

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 30, 2020 Minutes

Electronic Meeting held via Google Hangouts

To be held in compliance with EO 2020-21

Commissioner Bardwell called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held via Google Hangouts on the 30th day of March 2020, to order at 8:07 o'clock a.m. local time.

Prayer – Commissioner Jensen

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: Jodi Fetting, Clayette Zechmeister, Eean Lee, Angie Daniels, Mike Miller, Sandy Nielsen, Mark Haney, Rahm Mormando, Tim Green, Matt Brown, Barry Lapp, Tracy Violet, Jim McLoskey, Shelly Lutz, Wayne Koper, Heidi Stark, Judge Amy Grace Gierhart

At 8:08 a.m. there were a total of 31 participants on the electronic meeting.

Adoption of Agenda -
2020-M-067

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

Roll Call Vote: Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -
2020-M-068

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Young to adopt the meeting minutes from the March 12, 2020 Regular Board and Statutory Finance meetings. Roll Call Vote: Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only - None

Consent Agenda Resolution - None

New Business -

-County Declaration of a Local State of Emergency Related to COVID-19 -
2020-M-069

Motion by Young, seconded by Jensen to officially declare a State of Emergency for Tuscola County for the Coronavirus/COVID-19 Public Health Emergency that is occurring not only within Tuscola County but also the State of Michigan and the entire United States. (Motion Amended).

2020-M-070

Motion by Grimshaw, seconded by Young to amend 2020-M-069 with an expiration date of June 1, 2020. Roll Call Vote on Amendment: Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

2020-M-069 as amended

Motion by Young, seconded by Jensen to officially declare a State of Emergency for Tuscola County for the Coronavirus/COVID-19 Public Health Emergency that is occurring not only within Tuscola County but also the State of Michigan and the entire United States with an expiration date of June 1, 2020. Roll Call Vote: Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

-2020 County Equalization Report (matter added) - Angie Daniels reviewed the report and noted a correction on page three with an explanation. Board discussed the matter.

2020-M-071

Motion by Young, seconded by Vaughan that the 2020 County Equalization Report be received and placed on file and the Chairperson be authorized to sign said document. Roll Call Vote: Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

-County Closure to the Public - Clayette Zechmeister provided an overview of the county closure. Board discussed various offices providing online services to the residents of Tuscola County. Clerk Fetting stated that communication has not been provided to the Electeds regarding the payment to county employees and asked the Board to clarify as she is in support of paying the employees.

2020-M-072

Motion by Grimshaw, seconded by Jensen that county employees will be paid at their regular rate of pay during the emergency county closure due to COVID-19. Roll Call Vote: Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

-Deep Cleaning of County Buildings by SERVPRO (continued below) - Mike Miller provided a review of the quote received from SERVPRO to deep clean county buildings except for the courthouse as that building has already been completed. Sheriff Skrent and Director Nielsen stated they would decline having SERVPRO come into their buildings.

-Judge Amy Grace Gierhart (commenting on County Closure) - Judge Gierhart, Judge Jason Bitzer and Court Administrator Sheila Long began discussing the potential need to close the courthouse on March 9, 2020. Their goal was to put a plan of action in place for when the need arose. Judge Gierhart expressed her appreciation of Clerk Fetting, CIO Lee, EM Anderson and Lieutenant Harris for their joint efforts in putting the plan in place. Judge Gierhart stated court employees will be paid throughout the duration of the emergency closure. The court is operating in compliance with the Supreme Court Order and the Governor's Executive Order issued. The Courts and Clerk's Office have detailed information on the county website detailing how to interact with the offices located at the courthouse.

-Closed Session to Discuss Strategy and Negotiation Sessions -
2020-M-073

Motion by Young, seconded by Grimshaw that the Board meet in Closed Session under Section 8(c) of the Open Meetings Act, in order to discuss strategy connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement with Jodi Fetting, Clayette Zechmeister, Shelly Lutz, Eean Lee and Eric Morris allowed to attend at 10:00 a.m. Roll Call Vote: Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

Closed Session began at 10:00 a.m.

Reconvened the Public Meeting at 10:41 a.m.

Roll Call by Clerk Fetting: Young, Bardwell, Vaughan, Jensen, Grimshaw
22 attendees on the electronic meeting

Recessed Public Meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Reconvened Public Meeting at 10:49 a.m.

Roll Call by Clerk Fetting: Young, Bardwell, Vaughan, Jensen, Grimshaw
23 attendees on the electronic meeting

2020-M-076

Motion by Bardwell, seconded by Young that the County ratify the tentative agreement reached between the AFSCME Courthouse Deputies Bargaining Committee and the Tuscola County Bargaining Committee for a successor collective bargaining agreement to extend through December 31, 2021. Also, move that Commissioner Bardwell be authorized to execute a collective bargaining agreement reflecting the terms of this tentative agreement. Roll Call Vote: Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

-Deep Cleaning of County Buildings by SERVPRO (continued from above) - Mike Miller contacted his supplier, Arnold Sales. The supplier does not feel that the mosquito sprayer will work for this purpose. His staff is completing what the CDC recommends.

Board would like Mike Miller and his team to continue their efforts and to not have SERVPRO provide services at this time.

-Health Department Potential Appropriation Changes - Matter removed per Clayette Zechmeister.

-Drain Commissioner 2019 Budget Carry Over Request - Drain Commissioner Mantey explained his request.

2020-M-077

Motion by Grimshaw, seconded by Young that per the Drain Commissioner to amend the budget in line item 244-275-971-010 by \$2,000.00 in carry over funds from 2019. Also, approve the purchase from Advantage Business Systems, LLC for the shelving units needed in the amount of \$3,545.21 with the remainder of \$1,545.21 being paid from the Drain Commissioner Supply budget 101-275-727-000. Roll Call Vote: Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

-Economic Development Commission (EDC) Update (matter added) - Commissioner Vaughan reviewed programs that the State of Michigan has made available for small businesses during this time of emergency need. Tuscola County has been awarded \$86,000.00 to distribute in the way of grants and there is a \$1,000,000.00 pool of money available statewide for low interest rate loans. As of last night, there have been 51 applications received by the EDC for these funds. The Executive Committee of the EDC will be making decisions this afternoon regarding who will be awarded the funds.

-Larry Zapfe to Mosquito Abatement Director - Clayette Zechmeister stated Kim Green is willing to stay as the Director of Mosquito Abatement until Larry Zapfe can assume the position.

2020-M-078

Motion by Grimshaw, seconded by Young that effective April 14, 2020 that Larry Zapfe be appointed the Mosquito Abatement Director. Roll Call Vote: Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

2020-M-079

-Appointment of Open Positions at Mosquito Abatement for April 14, 2020 - Pending the operations resuming for Mosquito Abatement Treatment and employees returning to work that the following promotions occur:

Patrick Dennis to Equipment Repair Technician

Joseph Benjamin to Foremen, seasonal

Amos Perkins to Lab Technician, seasonal

Roll Call Vote: Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

-Kim Green's Resolution Motion -
2020-M-080

Motion by Young, seconded by Grimshaw that the Resolution that was presented at the March 13, 2020 Full Board Meeting honoring the years of dedicated service provided by Kim Green as the Mosquito Abatement Director be approved and placed on file. Roll Call Vote: Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes. Motion Carried.

-Purdy Building Postage Meter Lease Renewal -
2020-M-081

Motion by Young, seconded by Jensen to approve the postage meter lease renewal for 60-months that includes new equipment, all updates and service. Payments are billed quarterly at \$1,300.29. And, also authorize all signatures and budget amendments if necessary. Roll Call Vote: Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

-Appointment of Henry Wymore to Region VII Council on Aging -
2020-M-082

Motion by Young, seconded by Vaughan to reappoint Henry Wymore to Region VII Council on Aging for a 3-year term which will expire on March 31, 2023. Roll Call Vote - Grimshaw - yes; Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

Old Business -

-Animal Control Ordinance - No update.

-County Land Bank Updates - No update.

Correspondence/Resolutions -

-Clayette Zechmeister referenced the resolutions included in the packet from Houghton County and Cheboygan County.

COMMISSIONER LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS

VAUGHAN - No Updates

Board of Health

County Planning Commission

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

MAC Environmental Regulatory

Mid-Michigan Mosquito Control Advisory Committee

NACO-Energy, Environment & Land Use

Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuscola County Fair Board Liaison

Local Units of Government Activity Report

GRIMSHAW - No Updates
Behavioral Health Systems Board
Recycling Advisory
Local Units of Government

JENSEN - No Updates
Board of Health
Community Corrections Advisory Board
Dept. of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison
Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works
Jail Planning Committee
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
MAC Judiciary Committee
MEMS All Hazard
Local Units of Government Activity Report

BARDWELL - No Updates
Behavioral Health Systems Board
Caro DDA/TIFA
Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment
MAC 7th District
MAC Workers Comp Board
TRIAD
Local Units of Government Activity Report

YOUNG - No Updates
Board of Public Works
County Road Commission Liaison
Dispatch Authority Board
Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works
Great Start Collaborative
Human Services Collaborative Council (HSCC)
Jail Planning Committee
MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee
MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC)
Region VI Economic Development Planning
Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative
Senior Services Advisory Council
Tuscola 2020
Local Units of Government Activity Report

Other Business as Necessary -

-Board discussed the upcoming meetings that will be held again as an electronic meeting. The Committee of the Whole meeting will remain scheduled for April 13, 2020 and a determination made when it is closer to the meeting on whether to cancel or not. The Board of Commissioners meeting scheduled for April 16, 2020 will be held as an electronic meeting. Clerk Fetting will work in coordination with CIO Lee to post the information for the electronic meetings on April 13, 2020 and April 16, 2020.

-Commissioner Vaughan will continue to monitor the EDC grant and loan fund opportunities and will report any necessary information to the Board.

Extended Public Comment -

There were still 18 people on the meeting at this time.

-Wayne Koper - Thanked the Commissioners and county employees during these trying times and stated he is relying on his local and state government officials during this time.

-CIO Lee stated there was no offline Public Comment.

2020-M-083

Motion by Young, seconded by Grimshaw to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Young - yes; Vaughan - yes; Jensen - yes; Grimshaw - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk