

**Draft**  
**Tuscola County Board of Commissioners**  
**Committee of the Whole**  
**Monday, January 11, 2021 – 8:00 A.M.**

**Electronic remote meeting 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. 254  
of 2020.**

**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 - Douglas DuRussel - Tuscola Township, Tuscola County, State of Michigan  
District 5 - Daniel Grimshaw - Vassar Township, Tuscola County, State of Michigan  
(excused at 1:44 p.m.)

Commissioner Absent - None

**Also Present Virtual:**

Clerk Jodi Fetting, Clayette Zechmeister, Eean Lee, Dr. William Marrone, Dr. Russell Bush, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Dr. David Stockman, Mary Drier, Ann Hepfer, Eric Morris, Randy Pfau, Steve Anderson, Heidi Chicilli, Cindy Volz, Jessica VanHove, Lisa Ozbat, Mark Haney, Mark Ransford, Mike Miller, Sandy Nielsen, Tracy Violet, Damian Wasik, Register John Bishop, Debbie Babich, Matt Brown, Ernie Carpenter, Robert Baxter, Barry Lapp, Steve Root, Shelly Lutz

At 8:11 a.m., there were a total of 36 participants attending the meeting.

**County Updates**

-Ann Hepfer, Health Officer provided an update regarding the release of the vaccination for the Phase 1B for over the age of 65 years old. She explained the process of the vaccination clinic. If the public has questions, they can dial 211 for information or visit mdhhs.org.

**Finance/Technology**

Committee Leader Commissioner Young  
Commissioner DuRussel

**Primary Finance/Technology**

1. Ernie Carpenter - Commissioner Vaughan stated there is a blight case with Indianfields Township which Ernie feels is infringing on his Right to Farm. Ernie Carpenter provided an overview of the history of his situation with Indianfields Township.

2. Michigan Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine (MIFSM) - Dr. Russell Bush addressed the Board regarding the cremation permit fees, their plan for transportation, employees ready to take certification tests and the current terms of the contract. Randy Pfau spoke in reference to be able to work together in the future and improve the situation at hand currently. Dr. David Stockman spoke in reference to the current contract and issues that need to be addressed.
3. Dr. William Marrone - Dr. Marrone presented regarding the services that he would be able to provide to Tuscola County as well as the staff infrastructure that he has in place. The Board would like to see a breakdown of the costs and fees that could be incurred.

Eric Morris asked Dr. David Stockman for clarification on transportation costs incurred by MIFSM and in which situations they transport.

4. Ashley Bennett, Tuscola County Treasurer – Updates and Plans for the New Year and Public Funds Banking Resolution - Treasurer Bennett explained the changes to the foreclosure process due to recent legislative changes. Also, discussed was designing a program to assist taxpayers that are facing foreclosure. Treasurer Bennett referenced motion 16-M-034 regarding staffing in the Treasurer's Office. Proposed Resolution in the agenda packet as attachment A to be placed on Thursday's Agenda. Commissioner Young and Commissioner DuRussel will work with Treasurer Bennett on some potential programs that could be offered.
5. Deputy Steve Anderson, Emergency Services Coordinator – Request for Proposal/Quotation Tuscola County - Village of Mayville Outdoor Warning Siren - Steve Anderson explained the project that will use Fiscal Year 2019 grants funds. He will be placing an RFP out for the project.
6. Building Codes Final 2020 Census Report - Clayette Zechmeister presented the report that was included in the agenda packet.
7. IRS Standard Mileage Rate for 2021 - Clayette Zechmeister presented the proposed mileage rate. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

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

### **Finance**

1. RFP Building Codes - 2021 - Matter to be placed on the primary section of the agenda for the next meeting.
2. Fund Balance History Reports - Matter to be placed on the agenda on a quarterly basis with an overview report to be provided to the Commissioners at that time.
3. Preparation of Multi-Year Financial Planning

**Technology** - Eean Lee updated the Board on the deployment of the laptops and current project plans with the current staffing levels.

1. Video Switch Boardroom
2. Lapel Microphones Commissioners
3. GIS Update
4. Increasing On-Line Services/Updating Web Page

Recess at 10:56 a.m.  
Reconvened at 11:09 a.m.

At 11:09 a.m., there were a total of 30 participants attending the meeting.

### **Building and Grounds**

Committee Leader Commissioner DuRussel  
Commissioner Grimshaw

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

1. Mark Ransford – Tuscola County Long Term Critical Records Storage Needs - Mark Ransford presented a potential storage solution at the Dost Building. Board discussed the options available. Matter to remain on the Primary Building and Grounds agenda.
2. Former Recycling Building Update - City of Caro wants to retain ownership of the building for their future expansion plans.
3. Mike Miller, Buildings and Grounds Director - 2019 Recycling Annual Report - Mike Miller spoke in reference to the annual report included in the agenda packet. Report to be placed on file.

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

1. State Police Building - Water and Annexation - Mike Miller reported that the proposal is being worked on and will be presented for the State's response.
2. 2021 County Jail Construction - Potential Millage in Future - Board discussed the need to determine what the amount would be needed for the project in order to plan if the matter will be taken to the voters as a millage or handled as a bond issue. The matter can be placed on Thursday's agenda if Sheriff Skrent has an update to provide.
3. Space Needs for Courthouse - Matter can be removed from the ongoing agenda.
4. County Physical and Electronic Record Storage Needs - Discussed earlier in the meeting.
5. Vanderbilt Park Property Lines/Ownership - Michael Yates is putting together information to be presented to the Board. Matter can be removed until the information is ready to be presented.

### **Personnel**

Committee Leader Commissioner Grimshaw  
Commissioner Vaughan

#### **Primary Personnel**

1. MAC Leave Policy Questions in Regards to Quarantining Due to the Pandemic - Board discussed the Cares Act Funding and how it relates to paying employees that are not able to be at work due to having to quarantine or that are required to work reduced hours. Board discussed the matter and would like Shelly to reach out to Elected Officials and Department Heads to gain their input as to how this could relate to their department.

2. Whitepaper COVID-19 Vaccine - Brown and Brown Insurance provided a handout of key considerations for Employers. Board discussed the matter.
3. New Hire Animal Control Officer - Clayette Zechmeister presented the request from Director Leigh Nancy. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

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

1. Strengthen and Streamline Year-End Open Enrollment - Matter can be removed from the agenda.
2. Wage Study Comparisons - Matter can be removed from the agenda.
3. MAC 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting Updates
4. Work Comp Updates
5. Safety Committees
6. New Commissioner Packets - Clayette provided an update. Matter can be removed from the agenda.

#### **Primary Other Business as Necessary**

1. Robert's Rules of Order Chapter 52 - Board discussed the current process of holding Committee of the Whole meetings and the Board would like to continue the current process. Board also discussed adding a category of New Business after the heading of County Updates. Board discussed if any additional changes are requested in the Board Rules other than those discussed at the Organizational Meeting. Board would like the rules to reflect Topic Leader when referencing Committee Members. Draft to be included in the January 25, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting agenda for further discussion.
2. PA 182 46.51 Finance Committee Counties Less than 75,000 (Excerpt) - Clayette Zechmeister presented the information that was included in the agenda packet.
3. Alcona County Resolution 2020-15 Additional Review 2021 - Commissioner Vaughan would like the Board to consider adoption of the resolution.

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

1. MIFSM - Clayette Zechmeister will contact Eric Morris on if a closed session will be needed for Thursday's meeting.
2. 1-25-21 - Agenda preparation clerical error no action required.
3. Animal Control Ordinance – Review Lapeer Counties

Commissioner Grimshaw excused at 1:44 p.m.

4. Board Rules of Order – Possible Revisions Within Six Months (1-13-20) - To be presented at the January 25, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting.
5. Policy Updates
6. Senate Bill 46, Michigan Renewable Energy Commission (MREC) - Clayette Zechmeister provided an update regarding an upcoming meeting that has been scheduled.
7. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) order expires on January 15, 2021 so an update will be needed if the rules change regarding virtual meetings.

8. There has been additional funding allocated for funding for local businesses and the Economic Development Corporation will be providing assistance with the distribution of the funds as there is additional paperwork required.

**Public Comment Period -**

-Treasurer Bennett announced that she has appointed Garrett Smith as her Chief Deputy Treasurer effective January 4, 2021.

Motion by Young, seconded by Vaughan to adjourn the meeting at 1:50 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; DuRussel - yes; Grimshaw - absent; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk

DRAFT