Draft

MINUTES
Board of Commissioners Meeting

8:00 AM - Thursday, November 12, 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, November 12, 2026, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Prayer - Commissioner Bardwell

Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Lutz

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting Rynearson

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting Rynearson, Eean Lee, Mike Miller, Jordan Wade, Sheriff Ryan Robinson, Tom McLane, Damian Wasik, Cody Horton, Jim Tussey, Jim McLoskey, Alisha Proctor, Debbie Powell, Amanda Ertman, Connie Keinath, Sheila Long, Tim Heiden, Carrie Tabar, Prosecutor Lori Selvidge, Mark Ransford, Tyler Ray

Also Present Virtual: Tracy Violet, Mary Drier, Amy Gregor, Angie Daniels, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Angie House, Ashley Gaudett, Beth Hoppe, Bonnie Fackler, Brandon Bertram, Kyle Nordstrom, Dan Lisowski, Heather Malloy, Tyler Ray, Brenda Peters, Debbie Babich, Echo Torrez, Gail Krieger, Joshua Herman, Kandi Teddy, Krystaria Skakle, Fairgrove Township, Barry Lapp, Curtis Elenbaum, Karlee Romain, Kristin Young, Krisit Phipps, Kristy Sutherland, Linda Strasz, Register Marianne Brandt, Matthew Sexton, Melanie Radabaugh, Judge Nancy Thane, Samuel Putnam, Scienna Nieschulz, Shannon Beach, Shelby Miller, Shelly Lutz, Sherry Billot, Tanya Pisha, Tricia Sharp, Drain Commissioner Dara Hood, Debbie Engelhardt, Steve Root, Cody Horton, Katie Robinson, Rob Wrona

At 8:06 a.m., there were a total of 39 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Adoption of Agenda

1. Adoption of Agenda -

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2026-M-252

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

1. Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -

2026-M-253

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Nancy Barrios to adopt the meeting minutes from the October 29, 2026 Regular meeting, the closed session minutes from October 29, 2026 and the Public Hearing meeting minutes from October 29, 2026. Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only

None

Consent Agenda

None

New Business

1. Victim Services Funding, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) -
   Gail Krieger, State Division Administrator Division of Victim Services, provided explanation as to the elimination of the program within the Sheriff's Department due to approximately a 60% reduction in the federal funding. The Human Development Commission (HDC) is also seeing a reduction of funding. The Assault Crisis Center is able to provide some assistance for certain case types but their resources are stretched thin as well.

   Commissioner Vaughan would like to have further discussion as to options that may be available to continue the program.

2. 2027 - 2028 Tuscola County Road Commission Agreement for Enforcement Services -
   Sheriff Ryan Robinson presented the renewal contract for the Weighmaster position.

2026-M-254

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve the 2027 - 2028 Agreement for Enforcement Services between the Sheriff's Office and the Tuscola County Road Commission for one officer in the amount of $159,320.00 for 2027 and $170,057.00 for 2028 and all necessary signatures are authorized. Motion Carried.

3. 2027 - 2028 Tuscola County Agreement with Arbela Township for Enforcement Services (matter added) -
   Sheriff Ryan Robinson presented the renewal agreement for Enforcement Services in Arbela Township.

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2026-M-255

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve the 2027 - 2028 Agreement for enforcement services between the Sheriff's Office and Arbela Township for one officer in the amount of $114,843.00 for 2027 and $119,353.85 for 2028 with all necessary signatures authorized. Motion Carried.

4. Mosquito Request for New Office Software from Frontier Precision and 24 Esri ArcGIS Online Annual Subscriptions -
Larry Zapfe, Mosquito Abatement Director, explained that the company that currently provides service is no longer able to provide that support. Director Zapfe has researched other options with site visits to other counties to see programs that are being used in the field.

2026-M-256

Motion by Thomas Bardwell, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve per the recommendation from Larry Zapfe, Mosquito Abatement Director, to purchase a new office software system from Frontier Precision at a one-time cost of $28,750.00 with one year of maintenance and support included. After the first year from purchase date, a fee of $9,800.00 will be billed annually for maintenance and support to come from the Mosquito Abatements Fund Balance. Motion Carried.

2026-M-257

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve per the recommendation from Larry Zapfe, Mosquito Abatement Director, to purchase 24 Esri ArcGIS Online Annual Subscriptions at a cost of $6,000.00 to come from the Mosquito Abatements Fund Balance, both purchases totaling $34,750.00. Motion Carried.

5. Mosquito Abatement Request to Add a Full-Time Position -
Larry Zapfe, Mosquito Abatement Director, presented a request to add a position in order to assist in managing the Frontier Precision software. Implementation of the program has allowed for streamlining within the office and the ability to employ less seasonal Technicians.

2026-M-258

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to approve per the request from Larry Zapfe, Mosquito Abatement Director, to create a new full-time position of Field Technology/Office Clerk within the Mosquito Abatement Department. Also, move to approve Marianne Daily to fill that position. Marianne is currently employed at Mosquito Abatement as a part-time Seasonal Office Clerk. The starting wage is $19.90 per hour at Step 1 with a start date of November 30, 2026. Motion Carried.

6. Special Funds Budget Adjustments -
Connie Keinath, Chief Accountant, presented the request included in the agenda packet.

2026-M-259

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve the Special Funds Budget Adjustments per the recommendation from Connie Keinath, Chief Accountant, with all budget amendments authorized. Motion Carried.

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7. General Funds Budget Adjustments -
   Connie Keinath, Chief Accountant, presented the request included in the agenda packet.

2026-M-260

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve the General Funds Budget Adjustments per the recommendation from Connie Keinath, Chief Accountant, with all budget amendments authorized. Motion Carried.

8. Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), 2027 Potential Budget Cut -
   Jim Tussey, EDC Chairman, provided an update regarding the Tuscola Area Airport as to current activities, the airport future and airport activity. Chairman Tussey also provided an update to projects that the EDC is currently working on and the positive impacts that could be realized within the County. The various grants that are administered by the EDC were also reviewed. An update regarding the Caro Dam was provided as to discussions being held to rehabilitate the dam rather than removing.

   Recessed at 10:02 a.m.
   Reconvened at 10:15 a.m.
   At 10:15 a.m., there were a total of 44 participants attending the meeting virtually.

9. Tuscola County Health Department 2027 Potential Budget Cut -
   Amanda Ertman, Health Officer, reviewed the proposed budget cut, the impact that it will have on the programs offered and the match funding that could be negatively impacted. The Board stated their hope is the funding cut is for this budget cycle only and that it could be restored in 2028. Health Officer Ertman feels she would be able to sustain the cut for one year without program cuts but would not be able to sustain that in future budget cycles.

10. Courthouse Lawn Request -
    Mike Miller, Controller/Administrator, presented the request received.

2026-M-261

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve the Caro Women's Interfaith Committee for Christmas to use the Courthouse Lawn to display a Nativity Scene from Friday, November 27, 2026, through Sunday, January 10, 2027. Motion Carried.

11. Prosecutor Request to Hire Sarah Gengler -
    Prosecutor Lori Selvidge presented the request to hire Sarah Gengler with explanation to start at Step 4.

2026-M-262

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve per the recommendation from Lori Selvidge, Prosecutor, to hire Sarah Gengler for the vacant Office Manager Position in the Prosecutor's office, starting at Step 4 with a wage of $59,963.74 annually with a start date of January 11, 2027 pending a satisfactory drug screen, physical and background check. Motion Carried.

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12. Prosecutor's Request to Promote Andrew Daniels to Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney -

    Prosecutor Lori Selvidge expressed that Mr. Daniels has been instrumental in the transition in the office and she is appointing him as the Chief Assistant Prosecutor.

2026-M-263

Motion by Thomas Bardwell, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve per the recommendation from Lori Selvidge, Prosecutor, to promote Andrew Daniels to the Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney position in the Prosecutor's Office, starting at Step 1 of $90,299.43 per year with a start date of January 1, 2027. Motion Carried.

13. Prosecutor's Request to Hire Sydney Prill as Law Clerk -
    Prosecutor Lori Selvidge explained the request to hire Sydney Prill.

2026-M-264

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve per the recommendation from Lori Selvidge, Prosecutor, to hire Sydney Prill for the Law Clerk Position in the Prosecutor's Office, starting at $51,250.00 per year with a start date of January 1, 2027, pending a satisfactory drug screen, physical and background check. Motion Carried.

14. Prosecutor's Request to Hire Nadrina Cournaya for Secretary II Position -
    Prosecutor Lori Selvidge presented the request to fill a current position as Juli Walters has submitted her retirement notice.

2026-M-265

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve per the recommendation from Lori Selvidge, Prosecutor, to hire Nadrina Cournaya for the Secretary II Position in the Prosecutor's Office, starting at Step 1 rate of pay of $18.67 per hour with a start date on November 30, 2026, pending a satisfactory drug screen, physical and background check. Motion Carried.

15. Prosecutor Request for Filling the Pending Victim Advocate Position -
    Prosecutor Lori Selvidge explained that the grant funding for this position has had recent funding cuts but there is still funding available for the position.

2026-M-266

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve per the request from Lori Salvidge, Prosecutor, to hire Joy L. Dise to fill the vacant Victim Advocate position (in the Prosecutor's Office), with a starting wage of $50,000.00 with a start date of December 14, 2026, pending a satisfactory background check and physical. Motion Carried.

16. Request from Judge Amy Grace Gierhart for Budget Changes for the Staff Attorney/Referee (matter added) -
    Sheila Long, Court Administrator, explained the request to adjust the line-items that the salary for Bernard Labombard is paid from.

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2026-M-267

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to approve per the request from Amy Grace Gierhart, Tuscola County Chief Judge, that the wages of Bernard LaBombard be modified by the following:
55% from the Unified Court Budget - Line item 101-130-704-000
45% from the Friend of the Court Budget - Line item 215-100-704-000
with an effective date of October 1, 2026. All necessary budget amendments are approved. Motion Carried.

17. 2027 Draft Budget Second Review -
Mike Miller, Controller/Administrator, presented and reviewed the 2027 draft budget second review. This reflects the recommended budget cuts to the EDC, Health Department and GIS budgets as well as with the transfer from the Jail Capital Improvement Fund.

There was a Department Head meeting this week in which discussions were had as to how to be better prepared going into the 2028 cycle.

The Board discussed the rising costs of Health Care. Controller/Administrator Miller is planning to work with Gibson moving into 2028 for cost saving opportunities.

2026-M-268

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve the second draft 2027 Budget with changes as presented and to send to the departments for review. Motion Carried with Vaughan voting against.

Old Business

1. Amendment to Motion 2026-M-245 Regarding the Stipend for Dispatch Employees -
Mike Miller, Controller/Administrator, explained the need to amend the motion as having the training requirement removed and that it is for time worked not paid time off.

2026-M-269

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Matt Koch to amend motion 2026-M-245 to approve the recommendation from Mike Miller, Controller/Administrator, that the current Dispatchers who have successfully completed training and who have been working long hours during this staffing shortage receive an additional $2.00 per hour for actual hours worked, but not to include any PTO. Effective date of October 1, 2026 with an end date of December 31, 2026. Also, all necessary budget amendments are authorized.
Motion Carried.

2. Resolution for the Village of Reese Annexation -
Mike Miller, Controller/Administrator, presented the resolution from the Public Hearing held on October 29, 2026.

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2026-M-270

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Nancy Barrios to approve Resolution 2026-13 the Order and Determination by the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners to Annex Certain Lands to the Village of Reese, Michigan, known as 1585 S. Reese Road, Reese Michigan, 48757.

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

Motion Carried.

Correspondence/Resolutions

None

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

Barrios

County Road Commission Liaison -
The project for White Creek Road was discussed at the last meeting with a tentative begin date of February 2028. The next meeting is on November 23, 2026.

Great Start Collaborative

Human Services Collaborative Council (HSCC) -
Met recently and good information is provided at each meeting.

MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee -
Meets Friday.

Parks and Recreation Commission -
Meets next month.

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Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Local Units of Government Activity Report -
-Village of Fairgrove President has resigned.
-Attended the ceremony to honor the WWII Veterans whose remains were discovered and identified.
-Columbia Township has concerns as to the process of handling a PA116 application and the proper procedure to get the paperwork to the County Planning Commission.

Bardwell

No Report

Behavioral Health Systems Board

Caro DDA/TIFA

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

MAC 7th District

MAC Workers Comp Board

MAC Finance Committee

NACo Rural Action Caucus (RAC)

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

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

Local Units of Government Activity Report

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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

None

At 11:07 a.m., there were a total of 42 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Extended Public Comment

None

Adjournment

2026-M-271

Motion by Matt Koch, seconded by Bill Lutz to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 a.m. Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting Rynearson
Tuscola County Clerk, MCCO

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