



# MINUTES

## Board of Commissioners

### Meeting

8:00 AM - Thursday, October 16, 2025

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

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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, October 16, 2025, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Prayer - Commissioner Lutz

Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Barrios

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present In-Person: Nancy Barrios, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Bill Lutz, Matt Koch

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Erica Dibble, Mike Miller, Sheriff Ryan Robinson, Jon Ramirez, Chuck Heinlein, Tyler Ray, Cody Horton

Also Present Virtual: Tracy Violet, Mary Drier, Angie House, Brandon Bertram, Carrie Tabar, Cody Horton, Mitch Davies, Tom McLane, Steve Root, Tanya Pisha, Shannon Beach, Brian Bellware, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Bonnie Fackler, Angie Daniels, Connie Keinath, Debbie Babich, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Echo Torrez, Kandi Teddy, Linda Strasz, Katie Robinson, Judy Cockerill, Stephanie Dusute, Sherry Billot, Tim Green, Matthew Sexton, Scienna Nieschulz, Amanda Ertman, Robert Baxter, Drain Commissioner Dara Hood, Ashley Gaudett, Curtis Elenbaum, Tricia Sharp, Krystaria Skakle

At 8:06 a.m., there were a total of 31 participants attending the meeting virtually.

#### Adoption of Agenda

1. Adoption of Agenda -

2025-M-248

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Nancy Barrios to adopt the agenda as presented.  
Motion Carried.

#### Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

1. Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -

2025-M-249

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to adopt the meeting minutes from the September 25, 2025 Regular meeting and the October 13, 2025 Special Meeting as corrected. Motion Carried.

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

None

**Consent Agenda**

2025-M-250

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios that the Consent Agenda Minutes and Consent Agenda Items from the October 13, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Out-of-State Travel Request -

Move to approve the Sheriff's office to travel to Pennsylvania to pick up an order of training explosives for the K-9 program.

2. NetSource One, Cisco SMARTnet Renewal -

Move to approve the request from Jon Ramirez, Dispatch Director, to renew a 1-year maintenance contract with Cisco SMARTnet NetSource One Quote No. NSOQ37217 from November 11, 2025 to November 10, 2026 for \$3,440.00 from line-item 218-334-932-000 and the expenditure will be divided into 2 budget years as only a fraction is for this budget year. The amount for next year will go to a prepaid asset until next year at which time the balance will be expensed and authorize all necessary signatures. All budget amendments as necessary are authorized.

3. Courthouse Closure -

Move to approve the request from Sheila Long, Court Administrator, that the County Courthouse to be closed on Friday, October 17, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for training and will reopen to the public at the conclusion of the training.

4. Clerk's Office Closure -

Move to approve the request from Jodi Fetting, County Clerk, that the Clerk's Office to be closed on Friday, October 17, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for training and will reopen to the public at the conclusion of the training.

5. 2026 Budget Calendar-Amended October 13, 2025 -

Move to adopt the 2026 Budget Calendar-Amended - October 13, 2025 as presented.

6. Resignation of William Sanders from the Region VII Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors -

Move to accept and place on file the resignation of William Sanders from the Region VII Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors with appreciation of his dedication and service to Tuscola County.

**New Business**

1. Request to Open the Courthouse on a Saturday for an Expungement Fair -  
Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, explained the request received from Chief Judge Amy Grace Gierhart.

2025-M-251

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve the 54th Circuit Court and the 71-B District Court to be open on Saturday, November 1, 2025, for an Expungement Fair from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. that is hosted by Safe and Just Michigan and the Michigan Attorney General's Office. The Sheriff's Office will accommodate the court regarding security that day and the courts are not requesting any additional funding to hold this event. Motion Carried.

2. Health Insurance Update -  
Brian Bellware, Managing Principal, Gibson, presented on potential savings that could be realized if a select group of employees participate in the prescription program offered through their foundation. The Gibson company is still working to secure more information to be able to provide additional options for employees. Mr. Bellware to provide an update at an upcoming Board meeting.
3. Discussion on the 2014 Ford Fusion Pool Car Damages -  
Mike Miller, Buildings/Grounds and Recycling Director, explained that the Fusion was in a car-deer accident with significant damage. The car has been deemed a total loss and he explained the options the adjuster provided.

2025-M-252

Motion by Thomas Bardwell, seconded by Bill Lutz to authorize the Controller/Administrator's Office to surrender ownership of the County pool vehicle — a 2014 Ford Fusion (VIN ending 3043) — which was involved in a car-deer accident on October 3, 2025 and subsequently deemed a total loss by the insurance carrier, claim number 2503665.

The County agrees to release the vehicle to the insurance company for salvage removal, with a total settlement amount of \$13,500.00, and to remove the County license plate and any County-owned property prior to pick up.

Motion Carried.

4. 2025 Catalyst Fund Agreement -  
Nancy Barrios, County Commissioner, explained the grant funds that were awarded.

2025-M-253

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve the acceptance of \$5,000.00 from the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance (MTGA) Catalyst Fund Grant that the Parks and Recreation Commission was awarded for "The Parcels" Site Feasibility Study and Cost Analysis project, funds to be received in the Parks and Recreation Fund 208 and authorize all necessary signatures. Motion Carried.

5. Commissioner Committee Appointment Discussion -  
Commissioners discussed the Committees assigned to Commissioner Barrios with adjustments made as noted.

### **Old Business**

1. District Court Request for Two (2) Document Scanners -

2025-M-254

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve the request from District Court Judge Bitzer and Chief Information Officer Eean Lee for Two (2) new Canon Color Scanners DR-G2140 for a one-time cost of \$15,798.00 to come from the 483 (Capital Improvement Fund) to the line-item 101-130-727-000. There will also be a recurring cost of \$2,073.60 annually which would need to be allocated in line-item 101-259-965-020 and adjusted to accommodate the cost. All budget amendments necessary are authorized. Motion Carried.

2. GIS New PC Purchase -

2025-M-255

Motion by Nancy Barrios, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve Eean Lee, Chief Information Officer, to purchase the equipment needed to build Cody Horton, GIS Director, a new computer at a cost of \$1,523.38 to be paid from line-item 258-100-727-000 and all budget amendments approved as necessary.

Motion Carried.

3. 2025 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget Amendments and Journal Entries -

2025-M-256

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve Special Revenue Funds Budget Amendment number two (#2) dated October 2025 to adjust 2025 revenue and expenditures across multiple county funds as presented. Motion Carried.

2025-M-257

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve Journal Entry number one (#1) dated October 2025 to make necessary accounting adjustments ensuring the County's financial records reflect accurate year-to-date activity, as presented. Motion Carried.

### **Correspondence/Resolutions**

1. Lake County Resolution 2025-6

2. Eaton County Resolution #2025-9-102
3. Clinton County Resolution 2025-19
4. Crawford County Resolution 9352025 - PIHP
5. Crawford County Resolution 9252025 - CRS
6. Alpena County Resolution #25-20
7. Baraga County Resolution #10
8. Genesee County Resolution #2025-2078
9. Genesee County Resolution #2025-1913
10. Genesee County Resolution #2025-2077
11. Grand Traverse County Resolution 88-2025

## **Commissioner Liaison Committee Reports**

### ***Bardwell***

Behavioral Health Systems Board -  
Meets next Thursday.

Caro DDA/TIFA -  
Farmer's Market season is almost over.

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment -  
Board has been reduced to 9 members. Beginning in 2026, the Board will meet every other month.

MAC 7th District -  
Meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2025.

MAC Workers Comp Board -  
Meets next Thursday.

MAC Finance Committee -  
Meeting postponed due to the MAC Conference.

NACo Rural Action Caucus (RAC) -

Meets today.

Local Units of Government Activity Report -  
No Report.

### ***Vaughan***

Board of Health -  
Meets tomorrow.

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  
Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works  
Jail Planning Committee  
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)  
MAC Judiciary Committee  
MEMS All Hazard  
Multi-County Recycling Committee  
Local Units of Government Activity Report  
Human Development Commission Board of Directors Liaison

***Koch***

No Report

Dispatch Authority Board  
Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works  
Recycling Advisory  
Jail Planning Committee  
MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC)  
Local Units of Government

***Barrios***

County Road Commission Liaison  
Great Start Collaborative  
Human Services Collaborative Council (HSCC)

MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee

Department of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Local Units of Government Activity Report -

-An email has been sent to all of the jurisdictions in District 1 notifying them of the new appointment as Commissioner.

-Elmwood Township meeting was attended. They would like to see improved communication between the County and the Local jurisdiction.

-Will be attending the Thumb Prosperity Summit on Friday.

### **Other Business as Necessary**

-Commissioner Vaughan and Commissioner Bardwell expressed their concern over the need to add additional signage or rumble strips to busy intersections in Tuscola County. The challenges to accomplish this were discussed. The Board discussed that drivers are going over the speed limits and are driving distracted.

At 9:23 a.m., there were a total of 34 participants attending the meeting virtually.

### **Extended Public Comment**

-Sheriff Robinson stated that without having a full staff on the Road Patrol, Officers are having to respond to calls received and are unable to do enforcement as much as necessary. Opportunities for Enforcement Grants are being researched to allow for an Officer to be dedicated to enforcement only.

### **Adjournment**

2025-M-258

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 a.m.  
Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk, MCCO