



MINUTES

Board of Commissioners

Meeting

8:00 AM - Thursday, February 26, 2026

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, February 26, 2026, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Prayer - Commissioner Vaughan

Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Barrios

Roll Call - Deputy Clerk Tanya Pisha

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present In-Person: Tanya Pisha, Tracy Violet, Erica Dibble, Steve Anderson, Mike Miller, Carrie Tabar, Ken Dunton, Adam Tountas, Billy Putman, Jamie Nisidis, Shelly Lutz

Also Present Virtual: Eean Lee, Mary Drier, Angie House, Mitch Davies, Clerk Jodi Fetting, Katherine Robinson, Debbie Babich, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Bonnie Fackler, Chad Tumblin, Cindy McKinney-Volz, Cody Horton, Connie Keinath, Cory Skinner, Gary Gal, Jamie LeValley, Joshua Herman, Judy Cockerill, Kandi Teddy, Karlee Romain, Kyle Nordstrom, Laura Boyke-Hawes, Lori Offenbecher, Matthew Sexton, Sally Minehart, Shannon Beach, Sherry Billot, Tom McLane, Shannon Nelson, Register Marianne Brandt

At 8:02 a.m., there were a total of 21 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Adoption of Agenda

1. Adoption of Agenda -

2026-M-045

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 -

2026-M-046

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to adopt the meeting minutes from the February 12, 2026 Regular meeting. Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only

None

Consent Agenda

2026-M-047

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch that the Consent Agenda Minutes and Consent Agenda Items from the February 23, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Request for the Use of the Courthouse Lawn for the 36th Annual Caro Chamber of Commerce Cars & Crafts -
Move to approve the use of the courthouse lawn on Saturday, June 6, 2026, for the 36th Annual 2026 Caro Chamber of Commerce Cars & Crafts.

2. Appointments to the Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems (TBHS) Board of Directors -
Move to appoint Daniel Grimshaw, Kenneth Partridge and Karen Snider to the Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems (TBHS) Board of Directors to a 3-year term beginning March 1, 2026 and expiring February 28, 2029.

3. Region VII Advisory Council Appointment -
Move to appoint Jackie (Jack) Campbell to the Region VII Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council as the Representative for Tuscola County to a 3-year term beginning March 1, 2026 expiring February 28, 2029.

4. 2025 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) - Steve Anderson, Emergency Services Director/Interim Dispatch Co-Director -
Move to approve the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Agreement for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 and authorize all necessary signatures.

New Business

1. Closed Session to be held Under Section 8(1)(c) for Strategy and Negotiation Sessions Connected with the Negotiation of a Collective Bargaining Agreement -

2026-M-048

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios that the Board of Commissioners meet in closed session under Section 8(1)(c) for strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement. The following individuals are allowed to attend this closed session: Jamie Nisidis of Braun Kendrick, Erica Dibble, Shelly Lutz, Tracy Violet and Jodi Fetting - Remotely at 8:05 a.m.

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

Motion Carried.

Closed Session at 8:05 a.m.

Reconvened from Closed Session at 8:41 a.m.

At 8:41 a.m., there were a total of 30 participants attending the meeting virtually.

2026-M-049

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to accept the February 12, 2026 meditation proposal to resolve the remaining contract issues with the POAM and 911 Dispatchers Unit. Motion Carried.

2. Mosquito Abatement Department New Hire Request to Hire Josh McAleese - Larry Zapfe, Mosquito Abatement Director, requested to hire Josh McAleese starting at Step 1 at the rate of \$14.85, pending background check, drug screening and physical with a start date of March 30, 2026.

2026-M-050

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios to hire Josh McAleese as a seasonal Field Technician starting at Step 1 at a rate of \$14.85 per hour for the 2026 Mosquito season with a start date of March 30, 2026, pending the results of a background check and physical. Motion Carried.

3. Mosquito Millage Renewal Request - Larry Zapfe, Mosquito Abatement Director, explained the current services Tuscola County Mosquito Control Abatement provides along with the cost. He reviewed the Mosquito Millage Renewal request with the completed language for the ballot proposal. This is the 29th year of the Mosquito Abatement program.

2026-M-051

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch that ballot language, as recommended by Corporate Council, to renew the Mosquito Abatement special purpose millage for a six (6) year period be submitted to the County Clerk for inclusion on the August 2026 primary ballot for a public vote.

**TUSCOLA COUNTY
MOSQUITO CONTROL AND ABATEMENT RENEWAL PROPOSAL**

Shall the previous voted increase in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Section 6, of the Michigan Constitution on general ad valorem taxes within Tuscola County, Michigan, be renewed at .6316 mills (\$.6316 for each \$1,000 of taxable value) for a period of six (6) years from 2026 to 2031, inclusive, to finance the control and abatement of mosquitoes in Tuscola County? If approved and levied in its entirety, this millage raises an estimated \$1,514,134 in the first calendar year after its approval. All revenue will be disbursed only to Tuscola County and shall be exclusively used for mosquito control and abatement services to properties within Tuscola County. This is a renewal of a previously voter-approved authorization that will expire before the effective date of this authorization.

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

Motion Carried.

- 4. Animal Control Vehicle Replacement - Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, reviewed the request to purchase a pre-owned truck will the proceeds from the insurance company along with the fund balance from the Animal Control budget, not to exceed \$30,000.00.

2026-M-052

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Nancy Barrios to authorize the Animal Control Director, Tyler Ray, to purchase a pre-owned truck for Animal Control using \$17,200.00 in insurance proceeds from the totaled Promaster Van and fund balance, for a total cost not to exceed \$30,000.00. Motion Carried.

- 5. 2026-03 Resolution Honoring Mary Montgomery -

2026-M-053

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve and place on file Resolution 2026-03 Honoring Mary Montgomery for her dedicated years of service to Tuscola County.

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

Motion Carried.

Old Business

1. Dispatch Potential Ballot Language -
Steve Anderson, Emergency Services Director/Interim Dispatch Co-Director, explained the history of Central Dispatch along with the funding. Steve reviewed the system and software contracts and the cost of each. The completed language for the ballot proposal was reviewed.

2026-M-054

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz that ballot language, as recommended by Corporate Council, to place a new special purpose millage for 911 Central Dispatch for a four (4) year period be submitted to the County Clerk for inclusion on the August 2026 primary ballot for a public vote.

TUSCOLA COUNTY

911 CENTRAL DISPATCH MILLAGE PROPOSAL

Shall Tuscola County be authorized to levy upon the taxable value of all property subject to ad valorem taxation, up to .45 mills (.45 per \$1,000 of taxable value), for a period of up to four (4) years, 2026 through 2029 inclusive, to be used exclusively for the funding of 9-1-1 emergency telephone call answering and dispatch services for Tuscola County, including facilities, equipment, personnel, maintenance, and operating costs for 9-1-1 emergency telephone call answering and dispatch services to effectively provide and ensure twenty-four hour public safety communications service for the citizens, communities, and public safety responders of Tuscola County? If approved and levied in its entirety, this millage raises and estimated \$1,078,785 in the first year that it is levied.

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

Motion Carried.

2. Amendment to Motion 2026-M-041 Regarding the Promotion of Vicki Crumby to a Full-Time Vacant Position in the Register of Deeds Office -
Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, asked that the motion to hire Vicki Crumby be amended to include the rate of pay at \$18.21, and the position title.

2026-M-055

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to amend motion 2026-M-041 for the record as to approve Register Marianne Brandt to promote Vicki Crumby to a vacant full-time position due to a retirement in her office and advertise to fill the vacant part-time position, with an effective date of March 2, 2026. Vicki Crumby's position will be Account Clerk III in the Register of Deeds Office with wages set to Step 1 rate of pay of \$18.21 per hour. Motion Carried.

3. Tuscola County Advisory Council on Aging Request for Funds for a Senior Dinner Dance -
Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, reported that after speaking to Kristy from Human Development Commission (HDC), that the senior dance is budgeted for 2026. This dance is open to the public for a small ticket cost. This is the same dance that has been approved in past years.

2026-M-056

Motion by Thomas Bardwell, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve the request of \$2,500.00, as budgeted, for the Annual Senior Dinner Dance scheduled for September 17, 2026 per the recommendation from the Tuscola County Advisory Council on Aging. Motion Carried.

4. Opening of Controller's Office Copier Bids -
Mike Miller, Building/Grounds and Recycling Director, explained that after reviewing the bids the lowest bidder was Konica Minolta.

2026-M-057

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz that per the recommendation of Mike Miller, Building/Grounds and Recycling Director, to select the lowest bidder, Konica Minolta as the selected bidder for the Controller/Administrator's Office Copier and to proceed with the sixty (60) month State of Michigan FMV Lease Rate of \$90.04 per month for a total lease amount of \$5,402.40. The per copy fee-based maintenance service contract, with rates of \$0.032 per color copy and \$0.006 per black and white copy, to be billed monthly based upon the number of copies produced. Lease and maintenance service to be paid from line-item number 101-265-932-000. All necessary signatures and budget amendments are authorized. Motion Carried.

5. Discussion about Controller/Administrator Position -
Erica Dibble, Controller/Administrator, explained that she wants to focus on the finances and work with the auditors going forward until her last day of employment. Erica is preparing notes for who comes in and takes over her position. Erica has been working with Mike Miller and requests that he be appointed as the Interim Administrator roll at a rate of \$1,057.69 per pay period with an effective date of February 28, 2026.

2026-M-058

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch that the additional pay for Mike Miller, Building/Grounds and Recycling Director, to fulfill the Interim Administrator roll be set at \$1,057.69. This additional pay will be effective February 28, 2026 and remain in effect until a full-time Controller/Administrator has been hired.

Yes: Nancy Barrios, Bill Lutz, and Matt Koch

No: Thomas Bardwell and Kim Vaughan

Motion Carried.

2026-M-059

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve the transition of Erica Dibble from Controller/Administrator to full-time Controller. This transition includes a pay reduction to \$3,173.07 per pay period for the duration of February 28, 2026 through April 3, 2026. Additionally, approve the transition to an equivalent part-time hourly rate, effective April 4, 2026. This role will be limited to a maximum of two days per week and will conclude on or before May 31, 2026, or once a full-time Controller/Administrator has been hired.

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

Motion Carried.

Correspondence/Resolutions

1. What is Older Than Dirt - Mark Putnam, Columnist for the Tuscola County Advertiser
2. Indianfields Township Planning Commission Meeting
3. Fremont Township Public Hearing for Laser Marking Technologies
4. Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) Finance and General Government Committee Report

Commissioner Liaison Committee Reports

Bardwell

Behavioral Health Systems Board
Meeting is scheduled for today.

Caro DDA/TIFA
Meeting is scheduled for today.

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment
MAC 7th District
Upcoming meeting next month.

MAC Workers Comp Board
Upcoming meeting next month.

MAC Finance Committee
Upcoming meeting next month.

NACo Rural Action Caucus (RAC)
Local Units of Government Activity Report

Barrios

County Road Commission Liaison

Barrios attended a meeting at the Road Commission; there will be construction on M-46 with a detour to M-53. Road Commission will have signs up to indicate the detour route.

Great Start Collaborative

Will be meeting today.

Human Services Collaborative Council (HSCC)

Barrios attended a meeting on February 24, 2026

MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee

Barrios attended a zoom meeting discussing walking and bike trails.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Local Units of Government Activity Report

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

Board of Health

Community Corrections Advisory Board

Department of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Human Development Commission Board of Directors Liaison

Jail Planning Committee

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

MAC Judiciary Committee
MEMS All Hazard
Multi-County Recycling Committee
Lutz attended a recent meeting.
Local Units of Government Activity Report

Koch

No Report

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

Other Business as Necessary

Commissioner Vaughan has scheduled 2 public hearings regarding the Road Commission Board transitioning from an elected board to an appointed board as language they have received back from legal counsel. The meetings are scheduled for April 1, 2026 and April 7, 2026 at the PSB building.

At 9:49 a.m., there were a total of 41 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Extended Public Comment

Adam Tountas serves as counsel for Tuscola County Road Commission. He addressed the reason Road Commission has been absent from the conversation about Hurds Corner Road and Intersection safety.

Billy Putman thanked the Board for the direction given and questioned how long it takes to complete a road study.

Adjournment

2026-M-060

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m.
Motion Carried.

Tanya Pisha
Tuscola County
Deputy Clerk