



MINUTES

Board of Commissioners

Meeting

8:00 AM - Thursday, November 14, 2024

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

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 14, 2024, 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 Young, Thomas Bardwell, Bill Lutz, Matthew Koch

Commissioners Absent: Kim Vaughan

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Clayette Zechmeister, Steve Anderson, Mike Miller, Jon Ramirez, Judge Amy Grace Gierhart, Judge Jason Bitzer, Sheila Long, Brian Schriber, Cody Rabideau, Chuck Heinlein, Debbie Babich, Christina Martens, Katie Robinson

Also Present Virtual: Tracy Violet, Mary Drier, Mark Haney, Angie House, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Register Marianne Brandt, Cody Horton, Dara Hood, Katie Robinson, Tanya Pisha, Judy Cockerill, Renee Francisco, Shelly Lutz, Stephanie Farell, Ashley Gaudett, Tyler Ray, Kristy Sutherland, Shannon Beach, Janie Hemerline, Jodi Holbrook, Estee Bitzer, Ellen Gross, Carrie Tabar, Brandon Bertram, Cindy Hughes, Amanda Ertman

At 8:06 a.m., there were a total of 23 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Adoption of Agenda

1. Adoption of Agenda -

2024-M-294

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Matt Koch to adopt the agenda as presented.
Motion Carried.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

1. Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -

2024-M-295

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Thomas Young to approve the October 24, 2024 Regular meeting minutes and the November 5, 2024 Special meeting minutes. Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only

None

Consent Agenda

None

New Business

1. Rescue Task Force Tactical Vest Purchase -

Steve Anderson, Emergency Services Director, reviewed the purchase that is 100% reimbursable.

2024-M-296

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve the Tactical Vest purchase at a cost of \$19,418.40 from Spartan Armor Systems as presented by Steve Anderson, Emergency Services Director and also to approve the necessary budget amendment to facilitate the purchase. This project is 100% reimbursable. Motion Carried.

2. Appointment of Ed Dawkins to the New Material Management Planning Committee for ERG Environmental -

Mike Miller, Director of Building and Grounds and Recycling, presented the requested appointment. He stated the committee will consist of a total of 17 members in the end. Director Miller stated that by-laws have not been developed yet but he will suggest having the terms of the committee members end on the same date on the calendar for each seat.

2024-M-297

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to appoint Ed Dawkins to the new Material Management Planning Committee from ERG Environmental to fill the seat for the Waste Division Representative which is a five-year term according to the State statute. This appointment would begin effective November 14, 2024. Motion Carried.

3. Farm Lease Bid Opening -

Mike Miller, Director of Building and Grounds and Recycling, reported there was only one bid received from Schriber Farms at \$210.00 per acre.

2024-M-298

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve the bid received by Schriber Farms for the farming of the land at Luder Road and Deckerville Roads at \$210.00 per acre for the 2025 - 2027 seasons. Motion Carried.

4. 2023 Cost Allocation Presentation -
Stephanie Farrell, MGT Consultant, reviewed the presentation included in the agenda packet.

2024-M-299

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Thomas Young to accept and place on file the 2023 Cost Allocation Plan as presented by Stephanie Farrell, MGT Consultant. Motion Carried.

5. 10-Year Review for Projections With No Transfers In or Out -
Clayette Zechmeister, Interim Chief Accountant, reviewed the chart without transfers. The increase in expenses from 2024 to 2025 is mostly attributable to wage and fringe costs not factoring in any staffing requests included in the 2025 Budget requests.
6. 10-Year Review for Projections Including Transfers In and Out -
Clayette Zechmeister, Interim Chief Accountant, reviewed the chart with transfers in from the county reserves.
7. Provision of Government Services (PGS) Review -
Debbie Babich, Fiscal/Personnel Analyst, reviewed the PGS Fund Projects Tracker included in the agenda packet.
8. 911 Dispatch Surcharge Increase -
Jon Ramirez, 911 Dispatch Director, reviewed the amount that would be realized if the 911 Surcharge were to be increased to the maximum amount which would need to be taken to a vote of the people. The Board also discussed the option of placing a millage request on the May 2025 ballot. The Board would like legal counsel to review whether both matters can be placed on the same ballot in May 2025. Matter to be placed on an upcoming agenda once legal counsel has provided a determination.
9. 911 Dispatch Public Alerting System Change from Rave to On Solve -
Jon Ramirez, 911 Dispatch Director, explained the request to change to a different alert provider as the cost is lower and the services available are better.

2024-M-300

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Young to approve the change for the 911 Dispatch Public Alerting System from Rave to On Solve in order to reduce costs effective January 1, 2025 at a cost of \$6,671.07 as presented by Jon Ramirez, 911 Dispatch Director and authorize all necessary signatures. Motion Carried.

Recessed at 9:38 a.m.

Reconvened at 9:48 a.m.

At 9:48 a.m., there were a total of 31 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Old Business

1. November 5, 2024 Board Meeting Review Additional Cost -
Clayette Zechmeister, Interim Chief Accountant, reviewed the pending budget requests. The Board needs to make decisions on moving forward with the requests for the November 25, 2024 Board meeting. The Budget Hearing is to be scheduled for December 12, 2024.
2. Further Discussion on the Reinstatement of a Law Clerk Position for Unified Court in 2025 -
Judge Amy Grace Gierhart explained the request to have the \$28,000.00 for a part-time Law Clerk, at a minimum, reinstated to the Unified Court Budget but is requesting the Board consider making that position a full-time position. No action taken at this time but matter should be placed on the November 25, 2024 Board agenda.
3. Further Discussion to Include the Cost for a Truck Purchase in the Equipment/Tech Fund (244) -
Dara Hood, Deputy Drain Commissioner, requested to have the truck purchase approved. No action taken at this time but matter should be placed on the November 25, 2024 Board agenda.
4. Further Discussion on Prosecutor's Request for Hiring of an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney - Matter was presented at the November 5, 2024 Board meeting. No action taken at this time but matter should be placed on the November 25, 2024 Board agenda.
5. Further Discussion on the Prosecutor's Request for Hiring of a Part-Time Victim Services Employee -
Matter was presented at the November 5, 2024 Board meeting. No action taken at this time but matter should be placed on the November 25, 2024 Board agenda.
6. Further Discussion on Prosecutor's Request for Hiring of a Part-Time General Office Clerk -
Matter was presented at the November 5, 2024 Board meeting. No action taken at this time but matter should be placed on the November 25, 2024 Board agenda.
7. Further Discussion on 911 Dispatch Director Request to Add a Dispatch Supervisor Position -
Jon Ramirez, Dispatch Director, requested that a full-time employee in his Department not be eliminated. No action taken at this time but matter should be placed on the November 25, 2024 Board agenda.
8. Further Discussion on Converting the Fetch GIS Service from a Paid Service to a Free Service and Adjust the Budgets Accordingly for These Changes -
Cody Horton, GIS Director, explained the request that was presented at the November 5, 2024 meeting.

2024-M-301

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Young that per the request from Cody Horton, GIS Director, and Ashley Bennett, County Treasurer, that effective January 1, 2025 there will no longer be a service charge for the Fetch GIS Service. Also, amend the following budgets to account for this free service:

- Increase Transfer Out from the General Fund (101) to the GIS Fund (258) by \$20,000.00.
- Increase transfer into the GIS Fund (258) from the General Fund (101) by \$20,000.00.
- Decrease the GIS Consult/Parcel/Fetch expense by \$8,000.00.
- Increase the expense in the Tax Foreclosure Fund (532) by \$8,000.00.

Motion Carried.

9. Updates on the 2025 General Fund Revenue Budget - Clayette Zechmeister, Interim Chief Accountant, explained the requested budget adjustments.

2024-M-302

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz that per the recommendation from Ashley Bennett, County Treasurer, that line item #101-000-447-253 Summer Collections be reduced by \$40,000.00, line item #101-000-448-253 Winter Collections be reduced by \$35,000.00 and line item #101-000-689-253 Reimbursement KCI Tax Processing be increased by \$35,000.00. Motion Carried.

10. Potential Action on the Equipment Tech Fund (244) - Clayette Zechmeister, Interim Chief Accountant, reviewed the pending budget request. No action was taken at this time but matter should be placed on the November 25, 2024 Board agenda.

Clerk Fetting excused at 11:00 a.m.

11. Potential Action on the Jail Capital Improvement Fund (488) - Clayette Zechmeister, Interim Chief Accountant
Mike Miller, Director of Building and Grounds and Recycling, explained that we could hold off on the windows. He would like to move forward with the Fire Suppression system. No action taken at this time but the matter should be moved to the November 25, 2024 Board agenda.

2024-M-303

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve up to \$250,000.00 for fire suppression system and expenses to the Jail Capital Expense Fund (488) for the 2025 budget. Motion Carried.

12. Potential Action on Capital Improvement Fund (483) -
Mike Miller, Director of Building and Grounds and Recycling, explained that the Health Department's roof project and the Annex Building's parking lot project could be pushed back to a later time. No action was taken at this time but matter should be placed on the November 25, 2024 Board agenda.

13. Review of the 2025 All Funds Balance Sheet -
Clayette Zechmeister, Interim Chief Accountant, explained that with the multiple pending 2025 Budget Request that is unable to be reviewed at this time. Matter to be added to the November 25, 2024 agenda.
14. Tuscola County Request for Proposal (RFP) for Controller-Administrator Services -
Shelly Lutz, HR Director, explained that there was one RFP received and it was from Plante Moran.

2024-M-304

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to accept the Agreement for Controller Services only with Plante Moran at a cost of \$190 per hour at blended rate effective December 16, 2024 and authorize all necessary signatures. Motion Carried.

Correspondence/Resolutions

1. Livingston County Resolution 2024-09-128
2. Livingston County Resolution 2024-10-150

Commissioner Liaison Committee Reports

Vaughan

Absent

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

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

Multi-County Recycling Committee

The company is moving forward.

Local Units of Government Activity Report

Gallian Reinert is leaving the Village of Millington after serving 30 years.

Human Development Commission Board of Directors Liaison

Koch

No Report

Behavioral Health Systems Board

Recycling Advisory

Jail Planning Committee

MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC)

Local Units of Government

Bardwell

Behavioral Health Systems Board

Caro DDA/TIFA

The Council is looking for a Market Manager and the Board will have vacancies filled.

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

MAC 7th District

MAC Workers Comp Board -

A meeting will be scheduled in April for the work ward.

MAC Finance Committee

The meeting is Friday

NACo Rural Action Caucus (RAC) -

Update was given on the Farm Bill.

Local Units of Government Activity Report

Ellington Township Hall repairs are on schedule.

Young

No Report

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

None

Extended Public Comment

- Chuck Heinlein, Denmark Township Supervisor, thanked the Board for their support during his years of service.

Adjournment

2024-M-305

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m.
Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk, CCO

Katherine Robinson
Deputy Clerk