

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
February 9, 2017 Minutes  
H. H. Purdy Building

Commissioner Thomas Bardwell called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building in the City of Caro, Michigan, on the 9th day of February 2017, to order at 8:00 o'clock a.m. local time.

Prayer – Commissioner Bardwell

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Young

Roll Call – Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present: District 1 - Thomas Young, District 2 – Thomas Bardwell, District 3 - Kim Vaughan, District 4 – Craig Kirkpatrick, District 5 – Matthew Bierlein

Commissioner Absent: None

Also Present: Mike Hoagland, Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Mike Miller, Andrew Dietderich, Tisha Jones, Steve Roland, Jon Ramirez, Jim Mantey, Art Graff, Mike Pattullo, Carmell Pattullo, Wayne Koper, Norm Stephens, Sheriff Glen Skrent, Undersheriff Bob Baxter, Chris Martinelli, Roger Knight, Jim Block, Jim Miklovic, Shelly McCarty

*Adoption of Agenda*

17-M-026

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Bierlein to adopt the agenda as amended.  
Motion Carried.

*Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -*

17-M-027

Motion by Young, seconded by Bierlein to adopt the meeting minutes from the January 26, 2017 meeting. Motion Carried.

*Brief Public Comment Period - None*

*Consent Agenda Resolution -*

17-M-028

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Young that the following Consent Agenda Resolution from the February 6, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

## CONSENT AGENDA

- Agenda Reference:** A
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/6/17
- Description of Matter:** Move that the 2016 Treasurer Report be received and placed on file.
- Agenda Reference:** B
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/6/17
- Description of Matter:** Move that the Human Development Commission proposal to provide assistance to homeowners to prevent property foreclosure be approved and \$3,000 be authorized for payment from the County Foreclosure Fund for said services. (County Treasurer agrees with funding for this service).
- Agenda Reference:** C
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/6/17
- Description of Matter:** Move that the resolution of appreciation for Deputies Roland and Ramirez be approved.
- Agenda Reference:** D
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 2/6/17
- Description of Matter:** Move that Henry Wymore be re-appointed as the Tuscola County representative to serve on the Region VII Area Agency on Aging for a term that expires 12/31/18.

*New Business -*

- Resolution honoring Tuscola County Sheriff's Department Deputies (matter added) -
- Commissioner Bardwell presented the resolutions honoring Deputy Steve Roland and Deputy Jon Ramirez for going above and beyond the call of duty to assist a family in need. He expressed his gratitude to both officers.

-Request for Appointments to Behavioral Health Systems Board -

17-M-029

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that per the recommendation of Behavioral Health System Board of Directors that the following current Board members be re-appointed for three year terms expiring on March 31, 2020: Ms. Paula Cavanaugh, Mr. Daniel Grimshaw, Ms. Joann Helmbold and Mr. Kenneth Partridge. Motion Carried.

-Terminating Concierge Corrections Contract -

Mike Hoagland updated the Board regarding the opinion received from the attorney in regards to terminating the contract.

17-M-030

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Young that per the recommendation of the Sheriff and Jail Administrator that the Concierge Contract be terminated and the letter of termination as drafted by Corporate Council is authorized to be sent. Motion Carried.

-County Bond Rating Reaffirmed -

Mike Hoagland explained how the County has converted from a Defined Benefit to Defined Contribution Retirement Plan. Also, reviewed were the positive statements that have impacted the bond rating being reaffirmed.

*Old Business* - None

*Correspondence/Resolutions* -

-Road Commission minutes included in the board packet.

-Resolution from Bay County included in the board packet. Matter to be added to the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

-Committee of the Whole minutes included in the board packet.

## **COMMISSIONER LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### BARDWELL

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment - Update provided.

Caro DDA/TIFA - Meets next week.

MAC Economic Development/Taxation - Update provided.

MAC 7<sup>th</sup> District - Update provided.

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

TRIAD -Update provided.

Behavioral Health Systems Board - Members appointed today.

MAC Workers Comp Board - Meets today.

KIRKPATRICK

Board of Health - Update provided.

Community Corrections Advisory Board

Dept. of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison - Tuscola County is in need of foster families.

MI Renewable Energy Coalition - Update provided.

MEMS All Hazards - Meeting scheduled with Enbridge.

MAC-Environment Energy Land Use - Meets tomorrow.

Cass River Greenways Pathway - Update provided.

Local Unit of Government Activity Report - Update provided from the Watertown Township meeting.

NACO- Energy, Environment & Land Use

Jail Planning Committee

Land Acquisition

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Tuscola In-Sync

BIERLEIN

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works - Meets tomorrow.

Human Development Commission (HDC) - Meets next week.

Recycling Advisory Committee - Bylaws will be presented to the Board for approval soon.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Great Start Collaborative Council - Meets at the end of the month.

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

MAC Board of Directors - Update provided.

Human Services Collaborative Council - Meets in April.

MAC Judiciary Committee - Meets at the end of the month.

Tuscola County College Access Network

MAC Agricultural Committee

VAUGHAN

Board of Health

Planning Commission - Update provided.

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment - Update provided.

Local Unit of Government Activity Report - Townships are discussing solar farms.

Mid-Michigan Mosquito Control Advisory Committee

Parks and Recreation Commission - There is a vacant seat on the Board that needs to be filled.

Tuscola County Fair Board Liaison

YOUNG

Dispatch Authority Board

County Road Commission Liaison

Board of Public Works

Senior Services Advisory Council - Meets in March.

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Local Unit of Government Activity Report - Update provided.

MAC Economic Development & Taxation Committee

Strategic EDC Planning Committee - Update provided.

Jail Planning Committee

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Region VI Economic Development Planning

Tuscola 2020

Recessed at 8:46 a.m.

Reconvened at 8:51 a.m.

*Other Business as Necessary - None*

*Extended Public Comment -*

-Mike Hoagland read the resolution adopted by the Board regarding wind turbine development.

-Mike Pattullo, Ellington Township - Mike addressed the Board regarding his position on wind turbines as it was stated he was anti-wind. He stated his concern was the ordinance that had been adopted by the Township Board. He is concerned about the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the township. Mike stated he is not against wind turbines but wants the ordinance to protect the residents not the wind turbine company or leaseholder.

Commissioner Vaughan responded to try to clarify statements that were made at a previous Board meeting. It was not the intention of the Board to single Mike out.

-Chris Martinelli, Bridgehampton Township, Sanilac County, - Chris stated he is not anti-wind but wants to make sure his township implements the ordinance in a fashion to protect the residents. The Thumb area has the shortest setbacks established in the world. He also discussed trespass zoning and specifications cited in the Laurel Report. His township has adopted the second most stringent ordinance within the State of Michigan behind Denmark Township. A 6-month moratorium has been put in place regarding solar farms.

-Wayne Koper, Almer Township - Wayne is concerned about the loss of small communities in our county. He is concerned about the long-term consequences of wind energy.

-Jim Block, Almer Township - Jim questioned clarification from the Bond Rating opinion referenced earlier in the meeting as it stated the county was over-dependent on wind energy. His concern was that was a negative impact on the rating. He shared his experience with the representative from the wind energy company requesting his signature which he declined to sign. Jim referenced cases where the Spicer Group pointed out issues where Nextera's had not followed ordinances.

-Carmell Pattullo, Ellington Township - Carmell is appreciative to hold a local elective office as it has opened her eyes to what her community does and offers as well as the the county officials. She is an emotional person but has her community's best interest at heart.

-Norm Stephens, Almer Township - Norm stated he is pro-setback which does not make him anti-wind. Norm read a variety of comments that have been made by various people regarding wind energy. Norm thanked the Board for their concern and for adopting the resolution as he feels the Board is influential. Norm also informed the Board that Nextera stated it would be \$50,000 to decommission a turbine then changed the amount to \$66,000 and then changed the amount to \$600,000.

-Shelly McCarty, Bridgehampton Township, Sanilac County - Shelly read a letter on behalf of a Tuscola County concerned citizen, Mary Tussey. The letter questioned the benefit the county would realize if the wind farm proceeded. Also, questioned was the airport authority district and funding that was cut. Commissioner Vaughan stated the Board is looking at other ways to generate revenue other than wind turbines and ways to help build communities. The Board is looking four to five years in advance in trying to plan the budget.

Commissioner Bardwell thanked the public for attending and sharing their concerns. He understands this is an emotional topic to those involved and appreciates that.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk