

**Draft**  
**Tuscola County Board of Commissioners**  
**Committee of the Whole**  
**Monday, November 9, 2020 – 8:03 A.M.**

**Electronic remote access will be implemented for this meeting,  
in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services Emergency  
Order Under MCL 333-2253 – Gathering Prohibition and Mask Order and Public  
Act No. 228 of 2020.**

Commissioners Present In-Person:

District 2 - Thomas Bardwell  
District 5 - Daniel Grimshaw

Commissioners Present Virtual:

District 1 - Thomas Young - Columbia Township, Tuscola County, State of Michigan  
District 3 - Kim Vaughan - Lake County, State of Florida  
District 4 - Mark Jensen - Millington Township, Tuscola County, State of Michigan

Commissioner Absent - None

Also Present In-person:

Eean Lee, Register John Bishop, Larry Zapfe

Also Present Virtual:

Clerk Jodi Fetting, Clayette Zechmeister, Doug DuRussel, Debbie Babich, Tracy Violet, Mary Drier, Steve Anderson, Wayne Koper, Steve Root, Mark Haney, Sandy Nielsen, Lisa Ozbat, Ann Hepfer, Mike Miller, Tracy Violet, Shyann Green, Jessica VanHove, Mark Ransford, Barry Lapp, Judge Amy Grace Gierhart, Shelly Lutz, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Leigh Nancy, Matt Brown, Barry Lapp

At 8:13 a.m., there were a total of 29 participants attending the meeting.

**County Updates**

1. COVID-19 Update - Ann Hepfer, Health Officer, provided an update on the rise of COVID-19 cases in Tuscola County, pending vaccinations and that an advisory will be issued for Tuscola County.
2. Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC)/Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) Approval of Standard 5 Independence of the Judiciary – Clayette Zechmeister updated the Board on the Statement issued by LARA. Matter provided for informational purposes only.

**Finance/Technology**  
Committee Leaders-Commissioners Young and Jensen

**Primary Finance/Technology**

1. Mosquito Abatement 2020 Budget Amendment and Request to Purchase Truck and ULV Mounted Sprayer - Larry Zapfe explained the requests presented in his letter and the plan for use of funds to purchase the equipment. Matters to be placed on the Consent Agenda as one Consent Agenda item.
2. Work Comp 2019 Dividend Received - Clayette Zechmeister updated the Board that the dividend check has been received. It needs to be divided between the County and the Health Department which Debbie Babich is working on. Board discussed receiving the dividend even with the costs increasing this year and Clayette is awaiting a response from the company on this.
3. Wage Increase Request from Judge Gierhart - Judge Gierhart explained the request presented to the Board. Board discussed at length. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda.
4. 2021 Budget Preparation Progress
  - General Fund Revenues
  - General Fund Expenses
  - All Funds Budgets
  - Equipment/Tech and Capital Funds List
  - Additional Request to Resolve
  - Elected/Appointed CompensationClayette Zechmeister reviewed the projected budget reports included in the agenda packet.
  - Board discussed an additional position at Animal Control. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda as a separate item.

Recessed at 10:22 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:38 a.m.

Commissioner Vaughan excused at 10:38 a.m.

At 8:13 a.m., there were a total of 29 participants attending the meeting.

2021 Budget Preparation Progress (continued)

- Elected Official pay to be presented with the 3% non-union increase only. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda for further discussion.
- Board discussed the payoff of the Purdy Building. \$13,500 transfer out to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
- MIDC General Fund Cost Transfer to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
- Controller's reinstatement of budget reductions to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
- Register of Deeds reinstatement of budget reductions to be placed on the Consent Agenda. Also, two supply line items should be combined to one.

- Controller's request for equipment fund usage for a desk to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
- Jail Budget Correction to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

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

### **Finance**

1. RFP Building Codes - 2021
2. Fund Balance History Reports
3. Preparation of Multi-Year Financial Planning

### **Technology**

1. Video Switch Boardroom
2. Lapel Microphones Commissioners - Eean explained that today there was microphone feedback without a clear cause. Board discussed options that could be available to free up time in the IT Department for their primary projects. Commissioner Grimshaw will do some research for options for an audio support person to present back to the Board.
3. GIS Update
4. Increasing On-Line Services/Updating Web Page

## **Building and Grounds**

Committee Leaders-Commissioners Jensen and Grimshaw

### **Primary Building and Grounds**

1. Parks and Recreation Capital Requests - Board did not approve original capital requests and matter can be removed from the agenda.
2. Friend of the Court Remodeling (wall) Request/Update - Mike Miller reported the actual cost for the project is \$4,423.02 which is under the projected cost Judge Gierhart originally requested. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

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

1. State Police Building-Water and Annexation
2. 2021 County Jail Construction - Potential Millage in Future
3. Space Needs for Courthouse - Matter can be removed from the agenda.
4. Legislative Representation RFP Review – Board Tabled Until Meetings Are in Person - Matter can be removed from agenda.
5. County Physical and Electronic Record Storage Needs – Potential Use of Recycling Pole Building - Board discussed the increasing need of county storage space and possible options available. Mike Miller to research and gain further information.

## **Personnel**

Committee Leader-Commissioner Vaughan and Bardwell

### **Primary Personnel**

1. Register of Deeds Part-time Account Clerk II - Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

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

1. Strengthen and Streamline Year-End Open Enrollment
2. Wage Study Comparisons
3. MAC 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting Updates

### **Primary Other Business as Necessary - None**

### **On-Going Other Business as Necessary**

1. MIFSM - Matter being reviewed by County Legal Counsel.
2. Alcona County Resolution 2020-15 - Additional Review on January 25, 2021.
3. Animal Control Ordinance – Review Lapeer Counties in January 2021.
4. Board Rules of Order – Possible Revisions Within Six Months - possible review January 13, 2021.
5. Policy Updates - No Report
6. Senate Bill 46 (MREC) - Clayette Zechmeister reported Tuscola County has spent \$209,808 in legal fees. Matter discussed.
7. OPIOID Lawsuit Update (matter added) - Clayette Zechmeister provided an update regarding the litigation. The Pharmacies involved in the case are filing bankruptcy.

At 1:10 p.m., there were a total of 24 participants attending the electronic meeting.

### *Extended Public Comment -*

-Eean Lee addressed a comment made in the meeting chat by Wayne Koper regarding the meeting being by invitation only. Eean stated that it is not by invitation only and that the virtual meeting connection information is posted publicly. The meeting is not recorded nor retained.

Motion by Young, seconded by Grimshaw to adjourn the meeting at 1:14 p.m.  
Roll Call Vote: Young - yes; Vaughan - absent; Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:14 p.m.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk