

**Agenda**  
**Tuscola County Board of Commissioners**  
**Committee of the Whole – Monday, February 5, 2018 – 8:00 A.M.**  
**HH Purdy Building - 125 W. Lincoln, Caro, MI**

**Finance/Technology**  
Committee Leaders-Commissioners Kirkpatrick and Bierlein

**Primary Finance/Technology**

**1. Update Regarding Airport Zoning Board of Appeals (AZBA)**

- **Art Bernia Request to Address the Board Regarding Wind Turbine Energy**
- **Confirmation that Paul Hoose will Continue to Serve on AZBA**
- **Applications Received to Fill One Vacancy on AZBA – Appointment Scheduled for 2-8-18 Commissioners Meeting**
- **Revised Airport Zoning Administrator and AZBA Application Forms Completed and Loaded on Web Site**
- **County Attorney Attendance at All AZBA Meetings**
- **AZBA Scheduling Organizational Meeting**

**2. Update Regarding Indigent Defense Plan**

**3. Solar Assessing/Taxation Information**

**4. Opioid Lawsuit 2-22-18 Board Meeting**

**5. IT Director Review of 2018 Budgeted Projects**

**6. County Web Page Usage Information**

**7. Cost Correction Regarding Dispatch Recording System (See A)**

**8. March Meeting in Bay City Regarding Medical Examiner System (See B)**

**On-Going and Other Finance**

**1. Update Regarding Potential Dental Clinic**

**2. Update Regarding Time Attendance/Scheduling Software**

**3. Planning for Jail Remodeling (Jail Planning Committee)**

**4. Continue Review of Road Commission Legacy Costs**

**5. Update Wind Turbine Revenue Projections**

**6. Work to Resolve Remaining Assessing/Taxation Disputes with Wind Turbine Companies**

**7. Presentation of County Treasurer Investment Reports**

**8. Bid 2018, 2019 and 2020 Audit**

**9. Water Rates Paid for County Facilities Along M24 and Deckerville Roads**

**10. Assess Avoidance Costs from Retirement System Changes Previously Implemented**

**Personnel**

Committee Leader-Commissioner Bardwell

**Primary Personnel**

**1. Correction to Previous Board Appointments (See C)**

**2. IT Director Travel Request (See D)**

## On-Going and Other Finance

1. Reporting Relationship (Nepotism Policy)
2. Review the Potential Formation of Quarterly Meetings with County Leaders
3. Procedural Coordination with HR Director Regarding Hiring/Discharge/Payroll/Record Keeping
4. Develop a System to Keep Job Postings on the Web Site Current
5. Determine how to Gain Help for the County from the Leaders Program
6. Process and Cost to Replace County Health Department Medical Director

## **Building and Grounds**

Committee Leaders-Commissioners Young and Vaughan

### **Primary Building and Grounds**

1. **Update Regarding County Record Storage Needs**

### On-Going and Other Building and Grounds

1. County Property Ownership Identification
2. Recycling Building Remodeling – Next Steps
3. Review Potential Acquisition of Land from State Near Caro Regional Center
4. Update 10 Year Capital Improvement Plan
5. 2018 Budgeted Driveway, Parking Lot and Sidewalk Repairs
6. Vanderbilt Park Next Steps for Further Improvement
7. Planning for County Record Storage Needs
8. Potential Annexation of County Property to City for Water/Sewer Cost Reductions

### **Other Items Not Assigned to a Committee**

1. Review of Alternative Solutions Concerning the Caro Dam **(See E)**
2. 2018 MAC Priorities **(See F)**
3. Cass River Greenways – Media Coverage
4. On-Going Economic Development Activity Updates from EDC Director
5. Review County-Wide Economic Development Strategic Plan
6. Dairy Farmers of America Phase 2– Cass City
7. Road Commission Organizational Alternatives – Next Steps
8. Sunday Retail Sales of Spirits, Beer and Wine – Next Steps

### **Other Business as Necessary**

### **Public Comment Period**

9-1-1

Tuscola County Central Dispatch

Sandra Nielsen, Director

January 26, 2018

From: Sandra Nielsen, Director  
Subject: Recording system upgrade  
To: Board of Commissioners

Dear Commissioners,

Back in September, Central Dispatch requested and it was approved to upgrade our 911 recording system. We requested approval for \$5,869.00 from our capital outlay line item to make the changes to our current recording system. The amount requested was incorrect. The amount should have been \$9096.00.

The change in the amount is due to an error in reading the quote that was provided by Anderson Radio. They provided two options in their quote: option 1 being for \$14,965.00 and option 2 was read as \$5,869. It should have been read as minus \$5869 from option 1. This was discovered upon receiving the invoice from Anderson Radio. Additionally, Anderson Radio is the only approved vendor to work on the system so no other quotes were able to be obtained.

Had this oversight not occurred, I would have requested the amount of \$9096.00 at the time of the initial requested. Central Dispatch's 2017 capital outlay line item has the funds to cover this difference.

Thank you,



Sandra Nielsen, Director  
Tuscola County Central Dispatch

[mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org](mailto:mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org)

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**From:** mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 8:16 AM  
**To:** 'Bardwell Thom'; 'Bierlein Matthew'; 'Kim Vaughan'; 'Kirkpatrick Craig'; 'Tom Young'  
**Subject:** FW: Bay City M.E. Update

Commissioners

Correspondence below is from Dr. Bush discussing the need for reform with the current Medical Examiner system. The Medical Examiner system is a county responsibility. He is requesting myself and one or two commissioners to attend a meeting on March 20, 2018 in Bay City to further review these problems and develop alternative solutions. Another group has made tremendous progress in developing solutions. I will put this on for discussion at the Monday, February 5, 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting to determine who can help with this effort and attend the meeting.

Mike

Michael R. Hoagland  
 Tuscola County Controller/Administrator  
 989-672-3700  
[mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org](mailto:mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org)

VISIT US ON LINE FOR COUNTY SERVICES @ [www.tuscolacounty.org](http://www.tuscolacounty.org)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** bushru@msu.edu [mailto:[bushru@msu.edu](mailto:bushru@msu.edu)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 1, 2018 9:17 PM  
**To:** [mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org](mailto:mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org)  
**Subject:** Bay City M.E. Update

Mike,

Per our conversation a couple days ago related to yourself and maybe a Commissioner or two attending the regional M.E. discussion put on by our Statewide M.E. group.

It will be held at the Doubleday Hotel in Bay City on March 20th. I believe it is mid to late afternoon but will confirm that for you and get back with it but thought I'd at least give you the date to start working on.

RBushMD

Quoting bushru@msu.edu:

>  
 > I've begun looking for grant money to fund a similar morgue in Saginaw  
 > County that would have the potential to include Tuscola, Huron, Bay,

- > Midland, Gladwin, Ogemaw, Iosco, and potentially, we could woo
- > Isabella, Gratiot, and maybe even Sanilac and Lapeer since Dr Virani
- > does autopsy work for nearly all of these currently, except Gratiot
- > and Isabella.
- >
- > Would you have thoughts on moving forward on something like this like
- > the below group did on the other side of the State? We could
- > consolidate staff, equipment, transportation, paperwork, investigator
- > training, etc.
- >
- > I did attend their meeting when pitching the idea to the counties over
- > there and did tour their facility. It would consolidate enough bodies
- > to make hiring of our own full time forensic pathologist by doing so,
- > hence, maybe save some money there too.
- >
- > RBushMD
- >
- > \*\*\*\*\*
- >
- > PUBLIC HEALTH
- >
- >
- > Clare, Wexford join regional pathology group to streamline services
- >
- >
- > Some of the facilities at the new multi-county pathology authority in
- > Mecosta.
- >
- >
- > A multi-county authority to share medical services more efficiently
- > has two new members, as Clare and Wexford counties were admitted to
- > the West Michigan Regional Pathology Services Authority this week.
- > The two were approved unanimously for membership in the group that was
- > formed originally by the counties of Mecosta, Montcalm and Newaygo
- > last year. Lake and Oceana counties also have joined.
- >
- > The authority formed about a year ago to oversee operations at the new
- > morgue in Mecosta County, funded by a \$600,000 state grant.
- > After Muskegon Hospital stopped taking outside autopsies, Mecosta and
- > Newaygo counties consolidated to open the first county-owned morgue in
- > Northern Michigan, and have been working with surrounding counties to
- > provide medical examiner and autopsy services with state-of-the-art
- > equipment at reduced cost.
- >
- > An average autopsy costs roughly \$3,000 and, with growing number of
- > deaths related to the opioids crisis, counties are seeing rising
- > costs. As the authority grows, members hope to hire a full-time,
- > board-certified forensic pathologist; gain nationally accreditation;
- > and provide transportation services.
- >
- >

- > Achieving these gains while keeping costs down, however, cannot be
- > done without further expansion. If your county is interested in
- > learning more about this innovative effort, contact Paul Bullock,
- > Mecosta County administrator, at [pbullock@co.mecosta.mi.us](mailto:pbullock@co.mecosta.mi.us).
- >
- >
- > Regional ME sessions continue
- >
- > Medical examiner regional meetings have been ongoing, with the next
- > meeting set for Grand Rapids on Feb 6, and the last meeting set for
- > March 20 in Bay City. While registration is closed for the Grand
- > Rapids meeting, please contact Sherri Hines at [shines@mphi.org](mailto:shines@mphi.org) to get
- > further details on attending. These meetings are intended to connect
- > local stakeholders, discuss unique regional needs related to the
- > current medical examiner system and share recommendations from a state
- > workgroup.
- >
- > MAC encourages members to attend these meetings and voice concerns and
- > needs in your county.
- >
- > For more information on these issues, contact Meghann Keit at
- > [keit@micounties.org](mailto:keit@micounties.org) or 517-372-5374.
- >
- >
- >
- >

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Russell L. Bush, MD, MPH  
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"One reason people resist change is because they focus on what they have to give up, instead of what they have to gain." -Rick Godwin

?It takes courage to let go of the familiar and embrace the new.? Anonymous  
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**mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org**

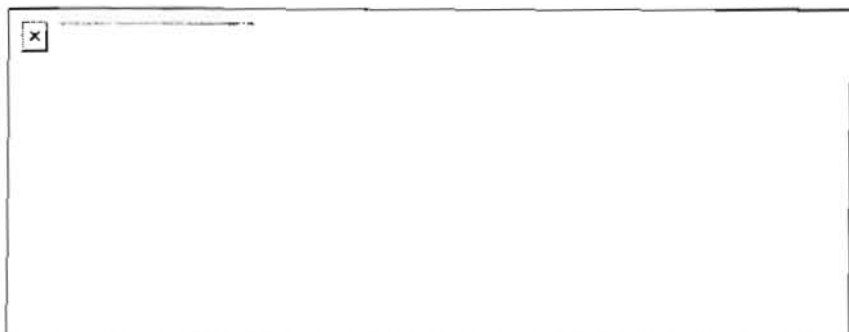
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**From:** Jodi Fetting <jfetting@tuscolacounty.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:55 AM  
**To:** Mike Hoagland  
**Subject:** Fwd: My Communication with County Clerk Jodi Fetting Regarding Reappointment Errors

Mike,

Can you please add to the COW for Feb 5th a correction to the Board appointment for Zygmunt Dworzecki? Zyggy should have been appointed to a 3 year term on the Planning Commission not to the Parks and Rec Board.

Thanks,  
Jodi



----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Robert McKay <tryon@hotmail.com>  
**Date:** Wed, Jan 24, 2018 at 11:20 PM  
**Subject:** My Communication with County Clerk Jodi Fetting Regarding Reappointment Errors  
**To:** Zygmunt Dworzecki <zyggy@att.net>  
**Cc:** Jodi Fetting <jfetting@tuscolacounty.org>, Mike Hoagland <mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org>

Mr. Dworzecki,

I have just now sent an email to County Clerk Fetting in which I gave my interpretation of what I suspect went wrong in the Board of Commissioners' appointments to Boards and Commissions at its November 20, 2017 meeting when I believe both you and Cynthia Kapa were mistakenly appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission instead of the Planning Commission at that time. I have suggested to Jodi that the Board of Commissioners rescind your appointment to the Parks and Recreation Commission as it already has done for Cynthia, and that the Board of Commissioners reappoint both of you to the Planning Commission on the assumption that was the original intent.

Following, you will find an extract from the Minutes of the November 20, 2017 meeting of the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners in which a number of appointments were made, including those I have referenced:

mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org

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**From:** Eean Lee <eean.lee@tuscolacounty.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 2, 2018 10:11 AM  
**To:** Mike Hoagland  
**Subject:** Dell EMC Technology Conference

Dell Technologies World is my must-attend conference of 2018. It's April 30 – May 3 in Las Vegas.

Dell purchased the EMC brand, which we use as our networks primary "brain" and also at our disaster recovery facility for replication of the County's most sensitive data.

Dell Technologies World offers the education I need to advance my skills so we can improve our processes and innovate faster. I will collaborate and share best practices with industry gurus and engineers, plus technologists from the world's most successful organizations. This is the best opportunity in 2018 for me to get real insights and practical next steps to make the County's IT program the most effective it can be.

During this four-day conference, I'll get hands on with the latest tech and discover emerging trends, strategies and solutions from the edge to the core to the cloud. In addition, I'll have access to labs, technical certifications and an immersible Solutions Expo, featuring all the technology industries best partners, sponsors and brands

I've negotiated the cost to the conference down from \$2,300 to free. The County would only need to pay for travel and lodging. Information systems has enough in training funding to cover the cost. I've never pursued this conference in the past because of the cost. Now that I've negotiated the cost down, it is too attractive not to go. I'm requesting a temporary lift of the out of state travel regulation, to be able to attend this very important opportunity.

EMC is a vital vendor for us, and one of the most influential players in technology and the global leader in Digital Transformation. A trip to Dell Technologies World and certification training is a win for both the County, my staff and my career.

If you need any additional information or have any questions, please let me know.

Eean Lee  
Director of Information Systems  
Tuscola County  
[www.tuscolacounty.org](http://www.tuscolacounty.org)  
989-672-3773 (Office)





## Caro Dam Preliminary Notes for Legal Lake Level

**Owner:** The dam is currently privately owned.

### Do nothing to establish a legal lake level?

1. Private owner can leave as is with broken gate.
2. Private owner can repair gate with a MDEQ permit
3. Private owner can remove the dam with a MDEQ permit.
4. Private owner is liable for any failure of dam.

### To establish a legal lake level:

1. Owner will need to agree to sell or relinquish an easement to the County.
2. A petition must be filed in Circuit court.
3. A coordinator (usually the Drain Commissioner) will be appointed.
4. A deposit must be made for a "feasibility study".

### Feasibility Study: (\$10,000-\$40,000)

1. Determine an "assessment district" ( who will pay)
2. Check into and apply for Grants for funding-MDEQ/MDNR
3. Suggest a legal level elevation.

### Circuit Court Hearing:

1. Property owners
2. Municipalities
3. MDEQ/MDNR
4. US Fish and Wildlife

### After a legal lake level is established:

1. Coordinator(DC) will manage, repair, maintain, and inspect
2. Assessments to the district will be made as necessary.



## 2018 State Priorities

The following list represents many of the policy and funding issues MAC is pursuing, but is not an exhaustive look at the issues we advocate for on behalf of Michigan's 83 counties.

### Reforming Michigan's System of Financing Local Government

- Most counties are operating with property tax revenues below their 2000 levels (adjusting for inflation). On average, property tax revenues are 55 percent of a county's budget.
- The revenue recovery restrictions under Proposal A will prevent county property tax revenues from recovering to pre-recession levels for decades.
- In order for counties to meet their OPEB and pension obligations and continue to provide the services that they are statutorily and constitutionally mandated to provide, the Legislature must address the revenue crisis.
- **MAC supports creation of stable and sufficiently funded revenue streams for counties.**

### Reforming the Michigan Tax Tribunal

- Since 2013, the Tax Tribunal has pursued policies that have reduced local revenues by more than \$100 million by incorrectly lowering the values of "Big Box" retail locations.
- A 2016 decision by the Michigan Court of Appeals (*Menards Inc. vs. City of Escanaba*) detailed why these "Dark Stores" appeals do not conform to Michigan law.
- **MAC supports legislation that ensures all three methods of property valuation (cost, sales, income) are considered by the tribunal; prevents the consideration of deed-restricted properties as fair "comparables"; and enhances the training and qualifications of tribunal members.**

### Reforming Tax Capture Districts

- Counties are often at the whim of tax-increment financing plans authored by these approximately 1,000 economic development districts created by cities, townships and villages.
- While some good work has been done, many of these districts continue capturing all the tax growth within their boundaries for decades, with insufficient transparency or reconsideration.
- The capture of special millages, approved by voters to ensure the funding of specific priorities of residents, should be prevented, as it runs counter to their intended purpose.
- Counties still do not have the ability to prevent the capture of millage dollars from plans that were established prior to 1994 and continue to this day unless approved by the capture district.
- **MAC supports legislation that ensures county tax dollars are not captured without a county's approval; ensures dollars from special millages are not captured; and ensures proper transparency on spending.**

### Ensuring a Fair Partnership for Michigan's Child Care Fund

- Legislation now under debate streamlines the CCF payment process; ensures changes to Title IV-E eligibility determinations are not recouped by the state from counties; and includes technology costs for in-home care risk and needs assessment software as a direct expenditure to the Child Care Fund.
- **MAC supports this legislation to ensure counties have resources to operate the foster care system.**

### Ensuring Adequate Funding for Community Mental Health

- Community Mental Health systems have been facing budgetary challenges (estimated at \$97 million for FYs 16-17) due to a significant shift of enrollment from the Disabled, Aged and Blind (DAB) population to the Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP).
- **MAC supports increased Medicaid funds to alleviate the unintended loss of revenue to CMH and a recalculation of the HMP rate.**

# 2018 State Priorities

## Providing Proper Funding for Updated 911 System to Protect Communities

- Next Generation 911 (NG911) is operating in 36 counties and providing improved location accuracy for wireless 911 calls, which accounts for more than 80 percent of 911 calls answered by our local law enforcement teams.
- Legislation now under debate includes auditing provisions for counties and Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPS) to ensure proper use of 911 funds and maintains the ability for a county to file litigation against a service provider for failing to remit the proper amount.
- **MAC supports legislation to build NG911 infrastructure statewide and ensure stable funding for state and local sources.**

## Reforming Payments for Foster Child Placements

- While great strides have been made to streamline the Child Care Fund process, the issue of administrative payments for unlicensed relative placement is outstanding and further discussion is needed.
- **MAC supports administrative payments for relative placements regardless of licensure.**

## Improving the Legislative Process on Unfunded Mandates

- In any given session, the Legislature will generate around 4,000 bills making changes to state law. Many of these bills will have impacts felt across local governments and can often lead to Headlee violations.
- **MAC supports the implementation of a more robust fiscal note process to ensure legislators are provided with the best information possible when making decisions.**

## Investing in and Properly Managing Michigan's Infrastructure

- Counties play a central role in our states most critical infrastructure needs, from building and maintaining roads and bridges, to the preservation of drainage and ensuring safety at county beaches.
- Increased infrastructure funding will help protect our present vital infrastructure investments while enhanced asset management tools can help counties achieve greater cost savings and increase the useful life of current and future infrastructure.
- **MAC supports legislation to adequately fund infrastructure upgrades, strikes a balance between efficient use of existing revenue and new revenue to meet county infrastructure needs and develops better statewide asset management tools.**

## Ensuring State Funding for 'Raise the Age' Changes to Juvenile Justice

- Michigan remains one of the last states to prosecute 17-year-olds as adults, and the Legislature has been pursuing bills to increase the adult prosecution age for most crimes to 18.
- While MAC supports the concept of further accessibility to rehabilitation and community-based programs for 17-year-olds, including this population in the juvenile system may put further strain on county budgets.
- **MAC supports full state funding for any mandate incorporating 17-year-olds in the juvenile justice system.**

## Maintaining a Due Process Approach on Foster Care Appeals

- Disputes between counties/courts and the state over federal foster care eligibility are now resolved by an independent, third-party review.
- The state, through the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), wants to change that by giving itself the final authority, thereby tilting the field against counties.
- **MAC supports maintaining the current "due process" approach, and urges collaboration with DHHS to maximize federal foster care funding.**