

Agenda
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
Committee of the Whole – Monday, June 25, 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. Health Insurance Renewal
2. Tuscola County Key Statistical Indicators (See A)
3. Update Regarding Caro Dam
4. Indigent Defense Plan Funding Update (See B)
5. MMRMA Net Asset Distribution Check
6. Draft Agenda for MAC 7th District Meeting (See C)
7. Board Rules of Order Regarding Compensation (See D)
8. Review of G2G Program

On-Going and Other Finance

1. Review of Alternative Solutions Concerning the Caro Dam
2. Update Regarding Potential Dental Clinic
3. Continue Review of Road Commission Legacy Costs
4. Work to Resolve Remaining Assessing/Taxation Disputes with Wind Turbine Companies
5. Water Rates Paid for County Facilities Along M24 and Deckerville Roads
6. Medical Examiner System
7. Opioid Lawsuit
8. Update Regarding Airport Zoning Board of Appeals
9. MSU-e Building Costs
10. Update Regarding Personal Property Tax Changes
11. Brownfield Board
12. Raise the Age for Juveniles Funding Proposal
13. State Proposed Assessing Changes
14. Multi-Year Financial Plan Development
15. Delinquent Tax Legal Chargeback Requirement for Former Vassar Foundry

Personnel
Committee Leader-Commissioner Bardwell

Primary Personnel

1. Mosquito Abatement Holiday Pay (See E)
2. Animal Control Update
3. Animal Control Trucks – USDA Grant (Open for Public Discussion)
4. GIS Position (See F)
5. Council on Aging Resignation
6. Requested Changes in Veterans Staff Wage Bands (See G)

On-Going and Other Finance

1. Reporting Relationship (Nepotism Policy)
2. Process to Replace County Health Department Medical Director

Building and Grounds

Committee Leaders-Commissioners Young and Vaughan

Primary Building and Grounds

1. Potential Delay of Certain Budgeted Projects (See H)
2. Vanderbilt Park Update
3. Recycling Update
4. School Plan Review and Inspection Authority (See I)

On-Going and Other Building and Grounds

1. County Property Ownership Identification
2. Review Potential Acquisition of Land from State Near Caro Regional Center
3. Update 10 Year Capital Improvement Plan
4. 2018 Budgeted Driveway, Parking Lot and Sidewalk Repairs
5. Update Regarding County Record Storage Needs

Other Items Not Assigned to a Committee

1. 2018 MAC Priorities
2. Cass River Greenways
3. On-Going Economic Development Activity Updates from EDC Director
4. Dairy Farmers of America Phase 2 – Cass City
5. Road Commission Organizational Alternatives – Next Steps
6. Sunday Retail Sales of Spirits, Beer and Wine – August 2018 Vote
7. New State Budget to Fund County Projects (See J)

Other Business as Necessary

Public Comment Period

(A)

TUSCOLA COUNTY CONTROLLER/ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

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989-672-3700

The state requires counties to submit an annual performance dashboard. The dashboard uses statistical information to determine how the county is performing with key economic and other indicators of county conditions. In addition to this summary, graphs are attached for further understanding. Color denotation is as follows: **red unfavorable indicator**, **green favorable indicator** and **yellow neutral indicator**.

Population

- **County population** – According to the U.S. Census, county population continues to significantly decline which is a continuing concern. A factor in this decline is lack of local employment opportunities. The county population was 58,266 in 2000 compared to 52,764 for 2017. This is a 17 year decrease of 5,502 people or about 9.4%. For 2010 to 2017, the US Census estimated the national population increased by 5.5% and the state increased by only 0.8%, but Tuscola County decreased by (-5.3%). **Unfavorable Trend**
- **Percentage of people 65 and older** – The percentage of the county population that is 65 and over is higher than both the state and nation. The percentage of people over 65 in 2017 was 19.5% in the county compared to 15.2% for the US and 16.2% for Michigan. This trend can be an indicator of limited economic activity with younger people leaving the county and elderly staying. **Unfavorable Trend**
- **School enrollment counts** – Consistent with the overall population decline and other negative population trends is school enrollments which have also declined. In 2000, there were 12,080 students enrolled in the nine county school districts compared to 8,365 in 2017. This is a significant decrease of 3,715 students or 30.8%. In 2000 there was an average of 1,342 students per school district compared to 929 in 2017. **Unfavorable Trend**

Economy

- **Unemployment Rate** – According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the 2017 county unemployment rate was 6.4% compared to 5.6% in 2016. Although there was a one-year increase, this is the second lowest unemployment rate since 2006. The highest unemployment rate was in 2009 at 16.0%. **Unfavorable Trend**
- **Number Employed** – The number of people employed in the county, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, continues to decline. The number employed in 2017 was 22,504. This is a decline from 23,074 that were employed in 2016. In comparison, there were 26,791 people employed in 2006. The decline in the number of people employed is expected with the on-going population declines. **Unfavorable Trend**

- **Foreclosures** – A positive indicator is the number of foreclosures is the same for 2017 as 2016. The number of foreclosures has been declining since 2010. **Favorable Trend**
- **Leading employers** – The top 10 employers in the county are: Tuscola County Government, Caro Regional Center, Walbro Engine Manufacturing, Hills and Dales General Hospital, Tuscola Intermediate School District, Michigan Sugar Company, Caro Community Hospital, Human Development Commission, Millennium Steering and Caro Schools. **Neutral**
- **Poverty** – The percentage of people living in poverty is higher in the county when compared to the country, but lower when compared to the state. **Neutral**
- **Public assistance** – The number and percentage of people receiving some form of public assistance continues to increase. There were 28% of the people in Tuscola County receiving some form of public assistance according to the most current 2015. **Unfavorable Trend**
- **People Without Health Insurance** – In 2017, 6.3% of the people in the county had no health insurance. This is the same percentage as the state but less than the nation. **Favorable Trend**

Income

- **Household income** - Median household income is lower in the county at \$44,193 than the state at \$50,803 and nation at \$55,322. The county only has 80% of the buying power of the average of the country. This is reflective of the limited employment opportunities in the county. **Unfavorable Trend**
- **Per Capita Personal Income** – Per capita personal income continues to increase. From 2016 to 2017, per capital income increased by 2.4%. For 2017, the amount for the county was \$35,570. **Favorable Trend**

Housing

- **House values** – Another measure of economic strength is median housing values. The 2016 value of homes in the county are much lower in the county at \$95,200 compared to \$127,800 for the state and \$184,700 for the nation. The county median house value is only 52% of the national value. **Unfavorable Trend**

Education

- **Higher education** – The percentage of people that have a bachelor's degree in the county is only 13.9% compared to the state at 26.9% and the nation at 29.8%. This lower education level can cause challenges in creating economic development and employment opportunities. **Unfavorable Trend**

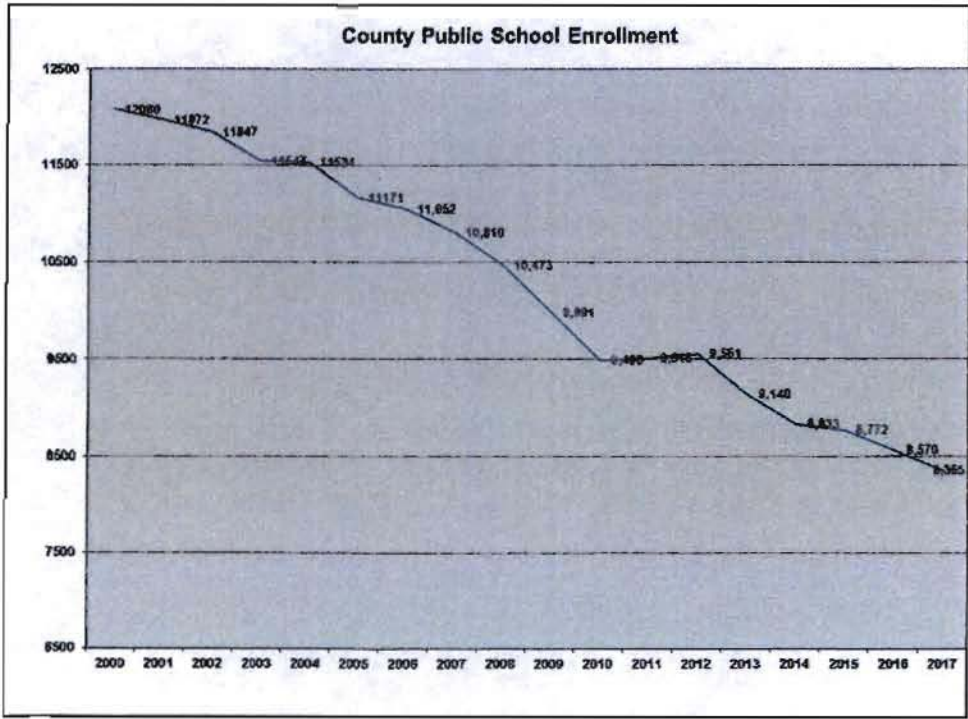
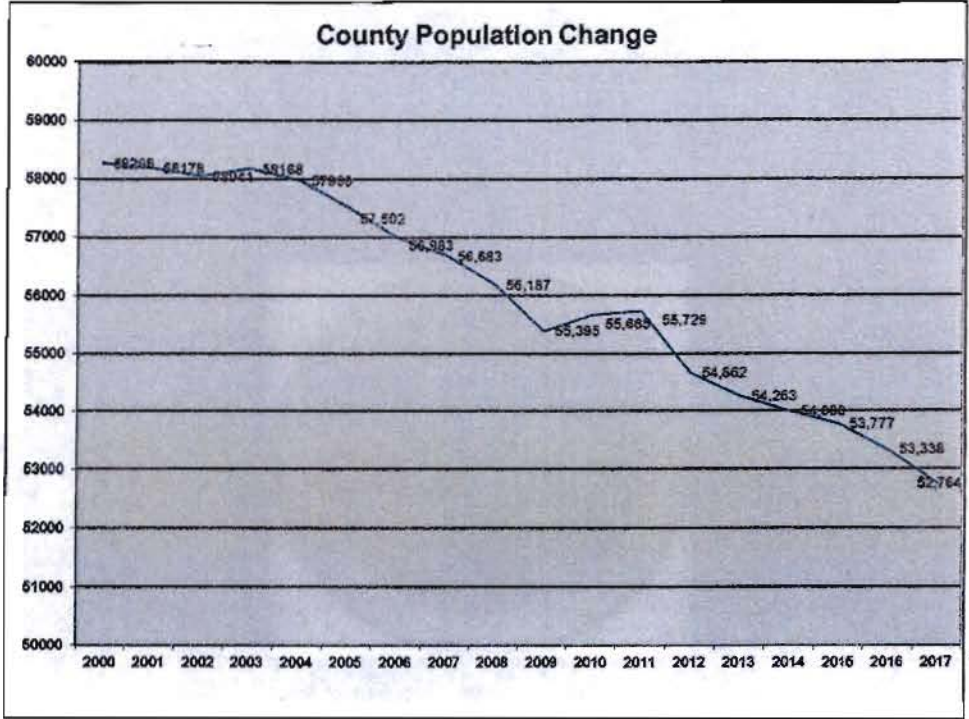
County Government Statistical Indicators

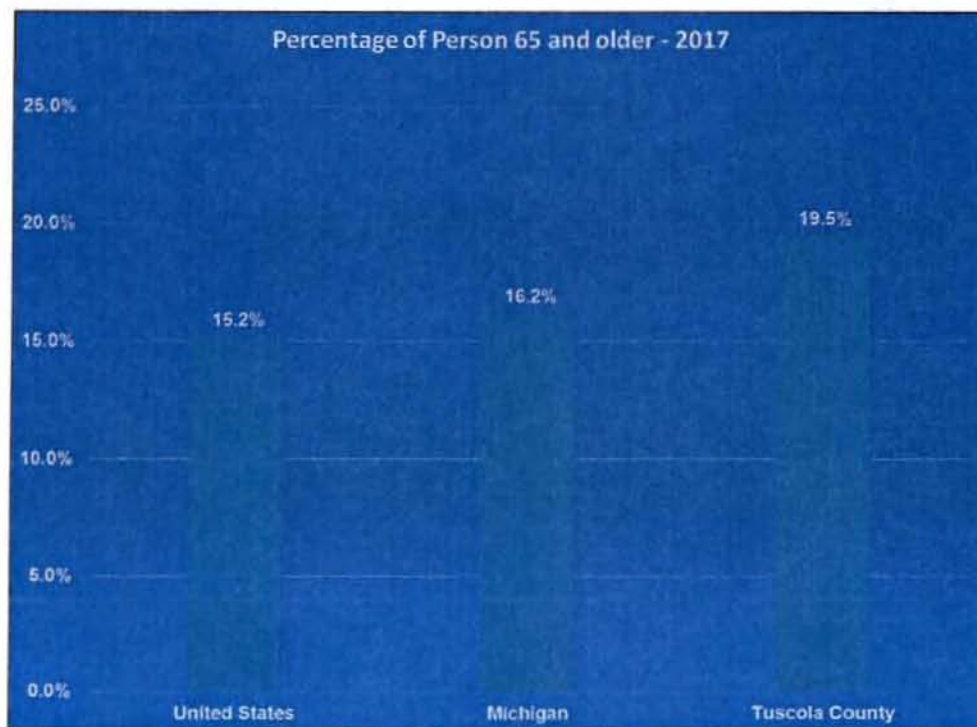
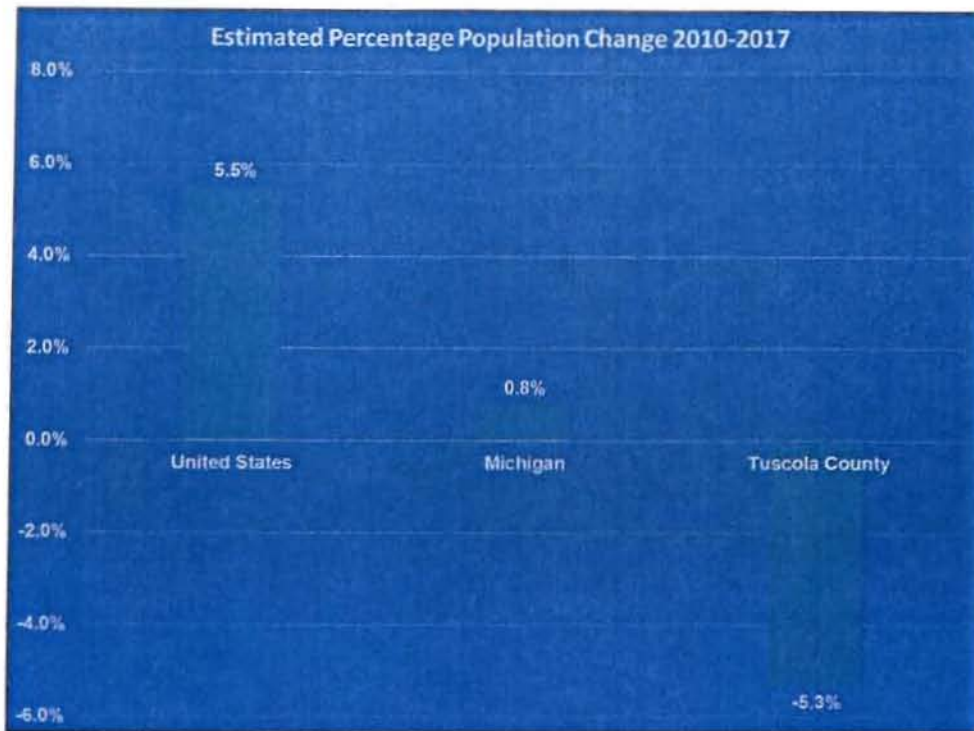
- **Debt** – County debt per capita from 2016 to 2017 decreased. At \$408 per capita it is comparatively low. Only about 9.3% of the total allowed county debt is being used. **Favorable Trend**
- **Assessed value** – A favorable trend is the continued strong growth in county assessed value. Assessed value increased from \$2.56 billion in 2016 to \$2.62 billion in 2017. This is a 2.5% increase. Most of this increase is the result of wind turbine construction which is assessed as personal property. Five of the top 10 tax-payers in the county are utilities and wind development companies. **Favorable Trend**
- **Sheriff arrests** – The number of sheriff arrests declined from 862 in 2016 to 852 in 2017. **Favorable Trend**
- **Jailed offenders** – The number of jailed offenders increased from 1,521 in 2016 to 1,572 in 2017. **Unfavorable Trend**
- **Traffic violations and other summons** – The number of traffic violations issued continued to decline. In 2003 there were 5,460 violations issued. This number has declined to only 1,350 for 2017. There are several explanations for this decline. It has resulted in a significant reduction in county revenue. **Favorable Trend**
- **Court filings** – Circuit Court new case filings have declined significantly when comparing 2003 to 2017. However, since 2015 the number of cases has started to increase. There were 1,183 new case filings in Circuit Court in 2017 compared to 1,124 in 2016. District Court filings have been on a steady decline since 2003. In 2003, there were 14,937 new cases filed compared to only 6,510 for 2017. Probate Court new case filing have varied by year. Over the last 15 years the number of new filings has ranged from 322 to 400. **Neutral**

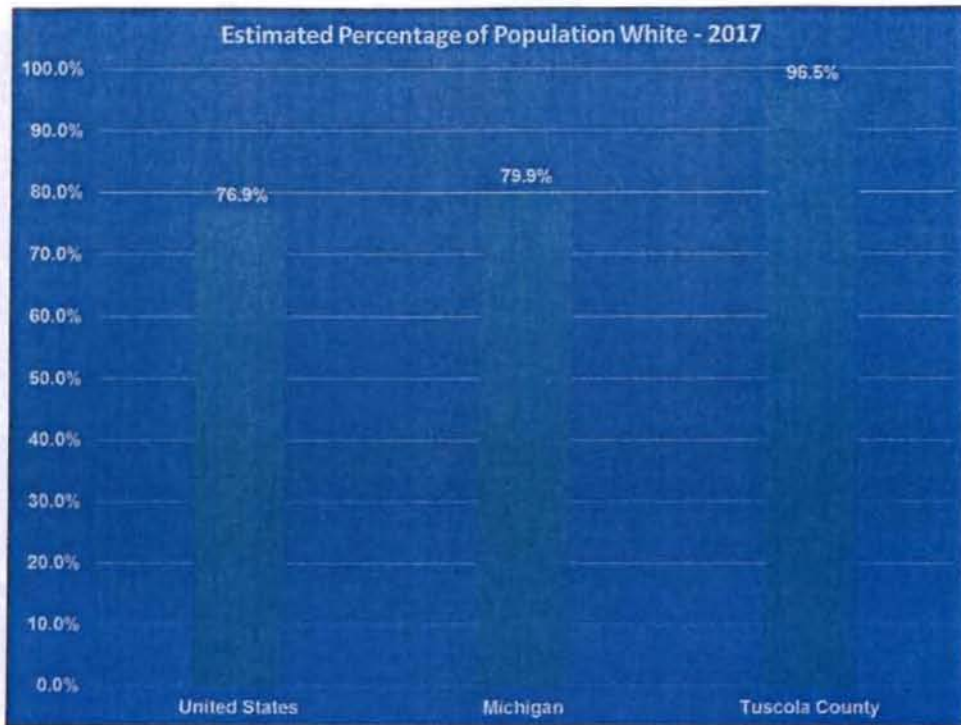
Tuscola County Key Statistical Indicators



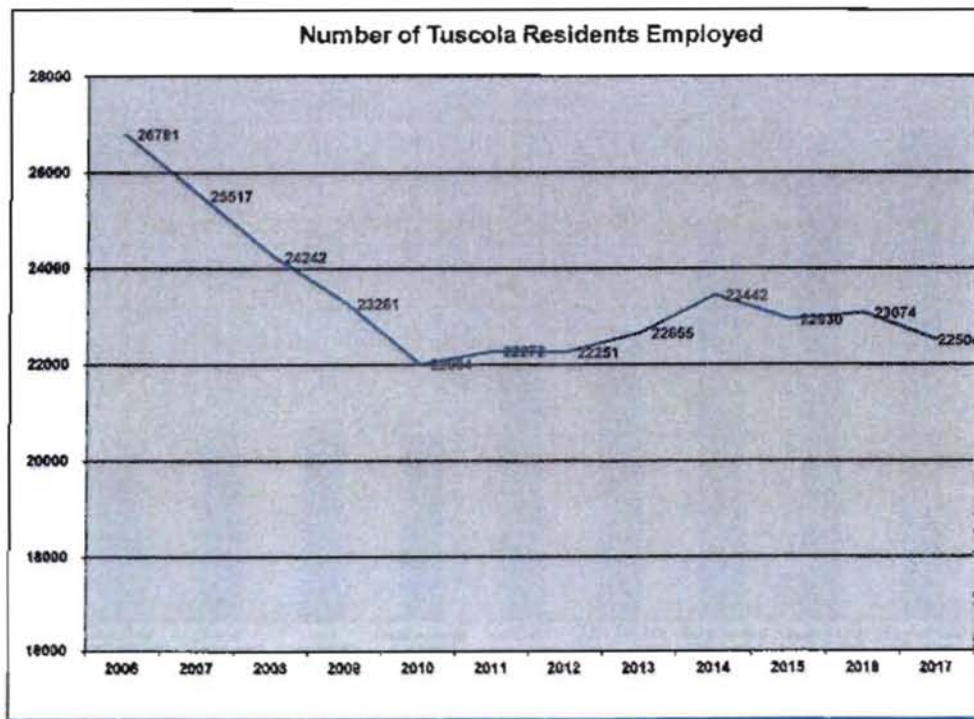
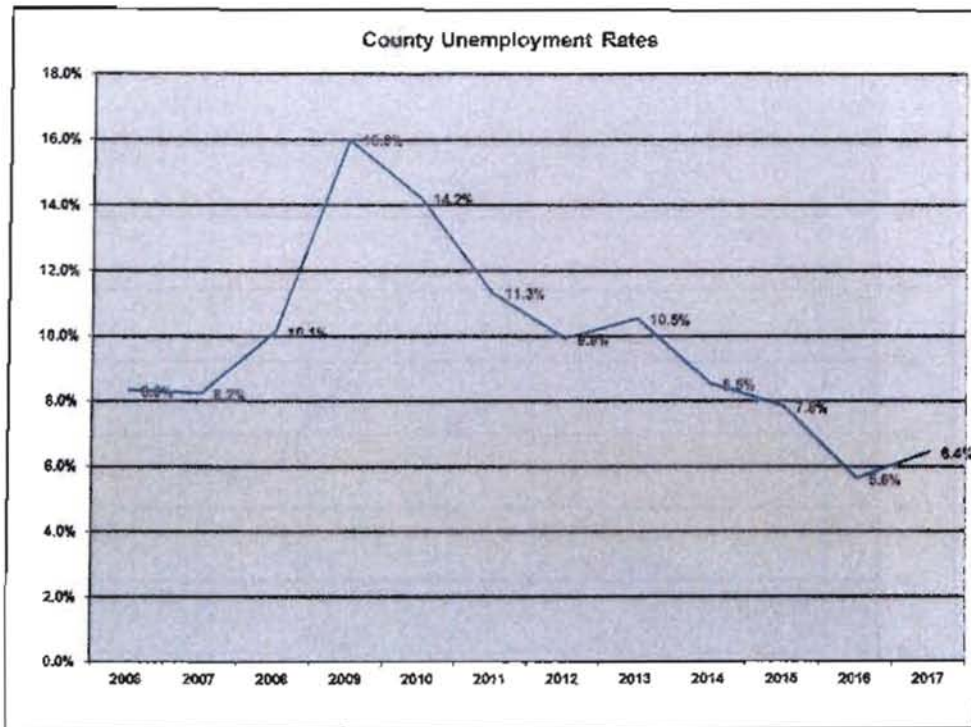
Population

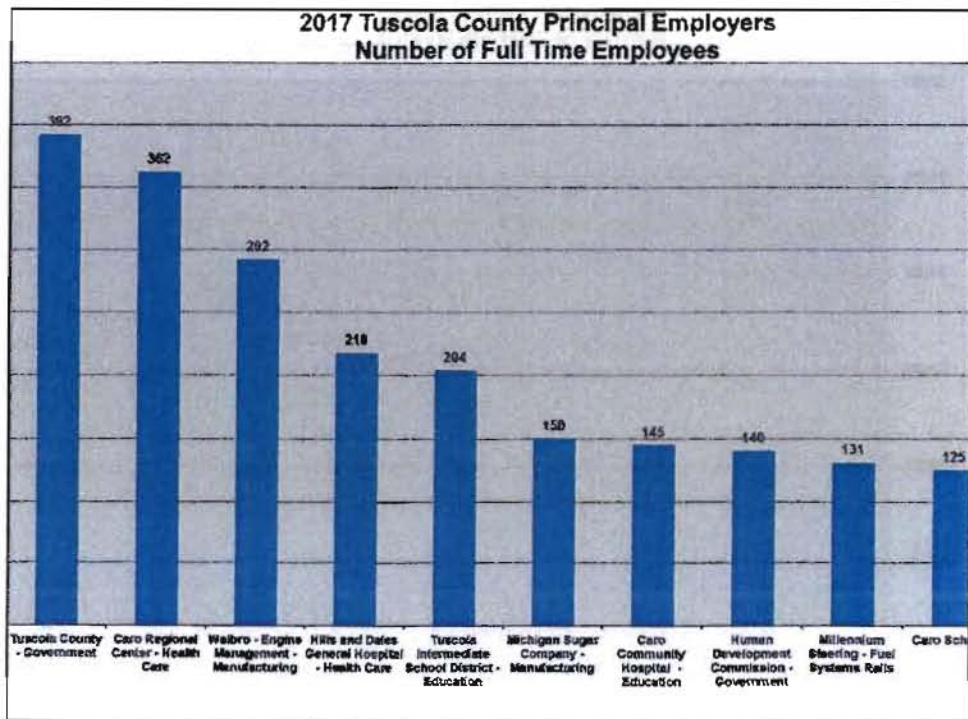
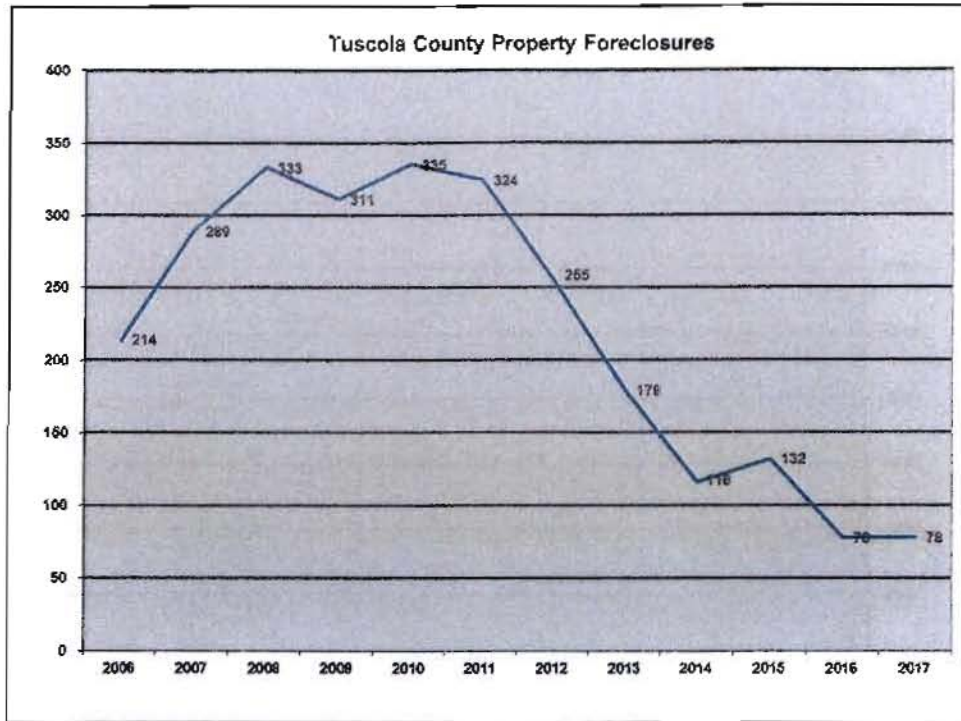


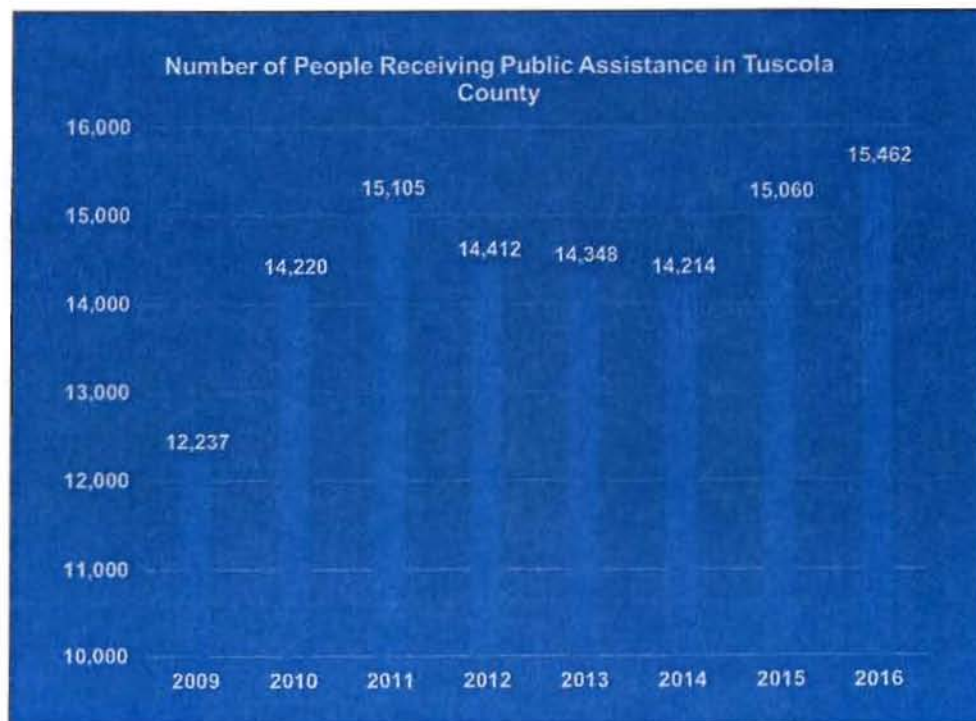
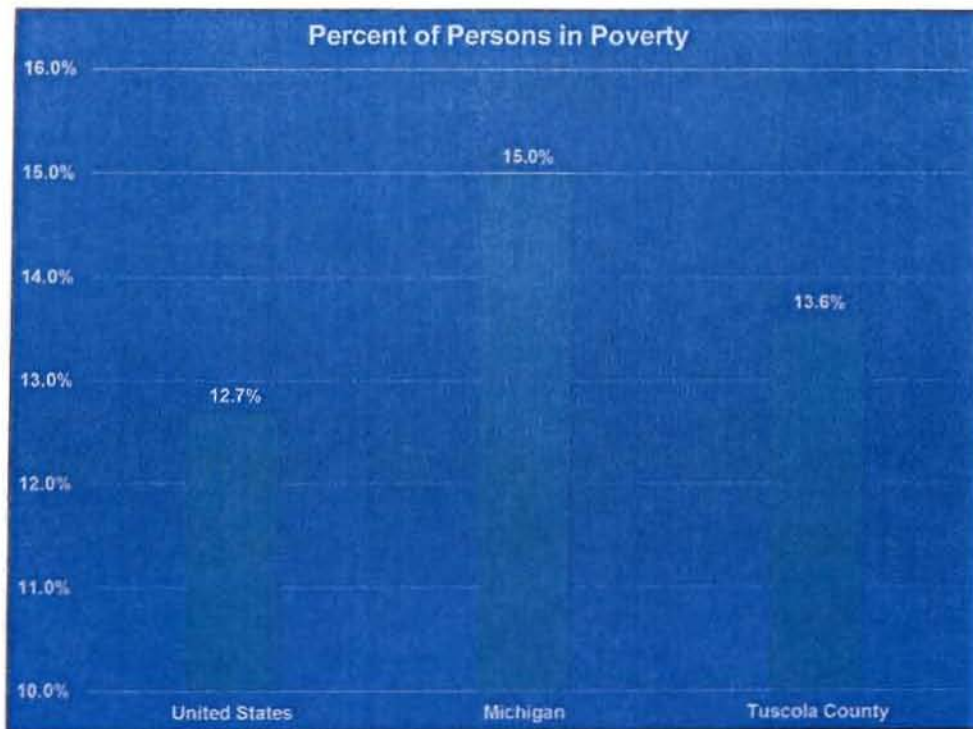


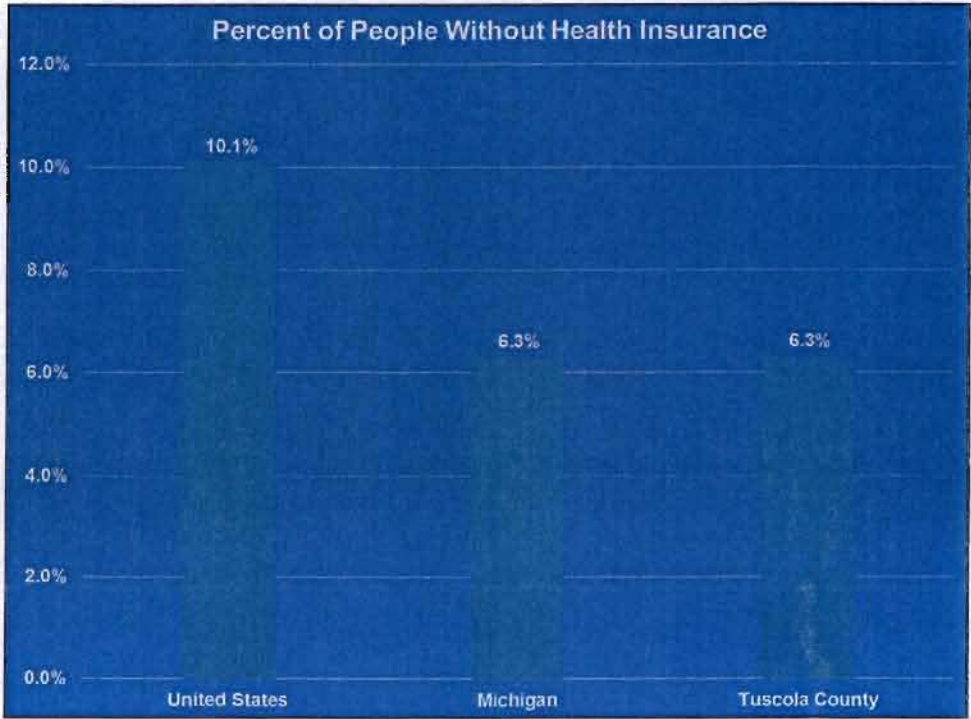
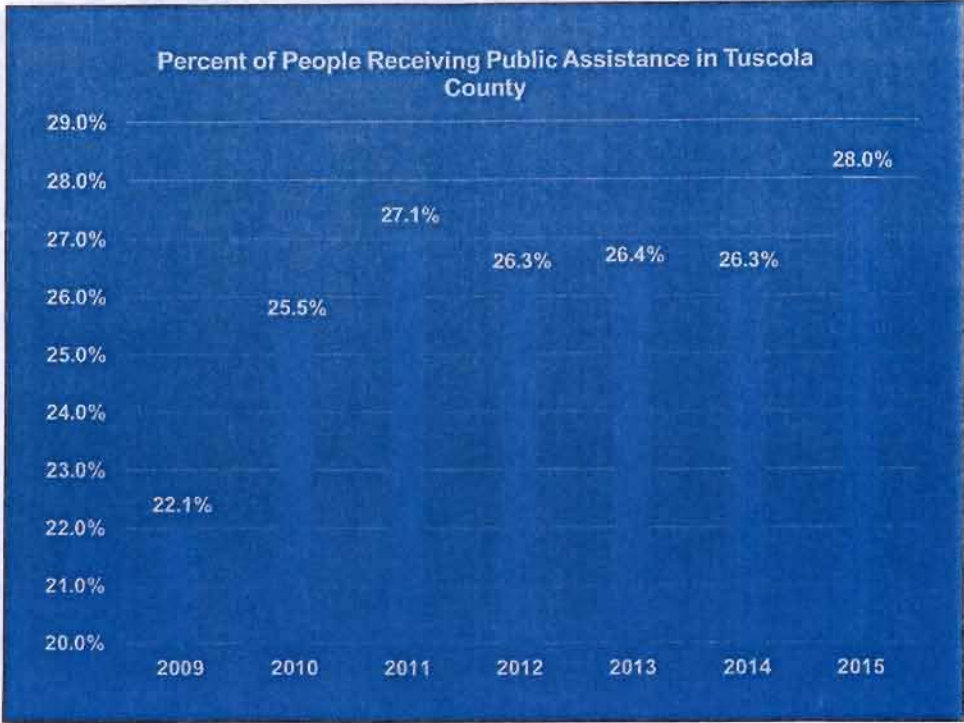


ECONOMY

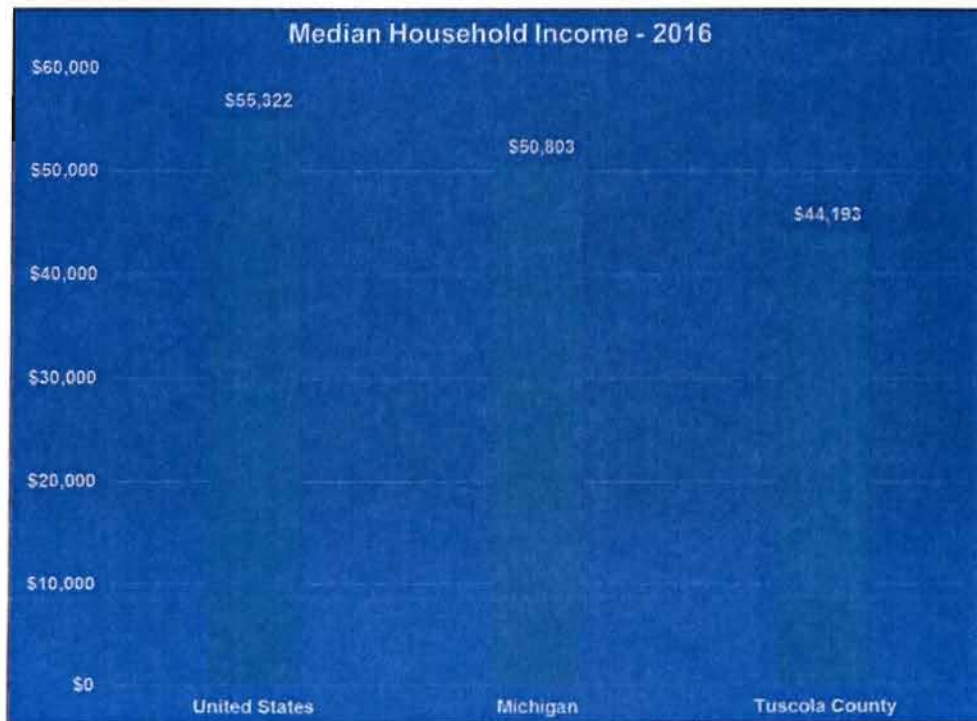


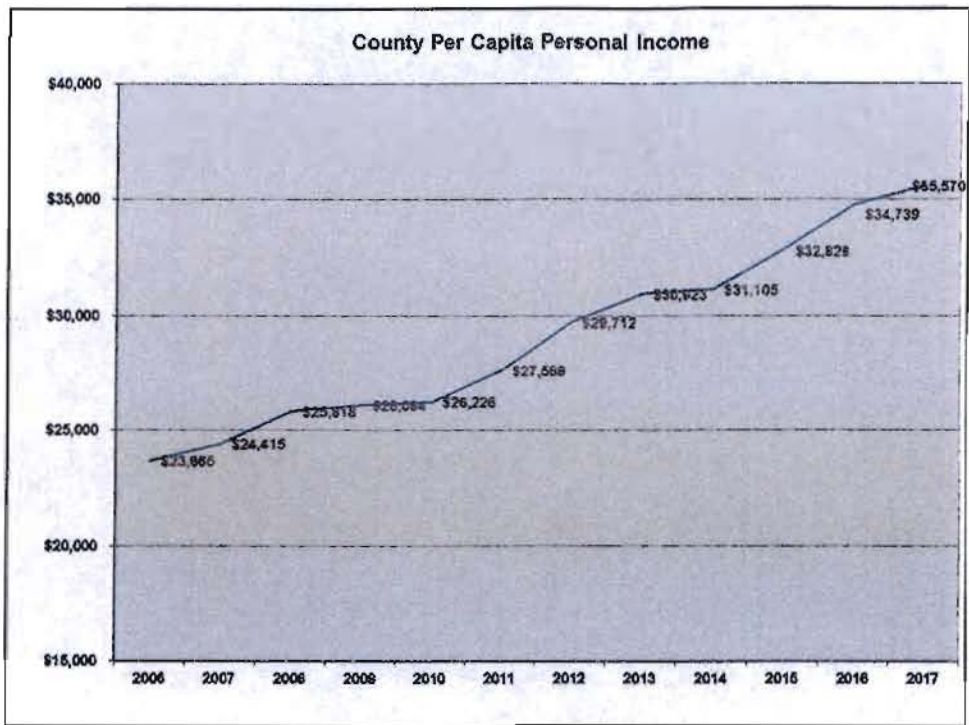




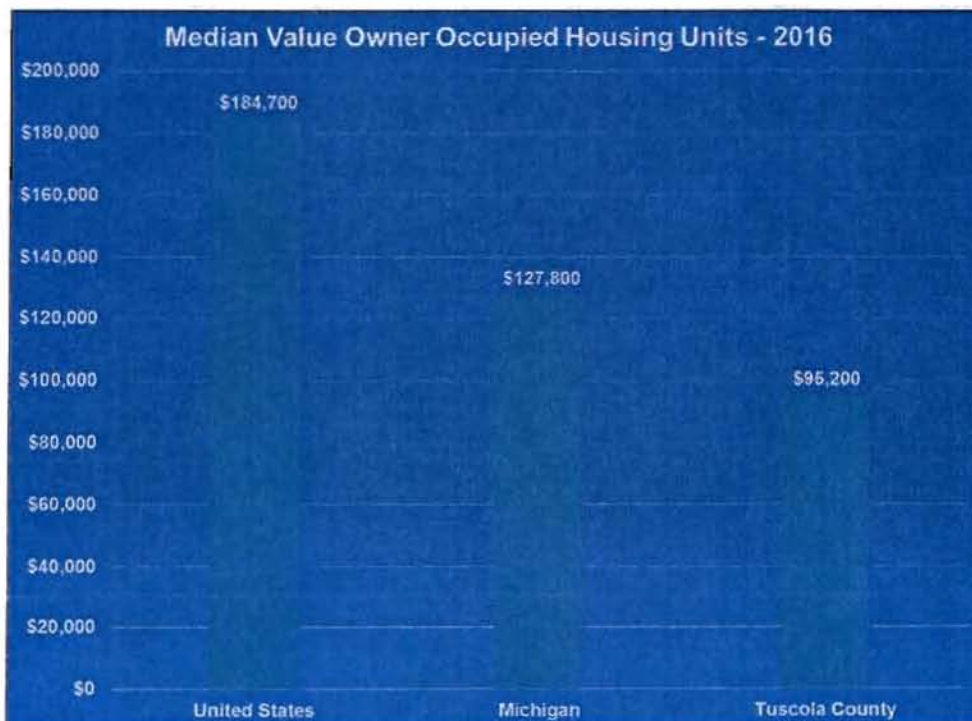


INCOME

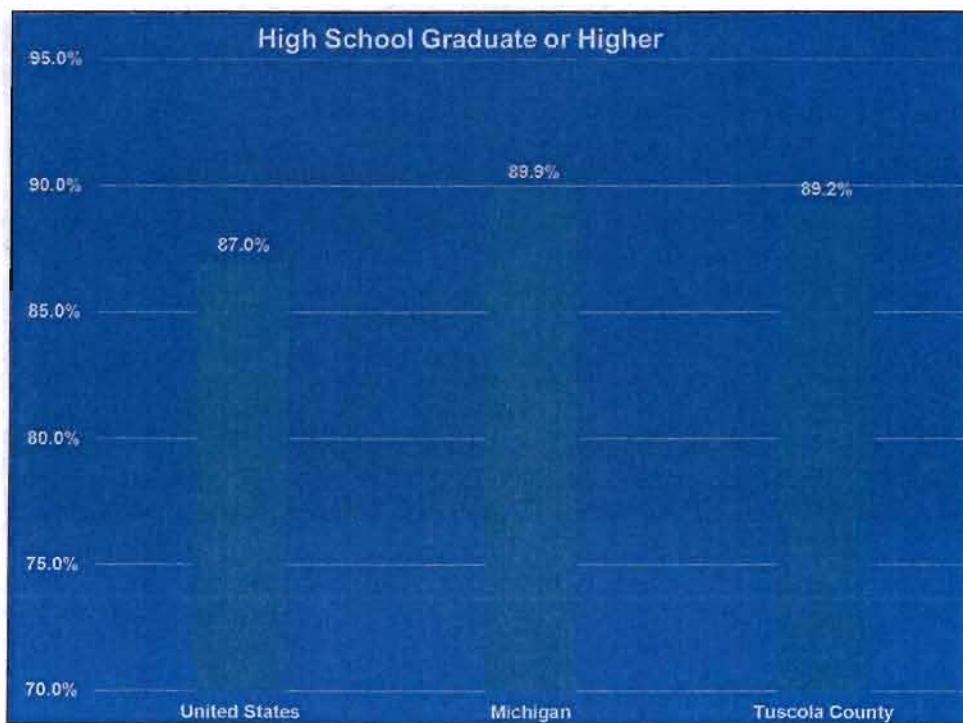


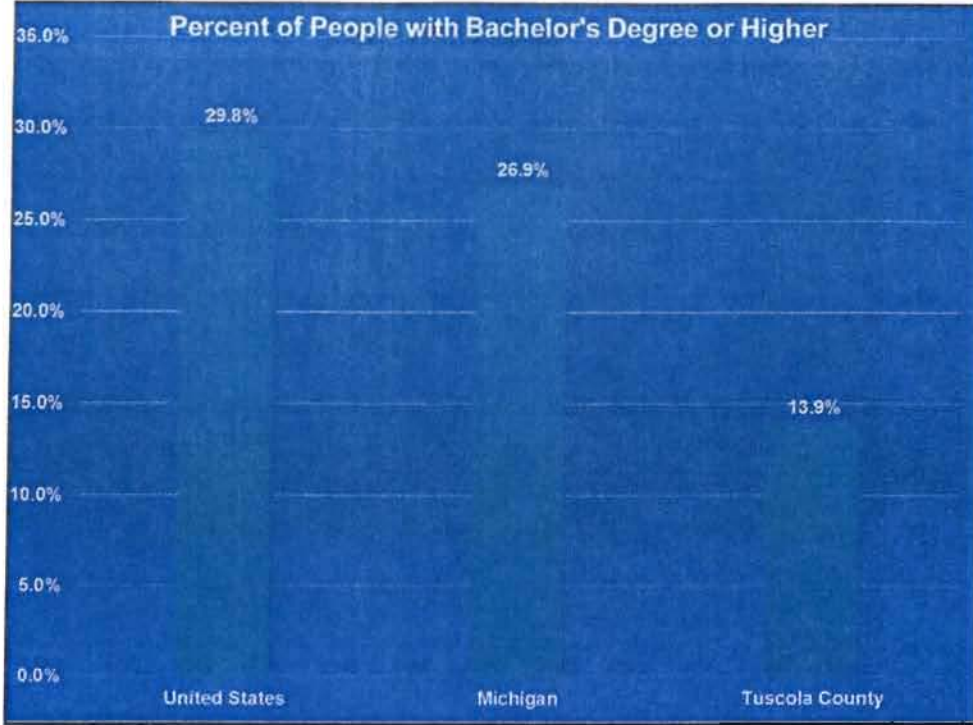


Housing

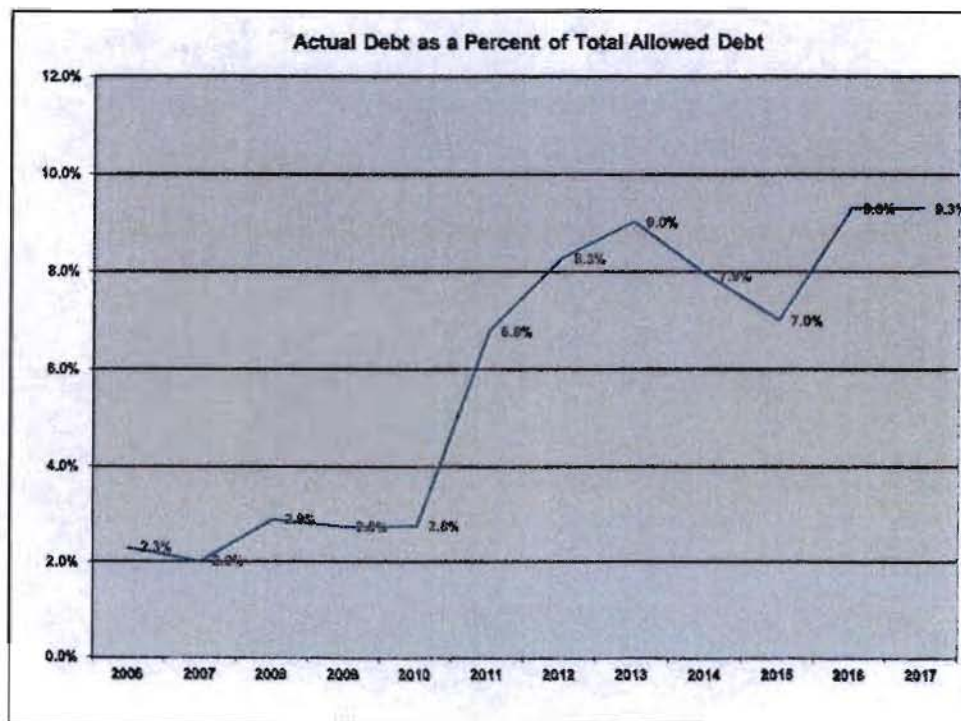
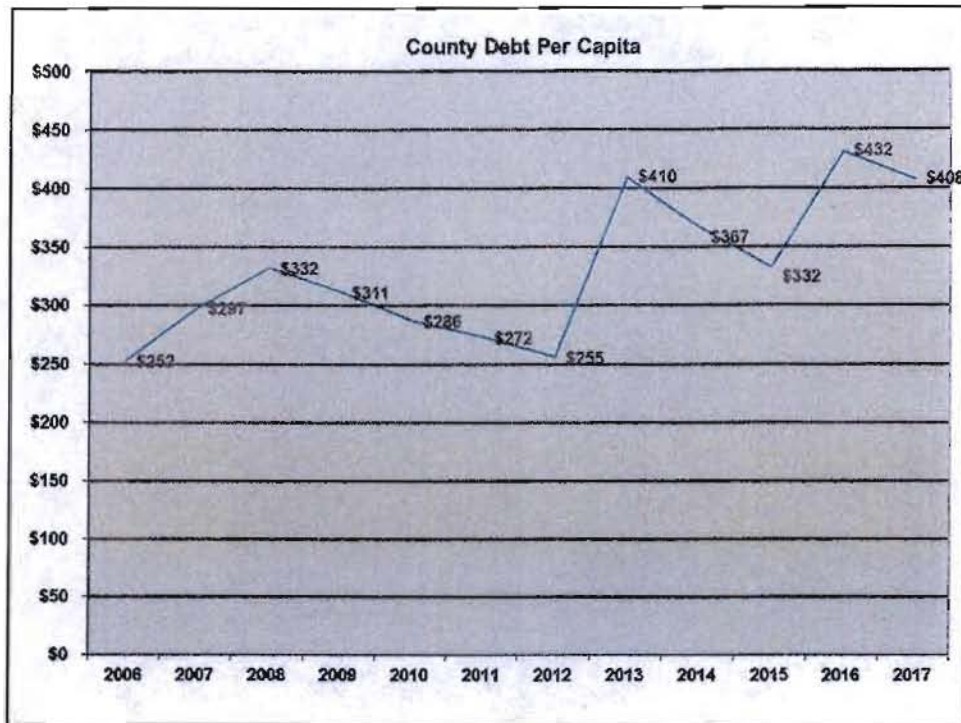


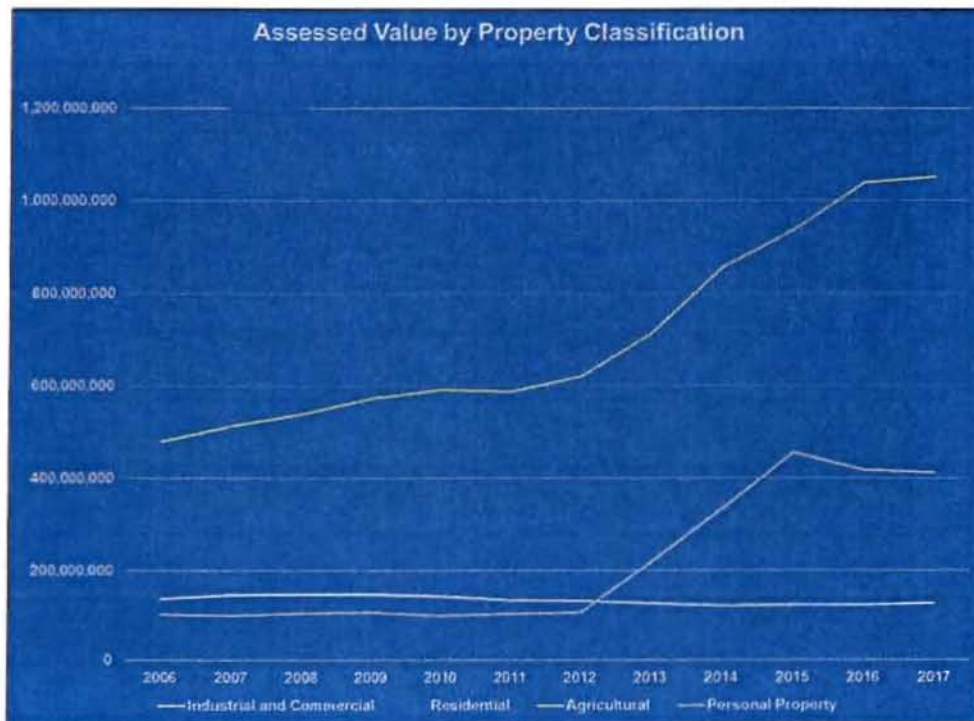
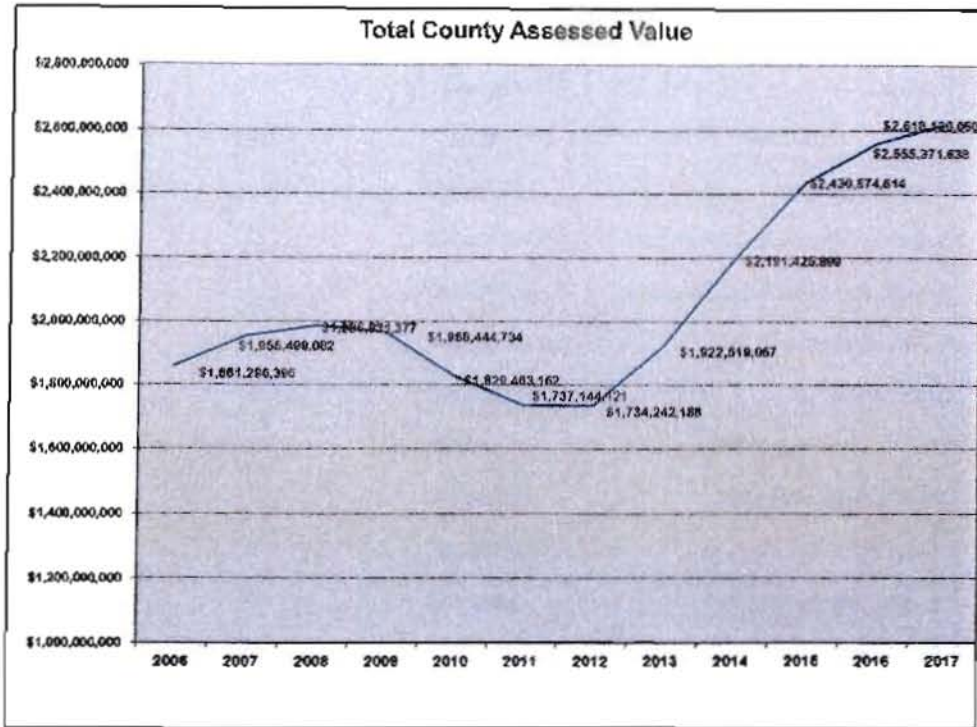
Education



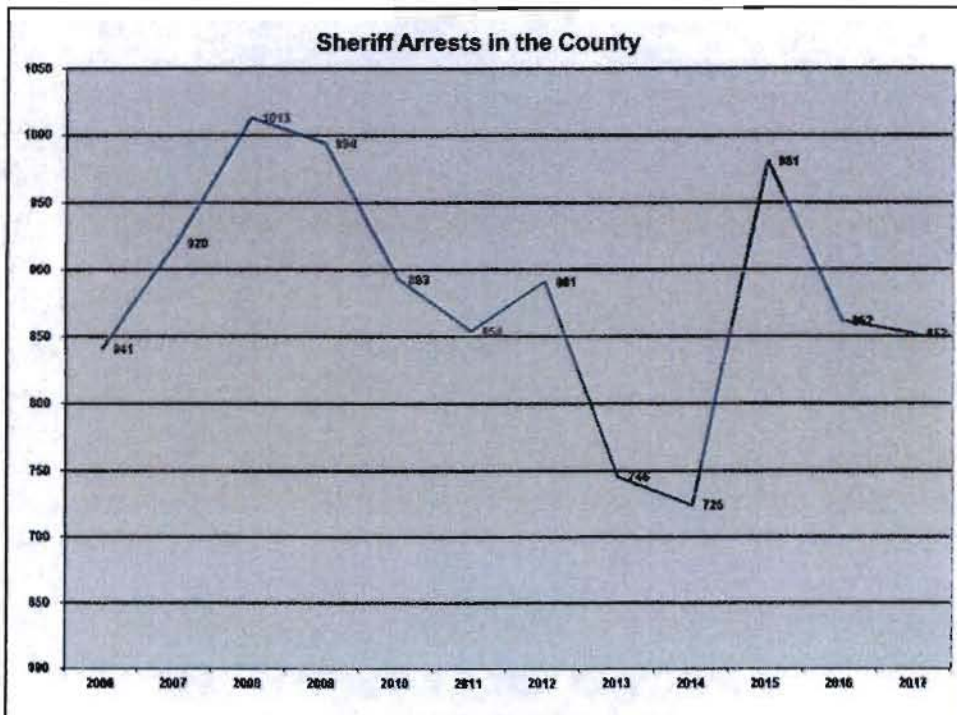


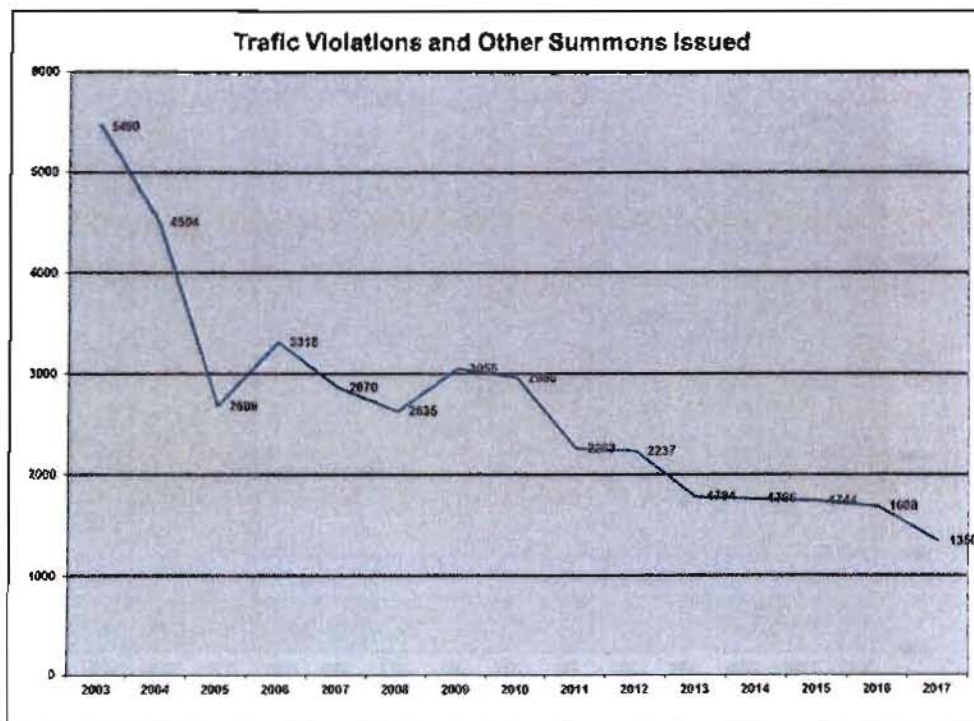
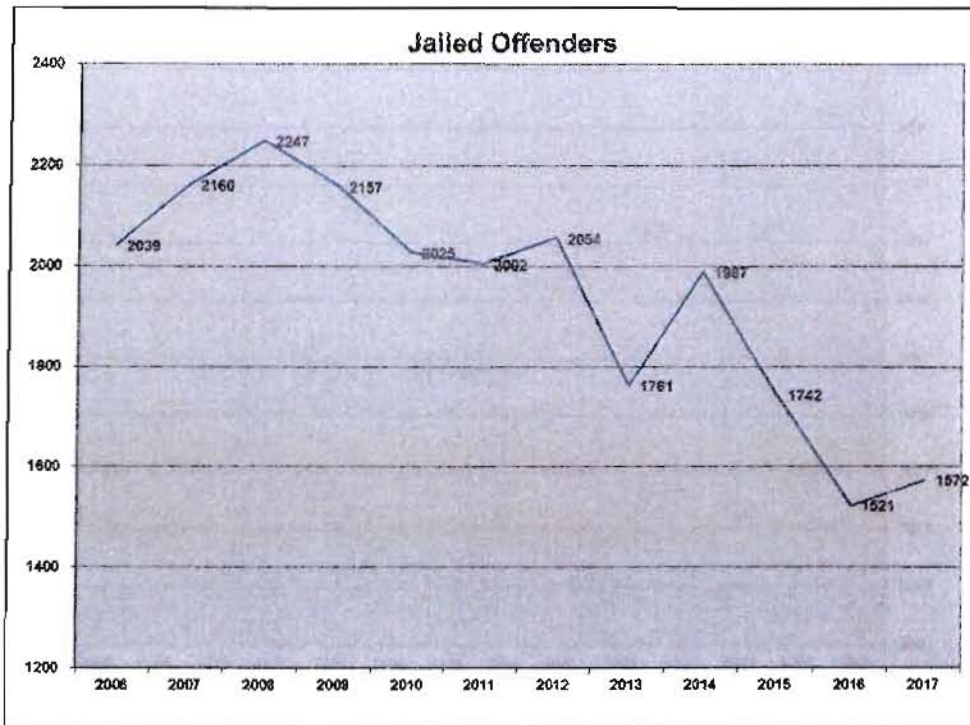
TUSCOLA COUNTY
GOVERNMENT

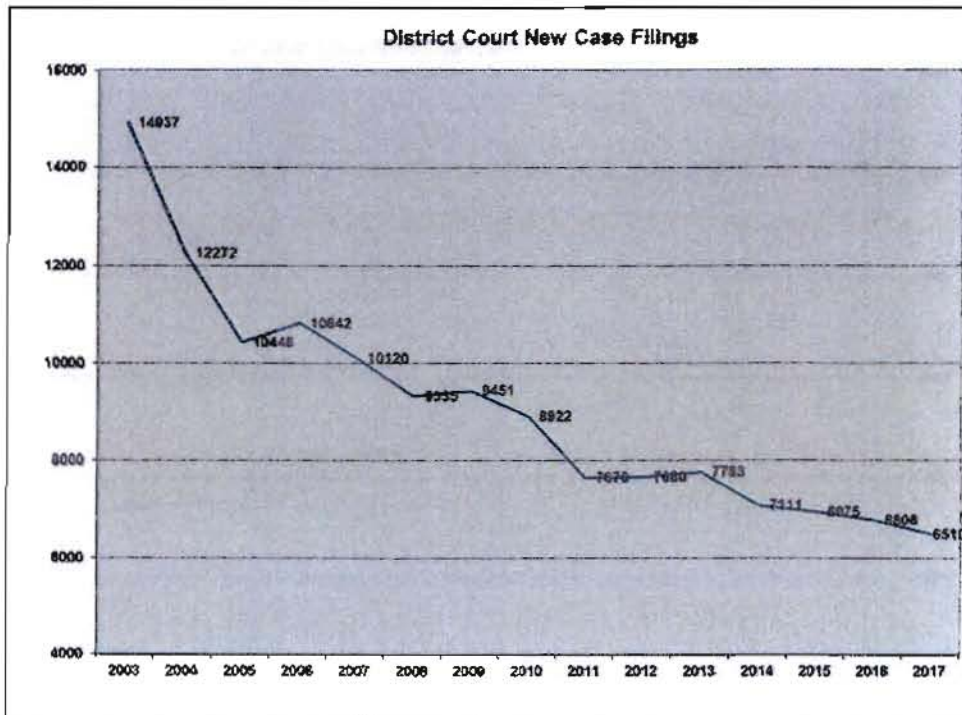
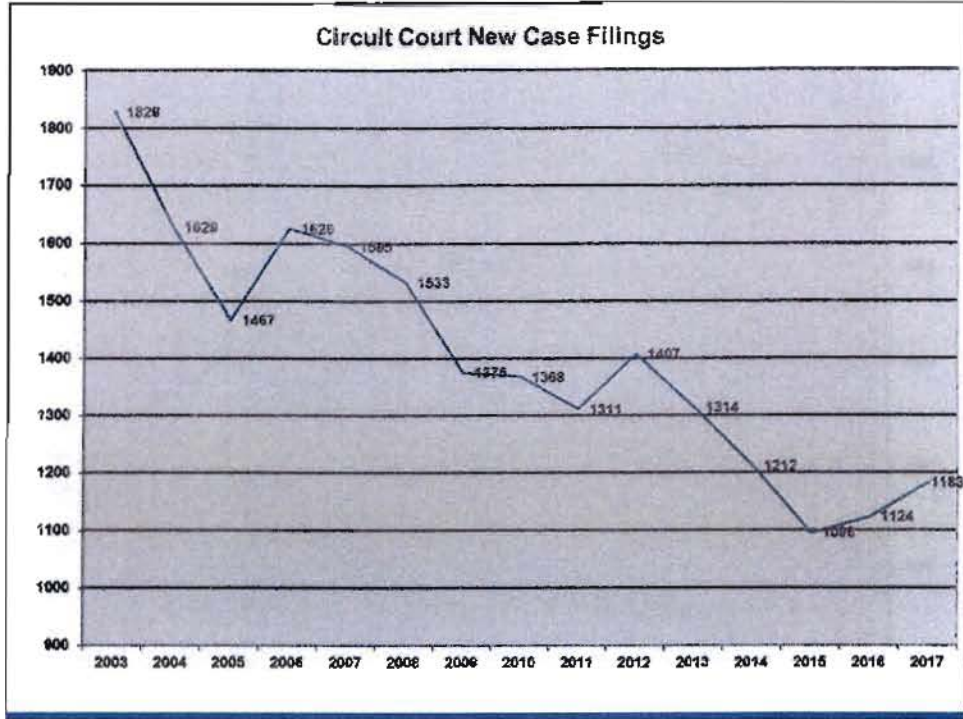


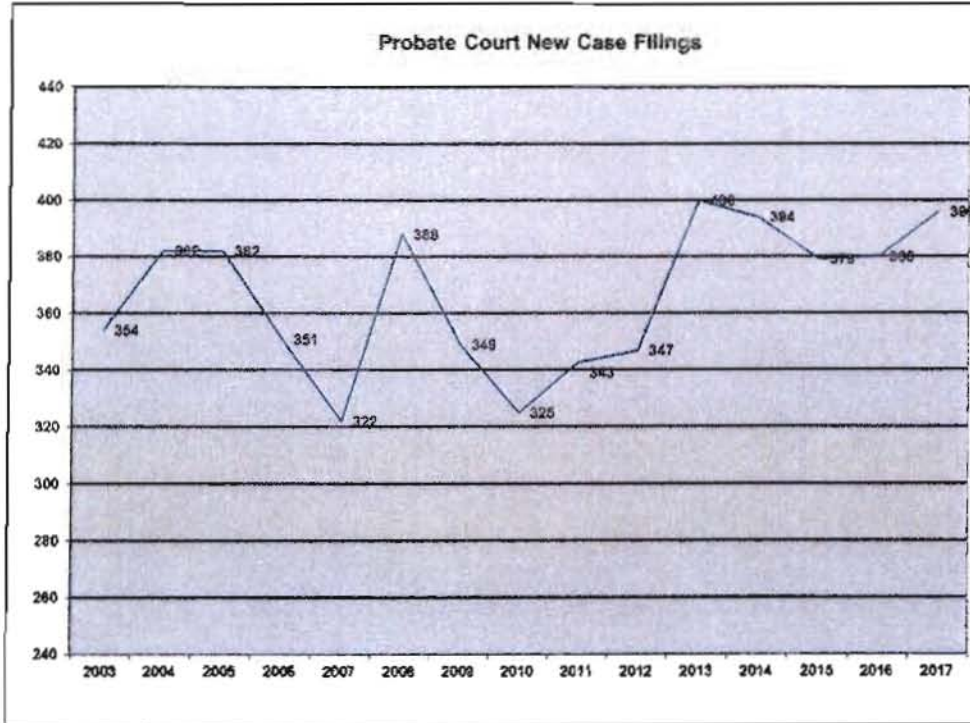


Current Year 2017			
Taxpayer	Taxable Value	Rank	Percentage of Total Taxable
Consumers Energy	\$ 109,486,406	1	6.25%
Tuscola Bay Wind LLC (NextEra)	77,802,700	2	4.44%
Tuscola Bay Wind II LLC (NextEra)	70,780,700	3	4.04%
ITC Transmissions	57,796,306	4	3.30%
Detroit Edison Co	39,065,479	5	2.23%
POET – Biorefining - Caro	21,439,998	6	1.22%
Dairy Farmers of America	13,688,860	7	0.78%
Thumb Electric Co-Op	6,375,295	8	0.36%
Wal-Mart Stores #01-1798	3,969,153	9	0.23%
Russell Family Land Co LLC	3,842,356	10	0.22%
Totals	\$ 404,247,253		23.07%









Tuscola County Socio/Economic Comparisons to Huron and Sanilac Counties

Statistic Compared	Sanilac	Huron	Tuscola County
Total 2017 Population	41,289	31,280	52,764
Estimated population change 2010-2017	-4.3%	-5.5%	-5.3%
Person 65 and older - 2014	20.6%	24.3%	19.5%
Percent of population white - 2014	97.3%	97.5%	96.5%
Owner occupied housing units - 2014	79.1%	81.2%	82.0%
Median value owner occupied housing units - 2014	\$98,500	\$93,000	\$95,200
Median monthly owner costs with a mortgage - 2014	\$996	\$982	\$1,045
Medium gross rent - 2014	\$622	\$597	\$650
High school graduate or higher - 2014	87.9%	88.7%	89.2%
Bachelor's degree or higher - 2014	13.1%	14.9%	13.8%
Persons under 65 with a disability - 2014	11.6%	10.7%	14.3%
Percent of people without health insurance	8.2%	7.0%	6.3%
Median household income - 2014	\$42,037	\$43,082	\$44,193
Per capita income - 2014	\$22,510	\$24,455	\$22,511
Percent of persons in poverty	15.5%	14.2%	13.5%



Regional Summits continue

More than 50 county leaders have attended the first two of four planned Regional Summits across Michigan this summer. The MAC events, designed as single-day "mini conferences" for busy commissioners, continue in Gaylord on June 18 and Frankenmuth on July 23. Above, the Rev. Jonathan Heierman explains to attendees of the June 11 Summit in Grand Rapids how the public, private and nonprofit sectors came together in Oakland County to boost human services.

For more information, [click here](#).

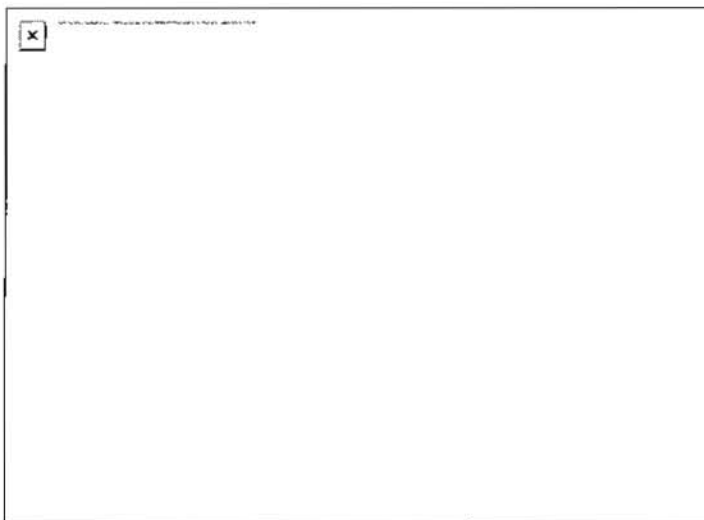
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

Bills changing PPT reimbursements head to governor

Legislation that significantly alters Personal Property Tax (PPT) reimbursements have cleared the Legislature and are headed to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk.

House Bills 5086, by Rep. Dave Maturen (R-Kalamazoo), and 5908, by Rep. Rob VerHeulen (R-Kent), changed substantially during the legislative process.

HB 5086 says reimbursements for funds from special millages, such as a mosquito abatement millage, must go to the special millage account, not a general fund.



The bill, though, does allow the Treasury Department to correct errors it made in prior year calculations, and allows it to correct errors made by a local unit that result in an error exceeding \$500,000. Currently, payments for reimbursement under the formula are calculated and sent out. This process will change with this bill in that the losses will be calculated according to the formula (that does not recognize lost growth) and be sent out. The remaining money that provides reimbursements over 100 percent will be delayed to ensure all the original calculations are correct.

HB 5908 was originally introduced to redistribute the PPT reimbursement funds from the lost growth category on a new formula that would distribute half of that category based on loss and the other half on a per capita basis. In addition, the bill removed libraries and authorities from receiving this special category of funds and reallocated those dollars to the fire protection grants.

MAC supported HB 5086, but was neutral on the final version of 5908.

As approved by the Legislature, the new formula was not included, so the funds will go out in the same manner this year as in prior years (except for the delay provided for in HB 5086), while the fire protection grants remained as a carve-out from the lost growth category funds stripped from the libraries and authorities.

For more information on this issue, contact Deena Bosworth at 517-372-5374 or bosworth@micounties.org.

[Back to top](#)

MAC EVENTS



Collaborating for a better Michigan will be theme of 2018 conference

"Community and Collaboration" will be the theme of MAC's 2018 Annual Conference, held in partnership with the Michigan County Medical Care Facilities Council, at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth, Aug. 19-21, 2018.

More than 300 county leaders are expected to attend the event, which will feature three days of policy workshops, addresses by Michigan political leaders, an Exhibitor Show with more than 30 vendors of products and services of interest to county officials and plentiful opportunities to socialize with colleagues, capped by the President's Banquet on Monday night and the Frankenmuth Fest welcome reception on Sunday evening.



Invited keynote speakers for the two plenary sessions on Monday, Aug. 20 will be the nominees of the Democratic and Republican parties who emerge from the Aug. 7 primary election.

On Monday night, after a full day of conference work and a traditional Frankenmuth feast, attendees will be entertained by Randy Otto, performing as Sir Winston Churchill. Otto has performed as Churchill for the Wisconsin Counties Association, Hillsdale College and the Churchill Archives Centre at Cambridge University, among others.



The conference will conclude, as usual, on Tuesday morning with the annual Membership Meeting and Board elections. This year, the caucuses in Regions 1, 2 and 3 will hold a board election in which an incumbent is running, while Region 5 will hold an election for an open seat. All caucuses will participate in filling an open at-large seat, too. (See MAC's [Region Map](#).)

County leaders may now [register for the event online](#). More details are provided in the [Attendee Packet](#). The **early-bird conference registration rate of \$325 ends on July 20, so act fast!**

For updates about conference activities and speakers, visit MAC's [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

For more information, contact Derek Melot, 517-372-5374 or melot@micounties.org.

[Back to top](#)

INDIGENT DEFENSE

Indigent defense funding bill clears Legislature

Final legislative approval was given this week to a bill that would require court funding units to remit 20 percent of funds collected from the partially indigent to the state to help pay for implementation of new indigent defense standards.



[House Bill 5985](#), by Rep. Rob VerHeulen (R-Kent), also requires counties to adjust their local share for such funding by the rate inflation or 3 percent, whichever is less.

The 80 percent retained by local funding units must be used on indigent defense services. Gov. Rick Snyder had proposed having counties remit 90 percent of these funds in his FY 2019 budget recommendation.

Many policy changes come with HB 5895, as well, including language requiring that during a preliminary inquiry into a defendant's indigency, a determination be made as to whether

the defendant was partially indigent. If the defendant were partially indigent, the funding unit must determine how much the defendant would have to contribute to his or her defense based on standards created by the state Indigent Defense Commission.

The bill also allows the Legislature to appropriate funds that would apply to less than all of the minimum standards and expresses the intent of the Legislature to fund all approved minimum standards within three years of the date each standard was approved. While the Legislature always can appropriate any amount of money, this is a clear signal from the Legislature that getting full funding will be a fight each year.

Time frames for plan approvals were extended from 60 to 90 days for the commission; and from 30 to 60 days for locals to resubmit plans for any disapproved portions. Plans will be due on Oct. 1, instead of Feb. 1, to allow for better timing with the state's budget cycle. HB 5895 also adds members to the commission to represent the Michigan Municipal League and the Michigan Townships Associations. MAC will retain one seat.

MAC offered concerns on the bill, which the Senate approved 27-9 and sent to the governor, who is expected to sign it.

So far on the first four standards, the commission has approved \$78.8 million in spending plans, with Oakland and Isabella County plans still outstanding. In the fiscal 2019 budget, the Legislature approved \$84.1 million for this work and is anticipating about \$2.2 million will come from the 20 percent remittance on partially indigent reimbursements.

For any questions, contact Meghann Keit at keit@micounties.org or 517-372-5374.

Back to top

VETERANS SERVICES

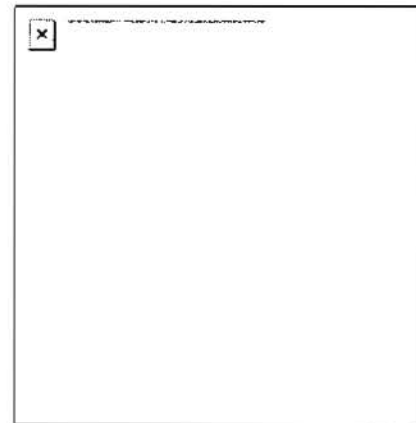
Senate gives final approval to veterans funding bill

Legislation to enhance services for veterans gained unanimous Senate approval this week and is headed to Gov. Rick Snyder's desk.

House Bill 5536, by Rep. Jason Wentworth (R-Gladwin), creates the County Veteran Service Fund and establishes a \$25,000 base grant amount per county to enhance veteran services. Also, \$2.1 million was appropriated for the Departments of Military and Veteran Affairs (DMVA) budget to provide the base grants in fiscal 2019.

A county must maintain their current level of county funding for veteran service operations, provide at least 20 hours per week toward veteran service operations and establish remote access to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' computing systems to receive the grant.

After the base grant is distributed, any remaining money in the fund would be distributed per capita based on the number of veterans living in the county. **MAC supported HB 5536** and will continue to advocate for additional money for the fund.



Under a scenario where the fund contained \$5 million, the Senate Fiscal Agency estimated that total disbursements, when combining the base grant with a per capita grant, could result in a range of distributions among counties from \$26,472 for Keweenaw County to \$463,571 for Wayne County.

For any questions, contact Meghann Keit at keit@micounties.org or 517-372-5374.

[Back to top](#)

HUMAN SERVICES

Senate endorses continuation of 'hold harmless' on foster fees

A bill to hold counties harmless from paying foster care administrative rates is on the way to Gov. Rick Snyder after a 36-0 vote from the Senate.

Senate Bill 988, by Sen. Peter MacGregor (R-Kent), differs from previous budget implementation bills that merely extended from one year to next the directive that counties would not pay the foster care administrative rates.

Snyder, in each of his recent annual budgets, has recommended having the counties pay 50 percent of the rate, which in fiscal 2019 would have been \$8 million. However, Senate appropriators, led by Sen. MacGregor, rejected that recommendation in favor of SB 988, which would make permanent the counties' "hold harmless" provision.

MAC supported SB 988 and appreciates the hard work by Sen. MacGregor to get it approved.

For any questions, contact Meghann Keit at keit@micounties.org or 517-372-5374.

[Back to top](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH

Online survey collecting data to bolster opioid abuse services

The Michigan Community Service Commission is conducting a community assessment with organizations across Michigan to build a greater understanding of communities' work in addressing opioid abuse and provide insights into local needs for increasing service capacity through volunteerism.

County leaders are encouraged to take an online survey to assist this process.

Any information gathered will be shared with MAC at the end of the process. The survey will be open through Friday, July 13, 2018.

For questions about the survey, please contact Jacqueline LaFay of Public Sector Consultants at jlafay@publicsectorconsultants.com or 517-484-4954.

[Back to top](#)

NATURAL RESOURCES

Sweeping changes to DNR land management approved by Legislature

Widespread changes to how the Department of Natural Resources acquires, sells and manages lands -- and reports these acts -- were approved by the Legislature this week.

House Bill 4475, by Rep. Gary Howell (R-Lapeer), Senate Bill 302, by Sen. Tom Casperson (R-Delta), and SB 303, by Sen. Darwin Booher (R-Osceola), amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to:

- Establish certain additional criteria the department must consider when promulgating rules

- Require full PILT payments before any land purchases north of the Mason-Arenac line, unless authorization via a resolution was given by the township if the land is within one township or by the county if the land is in two or more townships (The same holds true for counties with more than 40 percent of their land owned by the state or federal governments combined)

- Adopts the DNR strategic land management plan from July 2013 and requires an update by Oct. 1, 2021, and every six years thereafter (Information regarding the department's progress on the engagement and collaboration with local must be included in the report)

- Requires the department to post more information about land ownership, parks and game areas, public hunting, forestland and boating access sites on its website

- Requires the consideration of business expansion and economic benefit when approached about land sales and exchanges

- Increases notice requirements and local government communication regarding proposed land acquisition or disposition

- Makes several changes to the evaluation of commercial forest lands and management of state forest lands

MAC supported these efforts to update land management practices



C

mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org

From: Renee Francisco <renee@tuscolacounty.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2018 11:09 AM
To: Jodi Essenmacher; Doreen at Lapeer County; Posey, Jennifer; Jody Morris at Sanilac Co.; scurrie@micounties.org; bosworth@micounties.org
Cc: Tom Young; Thomas Bardwell; Craig Kirkpatrick; Kim Vaughan; Matthew Bierlein; Mike Hoagland
Subject: Re: MAC 7th District Meeting - July 16 - Tuscola County
Attachments: Tentative Items for Discussion for July 30.pdf

Good Morning All,

Attached are tentative agenda items for the MAC 7th District meeting (tentatively) scheduled for **Monday, July 30th**. If you or your Commissioners have any other items you'd like to discuss, please let us know so that we can add them to the list.

We're looking for a head count of how many will be able to attend the July 30th meeting by this **Friday, June 22nd**. So if you haven't already done so, please let me know how many of your Commissioners will be attending and we will move forward with the planning of this meeting.

Thanks for your help!

Renee Francisco
Administrative Assistant
Tuscola County Controller's Office
989-672-3709

Tentative Items for Discussion at the July 30, 2018 MAC 7th District Meeting in Tuscola County

County Topics

1. Big county technology problems little county technology budgets – Eean Lee, Tuscola County Information Technology Director
2. Protecting senior citizens and others from increasing scams (TRIAD) – Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent
3. Marijuana – “Is this what the Doctor Ordered?” – Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent

Michigan Association of Counties Staff Topics (Deena Bosworth)

1. Indigent defense funding
2. Personal property tax reimbursement funding changes
3. Senate Bill 1031 – exempting utility personal property from collection of taxes resulting in major county funding losses
4. Impacts to counties from legislator term limits and loss of institutional knowledge
5. Update regarding potential assessing changes and funding
6. Raise the age Juvenile funding

(Please submit any other items you would like to discuss)



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RULES OF ORDER
TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHIGAN
Revised 1/03/17

3. PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETINGS

The county clerk shall provide the proper notice for all meetings of the Board. Such notice shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the following:

3.1 Regular Meetings

Posting a notice within 10 days after the first meeting of the Board in each calendar year indicating the date, time, and place of the Board's regularly scheduled and committee meetings.

3.2 Schedule Change

Whenever the Board shall change its regular Board schedule of meetings, a posting of notice of the change will be done by the clerk within three days following the meeting in which the change was made. Committee meeting changes from the original schedule will be posted by the Controller/Administrator's Office.

3.3 Special and Emergency Meetings

If the Board shall schedule a special meeting under Rule 2.3 or an emergency meeting under Rule 2.4, notice of such meeting shall be posted immediately by the clerk. No meeting, except emergency meetings, shall be held until the notice shall have been posted at least 18 hours. Commissioners will be notified by written or telephone communication of said meeting.

4. QUORUM, ATTENDANCE, CALL OF THE COUNTY BOARD, COMPENSATION

4.1 Quorum

A majority of commissioners of the Board, elected and serving, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of ordinary business of the Board.

4.2 Attendance

No member of the County Board may absent himself or herself without first having notified the chairperson of his or her intent to be absent from a scheduled meeting.

4.3 Compensation

Commissioner compensation shall be reviewed at least once no later than July of election years to determine if compensation changes will be implemented for the Board of Commissioners taking office January 1st of odd numbered years.

5. AGENDA FOR MEETINGS

5.1 Agenda Preparation Responsibility

The Controller/Administrator, after first reviewing pending matters and requests, shall prepare a draft of the agenda of business for all regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners, committee, and other meetings. The chairperson of the Board or chairperson of the respective committee shall review and add or delete items, as he/she considers proper. Unanticipated agenda items that require discussion or decisions may

14-M-229

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Kirkpatrick the Board Rules of Order be amended to include the following statement: Commissioner Compensation shall be reviewed at least once no later than July of election years to determine if compensation changes will be implemented for the Board of Commissioners taking office January 1st of odd numbered years. Roll Call Vote - Kirkpatrick - yes; Bierlein - yes; Allen - yes; Bardwell - yes; Trisch - yes. Motion Carried

-Closed Session - Opinion Letter from County Attorney -

14-M-230

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Allen that the Board meet in closed session under section 8(e) of the Open Meetings Act, to consider the opinion letter from the County Attorney. Roll Call Vote - Bierlein - yes; Allen - yes; Bardwell - yes; Trisch - yes; Kirkpatrick - yes. Motion Carried at 8:54 a.m.

14-M-231

Motion by Allen, seconded by Allen to reconvene the regular Board of Commissioners meeting from closed session. Roll Call Vote - Allen - yes; Bardwell - yes; Trisch - yes; Kirkpatrick - yes; Bierlein - yes. Motion Carried at 9:21 a.m.

Recessed at 9:21 a.m.

Reconvened at 9:28 a.m.

-Time Capsule – MSUE -

Joe Bixler and other members from MSUE revealed a few of the items from the time capsule. Some items included in the time capsule were a plat book, a 4-H wooden nickel, a butterfly handmade by a 4-H group and a 4-H club scrapbook. The time capsule will be presented to 4-H Leaders to complete the unpacking. They will look at placing the contents on display in their office and possibly at the fair. Also, they are looking at doing the time capsule project again to be opened in 2039.

-Sheriff's Forfeited Property -

Sheriff Teschendorf informed the Board that the Tuscola County Prosecutor's Office has received \$40,000.00 in a property forfeiture settlement. The Sheriff explained how the forfeiture money will be dispersed to various departments.

14-M-232

Motion by Allen, seconded by Kirkpatrick that the Sheriff be allowed to disperse the money received in the forfeiture property settlement as outlined in his December 23, 2014 letter. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Trisch excused at 9:50 a.m.

⑤



TUSCOLA COUNTY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT

1500 Press Drive
Caro, Michigan 48723-9291
989-672-3748 Phone ~ 989-672-3724 Fax
Kimberly Green, Director

To: Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
Michael Hoagland: Controller/Administrator

From: Kimberly Green: Director

Date: June 20, 2018

RE: Holiday Pay

It has come to my attention that our Mosquito Abatement Employee Manual requires a revision to reflect and mirror the holiday pay schedule currently being used by other departments. Our manual states part-time employees are to be paid 1/2 day for recognized Tuscola County holidays, if the employee works the Saturday or Sunday immediately prior to or after a recognized holiday.

We are not sure why this was written in this manner, as our normal work schedule is Monday – Friday. Only occasionally are our seasonal employees required to work on a weekend. We also do not have part time employees, as all of our seasonal workers are full time.

I feel it is necessary to change the manual to reflect that Seasonal Mosquito Abatement employees are to be paid 1/2 day for recognized Tuscola County Holidays if the employee works the scheduled day before and after the recognized Tuscola County holiday.

I have researched how this would affect our budget. This would result in approximately 12 hours of holiday pay (3 half days) for seasonal employees, at an estimated cost of \$ 4,775. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Green, Director



mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org

From: Angie Daniels <angie.daniels@tuscolacounty.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2018 1:02 PM
To: Mike Hoagland
Subject: GIS Coordinator Position

Good Afternoon Mike,

We recently reviewed 14 applications for the GIS Coordinator position. The hiring committee consisted of Pat, Shelly, Eean and myself.

Three applicants were interviewed for the position.

After the interviews, two of the three were brought in for two hour increments to the Equalization department to review the working environment and to go over how our GIS is currently set up and operating and to discuss present and future goals and objectives for the position.

It was unanimously agreed upon by the entire committee to offer the position to Cody Horton.

Cody is a Central Michigan University graduate with a Bachelor and Master of Science in Geography with a GIS Concentration.

Cody is excited for the opportunity and I'm confident he will work well with everyone throughout the county.

We respectfully request the board concur with the hiring of Cody Horton as the Tuscola County GIS Coordinator with a start date of July 10, 2018.

Thank you,
Angie

Angie Daniels, MAAO (3)
Equalization Director

Tuscola County Equalization
Tuscola County GIS
City of Caro Assessing Department
989.672.3833

VISIT US ONLINE FOR COUNTY SERVICES www.tuscolacounty.org

mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org

From: Ann Hepfer <ahepfer@tchd.us>
Sent: Monday, June 18, 2018 1:34 PM
To: mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org
Subject: BOC
Attachments: VA wage band change 01-2018.pdf; TUSCOLA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN 2018.docx

Hello Mike

1) I just realized that in January, 2018 we did not get approval on the change in the Veterans wage band. We did not have a wage band for the Veterans Affairs Officer, only the Veterans Administrator and Assistant. I needed to move Ana from the Assistant to a Veterans Affairs Officer, so we needed a wage band. The wage band was approved by the Board of Health and you and I emailed back in forth in January, but I never received BOC approval.

Ana has been function in this role for over a year so it was really time to pay her for that position. The position wage band was created by comparing the wages for this position in Huron, Bay County, Sanilac, Shiawassee.

2) We have also completed our health department Strategic Plan. Please see attached for approval.

Ann Hepfer

Health Officer for:

Tuscola County Health Department
1309 Cleaver Rd
Suite B,
Caro, MI 48723
Phone: 989-673-8117
Fax: 989-673-7490

Huron County Health Department
1142 S. Van Dyke Rd
Bad Axe, MI 48413
Phone: 989-673-8117
Fax 989-269-4181

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Like HCHD on Facebook:



When you arise in the morning, think of what a privilege it is to be alive: to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to love. –Marcus Aurelius

Visit us on the Web: www.tchd.us

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Effective 01/01/2018

	Start	1/2 step - 1.5%	Step 1 - 1.5%	Step 2 - 3%	Step 3 - 5%	Step 4 - 5%	Step 5 - 5%
VA Director	\$46,828	\$47,531	\$48,244	\$49,691	\$52,175	\$54,784	\$57,523
VA Service Officer	\$40,395	\$41,001	\$41,616	\$42,864	\$45,008	\$47,258	\$49,621

TUSCOLA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2021

- I. **MISSION:** The Tuscola County Health Department actively strives to enhance our community's quality of life by disease prevention, health protection and healthy lifestyle promotion.
- II. **VISION:** The Tuscola County Health Department will be recognized as a valuable asset to our community.
- III. **GUIDING PRINCIPLES/VALUE STATEMENT:** Quality of Life for our residents
- IV. **FACTORS IMPACTING OUR COMMUNITY:** Funding, Economy, Lack of Access to Higher Education Institutions, Community's Mental/Emotional Health, Stigma of Accessing Services, Access to Resources, Health Care Access, Health and Welfare of Children, Dental Access, Substance Abuse Issues, , Household Income, Transportation.
- V. **STRATEGIC VISION PRIORITY:** Healthy Community for all of our residents.
- VI. **GOALS/OBJECTIVES/ PRIORITIES:**

I. Increase Childhood Immunization Levels

Objective: Increase the number of children receiving immunizations by 1% as measured by the percent of children 24-36 months who are fully immunized.

2. Improve Adult Vaccination Rates

Objective: Increase the percentage of adults who are vaccinated against zoster (shingles)
Baseline: 6.7% target 30%

IID-13.1 Increase the percentage of noninstitutionalized adults aged 65 years and older who are vaccinated against pneumococcal disease baseline 16.6% Target 60%

IID-12.7 Increase the percentage of noninstitutionalized adults aged 65 years and older who are vaccinated annually against seasonal influenza Baseline : 66.6% Target 90%

IID-12.12 Increase the percentage of adults aged 18 and older who are vaccinated annually against seasonal influenza Baseline 38.1% (2011) data Target 70% HP-2020 baseline and targets

3. Build Strong Workforce

Objective: Over the next two years Tuscola County Health Department staff will have a comprehensive understanding of their Core competencies for Public Health Professionals. Job descriptions will be updated to include the Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals.

VII. TCHD STRENGTH, WEAKNESS, OPPORTUNITIES, THREAT ASSESSMENT:

	BENEFICIAL	HARMFUL
INTERNAL	<p style="text-align: center;">Strengths</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Friendly Staff 2. Experienced Staff 3. Cross Trained Staff 4. Technology 5. Good Intra-Agency referral system in place 	<p style="text-align: center;">Weakness</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Missed Opportunities 2. Stretched Staffing 3. Employee Perception [Co-workers, community, services] 4. Community's perception of available Health Department Services
EXTERNAL	<p style="text-align: center;">Opportunities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outreach 2. Social Media [Facebook, Texting, Website, etc.] 3. Radio 4. 211 5. Empower/Educate Clients to use the Healthcare System available to them. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Threats</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of Adequate Transportation Services. 2. Staffing Availability 3. Funding 4. Duplication of Services [Flu, etc.] 5. Negative Perception based on misinformation.

(H)

mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org

From: mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 1:25 PM
To: 'Mike Miller'
Subject: RE: 2018 Budgeted Concrete repairs

Mike.....lets put this on for discussion at the 6/25/18 COW meeting.

Michael R. Hoagland
Tuscola County Controller/Administrator
989-672-3700
mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org

VISIT US ON LINE FOR COUNTY SERVICES @ www.tuscolacounty.org

From: Mike Miller [mailto:mmiller@tuscolacounty.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 19, 2018 10:13 AM
To: Mike Hoagland <mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org>
Subject: 2018 Budgeted Concrete repairs

You may recall that we bid out these projects earlier this year and the bids were much higher than what was budgeted.

I have looked over the bids and in my opinion I greatly underestimated the cost of these repairs. I did get my pricing information from the person who has done a lot of work for me, but he has retired a few years ago, and apparently was much cheaper than anyone else.

As seems to be the norm now, contractors are so busy that they are getting higher and higher on their bids, as they are in demand. and the cost of materials has followed suit.

It is my recommendation for me to resubmit new requests for the 2019 budget for these projects.

Thanks,
Mike

①



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR

NOTICE

School Plan Review and Inspection Authority

June 5, 2018

Randal A. Middlin
Vassar Public Schools
220 Athletic Street
Vassar, Mi 48768

Thomas Bardwell, Chair
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
125 W. Lincoln St.
Caro, MI 48723

RE: Vassar Public Schools– Delegation of Plan Review and Inspection Authority

This is to notify you that your current school plan review and inspection authority for the Vassar Public Schools will expire September 30, 2018. Pursuant to the Construction of School Buildings Act, 1937 PA 306, delegation is to be granted annually. Please note, the Bureau of Construction Codes is working toward all delegation of school authority to fall within the State of Michigan fiscal year. Therefore, delegations will now run from October 1 to September 30 of each year.

In the absence of receipt of a new application, the Bureau of Construction Codes will become responsible for school construction code enforcement and inspections of any projects started after September 30, 2018.

To renew delegation, complete and submit to the bureau a new request form, which is found on the BCC website at www.michigan.gov/bcc and choose the *School Construction* option on the left.

For questions regarding this information, please contact Eric Allen, Bureau of Construction Codes (517) 241-9316.

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SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR

NOTICE

School Plan Review and Inspection Authority

June 5, 2018

James Weihe
Tuscola Intermediate School District
1381 Cleaver Rd.
Caro, MI 48723

Thomas Bardwell, Chair
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
125 W. Lincoln St.
Caro, MI 48723

RE: Tuscola Intermediate School District-- Delegation of Plan Review and Inspection Authority

This is to notify you that your current school plan review and inspection authority for the Tuscola Intermediate School District will expire September 30, 2018. Pursuant to the Construction of School Buildings Act, 1937 PA 306, delegation is to be granted annually. Please note, the Bureau of Construction Codes is working toward all delegation of school authority to fall within the State of Michigan fiscal year. Therefore, delegations will now run from October 1 to September 30 of each year.

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DIRECTOR

NOTICE

School Plan Review and Inspection Authority

June 5, 2018

Dawn Kalkman
Reese Public Schools
1696 VanBuren Rd.
Reese, MI 48757

Thomas Bardwell, Chair
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
125 W. Lincoln St.
Caro, MI 48723

RE: Reese Public Schools– Delegation of Plan Review and Inspection Authority

This is to notify you that your current school plan review and inspection authority for the Reese Public Schools will expire September 30, 2018. Pursuant to the Construction of School Buildings Act, 1937 PA 306, delegation is to be granted annually. Please note, the Bureau of Construction Codes is working toward all delegation of school authority to fall within the State of Michigan fiscal year. Therefore, delegations will now run from October 1 to September 30 of each year.

In the absence of receipt of a new application, the Bureau of Construction Codes will become responsible for school construction code enforcement and inspections of any projects started after September 30, 2018.

To renew delegation, complete and submit to the bureau a new request form, which is found on the BCC website at www.michigan.gov/bcc and choose the *School Construction* option on the left.

For questions regarding this information, please contact Eric Allen, Bureau of Construction Codes (517) 241-9316.

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DIRECTOR

NOTICE

School Plan Review and Inspection Authority

June 5, 2018

Michael Sherman, Secretary
Millington Community Schools
8537 Gleason Street
Millington, MI 48746

Thomas Bardwell, Chair
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
125 W. Lincoln St.
Caro, MI 48723

RE: Millington Community Schools-- Delegation of Plan Review and Inspection Authority

This is to notify you that your current school plan review and inspection authority for the Millington Community Schools will expire September 30, 2018. Pursuant to the Construction of School Buildings Act, 1937 PA 306, delegation is to be granted annually. Please note, the Bureau of Construction Codes is working toward all delegation of school authority to fall within the State of Michigan fiscal year. Therefore, delegations will now run from October 1 to September 30 of each year.

In the absence of receipt of a new application, the Bureau of Construction Codes will become responsible for school construction code enforcement and inspections of any projects started after September 30, 2018.

To renew delegation, complete and submit to the bureau a new request form, which is found on the BCC website at www.michigan.gov/bcc and choose the *School Construction* option on the left.

For questions regarding this information, please contact Eric Allen, Bureau of Construction Codes (517) 241-9316.

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SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR

NOTICE

School Plan Review and Inspection Authority

June 5, 2018

Ronald Johnson
Mayville Community Schools
6250 Fulton Street
Mayville, MI 48744

Thomas Bardwell, Chair
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
125 W. Lincoln St.
Caro, MI 48723

RE: Kingston Community Schools– Delegation of Plan Review and Inspection Authority

This is to notify you that your current school plan review and inspection authority for the Mayville Community Schools will expire September 30, 2018. Pursuant to the Construction of School Buildings Act, 1937 PA 306, delegation is to be granted annually. Please note, the Bureau of Construction Codes is working toward all delegation of school authority to fall within the State of Michigan fiscal year. Therefore, delegations will now run from October 1 to September 30 of each year.

In the absence of receipt of a new application, the Bureau of Construction Codes will become responsible for school construction code enforcement and inspections of any projects started after September 30, 2018.

To renew delegation, complete and submit to the bureau a new request form, which is found on the BCC website at www.michigan.gov/bcc and choose the *School Construction* option on the left.

For questions regarding this information, please contact Eric Allen, Bureau of Construction Codes (517) 241-9316.

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DIRECTOR

NOTICE

School Plan Review and Inspection Authority

June 5, 2018

David Kolacz
Kingston Community Schools
5790 State Street
Kingston, MI 48741

Thomas Bardwell, Chair
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
125 W. Lincoln St.
Caro, MI 48723

RE: Kingston Community Schools– Delegation of Plan Review and Inspection Authority

This is to notify you that your current school plan review and inspection authority for the Kingston Community Schools will expire September 30, 2018. Pursuant to the Construction of School Buildings Act, 1937 PA 306, delegation is to be granted annually. Please note, the Bureau of Construction Codes is working toward all delegation of school authority to fall within the State of Michigan fiscal year. Therefore, delegations will now run from October 1 to September 30 of each year.

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For questions regarding this information, please contact Eric Allen, Bureau of Construction Codes (517) 241-9316.

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DIRECTOR

NOTICE

School Plan Review and Inspection Authority

June 5, 2018

Alice C. Zaleski
Cass City Public Schools
4968 N. Seeger St.
Cass City, MI 48726

Thomas Bardwell, Chair
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
125 W. Lincoln St.
Caro, MI 48723

RE: Cass City Public Schools – Delegation of Plan Review and Inspection Authority

This is to notify you that your current school plan review and inspection authority for the Cass City Public Schools will expire September 30, 2018. Pursuant to the Construction of School Buildings Act, 1937 PA 306, delegation is to be granted annually. Please note, the Bureau of Construction Codes is working toward all delegation of school authority to fall within the State of Michigan fiscal year. Therefore, delegations will now run from October 1 to September 30 of each year.

In the absence of receipt of a new application, the Bureau of Construction Codes will become responsible for school construction code enforcement and inspections of any projects started after September 30, 2018.

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For questions regarding this information, please contact Eric Allen, Bureau of Construction Codes (517) 241-9316.

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SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR

NOTICE

School Plan Review and Inspection Authority

June 5, 2018

Dean Tomlinson
Caro Community Schools
301 N. Hooper Street
Caro, MI 48723

Thomas Bardwell, Chair
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
125 W. Lincoln St.
Caro, MI 48723

RE: Caro Community Schools – Delegation of Plan Review and Inspection Authority

This is to notify you that your current school plan review and inspection authority for the Caro Community Schools will expire September 30, 2018. Pursuant to the Construction of School Buildings Act, 1937 PA 306, delegation is to be granted annually. Please note, the Bureau of Construction Codes is working toward all delegation of school authority to fall within the State of Michigan fiscal year. Therefore, delegations will now run from October 1 to September 30 of each year.

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For questions regarding this information, please contact Eric Allen, Bureau of Construction Codes (517) 241-9316.

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RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
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LANSING

SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR

NOTICE

School Plan Review and Inspection Authority

June 5, 2018

Galen Smith
Akron-Fairgrove Schools
2800 N. Thomas Rd. Box 319
Fairgrove, MI 48773

Thomas Bardwell, Chair
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
125 W. Lincoln St.
Caro, MI 48723

RE: Akron-Fairgrove Schools – Delegation of Plan Review and Inspection Authority

This is to notify you that your current school plan review and inspection authority for the Akron-Fairgrove Schools will expire September 30, 2018. Pursuant to the Construction of School Buildings Act, 1937 PA 306, delegation is to be granted annually. Please note, the Bureau of Construction Codes is working toward all delegation of school authority to fall within the State of Michigan fiscal year. Therefore, delegations will now run from October 1 to September 30 of each year.

In the absence of receipt of a new application, the Bureau of Construction Codes will become responsible for school construction code enforcement and inspections of any projects started after September 30, 2018.

To renew delegation, complete and submit to the bureau a new request form, which is found on the BCC website at www.michigan.gov/bcc and choose the *School Construction* option on the left.

For questions regarding this information, please contact Eric Allen, Bureau of Construction Codes (517) 241-9316.

Providing for Michigan's Safety in the Built Environment

BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION CODES
P.O. BOX 30254 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
Telephone (517) 241-9316 • Fax (517) 241-9570
www.michigan.gov/bcc

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The businessmen hoping to establish a medical marijuana growing operation in the Millennium Industries building in Cass City are inviting the community to a public meeting to discuss their proposal and ask for residents' input.

The meeting is slated for Tuesday, June 26, starting at 7 p.m. at the Cass City VFW Hall on Weaver Street, just north of Main Street.

Millennium Industries representatives Gary Vollmar and Gus Ploss have already taken their case to Cass City Village officials on

medical marijuana growing operation in an unused, 25,000-square-foot area inside their Millennium Industries factory at 6285 Garfield Ave.

Most recently, the pair attended the May village council meeting, but the response hasn't been what Vollmar and Ploss had hoped for. Two trustees have indicated they're opposed to the plan, and a third suggested that the businessmen address the community directly via a public forum or by providing citizens with an information package of some sort.

Vollmar has indicated failure on the part of the village to support

we need to have a couple of you don't appreciate told the council He and Ploss s.

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New state budget to fund county projects

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The Michigan Legislature last week approved two bills that will fund the state for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, including several projects that will benefit Tuscola County.

"Rep. (Dr. Edward J. "Ned") Canfield and I went to bat for Tuscola County residents and we were able to secure funding for some much-needed projects in the area," said Senator Mike Green (R-Mayville).

Green represents Michigan's 31st District, comprised of Tuscola, Bay and Lapeer counties, while Canfield (R-Sebewaing) represents the 84th District, which covers Tuscola and Huron counties.

The two legislators say they were able to negotiate funding for improvements to the Tuscola County Fairgrounds, including \$250,000 earmarked for a new community center at the site of the fairgrounds in Caro. The community center will be open to the public year-round and will be used to host community events. Residents will also be able to rent the hall for private occasions.

The budget also provides \$25,000 for renovations to the county fair grandstand.

"There have been some safety concerns surrounding the grandstand in recent years," Canfield noted. "These renovations will alleviate those concerns and provide a safe environment for families to enjoy the fair and other community events."

The Thumb area legislators also confirmed funding measures for the Caro Center and the Tuscola Medical Care Community.

The Caro Center has been providing care to residents for more than 100 years and is one of the area's major employers. The site is home to

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Tuscola
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Invited to an
 Annual Meeting
 at 7:00 p.m.
 City VFW Hall

County projects funded in state's new spending plan

Continued from page one.

Benefits to YOUR Community

Employment

- ✓ Project-based jobs for construction.
- ✓ New Garfield Plant permanent positions.

Excise Tax Revenues

- ✓ Increased local tax revenue.

Property Taxes

- ✓ Additional property tax revenue.

Growth & Investment

- ✓ Potential for continued expansion.
- ✓ Increased local investment.

Community Impact

- ✓ Charitable contributions.
- ✓ Economic growth intended to improve the Cass City community.
- ✓ Spur economic growth in other businesses.
- ✓ Increased work force to impact new business growth.
- ✓ Rapidly growing industry, we need to capture the opportunity NOW!

ort for ALL to benefit

THE STATISTICS

The Marijuana industry is the fastest growing industry in the United States. Within the next five years, the U.S. Marijuana industry is expected to out earn the U.S Film industry, the Organic Foods industry and more than triple the revenues of the National Football League.

Michigan has approximately **277,000 registered patients** and is **2nd highest in the country** for states with medical marijuana programs.

- ✓ The State of Michigan

several abandoned buildings that have been deemed a safety hazard for workers and patients alike. Legislators approved \$3 million for the destruction of the old buildings and to make room for new construction.

"Many of these buildings are sitting vacant, have no practical use and are full of hazards like asbestos," Green said. "Last year, Rep. Canfield and I were able to get funding to ensure the Caro center stays in Tuscola County. With that measure complete, we are now working to get these old buildings torn down and get the new facility built so employees can continue serving residents."

The Tuscola Medical Care Community received \$300,000 for a new walkway for patients to use. The walkway is also open to the public and will provide an outdoor area for residents and patients to enjoy the outdoors and get some exercise.

Green, Canfield and Bob Wilson of the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance all lauded the budget.

"Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance fully supports the Legislature utilizing these funds to support the expansion of trails in Michigan," Wilson said. "We know that trails are the number one recreational need in the state and they are economic drivers for local communities."

Green said he was happy to see his colleagues support these measures and thanked those who helped bring these issues to the legislators' attention.

"One of my biggest priorities as a legislator has been using taxpayer dollars responsibly," Green said. "These measures provide recreational opportunities for residents while also improving access to health care and securing numerous jobs. I want to thank my colleagues for recognizing the importance of these projects to the communities in my district."

Canfield agreed.

"I want to join Senator Green in expressing my sincere gratitude to my colleagues for approving these measures," he said. "These projects are major improvements for our districts and will greatly improve the lives of area residents."

Aside from local projects, Green indicated the new budget will benefit Thumb residents in a number of other ways, including more money for schools.

"For eight years now, the Legislature has approved a balanced budget ahead of schedule," he said. "The negotiations were tough, and I don't support every item in the budget, but my colleagues and I worked hard, put our differences aside and came up with a product that invests in our state's key needs, saves money for a rainy day and will benefit Michigan's hardworking taxpayers."

The School Aid (K-12) budget invests \$14.8 billion into Michigan schools, which Green called the largest investment in the state's history.

Schools will see a foundation allowance increase of between \$120 and \$240 per pupil, and skilled trades programs will see \$40.9 million to prepare workers for high-demand jobs, he said.

"The 2018-2019 budget also increases funding for our state's aging roads and bridges," Green added. "For years, Michiganders have been saying the state's crumbling roads and bridges are a priority. My constituents and residents from all over the state have made it clear that we need to do better — and this budget puts us in a position to do so. The appropriations in this budget increase the total new investment in our roads to \$2.4 billion since 2017."

Green said he was also happy to announce funding to attract more agriculture jobs to the state.

"I have always been an avid proponent of Michigan's agriculture industry," Green said. "This budget includes a \$5 million investment aimed at bringing more food processing plants to the state. Four years ago, I worked to secure funding that brought in a pork processing plant, along with nearly 1,000 jobs to the state of Michigan. It is my hope that we can continue to attract companies in the food processing industry and provide jobs for Michiganders."

Also included is money to hire more state police troopers, more corrections workers and more conservation officers.

The Legislature increased revenue sharing for local governments to spend on their needs, increased funding to further improve sexual assault programs on our state's campuses and boosted Pure Michigan tourism promotion funding by \$1 million, according to Green.

The budget invests another \$58 million in school safety initiatives such as OK2SAY, increases the state's rainy day fund to \$1 billion and invests more than \$80 million to protect the Great Lakes and natural resources.

"One of my biggest priorities as a legislator has been using taxpayer dollars in a fiscally conservative, efficient manner," Green said. "This budget ensures funding for essential state programs and services, pays down debt, invests in our state's future and ensures that the state lives within its means like so many hardworking families across the state."

The fiscal year 2018-2019 budget is awaiting Gov. Rick Snyder's signature.