



# MINUTES - Amended Board of Commissioners Meeting

8:00 AM - Thursday, July 28, 2022

H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro,  
MI 48723

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Commissioner Bardwell called the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro, MI 48723, on Thursday, July 28, 2022, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Prayer - Commissioner Young

Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Vaughan

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present In-Person: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Doug DuRussel, Dan Grimshaw

Commissioner Grimshaw arrived at 8:07 a.m.

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Clayette Zechmeister, Tracy Violet, Mike Miller, Steve Anderson, Sheriff Glen Skrent, Chuck Heinlein, John Tilt, Gary Fritz, Jim McLoskey, Steve Erickson, Shelly Lutz, Amy Taylor, Geoffrey Stuart, Jon Ramirez

Also Present Virtual: Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Amanda Ertman, Robert McKay, Renee Francisco, Linda Strasz, Mary Drier, Matt Brown, Steve Root, Mark Haney, Christy Poulos, Sheriff Glen Skrent, Alecia Little, Nancy Cook, Bob Baxter, Jessica Risky, Debbie Mika, Mark Ransford, Sheila Weigold, Shannon Beach

At 8:03 a.m., there were a total of 20 participants attending the meeting virtually.

## Adoption of Agenda

1. Adoption of Agenda

2022-M-142

Motion by Doug DuRussel, seconded by Thomas Young to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

## Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

1. Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

2022-M-143

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Doug DuRussel to adopt the meeting minutes from the July 14, 2022 Regular meeting. Motion Carried.

## Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only

None

## Consent Agenda

2022-M-144

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Doug DuRussel that the Committee Agenda Minutes and Consent Agenda Items from the July 25, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

## CONSENT AGENDA

1. Region VII Area Agency on Aging's Proposed Multi-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2023-2025 -  
Move to approve the Region VII Area Agency on Aging's Multi-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2023-2025. Also, a letter of support will be provided regarding same.
2. Full-Time Corrections Officer Position -  
Move that per the July 19, 2022 request from the Tuscola County Undersheriff that Joseph Burl be hired as a full-time Corrections Officer position pending a physical & drug test. His background investigation has been completed. He will be starting at Step 1 on the corrections pay scale July 25, 2022.
3. Full-Time Road Patrol Officer Position - Item Rescinded August 25, 2022 2022-M-179  
~~Move that per the July 19, 2022 request from the Tuscola County Undersheriff that Ryan Warchuck be offered a conditional job for an open Road Patrol Deputy position, pending a physical, drug test, psychological test and background check. We have also extended the offer to have his academy costs paid for and part-time pay rate (per past agreement) which will commence at the end of August.~~
4. Appointment to Planning Commission - Partial Term -  
Move that per the request from Lonnie Kester, Planning Commission Chairman, that Lori Selvidge be appointed to the Planning Commission for a partial term. She would fulfill the term held by Ann Westover expiring December 2022.

## New Business

1. Managed Assigned Council Administrator Appointment Update -  
Geoffrey Stuart introduced himself to the Board and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity. The transition to a Public Defender's Office was discussed.

2022-M-145

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan that per the recommendation from Clayette Zechmeister, Controller/Administrator, that Geoffrey J. M. Stuart be appointed to the Managed Assigned Counsel Administrator position for the Tuscola County's indigent criminal defense program. Effective August 2022 at the pay rate of \$90,012.00. Motion Carried with Commissioner DuRussel dissenting.

2. Economic Development Commission (EDC) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund Request (matter added) -  
Steve Erickson provided an update of projects that the EDC is currently involved in including students that participated in an agriculture training program, update on the Brownfield Development at the Nestle Building in Cass City as well as others. Steve read the EDC's Small Business Revitalization Program Request.

Commissioner Grimshaw responded to the EDC Revitalization Program. He suggested that the program only be loans and not grants, that the loan be secured, the interest rate be 1% over prime and be start-up eligible.

EDC is to review the submitted plan with the items suggested today by the Board and bring the request back to the Board for consideration.

Gary Fritz reported that Steve Erickson will be staying as the EDC Director.

3. Building and Grounds Request to Fill a Part-Time Custodian Position (matter added) -  
Mike Miller presented to fill the vacant position.

2022-M-146

Motion by Dan Grimshaw, seconded by Thomas Young that per the recommendation of the Building and Grounds Director that Carol Sebert be hired to fill the vacant part-time custodian position. Effective hire date is August 1, 2022, at the beginning step rate of \$15.64 per hour. Also, approval is pending favorable background, physical and drug screening. Motion Carried.

4. Tuscola County Victim Services Program -  
Clayette Zechmeister reviewed the request presented at the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 25, 2022.

Nancy Cook explained the program that she administers and the new requirements required in order to receive the grant funds that normally fund the program.

2022-M-147

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan that an appropriation of \$85,440.00 to fund the Tuscola County Victim Services (TCVS) Directors Wage and Fringe from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023 until secured funding can be found to continue this important program.

Board would like further clarification on the future funding of the program before moving forward at this time. Motion Withdrawn via 22-M-148.

2022-M-148

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan to withdraw the motion regarding the appropriation to TCVS.

Yes: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Doug DuRussel,  
and Dan Grimshaw

Motion Carried.

5. Tuscola County Victim Services Program Cell Phone Appropriation -  
Board took no action at this time.
6. Proposed Resolution for the Official Ballot Language Regarding a New County Jail and Sheriff's Facility Bond Proposition -

2022-M-149

Motion by Doug DuRussel, seconded by Thomas Young to approve Resolution 2022-14 Submitting to the Tuscola County Electors a Question of Whether the County May Issue Bonds for the Purpose of Construction, Furnishing and Equipping a new County Jail and Sheriff's Facility.

Yes: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Doug DuRussel,  
and Dan Grimshaw

Motion Carried.

Recessed at 10:02 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:12 a.m.

7. Tuscola County Parks and Recreation Master Plan for 2023-2027 -  
Matter was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 25, 2022.

2022-M-150

Motion by Dan Grimshaw, seconded by Doug DuRussel to approve Resolution 2022-15 Adoption of Tuscola County Parks and Recreation 5-year Master Plan for 2023 through 2027.

Yes: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Doug DuRussel,  
and Dan Grimshaw

Motion Carried.

8. 2023 Road Commissioner Pay and 2023 Board of Commissioner Pay -  
Board discussed the required timing of implementing a wage increase for the County Commissioners and the Road Commissioners.

Clerk Fetting read an excerpt from the Guide to County Government that the change needs to be approved prior to the beginning of a new term.

2022-M-151

Motion by Dan Grimshaw, seconded by Thomas Young to approve a 3% wage increase for the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners and the Tuscola County Road Commission Board for the fiscal years 2023 and 2024 per year.

Yes: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, and Dan Grimshaw  
No: Kim Vaughan and Doug DuRussel

Motion Carried.

9. Courthouse Cooling Tower -

2022-M-152

Motion by Doug DuRussel, seconded by Thomas Young to approve the purchase of the Cooling Tower for the Courthouse from Johnson Controls in the amount of \$149,575.00. Also, authorize any necessary budget amendments in the Capital fund for this project. Motion Carried.

10. General Fund Appropriation of Reserved Funds in the Amount of \$250,000.00 for the Cass City Village Wastewater Treatment Plant Project -

2022-M-153

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Dan Grimshaw to approve a General Fund Appropriation of Reserved Funds in the Amount of \$250,000.00 to assist with the Cass City Village Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

Yes: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Doug DuRussel,  
and Dan Grimshaw

Motion Carried.

11. General Fund Appropriation of Reserved Funds in the Amount of \$300,000.00 for the Denmark Township Sewer Lagoons Project -

2022-M-154

Motion by Dan Grimshaw, seconded by Thomas Young to approve a General Fund Appropriation of Reserved Funds in the Amount of \$300,000.00 to assist with the Denmark Township Sewer Lagoons Project.

Yes: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Doug DuRussel,  
and Dan Grimshaw

Motion Carried.

12. General Fund Appropriation of Reserved Funds in the Amount of \$20,000.00 for the Driveway at the Recycling Center -

2022-M-155

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan to approve the General Fund Appropriation of Reserved Funds in the Amount of \$20,000.00 for the Driveway at the Recycling Center. Funds are to be transferred to the Capital Fund (483) for this project. Also, approve any necessary budget amendments. Motion Carried.

13. General Fund Appropriation of Reserved Funds in the Amount of \$330,000.00 for Human Development Commission Home Projects Program to Assist Residents with Roof Repairs, Septic System and Well Systems -

2022-M-156

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Dan Grimshaw to approve a General Fund Appropriation of Reserved Funds in the Amount of \$330,000.00 to the Human Development Commission for the Home Projects Program to Assist Residents with Roof Repairs, Septic System and Well Systems. Motion Carried.

14. Tuscola County Investment Resolution and Policy -  
Clayette Zechmeister presented a copy of the current Investment Policy and Resolution for the Board's information. Board took under advisement.

## **Old Business**

1. Child Care Fund Fiscal Year 2023 -

2022-M-157

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Dan Grimshaw that the Fiscal Year 2023 Child Care Fund Budget including both the Family Court at \$775,188.49 and Department of Health and Human Services at \$310,000.00 be approved and submitted to the state. Also, all appropriate signatures are authorized. Motion Carried.

2. Child Care Fund Projected Costs and In-Home Care Parent Education and Supervised Visitation Education Program -

2022-M-158

Motion by Dan Grimshaw, seconded by Thomas Young to approve the Continuation of the Child Care Fund In-Home Care Parent Education and Supervised Visitation Program from October 1, 2022 to September 20, 2023 in the amount of \$73,100.00 Also, all appropriate signatures are authorized. Motion Carried.

3. 2022-2023 Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Contract with List Psychological Services -

2022-M-159

Motion by Dan Grimshaw, seconded by Thomas Young to approve the contract with List Psychological Services not to exceed \$73,100.00 to provide services to children or families who have active Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Tuscola County Child Protective Services (CPS) Category I or II cases or MDHHS Tuscola County Foster Care Cases (CFC) with children under the age of 18, effective October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023. Also, all appropriate signatures and budget amendments be authorized. Motion Carried.

4. Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) Officer Delegation Appointment -

2022-M-160

Move that Shelly Lutz, Human Resources Director, be appointed as the officer delegate and Angie House, HR/Finance Assistant, be appointed as the alternate officer delegate of the Municipal Employer Retirement System (MERS).

Motion Carried.

5. Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS) Employee Delegation Appointment -

2022-M-161

Motion by Doug DuRussel, seconded by Thomas Young that Brian Harris, Lieutenant, be appointed as the employee delegate and Joshua Herman, Sergeant Detective, be appointed as the alternate employee delegate to the Municipal Employer Retirement System (MERS). Motion Carried.

6. Animal Control Officer Appointment on Vacant Position -  
Board discussed the rate of pay of this position compared to other positions within the County.

2022-M-162

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan to approve the promotion of Miranda Weigold from Part-Time Kennel Attendant to Full-Time Animal Control Officer effective July 28, 2022 at starting pay of \$18.97 (Step 1). Motion Carried.

**Correspondence/Resolutions**

1. Allegan County Auto Insurance Reform Resolution
2. Oceana County No Fault Insurance Reform Resolution

## **Commissioner Liaison Committee Reports**

### ***Young***

Board of Public Works

County Road Commission Liaison  
Update provided that all is going well.

Dispatch Authority Board

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Great Start Collaborative

Human Services Collaborative Council (HSCC)

Jail Planning Committee

MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee

Region VII Economic Development Planning

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Senior Services Advisory Council

HDC has started up the Spoonfuls of Plenty program again for dine-in and take-out.

Tuscola 2020

Local Units of Government Activity Report

### ***Bardwell***

Behavioral Health Systems Board

Caro DDA/TIFA

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

MAC 7th District

MAC Workers Comp Board

Meets in September.

MAC Finance Committee

TRIAD

Local Units of Government Activity Report

### ***Vaughan***

Board of Health

County Planning Commission



Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment  
Reported concerns expressed to him by Steve Erickson regarding forcing a loan program by EDC which makes the EDC similar to a bank.

MAC Environmental Regulatory

Mid-Michigan Mosquito Control Advisory Committee

NACO-Energy, Environment & Land Use

Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuscola County Fair Board Liaison

Fair attendance is at record numbers for this year.

Local Units of Government Activity Report

Resident in Koylton Township reported that the Road Commission was using her driveway as a turn around and caused damage to a fence and trees. Commissioner Young will follow up with Jason Root.

### ***DuRussel***

Board of Health

COVID numbers were discussed at the meeting.

Community Corrections Advisory Board

Department of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison

Was not able to virtually attend due to technical difficulties.

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

MAC Judiciary Committee

MEMS All Hazard

Local Units of Government Activity Report

### ***Grimshaw***

Behavioral Health Systems Board

Board is developing a plan to replace the CEO who is retiring.

Recycling Advisory

Jail Planning Committee

MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC)

Clayette Zechmeister provided an update regarding the appeals.

Local Units of Government

Vassar City Manager is still working on getting figures together regard the ARPA Fund Request.

### **Other Business as Necessary**

-Commissioner Grimshaw presented a concern he has received regarding 911 Dispatch and he is currently working on gathering information.

-Commissioner Grimshaw addressed the Fed Rate and how the upcoming elections could effective minimum wage rates.

-Director Ramirez reported that 911 Dispatch phone lines are experiencing problems and Director Ramirez is currently working to have that resolved.

-Director Ramirez reported regarding the ambulance coverage in Tuscola County as there is a need to fill the positions that are currently vacant but they are experiencing the same issue as other businesses due to the employee shortage.

At 11:16 a.m., there were a total of 18 participants attending the meeting virtually.

### **Extended Public Comment**

-Chuck Heinlein, Denmark Township Supervisor, thanked the Board for the appropriation of funds toward the Denmark Township Lagoon Project. He also spoke that a 3% wage increase across the Board only increases the disparity between employees.

### **Adjournment**

2022-M-163

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m. Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk, CCO