

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 25, 2019 Minutes

H. H. Purdy Building

Commissioner Bardwell called the meeting 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 25th day of July 2019, to order at 8:00 o'clock a.m. local time.

Prayer – Commissioner Bardwell

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Young

Roll Call – Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present: District 1 - Thomas Young, District 2 - Thomas Bardwell, District 3 - Kim Vaughan, District 4 - Mark Jensen, District 5 – Daniel Grimshaw

Commissioner Absent: None

Also Present: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Clayette Zechmeister, Tisha Jones-Holubec, Tracy Violet, Mary Drier, Mike Miller, Nancy Laskowski, Register John Bishop, Sandy Nielsen, Judge Amy Grace Gierhart, Treasurer Patricia Donovan-Gray, Karen Southgate, Jean Doss (via google hangouts), Shelly Lutz

*Adoption of Agenda -*

19-M-145

Motion by Young, seconded by Jensen to adopt the agenda as amended.

Motion Carried.

*Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -*

19-M-146

Motion by Young, seconded by Jensen to adopt the meeting minutes from the July 11, 2019 Regular Board and Statutory Finance meetings. Motion Carried.

*Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only - None*

*Consent Agenda Resolution -*

19-M-147

Motion by Grimshaw, seconded Young by that the Consent Agenda Minutes and Consent Agenda Resolution from the July 22, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

## CONSENT AGENDA

- Agenda Reference:** A
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 7/22/19
- Description of Matter:** Move that the 2019/2020 Child Care Fund Budget including both the Family Court and Department of Health and Human Services divisions as presented at the July 22, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting be approved and submitted to the state. Also, all appropriate signatures are authorized.
- Agenda Reference:** B
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 7/22/19
- Description of Matter:** Move to temporarily lift the county hiring freeze and authorize the hiring of Megan Daniels as an IT Help Desk Technician at Step I effective August 8, 2019 pending favorable background, physical and drug screen.
- Agenda Reference:** C
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 7/22/19
- Description of Matter:** Move to temporarily lift the county hiring freeze and authorize the hiring of Amy Taylor as an Office Assistant for MIDC at the starting rate of pay allowed by the MIDC Grant effective July 29, 2019 pending physical and background check.
- Agenda Reference:** D
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 7/22/19
- Description of Matter:** Move to authorize the Building and Grounds Director to replace the steel door at the Animal Shelter with an aluminum door in the amount of \$4,900.

### *New Business -*

-Judge Amy Grace Gierhart (matter added) - Judge announced to the Board that Jason Bitzer has been appointed as the 71B District Court Judge by Governor Whitmer. Mr. Bitzer will begin his duties as Judge on August 8, 2019.

-Potential Court Budget Amendments (matter added) - Judge Gierhart has been monitoring the court budget in relation to costs for a visiting Judge. Judge Gierhart has been assisting in the District Court caseload in order to keep costs lower.

-Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BC/BS) Renewal - Clayette Zechmeister explained to the Board concerns that Dan Skiver expressed regarding the renewal of the BC/BS and the time constraints in signing the contract.

19-M-148

Motion by Young, seconded by Jensen that the county health insurance coverage be continued with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for the September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020 period and all authorized signatures be approved. Motion Carried with Grimshaw opposing.

-Caro Center Update from Jean Doss (matter added) - Jean stated the Legislature remains on summer recess. Tentative session dates have been set if approval of the State budget moves forward. Jean also reported that she does not feel that firm decisions have been made at the State level. The Myers and Stauffer report is to be delivered to the DHHS Director Gordon on July 26, 2019. There has not been a date set for the public release. Documentation has been received from the FOIA requests and her team is currently reviewing the material. MAC is expected to release a resolution in support of retaining the Caro Center in Tuscola County. City of Frankenmuth has signed a resolution in support of the Caro Center.

-Commissioner Vaughan (matter added) - Commissioner Vaughan referenced the motion made in February 2019 regarding advertising for the Controller/Administrator position. He also referenced when the Board voted to select a candidate for the position. Matter discussed at length.

Commissioner Vaughan admitted that he independently went to counsel. Commissioner Bardwell stated that he stepped outside of guidelines and it is a conflict of interest.

-Controller/Administrator Contract - Commissioner Bardwell reviewed options that the Board had to them when handling the contract. Contract was rejected by Clayette Zechmeister. Matter discussed at length.

19-M-149

Motion by Grimshaw, seconded by Bardwell to separate the jobs of the Administrator and Controller positions and to have job descriptions created pending legal counsel review. Roll Call Vote - Young - no; Vaughan - no; Jensen - no; Grimshaw - yes; Bardwell - yes. Motion Failed.

Commissioner Bardwell will continue to work with legal counsel to craft a draft contract for the Controller/Administrator position for the Board to review.

Commissioner Grimshaw expressed concern that Commissioner Vaughan contacted the county attorney in regards to this matter without the Board's permission.

Commissioner Bardwell questioned Clayette if she wanted a contract or not. She will defer to her legal counsel.

-Michigan Association of Counties (MAC) - Commissioner Bardwell would like an acknowledgement prepared to thank MAC for their unprecedented support of the Caro Center. Board would like Clayette to prepare that communication.

-Caro Center Support Resolutions from Frankenmuth - Matter discussed during the Caro Center update from Jean Doss.

*Old Business* - None

*Correspondence/Resolutions* - None

### **COMMISSIONER LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**VAUGHAN** - No report.

Board of Health

County Planning Commission

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

MAC Environmental Regulatory – Vice Chair

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

**YOUNG** - No Report.

Board of Public Works

County Road Commission Liaison

Dispatch Authority Board

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Great Start Collaborative

Human Services Collaborative Council (HSCC)

Jail Planning Committee

MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee

MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC)

Region VI Economic Development Planning

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Senior Services Advisory Council

Tuscola 2020

Local Units of Government Activity Report

**BARDWELL**

Behavioral Health Systems Board  
Caro DDA/TIFA  
Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment  
MAC 7<sup>th</sup> District - Update provided.  
MAC Workers Comp Board  
TRIAD  
Local Units of Government Activity Report

**JENSEN**

Board of Health - Report provided.  
Community Corrections Advisory Board  
Dept. of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison  
Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works  
Jail Planning Committee  
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)  
MAC Judiciary Committee  
MEMS All Hazard  
Local Units of Government Activity Report - Thanked the 911 Dispatch Center for how they handled the volume of calls received during the storm last week.

**GRIMSHAW** - No Report.

Behavioral Health Systems Board  
Recycling Advisory  
Local Units of Government

*Other Business as Necessary - None*

*Extended Public Comment -*

-Mary Drier explained there is no Michigan Law that regulates exotic animals.  
Any matters would have to be handled through the local level.

Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk