

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
January 25, 2018 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 25th day of January 2018, to order at 8:03 o'clock a.m. local time.

Prayer – Commissioner Bierlein

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Kirkpatrick

Roll Call – Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present: District 1 - Thomas Young, District 2 – Thomas Bardwell, District 3 - Kim Vaughan (via Google Hangouts), District 4 - Craig Kirkpatrick (via Google Hangouts) excused at 10:18 a.m., District 5 – Matthew Bierlein

Commissioner Absent: None

Also Present: Mike Hoagland, Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Tisha Jones, Mike Miller, Caryn Michalak, Tim Wingert, Nancy Laskowski, Denise Steffan, Ken Hecht, Karly Creguer, Matt Shane, Heather Middleton, Sandy Nielsen, Norm Stephens, Jim Mantey

*Adoption of Agenda -*  
18-M-008

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

*Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -*  
18-M-009

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young to adopt the meeting minutes from the January 11, 2018 meeting. Motion Carried.

*Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only - None*

*Consent Agenda Resolution -*  
18-M-010

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Young that the following Consent Agenda Resolution from the January 22, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

## CONSENT AGENDA

- Agenda Reference:** A
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/22/18
- Description of Matter:** Move that per the recommendation of the Circuit Court Administrator that an Intensive Family Services program be approved for implementation as a proactive approach to keeping children out of high cost foster care and institutional child care programs. Also, the county hiring freeze be temporarily lifted and a part-time employee be changed to full-time to perform the Intensive Family Services program. Also, budget amendments to the 292 Child Care Fund related to this change are authorized.
- Agenda Reference:** B
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/22/18
- Description of Matter:** Move that the budgeted (292 child care fund) contract with List Psychological Services for parent and teen support group services be approved for an amount of \$22,500.00 and all appropriate signatures are authorized.
- Agenda Reference:** C
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/22/18
- Description of Matter:** Move that the Tuscola County Indigent Defense Plan with removal of all but one scanner in addition to other minor changes as recommended in the communication from Barbara Klimaszewski be approved for signature and re-submitted before the February 20, 2018 deadline.
- Agenda Reference:** D
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/22/18
- Description of Matter:** Move that information assembled regarding solar energy be forwarded to the County Planning Commission for review and approval before forwarding to local units of government. If the information is forwarded then a statement should be included that is only intended as information and the county does not take a position on decisions that are made at the local level of government.

- Agenda Reference:** E
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/22/18
- Description of Matter:** Move that the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners per diem policy be changed in the section titled "other per diem payment provisions" to allow up to three per diems per day instead of the current two.
- Agenda Reference:** F
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/22/18
- Description of Matter:** Move that a clause be added to the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners per diem policy referencing that the "meetings for which per diems are paid" to add the statement: "This is a representative list of meetings for which per diems are paid and not intended to be all inclusive."
- Agenda Reference:** G
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/22/18
- Description of Matter:** Move that the service contract for the X-Ray Machine in the Courthouse be approved for signature for an amount of \$4,900.00.
- Agenda Reference:** H
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/22/18
- Description of Matter:** Move that per the January 18, 2018 letter of request from the Dispatch Director to temporarily lift the county hiring freeze to concur with the hiring of Lorianne Sebert as a Shift Supervisor effective January 27, 2018.
- Agenda Reference:** I
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/22/18
- Description of Matter:** Move to temporarily lift the county hiring freeze and authorization is given to hire a full-time dispatcher to fill the vacancy created by the promotion of Dispatcher Lorianne Sebert to Supervisor.

**Agenda Reference:** J

**Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/22/18

**Description of Matter:** Move that if it is confirmed by the County Clerk that there is one or more vacancies on the Airport Zoning Board of Appeals then another advertisement be published by the County Clerk to request nominees and then the board appoint the individual (or individuals) who is determined to be the best candidate, taking into account the previous nominees who are still available for consideration, if any.

*New Business -*

-Update Regarding Jail Repairs - Mike Miller updated the Board regarding issues at the Jail in reference to the hot water tank and furnace with repairs that have been made.

-Legislative Update from Michigan Township Association and Michigan Association of Counties -

Mike Hoagland informed the Board of a proposed Bill that would prohibit a millage proposal being brought before voters in a May election. Also, discussed were SB94 and SB95 which are expected to reduce state revenue by \$29 million. HB 5420, HB 5421 and HB 5422 would cut personal income taxes and potentially reduce General Fund revenue for the State.

-Request to Fill Vacant Dispatcher Position -

Mike Hoagland explained the need to fill the vacant position due to a promotion.

18-M-011

Motion by Young, seconded by Kirkpatrick that per the recommendation of the Dispatch Director, the county hiring freeze be temporarily lifted and Stacie Gilberg be hired as a full-time dispatcher to fill the vacancy created by the promotion of dispatcher Sebert to the position of shift supervisor. (Said hiring is contingent upon satisfactory physical and background check.) Motion Carried.

-Update Regarding Airport Zoning Board of Appeals -

Mike Hoagland explained the option of reconsidering the application fee for the Airport Zoning Board of Appeals.

18-M-012

Motion by Kirkpatrick, seconded by Bierlein that the previous motion made at the 12/11/17 Board of Commissioners meeting (Consent Agenda Reference B) be rescinded.

(This motion states "an initial fee of \$1,000 be set for applications submitted to the Airport Zoning Board of Appeals. Also, for each additional wind turbine, tower, antenna or other structure a fee of \$500 be established. Said fees to take immediate effect").

Motion Carried.

## 18-M-013

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that a base fee be established of \$250 for applications submitted to the Airport Zoning Board of Appeals (AZBA). These fees cover the direct and indirect cost of AZBA review and consideration of the application. There shall be a base fee of \$250 for the first structure (including but not limited to a building, antenna, tower, flag pole, wind turbine etc.) plus \$50 for each additional like structure reviewed at the same meeting. Said fee to take immediate effect. Motion Carried.

## 18-M-014

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that a fee be established of \$50 for each application (including but not limited to a building, antenna, tower, flag pole, wind turbine etc.) submitted to the Airport Zoning Administrator (AZA). These fees cover the direct and indirect cost of AZA review and consideration of the application. These fees will be collected by the county and paid to the AZA upon receipt of invoice. Said fee to take immediate effect. Motion Carried.

## 18-M-015

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Kirkpatrick that Airport Zoning Board of Appeals members be paid a per diem of \$50 per meeting plus mileage at the rate established by the county. Motion Carried.

-Commissioner Bierlein would like to review what the per diem rate is for all of the various Boards and Commissions of Tuscola County and place on a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

*Old Business -*

- Vassar Foundry - Mike Hoagland updated the Board that there is an interested buyer. Commissioner Young has also heard there is a different potential buyer.
- Opioid Lawsuit - No update at this time.
- Caro Dam - Mike Hoagland is still working on and there is a meeting scheduled for January 31, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

*Correspondence/Resolutions -*

- Health Department Report.
- Resolution from Wexford County.
- Road Commissioner Minutes.

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

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Human Development Commission (HDC) - Audit has been completed with a satisfactory review.

Recycling Advisory Committee

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

MEMS All Hazards

Great Start Collaborative Council

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

MAC Board of Directors - Sanilac County Board of Commissioners has 4 out of 5 Commissioners that are new. Commissioner Bierlein would like to extend an offer to answer questions if they have them.

Human Services Collaborative Council

MAC Judiciary Committee

Tuscola County College Access Network

MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee

**KIRKPATRICK**

Board of Health - Survey recently conducted on quality of service with high marks received. The Veterans Affairs Committee received great comments.

Community Corrections Advisory Board

Dept. of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison - Update provided.

MI Renewable Energy Coalition

MAC Environmental Regulatory – Vice Chair

Cass River Greenways Pathway - Would like to invite the group to the upcoming meeting.

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

NACO- Energy, Environment & Land Use - Update provided regarding funding for the Great Lakes.

Jail Planning Committee

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Tuscola In-Sync

Region VI Tourism Discussions

**BARDWELL**

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment - EDC is currently working on 28 projects.

Caro DDA/TIFA - Update provided of upcoming projects.

MAC Finance

MAC 7<sup>th</sup> District

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

TRIAD

Behavioral Health Systems Board

MAC Workers Comp Board

YOUNG

Dispatch Authority Board  
County Road Commission Liaison  
Board of Public Works  
Senior Services Advisory Council  
Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative  
Local Unit of Government Activity Report  
MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee  
Strategic EDC Planning Committee  
Jail Planning Committee  
Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works - Update provided.  
Region VI Economic Development Planning  
Tuscola 2020

VAUGHAN

Board of Health  
Planning Commission  
Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment  
Local Unit of Government Activity Report  
Mid-Michigan Mosquito Control Advisory Committee  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Tuscola County Fair Board Liaison

*Other Business as Necessary -*

MSU Extension (MSUe) Annual Report -  
Matt Shane presented a review of MSU Extension from over the past year.

## 18-M-016

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young to receive and place on file the 2016-17 MSU Extension Annual Report. Motion Carried.

*Extended Public Comment -*

-Denise Steffan, Thumb Meat Market - Denise is a member of the Caro Planning Commission and the Sunday Liquor Sale topic was discussed at a recent meeting. The group supported the pursuit of repealing the Sunday Liquor Sale ban. Denise would like to hold a public hearing to have the Commissioners hear the public's view.

-Tim Wingert, Wingert's Food Center- Tim would like the Board to reconsider their vote in continuing the ban on Sunday Liquor Sales. He also questioned why the Board could not motion to place the ballot question on an election instead of a petition drive.

Commissioners would like to still have the issue handled by a petition drive to be able to hear from the voters of Tuscola County.

-Norm Stephens – Norm would like an update on the NextEra Tax Tribunal Suit.

Commissioner Bierlein explained that suit has been dismissed and the money in escrow has been placed in the jail improvement fund. There is still an outstanding tax tribunal suit.

Norm Stephens discussed the MSU Extension program and the guidelines issued by MSUe. Also, Carolyn Graff organized a community drive to raise funds for Darbee Park for improvements. The funds raised exceeded the amount that was donated by NextEra for Vanderbilt Park.

-Jim Mantey distributed a magnet that contains contact information for Almer Township officials.

-Nancy Laskowski – Nancy thanked the Commissioners for reviewing the fee structure and implementing an amended fee structure. Nancy shared a couple of personal stories in reference to structures near airports. Also, a wind turbine accident that occurred with NextEra was brought to the attention of the Board. Nancy expressed safety concerns of the wind turbines and the heights of the turbines. She is concerned of the height of the structure in comparison to the setbacks of the ordinances. A concern of hers, if a windmill were to fall, it could land on a road based on the local ordinance.

Ken Hecht – Ken thanked the Board for the support of the Veterans Affair Committee. Ken is a pilot and flies out of the Caro Area Airport. He is concerned with the proximity of the wind turbine project to the Caro Area Airport and the safety concern in relationship to planes using the airport.

Eean Lee - Parks and Rec Committee has been working with the IT Department to update the webpage. The webpage has been updated and released for public to

Commissioner Kirkpatrick excused at 10:18 a.m.

Tisha Jones - The virtual sign-up page for local Pastors to attend the meetings to offer prayer is getting filled in and someone will attend the meeting on February 15, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk