



MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Meeting

8:00 AM - Monday, October 27, 2025

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

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 27, 2025, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present In-Person: Nancy Barrios, Thomas Bardwell, Bill Lutz, Matt Koch

Commissioners Absent: Kim Vaughan

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Erica Dibble, Steve Anderson, Mike Miller, Angie Daniels, Karly Creguer, Connie Keinath, Dayne Alton, Joanna Samuelson, Laura Boyke-Hawes, Billy Putman, Izzy Putman, Abby Putman

Also Present Virtual: Tracy Violet, Mary Drier, Billy Putman, Sheriff Ryan Robinson, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Echo Torrez, Bonnie Fackler, Tom McLane, Cody Horton, Angie House, Katie Robinson, Tanya Pisha, Judy Cockerill, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Register Marianne Brandt, Larry Zapfe, Amanda Ertman, Debbie Babich, Linda Strasz, Sherry Billot, Matthew Sexton, Tim Green, Ashley Gaudett, Barry Lapp, Drain Commissioner Dara Hood, Kandi Teddy, Krystaria Skakle, Ryan Herford, Shannon Nelson, Curtis Elenbaum, Dan Lisowski, Jamie Pierce, Wendy Franks, Steve Root, Kristi Phipps

At 8:10 a.m., there were a total of 32 participants attending the meeting virtually.

New Business

1. Introduction of Region 7 Agency on Aging, New Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Dayna Altom, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Region VII Agency on Aging, introduced herself to the Board in moving forward in the new role. Henry Wymore has applied to fill the seat previously held by William Sanders. With the uncertainty of federal funding, Region 7 does have a 90-day contingency plan to bridge the funding gap.

2. Michigan State University Extension (MSUe) Agreement for Extension Services 2026 -

Karly Creguer, District 10 Director, presented the request to renew the Agreement for 2026 Extension Services. Due to federal funding cuts, 94 positions have been eliminated throughout the state from the SnapED program. Matter of adopting the Agreement to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

3. Michigan State Police Traffic Enforcement Update -

F/Lt. Brian McComb, Michigan State Police Post Caro, addressed the Board regarding the recent severe car crashes that have occurred in Tuscola County due to drivers running stop signs. Also, the pay of Tuscola County Road Deputies compared to other agencies and the effect that can have on finding staff to fill the vacant positions was discussed. F/Lt. McComb stated a traffic safety enforcement zone recently was held and another is planned in early November. He would like to see road safety improved in Tuscola County whether it be additional signage, rumble strips or adding 4-way stops.

Commissioner Barrios attended the Road Commission Board meeting last week and improving traffic safety was the main discussion topic.

4. 2025 County Apportionment -

Angie Daniels, Equalization Director, presented the 2025 Apportionment Report. The proposed revenue for 2026 was discussed. Matter to be placed on Thursday's Agenda.

5. 2026 Draft Budget Review -

Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, presented the first draft of the proposed 2026 budget. This was prepared with a 0% wage increase and a 19% health care increase after using some of the fund balance to reduce employee's cost increase of health care. The first draft reflects using approximately \$581,000.00 in fund balance to balance the budget.

The budget calendar is to be updated to reflect the Public Hearing date to be changed from December 11, 2025 to December 22, 2025 to begin at 9:00 a.m.

A Finance Committee meeting to be scheduled for December 8, 2025 following the Committee of the Whole meeting. Clerk Fetting to post the meeting notice.

A closed session regarding labor negotiations will be set for November 13, 2025 with a start time to be determined.

Old Business

-Amish Bridge Update - Commissioner Bardwell reported that the easement application is in progress. The application fee and description are currently being worked on.

Finance/Technology

Primary Finance/Technology

None

On-Going and Other Finance

None

On-Going and Other Technology

None

Building and Grounds

None

Primary Building and Grounds

None

On-Going and Other Building and Grounds

None

Personnel

Primary Personnel

None

On-Going and Other Personnel

None

Other Business as Necessary

None

Public Comment Period

Billy Putman, who, on behalf of the entire Putman family, expressed profound appreciation for the first responders and the community. The family is incredibly grateful for all the assistance provided by first responders and the support shown by the community during their recent time of crisis due to the accident.

Adjournment

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 a.m.
Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk, MCCO