



# MINUTES

## Board of Commissioners

### Meeting

8:02 AM - Thursday, November 17, 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, November 17, 2022, to order at 8:02 AM local time.

Prayer - Commissioner Bardwell

Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Young

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

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

commissioner Grimshaw arrived at 8:11 a.m.

Commissioners Absent: Doug DuRussel

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Clayette Zechmeister, Mike Miller, Steve Anderson, Larry Zapfe, Sheila Long, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Joanna Samuelson, Laura Boyke-Hawes, Karen Snider, Debbie Babich, Marie Swick

Also Present Virtual: Tracy Violet, Brandon Bertram, Mary Drier, Jon Ramirez, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Steve Root, Mark Haney, Renee Francisco, Debbie Babich, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Angie Daniels, Cody Horton, Pam Shook, Darlene Parker, Alecia Little, Barry Lapp, Rebecca Evans, Christy Poulous, Brenda Peters, Cindy Hughes, Rachel Adams, Amanda Ertman, Mike Evans, Martin Porzondek, Tim Green, Matt Brown, Eric Morris, Bob Mantey

At 8:05 a.m., there were a total of 17 participants attending the meeting virtually.

#### **Adoption of Agenda**

1. Adoption of Agenda -

2022-M-242

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

## **Action on Previous Meeting Minutes**

1. Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -

2022-M-243

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan to adopt the meeting minutes from the October 27, 2022 Regular meeting. Motion Carried.

## **Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only**

-Karen Snider introduced herself as she is the newly elected Caro City Mayor and is excited to be serving in this role.

## **Consent Agenda**

2022-M-244

Motion by Thomas Bardwell, seconded by Thomas Young that the Minutes from the November 14, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

## **New Business**

1. Mosquito Abatement Materials -

Larry Zapfe, Mosquito Abatement Director, presented his request to purchase material in advance of the 2023 season.

2022-M-245

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan that per the request from the Mosquito Abatement Director, that his Department makes an early purchase of mosquito control insecticide material from Vesperis for the upcoming 2023 season to save money as the product costs will be rising in the coming year. Also, respectfully request a 2022 budget transfer from:

240-100-747-000 \$4,903.00

240-100-970-030 \$4,102.00

240-100-970-070 \$7,000.00

240-100-970-090 \$3,000.00

240-100-970-160 \$7,952.00

240-100-727-000 \$4,092.00

2022 budget transfer to:

240-100-750-000 \$31,049.00

Motion Carried.

2. Intergovernmental Agreement With Indianfields Township - Ashley Bennett, Treasurer, explained the request to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement.

2022-M-246

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Dan Grimshaw to approve the Tuscola County Treasurer to collect Winter 2022 taxes on behalf of Indianfields Township in accordance with the Intergovernmental Agreement, with an effective date of November 17, 2022, signed between the Indianfields Township Supervisor and the Tuscola County Board Chairman due to deadline restraints. The effective dates of collection begin on December 1, 2022 and end on February 28, 2023. The Tuscola County Treasurer's Office will retain the administration fee for this service. Motion Carried.

3. Sheriff's Department Part-Time Corrections Deputy Appointment - Clayette Zechmeister explained the request.

2022-M-247

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan that per the recommendation from Undersheriff Baxter that Nicholas Romzek be hired for an open part-time Corrections position at the part-time wage of \$18.97 per hour. His background investigation, physical & drug test have been completed. Start date and scheduling to commence upon Board approval. Motion Carried.

4. Sheriff's Department Part-Time Corrections Deputy Appointment - Clayette Zechmeister explained the request.

2022-M-248

Motion by Kim Vaughan, seconded by Thomas Young that per the recommendation from Undersheriff Baxter to rehire Cody Neuville (previous full-time Corrections employee, resigned in good standing 4/12/2022) for an open part-time Corrections position. His background investigation, physical & drug test have been completed. He will have a part-time wage of \$18.97 per hour. Start date and scheduling to commence upon Board approval. Motion Carried.

5. Prosecutor's Office Re-fill Vacant Position - Clayette Zechmeister explained the request.

2022-M-249

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan that per the recommendation of Mark Reene, Tuscola County Prosecuting Attorney, that Carrie Venus be hired to fill the vacant position of Secretary II in the Prosecutor's Office at Step 1, hourly rate of \$16.83. Full-time immediate employment to begin contingent upon favorable background check, drug screen and physical. Motion Carried.

6. Prosecutor Request for Limited Part-time Assistance - Clayette Zechmeister explained the request.

2022-M-250

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan that per the request from Mark Reese, Tuscola County Prosecuting Attorney, that Candra Rogner work with limited part-time hours to ensure a smooth transition within the Prosecutor's Office due to the replacement of this long-term employee. Also, any budget amendments be authorized. Motion Carried.

7. Bridge Millage Transfer Request -

2022-M-251

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan to approve the Bridge Millage transfer request received from the Road Commission in the amount of \$386,316.69 as identified by voucher #Bridge 2022-1 dated November 3, 2022 for the transfer of Bridge Millage to the Road Commission general fund. Motion Carried.

8. Request to Use the Courthouse Lawn -

2022-M-252

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Dan Grimshaw that per the November 7, 2022 request from Marsha Perez that authorization be given to the Caro Women's Interfaith Committee to use the Courthouse Lawn from November 26, 2022 to January 1, 2023 for the annual Christmas display. Motion Carried.

9. Farm Lease for 50 Tillable Acres Located at the Corner of Luder Road and Deckerville Road In Caro -

Mike Miller, Buildings and Grounds Director, the current lease expires at the end of 2022. The farmer would be interested in a 2-year extension.

2022-M-253

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan to extend the Lease to Schriber Farms, LLC for the 50 tillable acres located at the corner of Luder and Deckerville Roads in Caro for 2 (two) years at the current rate of \$155.00 per acre. Motion Failed.

2022-M-254

Motion by Dan Grimshaw, seconded by Thomas Young to put out for bid offer to lease the 50-acre farmland that is county owned for a 3-year time period to begin January 1, 2023 ending December 31, 2025. Motion Carried.

Recessed at 8:56 a.m.

Reconvened at 9:02 a.m.

10. Closed Session Regarding Security (Exempt from Disclosure) -

2022-M-255

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan that the Board meet in Closed Session under Section 8(h) of the Open Meetings Act to consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute specifically, records and information of measures desired to protect the security and safety of County employees, officials and visitors as well as County property which are exempt from public disclosure under Section 13(y) of the Freedom of Information Act." Also, Clayette Zechmeister, Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Jon Ramirez, Tim Green and Steve Anderson are authorized to attend at 9:03 a.m.

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

Absent: Doug DuRussel

Motion Carried.

Recessed to Closed Session at 9:03 a.m.

Reconvened from Closed Session at 9:52 a.m.

At 9:52 a.m., there were a total of 29 participants attending the meeting virtually.

2022-M-256

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Dan Grimshaw to approve the Closed Session minutes from the session held on November 17, 2022. Motion Carried.

11. Security Concerns Discussion -

-The Board would like to emphasize that all contracts entered into by the County should have an opt-out clause.

2022-M-257

Motion by Dan Grimshaw, seconded by Thomas Young to have Legal Counsel review the contract with Central Square to buyout and end the current contract. Also, Eean Lee is authorized to research alternative options to replace Central Square. Motion Carried.

12. Caro Area Ambulance Coverage -

Jon Ramirez, Dispatch Director, reviewed data of ambulance bases and the number of shifts that they were out of service. Matter of serviceability discussed by the Board.

13. 2023 Budget Additional Department Wage/Position Requested Review

-The Chief Deputy Union will be dissolved as of December 31, 2022. Commissioner Grimshaw one option that the Chief Deputy Salary is tied to a percentage of the Elected Official's salary. Matter discussed at length.

14. 2023 Indirect Cost Comparison -

Clayette Zechmeister reviewed the reports that were included in the agenda packet.

15. Provision of Government Services - American Rescue Plan Act Funds Update - Clayette Zechmeister reported that Tuscola County has expended all of the ARPA funds.
16. 2023 Budget Review and Recommendations - Clayette Zechmeister reviewed the 2023 Equipment and Capital Improvement Budget Requests included in the agenda packet. Matter reviewed and discussed by the Board.
17. 2023 Budget Hearing Notice -

2022-M-258

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan that the Draft 2023 County Budget be approved for review at a Public Hearing to be held on December 1, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Also, notice of the Public Hearing shall be placed in the local newspaper. Also, copies of the updated budget be forwarded to county officials for review and comment.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion Carried.

### **Old Business**

1. 2023 Mosquito Abatement Wages -

2022-M-259

Motion by Kim Vaughan, seconded by Thomas Young to approve the 2023 Mosquito Abatement seasonal employees wage increase for 2023. First year Technicians hourly wage increase from \$11.74 to \$14.00, second year (returning) Technicians hourly wage increase from between \$12.50-13.34 to \$14.50. Technician II hourly wage increase from \$14.20 to \$15.20 and Utility Person hourly wage increase from \$13.11 to \$14.11. These positions will not receive the cost-of-living increase proposed by the Commissioners for 2023. All other positions at Mosquito Abatement will be covered under the Board approved cost-of-living increase. Motion Carried.

2. Stained-Glass Window Update -  
Mike Miller, Director of Buildings and Grounds, stated the stained-glass window has been removed successfully. It is expected to be installed back in February or March 2023.

### **Correspondence/Resolutions**

1. Gogebic County Resolution 2022-17 Insurance - Home Health Reform
2. Ontonagon County Resolution 2022-12 Auto Insurance Reform
3. Legislative Update 11-11-22 - The Michigan Association of Counties

4. Legislative Update 10-28-22 - The Michigan Association of Counties

**Commissioner Liaison Committee Reports**

***Vaughan***

No Report

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 Report

Behavioral Health Systems Board

Recycling Advisory

Jail Planning Committee

MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC)

Local Units of Government

***DuRussel***

Absent

Board of Health

Community Corrections Advisory Board

Department of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

MAC Judiciary Committee

MEMS All Hazard

Local Units of Government Activity Report

## ***Bardwell***

Behavioral Health Systems Board

Caro DDA/TIFA

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

MAC 7th District

Email has been distributed to determine if the 7th District should continue.

MAC Workers Comp Board

MAC Finance Committee

TRIAD

Local Units of Government Activity Report

## ***Young***

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

Region VII Economic Development Planning

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Senior Services Advisory Council

Tuscola 2020

Local Units of Government Activity Report

-Attended a meeting to discuss transportation services within Tuscola County.

## **Other Business as Necessary**

1. Caro Center Update -  
Project completion date is targeted for July 2023.



2. Security Camera Update -

CIO Eean Lee updated the Board that cameras have been updated in the Clerk's Office and Treasurer's Office. Also, Mitchell Holmes who was recently hired is doing a great job and is excelling.

At 12:28 p.m., there were a total of 24 participants attending the meeting virtually.

**Extended Public Comment**

-Joanna Samuelson mentioned contracts having an expiration date, ambulance coverage, elections and jail millage.

**Adjournment**

2022-M-260

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Kim Vaughan to adjourn the meeting at 12:36 p.m. Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk, CCO