

**Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
Committee of the Whole
Monday, September 13, 2021 – 8:00 A.M.**

Commissioner Bardwell called the regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building in the City of Caro, Michigan, on the 18th day of September 2021, to order at 8:00 o'clock a.m. local time.

Roll Call – Clerk Jodi Fetting

Commissioners Present In-Person:

- District 2 - Thomas Bardwell
- District 3 - Kim Vaughan
- District 4 - Douglas DuRussel
- District 5 - Daniel Grimshaw

Commissioner Absent:

- District 1 - Thomas Young

Others Present in-Person:

- Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Clayette Zechmeister, Mike Miller, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Shelly Lutz, Don Ball

Also Present Virtual:

- Tracy Violet, Mary Drier, Mark Haney, Steve Anderson, Steve Root, Curtis Elenbaum, Matt Brown, Samantha Dennis, Barry Lapp, Debbie Babich, Kim Brinkman, Sheriff Glen Skrent, Jessica VanHove

At 8:09 a.m., there were 18 participants attending the meeting virtually.

County Updates - None

New Business

1. Michigan State Police Fire Suppression Bids – Mike Miller reviewed the steps taken with TSSF Architects to complete a walk through with potential contractors as to the outdoor portion of the project and to the indoor portion of the project.
Bid received for outdoor portion:
 Champagne and Marks Excavating - \$116,392.00.
Bid received for indoor portion:
 Winner - \$39,760.00.
Board agreed to accepting both of those bids and matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

2. H.H. Purdy Building (Administration Building) Metal Siding Review – Mike Miller updated the Board on repairing the EIFS on the outside of the building or put a decorative steel on the building. Board would like Mike to get a quote on repair of the EIFS.
3. 2019 Annual Report of Balance in Land Sale Proceeds Accounts – Treasurer Ashley Bennett presented the annual report. The Rafaeli case was discussed.
4. Refill a Vacant Full-Time Dispatcher Position – Clayette Zechmeister presented the request from Director Sandy Nielsen to hire Pablo Lopez. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
5. Appointment of Republican Board of Canvasser – Clerk Jodi Fetting explained the vacancy on the Board of Canvassers due to a resignation. Republican Party Chair Billy Putman has recommended Doug Lagos. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
6. Tax Abatement Request from Quality Roasting Public Hearing Notice September 13, 2021 – Clayette Zechmeister presented the invitation for the meeting tonight.
7. Committee of the Whole Meeting September 27, 2021 Conflict with Training – Board discussed cancelling the September 27, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting. Clayette recommended scheduling a special Committee of the Whole meeting since it is budget review time. Board decided that a Committee of the Whole meeting is to be scheduled for Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. to have budget review be the agenda topic.
8. Appeal from FOIA Request Determination Received from Judge Gierhart – Board discussed the pending FOIA request and whether the information should be redacted prior to presentation to the court. Board decided to provide the information unredacted. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

Old Business

1. Health Officer Replacement Updates – Clayette Zechmeister reviewed the recommendations that were received from the State of Michigan that Amanda Ertman would need to complete in order for a full appointment to be granted. Board questioned and discussed if the same requirements were placed on the Huron County appointee. Board would like Clayette Zechmeister to reach out to Senator Kevin Daley and Representative Phil Green for review and assistance. Board would also like an inquiry made as to why Ms. Ertman does not qualify based on the job description that was posted. Board would like clarification from John Gonzalez as to why his hands are tied and the Board would like his response on letterhead not in email format. Board would like Shelly to contact Amanda to see if she would consider taking action to meet the State requirements. Board would like Clayette to contact Ann Hepfer to see if it was consistent with recommendations that Tip MacGuire received.
2. Building Codes Transition from South Central Michigan Construction Code Inspections (SCMCCI) to SAFEbuilt – Clayette Zechmeister provided an update on the transition and that the proposed contract will be presented at Thursday's meeting.

3. County Space Needs - Upcoming Meeting with Department Heads Scheduled September 23, 2021 – The Building and Grounds Committee has scheduled a special meeting at 3:00 p.m. to discuss county office space needs.
4. Resolution to Exempt Certain Counties from the Recently Updated Open Meetings Act (OMA) – Board discussed the proposed resolution and who the resolution should be forwarded to if adopted. Matter to be presented at Thursday’s meeting.

Finance/Technology

Committee Leader Commissioner Young
Commissioner DuRussel

Primary Finance/Technology

1. 2022 Budget Preparation Updates – Committee of the Whole meeting has been scheduled for September 22, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss the 2022 Budget.
2. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds - Update on the Revenue Loss Calculations – Clayette Zechmeister reviewed the report received from Gabridge Company. The reduction in revenue the County experienced was in the amount of \$3,362,863.00. Gabridge Company also provide a review of what projects the revenue loss funding could be used for which the new jail project could qualify. Board discussed the matter.

On Going and Other Finance and Technology

Finance

1. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Ad-Hoc Committee – Clayette stated a meeting needs to be scheduled as additional requests have been submitted.
2. Preparation of Multi-Year Financial Planning – No Update.
3. Audit Contract for Upcoming Years – Clayette Zechmeister has requested a proposed quote to continue with the current auditing firm for the Board to review.
4. Cooperative Reimbursement Programs Summary from Prosecutor and Friend of the Court – Report is currently being worked on for a future presentation.

Technology

1. GIS Update
2. Increasing On-Line Services/Updating Web Page
3. DotGov Domain (matter added) – Eean Lee reported that there is a push to have all government agencies transition to dotgov which will be a large undertaking to transition the website and all county emails.

Building and Grounds
Committee Leader Commissioner DuRussel
Commissioner Grimshaw

Primary Building and Grounds

1. Purdy Building Security Updates – Clayette Zechmeister stated a closed session has been scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 2021.

On Going and Other Building and Grounds

2. State Police Water and Annexation – Clayette Zechmeister provided an update and is waiting to see if the Tuscola Intermediate School District has received their annexation yet.
3. IT Department Space Needs
4. Adult Probation Fence

Personnel

Committee Leader Commissioner Grimshaw
Commissioner Vaughan

Primary Personnel

1. Michigan Employees Retirement System (MERS) Summary Annual Report – Clayette Zechmeister reviewed the annual report included in the agenda packet. Board discussed MERS actuarial assumptions and methods adopted. Board discussed defined benefit participants versus defined contribution participants.

On-Going and Other Personnel

1. Workman's Compensation
2. Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) 7th District Meeting Updates – Commissioner Bardwell provided an update as there are funds currently in Huntington Bank that is charging monthly fee to have the account. He will have a letter prepared to send to members of the 7th District regarding withdrawing the funds.
3. Safety Committees – Watch for Grant Opportunities

Other Business as Necessary

1. Mosquito Abatement Update (matter added) – Director Larry Zapfe sent a communication that West Nile virus was found in Tuscola County in the Denmark Township area.
2. Possible OSHA Guideline Changes Due to COVID (matter added) – Board discussed the possible regulations that may be implemented regarding COVID-19 recommendations.

On-Going Other Business as Necessary

1. Animal Control Ordinance – Project has been paused as other matters have taken a precedence. Legal is involved in the preparation.

At 10:38 a.m., there were 17 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Public Comment Period – None

Motion by DuRussel, seconded by Vaughan to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 a.m.
Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk

DRAFT