



MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Meeting

8:00 AM - Monday, September 14, 2026

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, September 14, 2026, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting Ryneearson

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting Ryneearson, Mike Miller, Jordan Wade, Tracy Violet, Jared Bush, Tom McLane, Joanna Samuelson, Drain Commissioner Dara Hood, Alecia Little, Angie Daniels, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Michael Sage

Also Present Virtual: Mary Drier, Angie House, Angie Daniels, Carrie Tabar, Connie Keinath, Kandi Teddy, Matthew Sexton, Samuel Putnam, Shelly Lutz, Tanya Pisha, Steve Root, Drain Commissioner Dara Hood, Estee Bitzer, Scienna Nieschulz, Maggie Root, Janie Hemerline, Toni James, Echo Torrez, Cindy Hughes, Katie Robinson, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Chad Tumblin, Brandon Bertram, Laura Boyke-Hawes, Tricia Sharp, Ashley Gaudett, Amy Prill, Amanda Ertman, Cody Horton, Barry Lapp, Shannon Beach, Shelby Miller, John Boggs, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Judy Cockerill, Mitch Davies, Register Marianne Brandt, Shannon Nelson

At 8:05 a.m., there were a total of 21 participants attending the meeting virtually.

New Business

1. 2026 Annual Delegation of School Plan Review and Inspections - Jared Bush, Tuscola Intermediate School District (TISD) Transportation Director/Facilities Manager, explained the request. This is an annual delegation. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
2. 2027 Local Emergency Management Work Agreement - Jordan Wade, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented the request for approval of the agreement. This is an annual agreement that is required for grant participation. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

3. Courthouse Lawn Request -
Mike Miller, Controller/Administrator, presented the request to use the courthouse lawn on October 10, 2026. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
4. County Commissioner Academy 2026 -
Mike Miller, Controller/Administrator, presented the information regarding the conference. Commissioner Barrios is interested in attending if her schedule allows.

Old Business

None

Finance/Technology

Primary Finance/Technology

1. 2026 Tuscola County L-4029 Final Levy -
Angie Daniels, Equalization Director, presented the request for approval and signature of the L-4029 for Tuscola County. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

New Business - continued

5. DTE Energy Four Point Plan -
Michael Sage, DTE Thumb Regional Manager, reviewed the various steps of the Four Point Plan. The cost of electric bills and recent storm outages were also discussed.

Primary Finance/Technology - continued

2. Village of Gagetown Drain Project Update and Request -
Dara Hood, Drain Commissioner, explained the request to extend the project funding amortization from 15 years to 20 years in order to lower the annual cost to the residents. The amount of the loan was also discussed. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda.
3. Budget Amendments needed for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) Grant -
Mike Miller, Controller/Administrator, presented the request received from Circuit Court for the amendments. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda.

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

1. Dispatch Director Position -
Mike Miller, Controller/Administrator, would like to post for the Dispatch Director position to transition to a permanent Director in order to allow the department to move forward. Salary ranges for Directors in neighboring counties was presented. The Deputy Dispatch Director position and salary will need to be reviewed once a Director has been appointed. Matter to be placed on Thursday's agenda.

On-Going and Other Personnel

None

Other Business as Necessary

None

Public Comment Period

-Treasurer Ashley Bennett addressed the Board regarding salary and wages. The Board could start a work group to complete a study to address if Tuscola County has comparable amounts to the same set of counties for each request.

-Treasurer Ashley Bennett addressed the Village of Gagetown Drain Project loan and that 20 years is a long period of time for the amortization of the project.

-Joanna Samuelson read a statement about Flock Cameras.

-The Board discussed holding a public hearing regarding Flock Cameras.

-Tuscola County resident requested a moratorium on Flock Cameras. She is not in favor of a public hearing due to privacy concerns.

-Commissioner Barrios questioned if Department Head salaries could be posted on the county website in a format that is easy to read and find.

Adjournment

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 a.m.
Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting Rynearson
Tuscola County Clerk, MCCO