

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 6, 2019 Minutes

H. H. Purdy Building

Commissioner 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 6th day of May 2019, to order at 9:00 o'clock a.m. local time.

Prayer – Commissioner Grimshaw

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Young

Roll Call – Clerk Jodi Fetting

Commissioners Present: District 1 - Thomas Young, District 2 - Thomas Bardwell, District 3 - Kim Vaughan, District 4 - Mark Jensen, District 5 – Daniel Grimshaw

Commissioner Absent: None

Also Present: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Tisha Jones-Holubec, Mike Miller, Mark Haney, Drain Commissioner Bob Mantey, Rick Boylan, Clayette Zechmeister, Shelly Lutz, Sandy Nielsen, Chuck Heinlein, Register John Bishop, Treasurer Patricia Donovan-Gray, Jeffery Thornton, Rahm Mormando, Judy Cockerill, Mariella Leinfelder

Adoption of Agenda -

19-M-091

Motion by Young, seconded by Vaughan to adopt the agenda as amended.

Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only -

-Mike Miller - Offered his support of Clayette Zechmeister for Controller/Administrator position.

-Rahm Mormando - Offered his support of Clayette Zechmeister for Controller/Administrator position.

-Patricia Donovan-Gray - Offered her support of Clayette Zechmeister for Controller/Administrator position.

-Chuck Heinlein - Asked the Board to look for a candidate to best lead Tuscola County forward and get the most qualified that understands what Tuscola County is faced with in the future.

-Sandy Nielsen - Offered her support of Clayette Zechmeister for Controller/Administrator position.

Old Business -

-Discussion regarding the replacement of the retiring Controller/Administrator - Commissioner Bardwell opened the discussion of the filling of the position. Clayette Zechmeister and Jeffery Thornton attended meeting. Matthew Bierlein had prior commitments that could not be rescheduled but is available by phone.

Board discussed the history of the Controller/Administrator position and when it was made a combined position rather than separate positions.

Commissioner Grimshaw shared thoughts on having a person appointed to the position from outside of Tuscola County in order to have a fresh set of viewpoints offered to Tuscola County. He does not feel that any of the three candidates met the job qualifications put forth in the employment posting.

Commissioner Vaughan does not feel we need to look to outside of Tuscola County for additional candidates. He feels the Tuscola County is managed very well.

Commissioner Jensen stated that in his experience an appointment from succession has been successful and he does not feel that the person will necessarily follow in the previous person's footsteps. He does not feel that seeking a candidate using employment consulting company will be beneficial.

Commissioner Young feels that since the Board is not able to offer additional salary for the position that could hinder the pool of candidates. He feels that the Board may need to do a better job at communicating with the Department Heads.

Commissioner Bardwell shared his viewpoint of the complexities of utilizing a consulting company. The candidate needs to be able to lead Tuscola County.

Commissioner Young questioned if the position would come with a probationary period. If there is not a contract, Shelly stated a non-union position has a 6-month probationary period.

Commissioner Grimshaw is not opposed to increase the salary of the Controller/Administrator position to seek additional candidates.

Nomination by Commissioner Vaughan for Clayette Zechmeister for the Controller/Administrator position.

Commissioner Bardwell called for other nominations and with no other nominations called for nominations to be closed.

Clerk Fetting called a Roll Call Vote for the appointment of Clayette Zechmeister to the Controller/Administrator position.

Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - no; Bardwell - no

After vote, Clayette Zechmeister was appointed to the position of Controller/Administrator.

Commissioner Grimshaw questioned if there had been a violation of the Open Meetings Act during discussion between Commissioners and Mike Hoagland regarding the appointment of the Controller/Administrator position. Board discussed this matter. Commissioners stated there was not a conversation between themselves and Mr. Hoagland where a violation would have happened.

-MAC Worker's Compensation Board -

Commissioner Bardwell will not be at the Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, May 13, 2019 due to the MAC meeting. Commissioner Young will lead the meeting.

-MAC 7th District -

Commissioner Bardwell would like to set a meeting to discuss the continuation of the MAC 7th District. A couple of potential meeting dates, on a Monday or Tuesday, need to be set sometime in May or June to be hosted in Tuscola County. Potential discussion topics could be cybersecurity and structure of Committee/Board meetings. Also, the continuation of the 7th District needs to be discussed.

Correspondence/Resolutions - None

Other Business as Necessary - None

Extended Public Comment -

-Chuck Heinlein - Questioned how the appointment of the Chief Financial Officer would be handled with the appointment of Clayette to the Controller/Administrator. Board stated it would be handled by following County Policy.

-Rick Boylan - Introduced himself to the Board as he has applied for the vacancy on the County Planning Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk