

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
March 30, 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 30th day of March 2017, to order at 8:00 o'clock a.m. local time.

Prayer – Reverend Dr. Jason Garwood, Colwood Church

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Vaughan

Roll Call – Clerk Fetting

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

Commissioner Absent: District 4 – Craig Kirkpatrick

Also Present: Clayette Zechmeister, Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Mike Miller, Tisha Jones, Andrew Dietderich, Caroline Goetze, Sheriff Glen Skrent, Register John Bishop, Sandy Nielsen, Ann Hepfer, Heather Verhaeghe, Jamie Wark, Erica Dibble, Deb Cook

*Adoption of Agenda*

17-M-052

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young to adopt the agenda as presented.  
Motion Carried.

*Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -*

17-M-053

Motion by Young, seconded by Bierlein to adopt the meeting minutes from the March 16, 2017 meeting. Motion Carried.

*Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only -*

-John Bishop addressed the Board regarding the method to determine the interest due on the Elected Officials Wage Adjustment. His recommendation would be to use the 5% rather than the 2.5% based on statute.

*Consent Agenda Resolution - None*

*New Business -*

-Review of the 2016 County Health Department Audit - Heather Verhaeghe from Gardner, Provenszano, Thomas & Luplow P.C. reported and explained a favorable audit for the Tuscola County Health Department.

-Commissioner Young asked if there is a plan in place for Opioid Addiction and Overdose. Ann Hepfer stated the concern is at the forefront although there is not funding to put a program in place. Matter discussed.

## 17-M-054

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that the 2016 County Health Department Audit be received and placed on file. Motion Carried.

*-Changes in Health Department Personnel Policies -*

Ann Hepfer explained the change in policy for new employees regarding Personal Time Off (PTO) days. The other major change was transitioning from Defined Benefit to Defined Contribution for new employees. Other smaller changes were implemented also.

## 17-M-055

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Vaughan that per the recommendation of the Board of Health that the March 17, 2017 changes to the Health Department Personnel Policies be approved. Motion Carried.

*-Jail Ceiling -*

Mike Miller presented to the Board the issues he is facing regarding the ceiling in the jail. Mike is requesting a change order be adopted to change from a metal pan ceiling to a detention grade drywall ceiling. New LED lighting to be placed in the hallway is included in the bid. Matter discussed.

## 17-M-056

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that per the recommendation of the general contractor and architects that A-wing and B-wing jail hallway ceiling and lighting fixtures be replaced. (The cost was reduced from \$83,365 in the original bid to \$67,202 primarily by changing the type of material used. Also, the general contractor does not believe the original ceiling could be reinstalled after the new water and plumbing system is installed.) Motion Carried.

*-Dispatch 2016 Annual Report -*

Sandy Nielson reviewed the 2016 Annual Report for Tuscola County Central Dispatch. Smart911 has just under 1,000 subscribers.

## 17-M-057

Motion by Young, seconded by Bierlein that the 2016 Dispatch Annual Report be received and placed on file. Motion Carried.

-Dispatch Hiring Request -

Sandy Nielsen explained the hiring request.

17-M-058

Motion by Young, seconded by Vaughan that the county hiring freeze be temporarily lifted and concur with the March 27, 2017 request from the Dispatch Director to fill two vacant full time dispatcher positions with the appointment of Madison Zimmerman effective start date of April 10, 2017 and Olivia Rivera-Hall with a start date to be determined contingent upon satisfactory physical. Motion Carried.

-Rent of office space at MSU for Farm Bureau -

Clayette Zechmeister explained the request to rent the office space.

17-M-059

Motion by Vaughan, seconded by Young that per the request of the Tuscola County Farm Bureau that authorization is given to rent office space to the Farm Bureau (approximately 10' by 10') and common areas at the county building housing Michigan State University Extension for \$350 per month. Payments are to be receipted into the general fund of the county. Also, documents regarding this matter are authorized for signature. Motion Carried.

Recessed at 9:31 a.m.

Reconvened at 9:41 a.m.

-Work force development and value added agriculture -

Matter tabled to allow Joe Bixler to attend the meeting to discuss.

-Wage adjustment for Elected Officials -

Erica Dibble explained the need for the wage adjustment for the Elected Officials. The payroll attorney was contacted to determine if interest should be paid and the options available. Register Bishop asked for clarification on if the interest was figured as compounded interest and it has been.

17-M-060

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that per the research of the County Attorney and Human Resource Coordinator the following elected officials be paid the amount they were shorted in their first year of office plus 5% annual interest for the reason explained below. Also, budget amendments to correct this oversight are authorized.

(Per Michigan Department of Treasury elected officials are to be paid their authorized salary within the calendar year for which it was approved. They are to be paid their salary regardless of days worked in the office and the payroll period method does not apply to elected officials. This was an inadvertent miscalculation from previous points in time.)

- Former Sheriff Teschendorf – elected in 2008 took office in 2009 owed \$777.35, plus interest \$428.57, **total \$1,205.92.**
- Drain Commissioner Mantey – elected in 2008 took office in 2009 owed \$602.93, plus interest \$332.41 **total \$935.34.**

- Register of Deeds Bishop – elected in 2012 took office in 2013 owed \$1,205.96, plus interest \$333.18, **total \$1,539.14.**
- County Clerk Fetting – elected in 2012 took office in 2013 owed \$1,243.15, plus interest \$343.46, **total \$1,586.61.**
- Commissioner Kirkpatrick - elected in 2012 took office in 2013 owed \$160.38, plus interest \$44.31, **total \$204.69.**
- Commissioner Bierlein - elected in 2012 took office in 2013 owed \$160.38, plus interest \$44.31, **total \$204.69.**
- Former Commissioner Trisch - elected in 2012 took office in 2013 owed \$160.38, plus interest \$44.31, **total \$204.69.**

Motion Carried.

-Caro Regional Center Update -

Clayette Zechmeister stated Mike Hoagland has received approximately 20 emails stating the letter of support has been forwarded. Clayette has also provided the letter of support to an employee of the Caro Center and the employees are going to sign the letter to turn in at the April 5, 2017 meeting to Save the Center. Matter discussed.

-Amend the Term of Office for Henry Wymore for the Region VII Area on Aging -  
17-M-061

Motion by Young, seconded by Bierlein to amend the term of office for Henry Wymore for the Region VII Area on Aging. At the February 8th meeting, we had his term ending 12/31/18 and it should have ended on 3/31/2020. Motion Carried.

-Advertise to fill vacancy Senior Citizens Advisory Council -  
17-M-062

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that the County Clerk be requested to advertise to fill a vacancy on the Tuscola County Senior Citizens Advisory Council. Motion Carried.

*Old Business* - None

*Correspondence/Resolutions* -

- Public Officials Conference is tomorrow at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bay City. Clerk Fetting is attending on behalf of Tuscola County.
- Undersheriff Baxter received a RAP grant for bumper guards.
- 15th Annual Tuscola Stars Breakfast invitation is included in packet.
- Hills and Dales Hospital groundbreaking is on April 21, 2017.

**COMMISSIONER LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS****BIERLEIN**

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works  
Human Development Commission (HDC)  
Recycling Advisory Committee  
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)  
Great Start Collaborative Council  
Local Unit of Government Activity Report  
MAC Board of Directors - Conference was well attended. Feedback was positive regarding the speakers.  
Human Services Collaborative Council  
MAC Judiciary Committee - Update provided.  
Tuscola County College Access Network  
MAC Agricultural Committee

**VAUGHAN**

Board of Health - Update provided.  
Planning Commission - Meets in April.  
Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment  
Local Unit of Government Activity Report  
Mid-Michigan Mosquito Control Advisory Committee  
Parks and Recreation Commission - Have not heard back on the grant.  
Tuscola County Fair Board Liaison

**YOUNG**

Dispatch Authority Board  
County Road Commission Liaison - Meets next week.  
Board of Public Works - Meets next week.  
Senior Services Advisory Council - Meets in May.  
Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative - Update provided.  
Local Unit of Government Activity Report - Attended the MAC Conference and gained useful information.  
MAC Economic Development & Taxation Committee  
Strategic EDC Planning Committee  
Jail Planning Committee  
Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works  
Region VI Economic Development Planning  
Tuscola 2020 - Update provided.

BARDWELL

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment - Update provided.

Caro DDA/TIFA

MAC Finance - Committee name has been changed and meeting is scheduled.

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

Local Unit of Government Activity Report - Lawsuit has been filed against Ellington Township.

TRIAD

Behavioral Health Systems Board - Update provided.

MAC Workers Comp Board - Meets in May.

KIRKPATRICK - absent

Board of Health

Community Corrections Advisory Board

Dept. of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison

MI Renewable Energy Coalition

MEMS All Hazards

MAC Environmental Regulatory – Vice Chair

Cass River Greenways Pathway

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

NACO- Energy, Environment & Land Use

Jail Planning Committee

Land Acquisition

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Tuscola In-Sync

Region VI Tourism Discussions

*Other Business as Necessary -*

-Mike Miller received a call from the Cardboard City committee to see if the display was approved for the 5K race.

17-M-063

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Vaughan to approve the request from the Cardboard City Organizers to place a display on the Courthouse lawn to promote the Cardboard City 5K Race. Motion Carried.

*Extended Public Comment -*

-Commissioner Bardwell wished Andrew Dietderich well in his next employment adventure.

Meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk