
2. County Space Needs – Mark Ransford, Ransford-Wasik, discussed with the Board the possibility of a building in the downtown area that could function as space for the IT Department, GIS Department, Board needs, Court needs and training space. Board discussed the matter of adding on to an existing building, leasing a different building or putting out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for either design. Board discussed the funding options that could be utilized. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda.

Old Business

1. Tuscola County Jail Feasibility Study Final Report – Jim Escamilla with Byce & Associates, and Joe Mrak, with Securitecture, presented to the Board regarding the plan that is being presented for the new county jail.
 - Brian Harris addressed the Board regarding moving the project forward.
 - Jennifer Leitzel addressed the concern of a press release regarding the new jail and concern of inmates when accessing the outdoor refrigerator.

Recessed at 10:20 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

At 10:30 a.m., there were 28 participants attending the meeting virtually.

2. Justice Audio and Video Solutions (JAVS) – Continued Review Discussion-
 - Correspondence from Chief Judge Amy Grace Gierhart – Judge Gierhart explained the letter submitted in how the court budget could assist in financing the project due to job vacancies.
 - Payment Terms – Eean Lee did reach out to the company and the cost could be split between two budget cycles.Matter to be placed on Thursday's Agenda.
3. Farmland Preservation Program Update – Commissioner Grimshaw reported no action is needed and matter can be removed from the agenda.
4. Review Next Steps on Interviews for Professional Building Plan Review Services and Professional Building Inspection Services – Board discussed questions that will need to be asked during the interview portion and possible areas that may need to be clarified.

Finance/Technology

Committee Leader Commissioner Young
Commissioner DuRussel

Primary Finance/Technology

1. Michigan County Millage Rates
 - County Allocated Millage Ranked by Rate
 - Total County Millages High to Low
 - 2021 Millage Rates All Counties

Board reviewed and discussed the reports included in the agenda packet.
2. Financial Benefits to Public Services from Wind Turbines 2013-2020 – Clayette Zechmeister reviewed the report included in the agenda packet. The Board discussed the revenue that was realized as well as expected depreciation.
3. 2022 Budget Calendar – Clayette Zechmeister presented the proposed 2022 budget calendar. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
4. Animal Shelter Fiber Transport Services Eean Lee, Chief Information Officer, explained the request of installing a fiber line to the Animal Shelter in order to connect that building to the County Data Center. This will allow the Shelter to have access to software programs that they currently do not have access to at the Shelter. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda with a roll call vote requested.
- IT Contractual Services Proposals – Potential Use of American Rescue Plan Funds - Eean Lee explained the proposed request to contract 25 hours per week with a third-party company to provide assistance to his Department. Proposed contracts were received from Joletec and RR-Technical Services. The contract is for a one-year period. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda.

On Going and Other Finance and Technology

Finance

1. American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Ad-Hoc Committee – Recent meeting was cancelled.
2. Preparation of Multi-Year Financial Planning

Technology

1. GIS Update
2. Increasing On-Line Services/Updating Web Page

Building and Grounds

Committee Leader Commissioner Grimshaw
Commissioner DuRussel

Primary Building and Grounds

1. Adult Probation Fence Bids – Mike Miller provided the details on the one bid that was received: Nationwide Construction, Richmond, Michigan - \$9,621.00. Board feels the bid is high for the project. Board would like the project to be rebid.

On Going and Other Building and Grounds

1. State Police Water and Annexation – Mike Miller provided an update.
2. IT Department Space Needs – Matter discussed earlier in the meeting.

Personnel

Committee Leader Commissioner Grimshaw
Commissioner Vaughan

Primary Personnel

1. Drain Commission Position Promotion – Drain Commissioner Mantey explained the promotion request for Alecia Little. Matter to be placed on Thursday's Agenda.
2. Human Resources (HR) Updates
 - a. CPR Classes Offered and Currently Being Scheduled – Shelly Lutz provided an update to the classes that will be held.
 - b. Voluntary Life Open Enrollment in August – Shelly Lutz provided an update as there will be an open enrollment period with this transition for all full-time employees.
 - Board discussed DocuSign with Shelly.
 - Board asked if Shelly has received Ann Hepfer's resume yet which she has not.
 - Shelly addressed Commissioner Grimshaw's MERS account as he had an inactive Defined Benefit account from when he was the Register of Deeds.
3. Tuscola County Behavioral Health Services (TBHS) Board of Directors (matter added) – Commissioner Grimshaw explained that a candidate has been recommended to fill a vacant Board position on the TBHS Board. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

On-Going and Other Personnel

1. Workman's Compensation
2. Michigan Employees Retirement System (MERS)
3. Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) 7th District Meeting Updates
4. Safety Committees – Watch for Grant Opportunities

Other Business as Necessary

1. Title 18 USC Code Section 241 Conspiracy to Violate my Right Under the Color of Law – Misty Thompson – Matter removed at the beginning of the meeting as Misty Thompson was unavailable today.

On-Going Other Business as Necessary

1. Animal Control Ordinance – No update at this time.

At 11:47 a.m., there were 24 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Public Comment Period –

- Eean Lee offered comment on the safety of public servants in the work place.
- Commissioner Grimshaw expressed his appreciation of everyone’s thoughts during the passing of his nephew.

Motion by Vaughan, seconded by Young to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk