

## TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 4, 2021 Minutes

Meeting held via Google Meet Electronic remote access, in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services Emergency Order Under MCL 333-2253 – Gathering Prohibition and Mask Order and Public Act 254 of 2020.

County Clerk Jodi Fetting called the organizational meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held via Google Meet on the 4th day of January 2021, to order at 8:01 o'clock a.m. local time.

Roll Call – Clerk Jodi Fetting

Commissioners Present in Board Room:

District 5 - Daniel Grimshaw (arrived at 8:08 a.m.)

Commissioners Present Virtual:

District 1 - Thomas Young - Columbia Township, Tuscola County, State of Michigan

District 2 - Thomas Bardwell - Ellington Township, Tuscola County, State of Michigan

District 3 - Kim Vaughan - Lake County, State of Florida

District 4 - Doug DuRussel, Tuscola Township, Tuscola County, State of Michigan

Commissioner Absent - None

Also Present in Board Room: None

Also Present Virtual:

Clerk Jodi Fetting, Clayette Zechmeister, Eean Lee, Tracy Violet, Sandy Nielsen, Mary Drier, Debbie Babich, Mike Miller, Mark Haney, Wayne Koper, Steve Anderson, Lisa Ozbat, Heidi Chicilli, Robert Baxter, Register John Bishop, Matt Brown

At 8:11 a.m., there were a total of 23 participants attending the meeting.

*Organizational Meeting -*

-Nominations for and the Election of Board Chairperson - Clerk Fetting explained the option of voting by either a secret ballot or by a voice vote to the Commissioners for Board Chair. The Board unanimously agreed to hold the vote by voice.

Commissioner Young nominated Thomas Bardwell for Board Chair with Commissioner Vaughan supporting that nomination. Clerk Fetting called for additional nominations with none stated.

## 2021-M-001

Motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Vaughan to close the nominations and have Commissioner Thomas Bardwell serve as Board Chair for a 2-year term. Roll Call Vote: Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; DuRussel - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

Clerk Fetting turned the meeting over to Chair Bardwell.

-Nominations for and the Election of Board Vice-Chairperson - Commissioner Vaughan nominated Thomas Young as Board Vice-Chair with Commissioner Grimshaw supporting the nomination. No other nominations were made.

## 2021-M-002

Motion by Commissioner Vaughan, seconded by Commissioner Grimshaw to have Commissioner Thomas Young serve as the Board Vice-Chair for a 1-year term. Roll Call Vote: Vaughan - yes; DuRussel - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes. Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

-Finance, Personnel and Building and Grounds Standing Committee  
Commissioner Appointments - Board discussed which Commissioners would be appointed to each Standing Committee.

The following appointments were made:

Finance - Commissioner Young and Commissioner DuRussel  
Personnel - Commissioner Grimshaw and Commissioner Vaughan  
Buildings and Grounds - Commissioner Grimshaw and Commissioner DuRussel

-Establishment of Board and Committee of the Whole Meeting Dates - Board agreed the dates for the meetings should be kept the same. Board discussed the time of the meeting and whether the time should remain in the morning or should be adjusted to late afternoon.

## 2021-M-003

Motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Vaughan to have the start time of the Committee of the Whole meetings and Board of Commissioners meetings remain at 8:00 a.m. Roll Call Vote: DuRussel - no; Grimshaw - no; Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Bardwell - yes; Motion Carried.

-Appointment of Commissioners to Boards/Commissions - Board discussed the current appointments to Boards and Commissions as well as those that were held by Commissioner Jensen.

The following updates were made:

- Commissioner Grimshaw will accept the Jail Planning Committee from Commissioner Jensen.
- Commissioner Grimshaw will accept the MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC) from Commissioner Young.
- Commissioner DuRussel will accept the Board of Health, Community Corrections Advisory Board, Department of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison, Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works, Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and MEMS All Hazard from Commissioner Jensen.
  
- Board also discussed needing to appoint an alternate to the Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works Board. Board discussed Clayette Zechmeister or Steve Erickson. Steve is to be contacted to determine if he is willing to serve.

*Other Business as Necessary (continued below) -*

- Board Rules of Order - Board reviewed Board Rules of Order with the adoption date of January 3, 2017.

The following changes were made:

- Rule 5.3 - Distribution of Committee Meeting Agendas -  
Add "and/or faxed" in the first sentence. Revised sentence to read: Committee agenda (in draft form) will be made available electronically via the county website *and/or fax* in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Rule 5.5 - Order of Business -

- Add "agenda items only" to Item G. Revised to read: Brief Public Comments - Agenda Items Only.
- Remove Item M - Closed Sessions (if necessary).
- Add new Item M - Other Business as Necessary.

Rule 8.3 - Grievance Committee -

- Add "as needed" at the end of the sentence. Revised sentence to read: Two commissioners will be appointed and serve on the union contract grievance committee *as needed*.

-Rule 9.3 - Minutes, Closed Meetings

- Add "may but" in the sentence regarding the approval of the minutes. Revised sentence to read: Such minutes *may but* do not have to be approved by the Board.

Remove the last sentence "With the approval of the Board Chair, the Clerk may destroy the minutes after one year and one day have passed after the meeting at which the Board approved the minutes of the meeting at which the board voted to hold the closed meeting" and replace with the following sentence: Closed Session Minutes are not to be destroyed unless ordered by the Court.

-The Board would like clarification on Rule 11.1 from County Counsel on when a Board member may abstain from voting on a motion.

-Board Rules of Order Revised Date to be changed to January 4, 2021.

#### 2021-M-004

Motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Grimshaw to purchase up to six (6) Guide to Michigan County Government for use by the Controller/Administrator and each Commissioner. Roll Call Vote: Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; DuRussel - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

-Board discussed if there is a reason to hold a separate Statutory Finance meeting or if the matters can be handled during the Board Regular Meeting. Board discussed and decided that further information needs to be gathered before a decision is made.

#### 2021-M-005

Motion by Grimshaw, seconded by Vaughan that any legal opinion procured by or on behalf of the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners be given a filing number and filed in numerical order in the Controller's Administrator's Office for any past or present opinion received. Roll Call Vote: Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; DuRussel - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

2021 Conferences - Chair Bardwell presented the conference schedule.

2021 County Holidays - Chair Bardwell presented the holiday schedule.

At 11:13 a.m., there were a total of 22 participants attending the meeting.

#### *Public Comment -*

-Register John Bishop spoke in reference to the changes referenced during the meeting by Commissioner Grimshaw to Roberts Rules of Order Chapter 52.

#### *Other Business as Necessary (continued from above) -*

-Board Rules of Order - Chair Bardwell discussed the need to appoint a Parliamentarian per Rule 12.

#### 2021-M-006

Motion by Commissioner Grimshaw, seconded by Commissioner DuRussel to appoint County Clerk Jodi Fetting to serve as the parliamentarian for the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners. Roll Call Vote: Vaughan - yes; DuRussel - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

-Topic Leader for Standing Committees - The Board discussed which Commissioner should serve as Topic Leader for each of the Standing Committees. The Topic Leader should be presented a draft agenda to review prior to the posting of the agenda to the public.

The following Topic Leaders were assigned:

Finance Committee - Commissioner Young

Building and Grounds Committee - Commissioner DuRussel

Personnel Committee - Commissioner Grimshaw

2021-M-007

Motion by Commissioner Young, seconded by Commissioner Vaughan to adjourn the Organizational Meeting at 11:21 a.m. Roll Call Vote: DuRussel - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk