



# MINUTES

## Board of Commissioners

### Meeting

8:00 AM - Thursday, October 30, 2025

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, October 30, 2025, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Prayer - Commissioner Koch

Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Bardwell

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

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

Commissioners Absent: Kim Vaughan

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Erica Dibble, Steve Anderson, Mike Miller, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Geoffrey Stuart, Karly Creguer, Sheriff Ryan Robinson

Also Present Virtual: Tracy Violet, Mary Drier, Angie House, Tricia Sharp, Angie Daniels, Amanda Ertman, Bonnie Fackler, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Cody Horton, Connie Keinath, Debbie Babich, Judy Cockerill, Scienna Nieschulz, Stephanie DuSute, Tom McLane, Dan Lisowski, Toni James, Larry Zapfe, Tanya Pisha, Katie Robinson, Ashley Gaudett, Cindy Hughes, Kristi Phipps, Shannon Beach, Register Marianne Brandt, Tim Green, Matthew Sexton, Estee Bitzer, Barry Lapp, Prosecutor Erica Walle, Stacey Wilcox, Kim Vaughan, Karlee Romain

At 8:09 a.m., there were a total of 23 participants attending the meeting virtually.

#### Adoption of Agenda

1. Adoption of Agenda -

2025-M-259

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-260

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to adopt the meeting minutes from the October 16, 2025 Regular meeting. Motion Carried.

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

None

### **Consent Agenda**

2025-M-261

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch that the Consent Agenda Minutes and Consent Agenda Items from the October 27, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Michigan State University Extension (MSUe) Agreement for Extension Services

2026 -

Move to approve the agreement for extension services with Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) office FY 2026 and authorize all necessary signatures.

### **New Business**

1. Michigan Assigned Counsell Renewal FY26 -

Geoffrey Stuart, Managed Assigned Counsel, reported that the request has been approved by the State but there is a reduction in the budget request from last year's request due to the change in county practices regarding expert witness costs and training. The total amount of the budget is \$2,129,768.24 and the county share portion is \$255,199.23.

Geoffrey Stuart reported that the amount that Tuscola is contributing has remained the same since the onset of the MIDC program.

There was no action taken today. Matter to be placed on the November 13, 2025 Board meeting.

2. Tuscola County Medical Care Community Funds Transfer Request -

Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, presented the request received.

2025-M-262

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve the funds transfer request from Cody Rabideau, Chief Executive Officer, for capital projects at the Tuscola County Medical Care Community in the amount of \$25,000.00 for flooring project, \$43,278.67 for replacing aging resident lifts and \$56,572.77 for a downpayment for a phone system upgrade project , totaling \$125,951.44. Motion Carried.

3. Voted Local Bridge Transfer Request from Road Commission - Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, presented the request received.

2025-M-263

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve the transfer of \$323,880.00 Voucher # Bridge 2025-2 from the 296 Voted Local Bridge Millage to the 201 Road Commission Fund as per the request by Mike Tuckey, Finance Director of the Tuscola County Road Commission. Motion Carried.

4. Voted Primary Road Transfer Request from Road Commission - Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, presented the request received.

2025-M-264

Move to approve the transfer of \$1,886,970.82 Voucher # Road 2025-1 from the 214 Voted Primary Road Fund to the 201 Road Commission Fund as per the request by Mike Tuckey, Finance Director of the Tuscola County Road Commission. Motion Carried.

5. Expungement Fair - Certified Copy Fee Waiver Request - Jodi Fetting, County Clerk, explained the request to waive the certified copy fee for criminal judgments issued during the Tuscola County Expungement Fair.

2025-M-265

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve to waive the certified copy fee for any certified criminal judgments provided to a Defendant in order to complete the Application to Set Aside Conviction paperwork during the Expungement Fair, which will be held at the Tuscola County Courthouse on November 1, 2025. Additionally, this waiver will apply to all future Expungement Fairs hosted at the Tuscola County Courthouse. Motion Carried.

6. Circuit Court - Family Court Legal Services Contract - Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, presented the request received.

2025-M-266

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve the 2026 Circuit Court-Family Court Legal Services Contract request from Judge Amy Grace Gierhart in the total amount of \$257,500.00 for the 12-month contract period, effective January 1, 2026, contract payments shall be paid in twelve (12) installments for each attorney with the first vendor payment cycle following February 1, 2026. Motion Carried.

7. Contract for Representation for Alleged Developmentally Disabled Individuals in Probate Court - Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, presented the request received.

2025-M-267

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve the 2026 Contract for Representation for Alleged Developmentally Disabled Individuals in Tuscola County Probate Court per the request from Judge Amy Grace Gierhart in the total amount of \$6,500.00 to be paid through accounts payable beginning on February 1, 2026 with monthly installments for the 12-month contract period, effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026. Motion Carried.

8. 2026 Fiscal Year Proposed Budget First Draft Review and Calendar Update - Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, explained that the first draft of the budget that was presented on Monday is included in the agenda packet for review by other Department Heads. Currently, dates are being looked at to have round table discussions with Department Heads regarding the 2026 budget.

2025-M-268

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve the 2026 Budget Development Calendar as presented. Motion Carried.

### **Old Business**

1. 2025 County Apportionment -

2025-M-269

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve and place on file the 2025 Tuscola County Apportionment Report as presented by Angie Daniels, Equalization Director. Motion Carried.

2025-M-270

Motion by Nancy Barrios, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve the 2025-13 Tuscola County Apportionment Report Resolution presented by Angie Daniels, Equalization Director.

Yes: Nancy Barrios, Thomas Bardwell, Bill Lutz, and Matt Koch  
Absent: Kim Vaughan

Motion Carried.

2. Proposed 2025-14 Performance Resolution for Municipalities for Flock Camera's -

2025-M-271

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve Resolution 2025-14 Performance Resolution for Municipalities for the Flock Cameras.

Yes: Nancy Barrios, Thomas Bardwell, Bill Lutz, and Matt Koch  
Absent: Kim Vaughan

Motion Carried.

### **Correspondence/Resolutions**

1. Michigan Association of County Clerks (MACC) Resolution

2. Grand Traverse County Resolution 94-2025
3. Leelanau County Resolution #2025-017
4. Bluebird MidWest, LLC, MPSC No. U-21959 - Notice of Hearing and POS

## **Commissioner Liaison Committee Reports**

### ***Barrios***

County Road Commission Liaison -

The Road Commission Board is discussing the serious accidents that have recently occurred in Tuscola County.

Great Start Collaborative -

A fundraiser has been planned for November 20, 2025 at the Caro Moose Lodge due to program funding cuts.

1,600 kids receive books from the Imagination Library.

Human Services Collaborative Council (HSCC) -

The Council discussed food insecurities. Many agencies within the Council have set aside funds to help bridge the gap during the government shutdown.

MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee -

MSU Fit program was discussed at the meeting. Commissioner Barrios provided an explanation on how the program works.

Parks and Recreation Commission -

The Commission currently has vacant seats that need to be filled. Equipment for Vanderbilt Park was discussed at the last meeting. The Commission has recently received two grants.

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Local Units of Government Activity Report -

The Tuscola County Medical Care Facility has been ranked #2 in the State of Michigan.

Michigan Trails recognized Lonnie Kester as a long-time contributor.

Updates from Elmwood Township, Columbia Township, Akron Township and Unionville Village meetings provided.

### ***Bardwell***

Behavioral Health Systems Board -

The impact of PHIP on local consumers was discussed at the last meeting.

Caro DDA/TIFA

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment -  
Alisha Proctor has been appointed as the Executive Director. Discussed if the appointment would need to be confirmed by the Commissioners. Provided an update to who will hold roles on the Executive Committee.

MAC 7th District -

Meetings for the District will continue and those in attendance at the last meeting feel it is beneficial.

MAC Workers Comp Board -  
Meets next Wednesday.

MAC Finance Committee

NACo Rural Action Caucus (RAC)

Local Units of Government Activity Report

### ***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

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Jail Planning Committee

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

MAC Judiciary Committee

MEMS All Hazard

Multi-County Recycling Committee

Human Development Commission Board of Directors Liaison

Local Units of Government Activity Report -  
Stemco Kaiser is planning an addition to their plant.

Limited RC held their ribbon cutting. They offer tracks and equipment for RC Car racing.

Aspire is planning to start an urgent care in Millington in 2026.

### ***Koch***

No Report

Dispatch Authority Board

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Recycling Advisory

Jail Planning Committee

MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC)

Local Units of Government

### **Other Business as Necessary**

-Board discussed the need for insurance regarding MSUe and EDC sharing a building. MMRMA recommends particular wording that is not currently included in their agreement. The Board also discussed whether the use of millage funds would be allowed for the proposed remodeling. Matters to be brought back to the Board for further discussion.

-Clerk Fetting reviewed the language in the EDC by-laws as the Board of Commissioners appoints the EDC Board of Directors and the EDC Board of Directors appoints the Executive Director.

At 9:43 a.m., there were a total of 29 participants attending the meeting virtually.

### **Extended Public Comment**

-Treasurer Bennett updated the Board that the RFPs to demo the Church on Burnside Street in Caro have been received and the project will be underway soon. The project is grant funded.

## **Adjournment**

2025-M-272

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m.  
Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk, MCCO