



# MINUTES

## Committee of the Whole Meeting

**8:00 AM - Monday, October 24, 2022**

H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln St., Caro, MI 48723

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Commissioner Bardwell called the regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln St., Caro, MI 48723, on Monday, October 24, 2022, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present In-Person: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Doug DuRussel, Dan Grimshaw

Commissioner Grimshaw arrived at 8:07 a.m.

Commissioner Vaughan excused at 11:47 a.m.

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Clayette Zechmeister, Mike Miller, Steve Anderson, Debbie Babich, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Bob Baxter, Amanda Ertman, Judge Amy Grace Gierhart, Sheila Long, Brent Dankert, Will Green, Cody Horton, Laura Boykes-Hawe, Joann Samuelson, Mark Zmierski, Jon Ramirez, Angie Daniels, Eric Morris, Karly Creguer, Jerry Johnson, Katie Cooper, John Boggs

Also Present Virtual: Carrie Tabar, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Karen George, Mary Drier, Fairgrove Village, Robert McKay, Brandon Bertram, Tracy Violet, Cindy Hughes, Cody Horton, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Edward Camp, Kate Curtis, Linda Strasz, Kim Brinkman, Barry Lapp, Matt Brown, Sheriff Glen Skrent, Dara Hood, Renee Francisco, Angie Daniels, Mark Haney, Mitch Piper, Steve Root

At 8:05 a.m., there were a total of 24 participants attending the meeting virtually.

### County Updates

None

## **New Business**

### **1. 2023 Budget Department Requests/Presentations-**

#### Chief Judge Requests - 54th Circuit Court

-Honorable Amy Grace Gierhart presented to the Board regarding the Courts 2023 budget requests. The first request is making the Law Clerk position from a part-time funded position to a full-time funded position. The second request is a full-time employee to complete Pre-Trial Services closely monitoring those who have bond conditions imposed. Also, CIO Lee will be presenting on a software program, OnBase, for District Court. The Judge is in full support of that request.

#### MSUe 4-H Program -

-Jerry Johnson, Michigan State University Extension (MSUe) District 10 Director presented to the Board requesting an additional 4-H Program Coordinator to assist in providing programming opportunities with youth in Tuscola County. Caro City has agreed to jointly fund this position. Also, he is requesting phone system upgrades to be completed.

#### County Clerk Requests -

-Jodi Fetting, County Clerk, presented to the Board on various budget requests. She is requesting a full-time Court Clerk II position. Also, CIO Lee will be presenting on a software change for the vital records program in order to provide better service to the residents of the county and she is in support of that. The remodeling of the Clerk's Office was in the 2022 budget but was not moved on as the Board wanted to possibly pay for it out of the Provision of Government Services fund. She is requesting that amount be carried forward as the project still needs to be completed.

#### County Clerk and Treasurer Salary -

-Jodi Fetting, County Clerk and Ashley Bennett, County Treasurer presented on the salary disparity between their salaries to the Sheriff's salary. Salary history was provided dating back to 1978. They are requesting the salaries be brought back in line by providing a 16.5% increase before the cost-of-living increase is given.

#### Undersheriff and Sheriff Salary -

-Robert Baxter, Undersheriff presented to the Board to the request to increase the wages of the Undersheriff's position as the difference between the supervisory levels has become close due to the Lieutenants union contract negotiations. The request is for an increase of 11% for the Undersheriff which will then cause a disparity to the Sheriff's salary so an 11% increase would also be requested for the salary of the Sheriff.

#### Health Department -

-Amanda Ertman, Health Officer, is requesting an increase in her wages line item of the additional 2% the Board is expected to authorize as she only budgeted for the 3% not the 5%.

2. Appointment to Veterans' Committee -  
Mark Zmierski, Tuscola County Veterans' Affairs Director, presented the Veterans' Committees' request to appoint Catherine Cirisan to the partial term expiring December 31, 2025. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
3. County of Tuscola Fiscal Year 2023 Clean Sweep Grant -  
Building and Grounds Director Mike Miller presented the request to apply for the grant for the year 2023. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
4. Tuscola County 2022 Apportionment Report -  
Angie Daniels, Equalization Director, presented the preliminary apportionment report. Final adoption will happen after the November election as there are proposals that will need to be included if they are passed by the voters. Matter to be placed on the November 17, 2022 Board agenda.
5. Commissioner Per Diem -  
Clayette Zechmeister presented the history of the per diem rate that is received by the Commissioners and various Boards and Commission members.
6. Commissioner Mileage Changes -  
Clayette Zechmeister, Controller/Administrator, explained that the Commissioners should not receive mileage for attending a Committee of the Whole or Board meeting that is held in the Purdy Building as it is considered their normal place of work. Clayette discussed some recommended changes to the per diem policy. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda.

Recessed at 10:06 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:14 a.m.

At 10:14 a.m., there were a total of 28 participants attending the meeting virtually.

7. Employee Turnover 2019 to September 30, 2022 By Department -  
Clayette Zechmeister presented a chart of turnover within various departments from 2019 to 2022.

## **Old Business**

1. Vanderbilt Park Road - Correspondence from Road Commission -  
Commissioner Young provided an overview of the meeting that was held with the County Road Commission and the options that were discussed. Brent Dankert from the Road Commission also discussed the options of the road placement and options of moving the matter forward to get it corrected.

Recessed at 11:11 a.m.

Reconvened at 11:42 a.m.

At 11:42 a.m., there were a total of 21 participants attending the meeting virtually.

## **Finance/Technology**

### ***Primary Finance/Technology***

1. 2023 Equipment and Capital Fund Projects Review - Clayette Zechmeister presented a Second Budget Review for the 2023 budget year.

Commissioner Vaughan excused at 11:47 a.m.

Mike Miller, Building and Grounds Director, reviewed the capital project listing for the upcoming budget with their priority of need. Matters regarding the jail are to be moved to a wish list until after the November election.

### ***On-Going and Other Finance***

None

### ***On-Going and Other Technology***

-Eean Lee has completed interviews and expects to have a candidate to present at Thursday's meeting.

## **Building and Grounds**

### ***Primary Building and Grounds***

None

### ***On-Going and Other Building and Grounds***

None

## **Personnel**

### ***Primary Personnel***

None

### ***On-Going and Other Personnel***

1. Park Host Salary Review - No update

## **Other Business as Necessary**

1. New Caro Hospital Site Visit and Walkthrough for Caro Project Stakeholders Group - Clayette has signed up to complete the tour and will provide a report.
2. Committee of the Whole meeting (matter added) - Board discussed canceling the Committee of the Whole meeting on December 27, 2022 but will wait to see how the budget process progresses.

3. Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) District 7th (matter added) - A Virtual Meeting has been scheduled in order to discuss disbanding the District 7th association
4. Board Meeting on October 27, 2022 (matter added) - Commissioner Bardwell will not be able to attend the meeting on Thursday so Commissioner Young will chair the meeting.
5. Proposed Resolution for Sports Complex (matter added) - Commissioner Grimshaw will bring forward a proposed resolution to support Saginaw County's effort to bring in a sports complex.

At 12:33 p.m., there were a total of 19 participants attending the meeting virtually.

**Public Comment Period**

None

**Adjournment**

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Doug DuRussel to adjourn the meeting at 12:39 p.m. Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk, CCO