

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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2021-07

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March 31, 2021

Tuscola County Declaration of a Local State of Emergency related to COVID-19

The novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death. It is caused by a new strain a coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person.

On March 10, 2020, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-04, which declared a "State of Emergency" throughout the State of Michigan related to COVID-19. On this same date, the State of Michigan had the first two patients test positive for COVID-19.

On March 20, 2020, Tuscola County Officials were made aware of the first confirmed case of COVID-19 within Tuscola County. On March 25, 2020, Tuscola County had its first confirmed COVID-19 death.

As of March 27, 2021, Tuscola County has had 3815 positive/probable COVID-19 cases and 140 COVID-19 confirmed/probable deaths. Our latest testing rate shows that Tuscola County has gone from an average positivity rate of 12.9% to 21% in a week's time.


Because of the continued rise of positive COVID-19 cases and the negative impact that is occurring within the county, Tuscola County in an effort to maximize efforts to slow the further spread of COVID-19, is declaring a Local State of Emergency under Section 10 of 1976 PA 390, as amended. This local State of Emergency declaration confirms that the Tuscola County Emergency Operations Plan will be continued to be utilized and all local resources have and will continue to be utilized to the fullest possible extent.

This Declaration will only be used to allow all units of government with Tuscola County if desired the ability to continue with the Virtual Meetings under the current Open Meetings Act; MCO 15.263a.

The Tuscola County Office of Emergency Management will continue to provide liaison and coordination with State and Federal authorities for assistance related to this ongoing pandemic, and in accordance with Section 14 of PA 390, as amended as directed to transmit this request to the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division of the Michigan State Police.

This Local State of Emergency will be in effect through April 29, 2021, unless further action is taken by the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners.

Respectfully,



Thomas Bardwell, Board Chair
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners