



MINUTES

Board of Commissioners

Meeting

8:00 AM - Thursday, November 16, 2023

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

Commissioner Vaughan 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 16, 2023, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Prayer - Commissioner Bardwell

Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Lutz

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present In-Person: Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Bill Lutz

Commissioners Absent: Thomas Young, Matt Koch

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Clayette Zechmeister, Steve Anderson, Mike Miller, Jon Ramirez, Steve Erickson, Michael Clinesmith, Cindy Hughes, Heidi Parker, Karen Nelson, Alexis Schultz, Scott Putnam

Also Present Virtual: Tracy Violet, Mary Drier, Mark Haney, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Register Marianne Brandt, Sheriff Glen Skrent, Shannon Beach, Steve Root, Bob Baxter, Kim Brinkman, Renee Francisco, Debbie Babich, Barry Lapp, Pam Shook, Cody Horton, Angie Daniels, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Shawn Robinson, Brandon Bertram, Janie Hemerline, Crystal Knoblock, Dara Hood, Greg Rynearson, Carrie Tabar

At 8:03 a.m., there were a total of 17 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Adoption of Agenda

1. Adoption of Agenda -

2023-M-244

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to adopt the agenda as amended.
Motion Carried.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

1. Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -

2023-M-245

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to adopt the meeting minutes from the October 26, 2023 Regular meeting as corrected and the Closed Session minutes from October 26, 2023. Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only

-Pam Shook spoke regarding the fee schedule being proposed for Vanderbilt Park.

-Clerk Fetting asked for clarification of the number of hours to be worked for the Central Dispatch Deputy Director. The hours should be 1950. Clerk Fetting will correct the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes.

-Clerk Fetting explained the need to correct the person appointed to the Tuscola Behavioral Health System (TBHS) Board of Directors. The person appointed will need to be Marianne Harrington in order for the Board to remain compliant with the Mental Health Code. The presented Consent Agenda motion does reflect this change. Nikki Brunno's application will be held in case there is a vacancy in 2024.

-Clerk Fetting addressed the last sentence in Item #9 in the Consent Agenda as that matter was not discussed by the Board at the Committee of the Whole meeting. Clerk Fetting does not believe it should be a part of the Consent Agenda due to the Board did not move that item to the Consent Agenda. Board decided to strike that sentence in the Consent Agenda item. If the matter needs discussed it can be added to an agenda at a later time.

Consent Agenda

2023-M-246

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Bardwell that the Consent Agenda Minutes and Consent Agenda Items from the November 13, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Millington Township Agreement with Tuscola County Sheriff's Department for Enforcement Services for Fiscal Years (FY) 2024, 2025 and 2026 -
Move to approve the agreement between Millington Township and the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department for the Sheriff's Department to provide enforcement services for the Fiscal Years (FY) 2024, 2025 and 2026. All appropriate signatures are authorized.
2. Tuscola County Road Commission Agreement with Tuscola County Sheriff's Department for Enforcement Services for Fiscal Years (FY) 2024, 2025 and 2026 -
Move to approve the agreement between the Tuscola County Road Commission and the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department for the Sheriff's Department to provide enforcement services for Fiscal Years (FY) 2024, 2025 and 2026. All appropriate signatures are authorized.

3. Primary Road Millage Transfer #Road 2023-1 -
Move to approve the Primary Road Millage transfer request of \$2,052,697.12 as identified by voucher #Road 2023-1 dated November 6, 2023 for the transfer of Primary Road Millage to the Road Commission General Fund.
4. Local Bridge Millage Transfer #Bridge 2023-2 -
Move to approve the Local Bridge Millage transfer request of \$378,240.44 as identified by voucher #Bridge 2023-2 dated November 2, 2023 for the transfer of Local Bridge Millage to the Road Commission General Fund.
5. Tuscola County Graphic Information System (GIS) Updated Pricing Request -
Move to approve the proposed Graphic Information System (GIS) pricing as presented by Cody Horton, Tuscola County GIS Coordinator.
6. 2023 Budget Amendments -
Move to approve the 2023 budget amendments with additional changes as presented verbally by Debbie Babich, Personnel Fiscal Analyst, at the Committee of the Whole meeting on November 13, 2023.
7. Mosquito Abatement 2023 Budget Amendment Request -
Move to approve the 2023 Mosquito Abatement budget amendment request in order to purchase a new work truck at a cost of \$36,578.40 from McDonald Chevrolet. This would require a transfer of \$30,374.16 from line item #240-100-750-000 Abatement Materials to line item #240-100-970-010 Trucks (which currently has a balance of \$6,204.24).
8. Mosquito Abatement 2023 Budget Amendment Request #2 -
Move to approve the 2023 Mosquito Abatement budget amendment request to purchase six new Pioneer electric, rechargeable backpack foggers at a cost of \$14,040.00 from Amazon. This budget amendment would require a transfer of \$8,035.00 from line item #240-100-747-000 Gas, Oil, Grease to line item #240-100-970-070 Spreaders, Sprayers, Foggers (which currently has a balance of \$6,005.00).
9. Mosquito Abatement 2024 Budget Requests -
Move to approve the hiring of three additional seasonal technicians at Mosquito Abatement for the upcoming 2024 season due to increased requests for mosquito treatment. This additional cost would be covered by the 2024 projected budget.
10. Tuscola County Animal Control Request to Purchase New Copier from Galaxy Office Machines -
Move to approve the request from Tuscola County Animal Control to lease a new Ricoh black and white copier from Galaxy Office Machines. The lease cost will be \$50.00 per month which will include all maintenance and up to 30,000 copies per year. Appropriate budget amendments are approved. Also, all appropriate signatures are authorized.

11. Request from Caro Women's Interfaith Committee to Use Courthouse Lawn to Display Nativity Scene, November 25, 2023 through January 6, 2024 -

Move to approve the request from the Caro Women's Interfaith Committee to use the Courthouse Lawn to display the Nativity Scene from November 25, 2023 through January 6, 2024.

12. Request to Hire Candidate, Ashley Gaudett, for Court Records Clerk II Position in Clerk's Office -

Move to approve the hiring of Ashley Gaudett to fill the new Court Records Clerk II position in the Clerk's Office. Ashley's start date will be November 27, 2023 at the Step 1 rate of \$17.98 per hour (plus any wage increase negotiated during the current bargaining process) pending satisfactory background check, physical and drug screen. Also, all budget amendments are authorized in the County Clerk's Budget for an additional \$4,186.00 through the use of General Fund Balance.

13. Appointments to Various Boards and Commissions -

Move to appoint the following members to the respective Boards and Commissions:

- A. **911 Dispatch Authority Board** - Cory Skinner, Matt Foley and Ben Guile to a 2-year term expiring December 31, 2025.
- B. **Airport Zoning Board of Appeals** - Keith Kosik and Bill Campbell to a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2026.
- C. **Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems Board of Directors** - Marianne Harrington to a Partial Term expiring March 31, 2024.
- D. **Building Authority Board of Directors** - Terry Jones to a 6-year term expiring December 31, 2029.
- E. **Council on Aging** - Jerald Gamm, Sandra Williamson, Eugene Davison, Carolyn Wymore, Ruby Burk, Terry Jones and Jane Rymarczyk to a 1-year term expiring December 31, 2024.
- F. **Department of Human Services Board** - Sue Morris to a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2026.
- G. **Jury Board** - John Hunter and Deb Parker to a 6-year term expiring December 31, 2029.
- H. **Human Development Board of Directors** - Bill Lutz to a 1-year term expiring December 31, 2024.
- I. **Parks and Recreation Commission** - Michael Clinesmith and Donovan Norman to a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2026.
- J. **Planning Commission** - Heidi Stark, Albert Pearsall and Matt Webb to a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2026.
- K. **Recycling Committee** - Roger Allen and Terry Jones to a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2026.
- L. **Veterans Committee** - Gary Haas to a 1-year term expiring December 31, 2024, Steven Myers to a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2026 and Richard Horsch, MD to a 4-year term expiring December 31, 2027.

14. Sheriff Department Road Patrol New Hire -

Move to approve the conditional job offer to Gregory Mroz to fill a vacant Road Patrol Officer position with the Sheriff's Department pending a satisfactory background check, physical and drug test. The starting rate of pay at Step 1 will be \$24.08 per hour (plus any wage increase negotiated during the current bargaining process). The Sheriff's Office will be sponsoring Mr. Mroz to the Delta College Police Academy which has a start date of January 8, 2024. The majority of his wage and academy cost will be paid through the Public Safety Academy Assistance Program.

15. Deputy Director Position at Central Dispatch -

Move to approve that Carrie Tabar be appointed Deputy Director at Central Dispatch effective November 13, 2023 at the annual salary of \$54,600.00 and working 1950 hours per year. Also, any necessary budget amendments are authorized.

New Business

1. Tuscola County Economic Development Commission (EDC) Updates -

Steve Erickson, Director and Michael Clinesmith, Grant Administrator, provided an update as to the distribution of the \$500,000.00 amount given to the EDC by the Board from the Provision of Government Services (PGS) funds. Heidi Parker from Starbrite, Karen Nelson from Country Mouse Flowers and Gifts, Alexis Schultz from Schultz Monuments, and Scott Putnam from Generations of Beauty provided an update of the projects that were completed with each company with the use of funds awarded and thanked the Board for their role in the process.

2. Parks and Recreation Commission Recommendation to Adjust the Fee Schedule for Vanderbilt Park -

Steve Erickson, Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman, explained the request to adjust the fee schedule for Vanderbilt Park.

2023-M-247

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to approve the adjusted fee schedule for Vanderbilt Park as follows:

- Remove Rustic Campsites and Campsites from the rates.
- Improved Campsite rates as follows: \$28.00 per night, \$168.00 per week, \$504.00 per month or \$1,600.00 per season.
- Parking Fee - \$5.00 per day or \$25.00 per season.

with an effective date of January 1, 2024. Motion Carried.

3. Parks and Recreation Commission Recommendation for Approval of Eean Lee, Chief Information Officer (CIO), to Prepare a New Proposal for Internet at Vanderbilt Park -

Steve Erickson, Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman, explained the request to add guest internet services at Vanderbilt Park. The Parks and Recreation Commission to determine the service provider, what would be available and at what costs. Matter may be brought back to the Board once the Commission has more details.

4. Parks and Recreation Commission Recommendation to Approve a Budget Request for up to \$60,000.00 for Playground Equipment -
Steve Erickson, Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman, presented a request for a \$60,000.00 allocation for Vanderbilt Park for playground equipment. The Parks and Recreation Commission to complete research on prices and options for playground equipment. The Board did not authorize any allocation at this time. Matter may be brought back to the Board once pricing is obtained.
5. Michigan Counties Workers' Compensation Fund 2023 Dividend Payment -
Clayette Zechmeister reported that Tuscola County has received an award in the amount of \$37,548.00.
6. Tuscola County 2022 Cost Allocation Plan (CAP) -
Clayette Zechmeister has distributed the plan to the Board and will send it to Department Heads that have an interest in the plan.

2023-M-248

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to receive and place on file the Tuscola County 2022 Cost Allocation Plan as prepared by MGT. Motion Carried.

7. 2024 Budget Development Calendar -
Clayette Zechmeister presented the updated budget calendar and explained the need to set the public hearing date so it can be published in the newspaper.

2023-M-249

Motion by Thomas Bardwell, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve the amendments to the 2024 Budget Development Calendar. Motion Carried.

8. Proposed Hiring Freeze For All Positions -
Clayette Zechmeister presented a hiring freeze history timeline. Matter to be placed on the November 27, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting for discussion.
9. Friend of the Court (FOC) Passed Contract Performance Standards (CPS) for Fiscal Year 2023 -
Cindy Hughes, Friend of the Court, reported that the FOC Department has passed the performance standards.
10. Intergovernmental Agreement Between Indianfields Township and Tuscola County Treasurer to Collect Taxes -
Ashley Bennett, Tuscola County Treasurer, explained the request for the Intergovernmental Agreement.

2023-M-250

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Indianfields Township and the Tuscola County Treasurer to have the Tuscola County Treasurer collect taxes for Indianfields Township for the 2023 Winter Tax Season. The Winter Tax Season runs between December 1, 2023 and February 29, 2024. Also, all appropriate signatures are authorized. Motion Carried.

11. Tuscola County Land Bank Transfer - Ashley Bennett, Tuscola County Treasurer, explained the proposed Land Bank Transfer.

2023-M-251

Motion by Thomas Bardwell, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve the transfer of \$500,000.00 from the Foreclosure Fund to the Provision of Government Services (PGS) Fund Balance in the General Fund. This will pay back the initial appropriation of \$500,000.00 to the Land Bank from the Provision of Government Services (PGS) Fund Balance in the General Fund. This appropriation should have originally come from the Foreclosure Fund and the Board understands this transfer is only a correction of the original appropriation from the General Fund. Motion Carried.

12. Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program Clean Sweep Program Grant Agreement Between Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and Tuscola County - Mike Miller, Director of Building and Grounds/Recycling

2023-M-252

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to approve the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program Clean Sweep Program Grant Agreement between the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and the County of Tuscola, for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024. Also, all appropriate signatures are authorized. Motion Carried.

13. Farm Lease Luder Road and Deckerville Road (matter added) - Mike Miller explained the request to extend the lease to Schriber Farms. Board would like to have the lease bid out for the 2025 season.

2023-M-253

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to extend the 2020-2022 County Farmland lease agreement by another one (1) year for 2024 to Schriber Farms at the same \$155.00 per acre rate. All other terms of the lease remain the same. Motion Carried.

Old Business

1. 2024 Capital Improvement Budget Requests (matter added) - Board discussed the projects that were discussed at Monday's meeting for project placeholders which was for planning purposes only. Those projects have not received final authorization.

Correspondence/Resolutions

1. Legislative Update 10-27-23 - The Michigan Association of Counties
2. Legislative Update 11-3-23 - The Michigan Association of Counties
3. Delta County Resolution #23-15 Opposing Any Legislation Preempting Local Control for Solar and Wind Developments
4. Eaton County Resolution Opposing Legislation for Solar and Wind Developments

5. Fairgrove Township Resolution #2023-19 State of Michigan Sanitary Code Resolution
6. Fairgrove Township Resolution #2023-20 Opposing Any Legislation Preempting Local Control for Solar and Wind Developments
7. Gilford Township Resolution 2023-19 Opposing Any Legislation Preempting Local Control for Solar and Wind Developments.
8. Gilford Township Resolution 2023-20 Regarding State of Michigan Sanitary Code
9. Livingston County Resolution 2023-10-185 Opposing Any Legislation Preempting Local Control for Solar and Wind Developments
10. Millington Township Resolution #02-2023 State of Michigan Sanitary Code Resolution
11. Millington Township Resolution #03-2023 Opposing Any Legislation Preempting Local Control for Solar and Wind Developments
12. Montcalm County Resolution 2023-12 Opposing Any Legislation Preempting Local Control For Solar and Wind Developments
13. Novesta Township Board Resolution #2023-20 to Adopt the State of Michigan Sanitary Code
14. Novesta Township Board Resolution #2023-21 to Adopt Opposing Any Legislation Preempting Local Control Local Control for Solar and Wind Developments
15. Sanilac County Resolution Opposing Statewide Septic Inspection Code
16. Wexford County Resolution 23-16 Opposing Any Legislation Preempting Local Control For Solar and Wind Development
17. Wexford County Resolution 23-17 Supporting Operations Greenlight for Veterans

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

Lutz

No Report

Board of Health

Community Corrections Advisory Board

Department 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

Human Development Commission Board of Directors Liaison

Koch

Absent

Behavioral Health Systems Board

Recycling Advisory

Jail Planning Committee

MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC)

Local Units of Government

Bardwell

Behavioral Health Systems Board

Meets next week. Appointment to the Board happened today.

Caro DDA/TIFA

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

MAC 7th District

MAC Workers Comp Board

Update from recent meeting provided.

MAC Finance Committee

NACo Rural Action Caucus (RAC)

Local Units of Government Activity Report

Young

Absent

- Board of Public Works
- County Road Commission Liaison
- Dispatch Authority Board
- Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works
- Great Start Collaborative
- Human Services Collaborative Council (HSCC)
- 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

Other Business as Necessary

-Committee Meetings - Commissioner Bardwell addressed the current legal opinion regarding Committee Meetings be open to the public. Since that legal opinion the Committees have not been meeting. Clayette Zechmeister to reach out to MAC to see if they have any guidance or could recommend a legal firm to provide a second opinion.

At 10:14 a.m., there were a total of 24 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Extended Public Comment

-Treasurer Ashley Bennett addressed the Board consideration of implementing a hiring freeze and the timeline of the seat being vacant that a department can experience when trying to fill a position.

Adjournment

2023-M-254

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to adjourn the meeting at 10:21 a.m. Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk, CCO