



MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Meeting

8:00 AM - Monday, August 12, 2024

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

Commissioner Vaughan 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, August 12, 2024, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present In-Person: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Bill Lutz, Matt Koch

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Neil Hammerbacher, Mike Miller, Karly Creguer, Jon Ramirez, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Larry Zapfe, Jenna Falor, Phil Kaatz, Jerad Jaborek, Cody Horton

Also Present Virtual: Steve Anderson, Mary Drier, Mark Haney, Brandon Bertram, Estee Bitzer, Linda Strasz, Amanda Ertman, Renee Francisco, Drain Commissioner Bob Mantey, Tom McLane, Register Marianne Brandt, Ashley Gaudett, Carrie Tabar, Cody Horton, Steve Root, Tim Green, Martin Porzondek, Barry Lapp, Bob Baxter, Paige Rushlo, Crystal Knoblock, Sheriff Glen Skrent

At 8:21 a.m., there were a total of 24 participants attending the meeting virtually.

New Business

1. Update on MSU Extension's (MSUe) Agriculture & Agribusiness Programming Efforts -
Jenna Falor, Phil Kaatz, Jerad Jaborek provided an overview of the programs that they lead within Extension including crops, pesticides, farm safety and farm animals.
2. Consideration of Purchasing Additional Fogging Material for Mosquito Abatement -
Larry Zapfe, Director of Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement, provided an update of the late summer mosquito hatch that was experienced. The mosquito trap numbers are beginning to decrease. Additional materials needed to be ordered to meet the demand of the season. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

3. Consideration of Authorizing Out-of-State Travel for Heather Walther to Attend a Conference in Oklahoma City -
Cindy McKinney-Volz, Deputy Court Administrator, presented the request to approve the out-of-state travel which there is adequate funding in the budget. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
4. Consideration of Approving a Budget Amendment for the Voted Veterans Fund -
Neil Hammerbacher, Controller-Administrator, explained the request as allocation to a line item was missed being added to the 2024 budget. There is ample fund balance available to cover the amendment. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
5. Consideration of Purchasing Furniture for the Remodeled Peoples State Bank (PSB) Building -
Mike Miller, Director of Buildings and Grounds, reviewed the bid received from Advantage Business Systems. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda.
6. Discussion of Drainage Issue on County-Owned Real Property -
Mike Miller, Director of Buildings and Grounds, explained that the farmer that leases the county property was attempting to solve a standing water issue by cleaning the ditch out. This has subsequently caused flooding on the Medical Care Facility outer property. Board discussed options that may be available. Director Miller will reach out to Drain Commissioner Mantey for options that may be available. Matter to be brought back to the Board at a future meeting.
7. Consideration of Sponsoring Amanda Raymond from Dispatch/911 for the Leadership, Education and Development (LEAD) Program as Recommended by Dispatch Director, Jon Ramirez -
Neil Hammerbacher, Controller-Administrator, stated that Amanda Raymond has been recommended to attend LEAD. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

Recessed at 9:18 a.m.

Reconvened at 9:27 a.m.

At 9:27 a.m., there were a total of 20 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Old Business

1. Open Meetings Act for Committee Meetings (matter added) -
Commissioner Bardwell referenced a previous legal opinion issued by Braun Kendrick regarding the posting of Committee Meetings and referenced the conclusion of the opinion. Also, referenced the Kohl Stoker article published in the MAC newsletter. Commissioner Bardwell asked to have motion 2023-M-299 rescinded with the Committee meetings being posted and minutes taken when held. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda for consideration of rescinding motion 2023-M-299 with additional language from the 2019 legal opinion included.

Finance/Technology

Primary Finance/Technology

1. Sample of BS&A's Long-Term Budgeting Forecast Tool - Controller-Administrator Neil Hammerbacher reviewed the long-term budget tool that will be included to all Department Heads and Elected Officials for the 2025 budget process.

On-Going and Other Finance

-Controller-Administrator Hammerbacher will have Debbie Babich update the PGS fund tracker and present to the Board at an upcoming meeting.

On-Going and Other Technology

None

Building and Grounds

Primary Building and Grounds

None

On-Going and Other Building and Grounds

-US Eco-Cycle Systems (matter added) - Mike Miller explained that the proposal is currently under legal review.

Personnel

Primary Personnel

1. New Hire for Recycling Program - Mike Miller, Director of Recycling, presented the request to hire Kenneth Scott to replace a current part-time employee effective August 19, 2024. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

On-Going and Other Personnel

None

Other Business as Necessary

-Opinion received for PA233 regarding renewable energy.

Public Comment Period

-Cindy McKinney-Volz, Deputy Court Administrator, requested a line-item transfer to cover the expenses of visiting Judge's for the position of Friend of the Court Referee.

-Clerk Fetting provided an overview of the August 2024 Voter Turnout which was up a small percentage. There was also an increase in voters taking advantage of voting during the 9-days of Early Voting.

Adjournment

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Young to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 a.m.
Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk, CCO