



MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Meeting

8:00 AM - Monday, January 12, 2026

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, January 12, 2026, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Roll Call - Deputy Clerk Pisha

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

Commissioners Absent: Kim Vaughan

Others Present In-Person: Eean Lee, Erica Dibble, Steve Anderson, Mike Miller, Sheriff Ryan Robinson, Suzy Rockwell, Laura-Boyke Hawes, Gregg Campbell, Russ Speirs, Billy Putman, Addison Putman, Amanda Ertman, Bridgitt McCaughey, Larry Zapfe, Jay Tuckey

Also Present Virtual: Tracy Violet, Mary Drier, Clerk Jodi Fetting, Amy Prill, Angie House, Angie Daniels, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Ashley Gaudett, Barry Lapp, Bonnie Fackler, Brandon Bertram, Cody Horton, Connie Keinath, Drain Commissioner Dara Hood, Brent Dankert, Jamie LeValley, Jeff LeValley, Jim Matuszak, Judy Cockerill, Karly Creguer, Katie Robinson, Kristi Phipps, Krystaria Skakle, Kyle Nordstrom, Linda Strasz, Pennie Rienas, Scienna Nieschulz, Shannon Beach, Shannon Nelson, Shelly Lutz, Sherry Billot, Steve Root, Tom McLane, Debbie Engelhardt, Chad Tumblin, Kim Vaughan, Joanna Samuelson

At 8:36 a.m., there were a total of 38 participants attending the meeting virtually.

New Business

1. Health Department Personnel Policy Changes -
Amanda Ertman, Health Officer, provided the new policy update with changes to the verbiage. The new policy will be effective January 1, 2026. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda for the January 15, 2026 meeting.
2. Families and Children Together (FACT) Presentation -
Bridgitt McCaughey, Chief Executive Officer presented the introduction of Families and Children Together (FACT) to Tuscola County.

3. Equature Contract and Invoice -
Steve Anderson, Emergency Services Coordinator/Interim 911 Dispatch Director, provided a copy of the 10-year contract and equipment update renewal. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda for the January 15, 2026 meeting.
4. Request to Purchase 8 GIS Tablets -
Larry Zapfe, Mosquito Abatement Director, requested to purchase 8 GIS tablets in the amount of \$37,896.00. Matter to placed on the Consent Agenda for the January 15, 2026 meeting.
5. Request to Hire Back Marianne Daily -
Larry Zapfe, Mosquito Abatement Director, requested to hire Marianne Daily starting February 2, 2026, pending a background check and physical. Matter to be placed on Consent Agenda for the January 15, 2026 meeting.
6. Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Board Appointments -
Jodi Fetting, County Clerk, requested the acceptance of retirement resignations from the EDC Board of Directors for members John Tilt, Bob Wolak, and Rose Putnam. Clerk Fetting requested to appoint Corey Guza to the EDC Board of Directors to a partial term expiring December 31, 2026 and to appoint Damian Wasik and Jena Tetil to a 6-year term beginning January 1, 2026. Matter to be placed on Consent Agenda for the January 15, 2026 meeting.
7. Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Review -
Jim Tussey, EDC Chair, will present the matter at a future meeting.
8. Tuscola County Peoples Building Room Reservation Form -
Erica Dibble, Controller/ Administrator, presented a draft of the rental agreement for the Peoples State Bank (PSB). Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, will make additional changes as discussed to the rental agreement and bring it back to the Board.
9. Road Commission Presence Requested -
Commissioner Nancy Barrios provided information she had received from attending the Road Commission meetings. Speed studies are in process for 14 different intersections.

Billy Putman presented a resolution for the Board to consider adopting. The Board would like the resolution to be reviewed by Cohl, Stoker, & Toskey, PC. Also, the Board would like Cohl, Stoker, & Toskey, PC to review the potential of transitioning from an elected to appointed Road Commission Board.

Mike Tuckey told Commissioner Barrios he would get with the Controller/Administrator's Office to review their annual financial report.

Addison Putman presented MDOT approved suppliers along with the cost of flashing stop signs and rumble strips.

Commissioner Koch would like a motion prepared for Thursday's meeting regarding purchasing flashing stop signs. Matter to be placed Thursday's Agenda.

10. Hurds Corner Road Speed Data -

Sheriff Robinson placed speed trailers on northbound and southbound Hurds Corner Road over a two-week period. The results were reviewed, which showed most residents travel at or near the speed limit. There were motorists that were driving at excessive speeds. Sheriff Robinson discussed the importance of drivers not driving distracted.

Recessed at 10:30am.

Reconvened at 10:42am.

At 10:42 a.m., there were a total of 31 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Old Business

1. Citizen Review and Research Concerning the Road Commission -

Billy Putman presented a resolution for the Board to consider adopting earlier in the meeting. Matter to be placed on an upcoming meeting agenda after legal review.

2. Dispatch Potential Ballot Language -

Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, presented draft language for the upcoming ballot language. A review is still being completed regarding the millage amount that should be presented to the voters. Matter to be placed on the next Committee of the Whole Meeting on January 26, 2026.

Filing deadline for the August 4, 2026 election is May 12, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Finance/Technology

Primary Finance/Technology

None

On-Going and Other Finance

None

On-Going and Other Technology

None

Building and Grounds

Primary Building and Grounds

None

On-Going and Other Building and Grounds

None

Personnel

Primary Personnel

None

On-Going and Other Personnel

Commissioner Nancy Barrios asked for direction regarding the responsibilities of the Personnel Committee Chairperson.

Other Business as Necessary

None

Public Comment Period

Russ Speirs, Supervisor of Ellington Township, stated Ellington Township is in favor of covering the cost of rumble strips and flash stop signs to help improve safety in the Township.

Joanna Samuelson discussed the length that the road studies are taking. She questioned how many of the Road Commissioner were elected spots, and who they serve. Also, the safety measures that need to be addressed.

Gregg Campbell, Ellington Township Trustee, stated the Township is in support of financially covering the cost of safety measures needed.

Adjournment

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m.
Motion Carried.

Tanya Pisha
Tuscola County Deputy Clerk