

**TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2013
9:30 A.M.**

**H. H. PURDY BUILDING BOARD ROOM
125 W. Lincoln Street
Caro, MI**

125 W. Lincoln Street
Caro, MI 48723

Phone: 989-672-3700
Fax : 989-672-4011

Call to Order – Chairperson Bardwell
Prayer – Commissioner Bardwell
Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Allen
Roll Call – Clerk Fetting
Adoption of Agenda
Action on Previous Meeting Minutes (To be handed out)
Brief Public Comment Period
Consent Agenda Resolution (None)
New Business
 -Summary of County Issues (See Correspondence #1)
 -2012 Accomplishments (See Correspondence #2)
 -2013 Initial Work Program (See Correspondence #3)
 -County Activities and Projects Summary (See Correspondence #4)
 -Staffing Changes in County Prosecutor's Office
 -Sheriff Department Detective Retirement (See Correspondence #5)
 -Court Staffing Reorganization
Old Business
Correspondence/Resolutions

COMMISSIONER LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS

BARDWELL

ALLEN

BIERLEIN

KIRKPATRICK

TRISCH

Closed Session (If Necessary)

Other Business as Necessary

Extended Public Comment

Adjournment

Note: If you need accommodations to attend this meeting please notify the Tuscola County Controller/Administrator's Office (989-672-3700) two days in advance of the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

- #1 Summary of County Issues
- #2 2012 County Accomplishments
- #3 2013 Initial Work Program
- #4 County Activities and Projects
- #5 Sheriff Dept. Detective Retirement
- #6 December 6, 2012 Road Commission Minutes
- #7 Wind Tax Issue Meeting Notice

TUSCOLA COUNTY CONTROLLER/ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

Michael R. Hoagland
Controller/Administrator
mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org

125 W. Lincoln St., Suite 500
Caro, Michigan 48723

Telephone
989-672-3700

To: Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

From: Controller/Administrator

Date: Wednesday, January 2, 2013

RE: Overview of Current Major County Issues

County Issues Summary

1. Wind energy assessing and taxation
2. Health insurance cost increases and federal health insurance changes in 2014
3. Jail overcrowding and aging facility
4. Potential establishment of dental clinics for citizens without insurance
5. Agricultural groundwater irrigation and impacts on residential wells
6. Financial impacts of state changes in the personal property tax
7. Maintaining joint Huron/Tuscola Equalization Director and cost savings – in jeopardy with State Tax Commission ruling
8. Developing financial projections to determine strategy 2013 labor negotiations and budget development
9. Declining Great Lakes water levels
10. Economic development – job creation – county unemployment rate remains high
11. Impact of potential state/federal revenue cuts on county government
12. Working to achieve comparable county/court personal policies
13. Fracking for gas, regulations, land leases, protection of ground water, etc.
14. Adjusting to major staff turnover
15. Unfunded state and federal mandates
16. Road Commission funding, gas tax
17. Maintenance of 14 county facilities twenty year plan
18. Potential re-use of Camp Tuscola
19. Determine the effects of Right-To-Work law on county labor and union contract negotiations
20. Others.....

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Telephone
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To: Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

From: Controller/Administrator

Date: Wednesday, January 2, 2013

RE: 2012 Accomplishments

Summary of 2012 County Accomplishments

1. Successfully protected wind energy taxes from being eliminated when the state eliminated the personal property tax
2. Fulfilled state required county government transparency requirements with the implementation of the citizens financial guide, performance measures and identification of service base consolidations
3. Prepared a balanced 2013 county budget
4. Completed the 2011 Comprehensive Annual Financial Plan (Audit) with all funds in a positive financial position
5. Settled union contracts for four bargaining units
6. Began the process to issue bonds for the Medical Care Facility for the construction of a small house project in 2013 to provide state of the art patient assisted living in a non-institutional setting
7. Began the implementation of a camera monitoring system for the jail to gain compliance with new federal regulations for prisoners
8. Acquired the former Big Brother/Big Sister Building off of Luder Road for county use at no cost to the county with the further benefit of eliminating the cost of other leased space
9. Gained approval of a \$250,000 Michigan State Housing Development Authority Community Development Block Grant for housing rehabilitation in Tuscola County
10. Initiated a study with local dentists to determine the feasibility of establishing a dental clinic to serve the uninsured residents in Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola counties

11. Bid county owned property for agricultural purposes which resulted in twice the amount of revenue being received compared to the last lease
12. Completed the second year of three years process to implement new radios and next generation 911 at county dispatch
13. Worked with state officials to pass legislation to help resolve the issue concerning the impact of agricultural irrigation on residential water wells
14. Several important building projects were completed in 2012 including: new roofs at the Courthouse and Jail along with bathroom and other remodeling work in District Court
15. The county is working to capitalize on savings by contracting with a company called Xoom to reduce natural gas costs
16. County now has representation on various boards and commissions that are identifying problems and reviewing solutions to declining water levels of the Great Lakes
17. Controller's office and Board of Public Works continued to assist many local units of government with the administrative functions involved with funds borrowed for sewer and water projects including: City of Caro, Village of Mayville, Richville, Village of Millington and Denmark, Wisner and Wisner Townships
18. The county is experiencing unprecedented staff turn over and has been adjusting by reorganizing and rehiring new individuals to various positions
19. Thumb Cellular leased land from the county to build a new tower on county property resulting in an increase in the lease payment increase to the county
20. Workers compensation coverage was changed to the Michigan Association of counties pool which is anticipated to reduce costs
21. County changed their policy on Downtown Development Authority Tax Increment Financing (DDA/TIFA) to not allow captures of tax revenue on the portion of the for which the county has discretion
22. Successful working with the Michigan Association of Counties to increase the amount of taxes the state pays the county for state owned land (payment in lieu of taxes)
23. Gained compliance with PA 152 regarding the amount the county can pay for employer health insurance

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Caro, Michigan 48723

Telephone
989-672-3700

DRAFT

To: Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

From: Controller/Administrator

Date: Wednesday, January 2, 2013

RE: 2013 Initial Work Program

Initial Work Program for 2013**Financial and Personnel**

1. Work with the Michigan Renewable Energy Coalition, utility companies, state officials and the State Tax Commission to determine a fair and equitable method of wind energy assessing and taxation
2. Work with the county health insurance consultants and conduct a county health insurance bidding process to comply with state law and protect employee health insurance coverage at the lowest cost
3. Comply with new federal laws regarding health insurance coverage with assistance from the county health insurance consultants and labor attorney
4. Gain a more in depth understanding of the financial impacts of state changes in the personal property tax on county and local units of government
5. Prepare 2014 and future year financial projections to help determine what strategy to establish for labor negotiations to begin in the summer of 2013
6. Use financial projections to form the basis for 2014 county budget development
7. Work with the State Tax Commission (STC) and Huron County officials to obtain a STC waiver so that the cost savings achieved by having a two county equalization director can continue
8. Work with the county auditors to prepare the 2012 Comprehensive County Financial Report (Audit)
9. Develop specifications and conduct a bidding process for the county audit beginning with the 2013 county audit
10. Work with the Court Administrator and Judges and continue to build uniformity in county and court personnel policies

11. Work to adapt to the unusually high rate of staff turnover in both elected and appointed county positions
12. Determine the new Right-To-Work laws on county labor relationship and union contract negotiations
13. Evaluate the benefit/cost of using a three-year dog licensing schedule
14. Evaluate cost savings achieved by changing natural gas service to Xoom
15. Monitor the \$7 million small house development project being constructed by the County Medical Care Facility
16. Review status and updates regarding the BC/BS access fees lawsuit
17. Provide countywide training on the county attendance system software to capitalize on the efficiencies from this software
18. Conduct transitions audits for the two offices with new department heads (Register of Deeds and County Clerk)
19. Ask the court to continue to provide periodic financial updates regarding the child care funds and friend of the court funds because of their significance to the overall county budget

Building and Grounds

20. Prepare alternative short and long range plans to mitigate jail overcrowding and solve an aging jail facility problem also review with the Sheriff the benefit/cost of locating certain sheriff administrative functions to the lowest level of the Courthouse
21. Work with county health department officials, DEQ and others and review S.B. 1008 to determine alternative solutions to agricultural irrigation and residential well problems
22. Review and update the 20 year plan and cost estimates to maintain the 14 county buildings – incorporate this information into the multi-year county financial planning
23. Work with state officials and public-private interests to determine potential reuses for the former Camp Tuscola
24. Gain assistance from Michigan State University and others for a strengthened understanding of all aspects of Fracking including land leases, environment practices and protection of groundwater
25. Work with the County Economic Development Corporation to prepare an updated county solid waste management plan which will enable application for Brownfield Redevelopment funds

26. Conduct bidding as necessary to implement 2013 budgeted capital improvement projects including: jail shower/remodeling \$88,000, Jail window replacement \$25,000 and Health Department/Department of Human Services parking lot \$160,000

Other

27. Review and analyze a contract to form a joint public-private arrangement to provide dental care for Medicaid eligible citizens in Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola Counties – gain assistance in reviewing the contract from the county attorney and health department officials
28. Remain engaged and active with the Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative and work to seek solutions to low water levels in the great lakes which is having negative economic and ecological impacts
29. Continue to work with the County Economic Development Corporation and other economic development interests to create employment opportunities and overall economic growth
30. Update and make adjustments to the county web site so that it remains relevant and useful to all parties
31. Work to capitalize on cost effective computer and other technology in all county operations
32. Evaluate conducting a forum or another method of continuing exploring with other counties and units of government within Tuscola County to assess methods of service consolidation for efficiency
33. Complete the installation of the camera monitoring system in the county jail for federal compliance
34. Continue to provide administrative services in assisting local units of government with bonding issues involving sewer and water projects
35. Complete the final stage of the radio 911 new generation infrastructure/technology upgrades at the dispatch center
36. Work closely with the Michigan Association of Counties regarding issues such as:
 - State revenue sharing
 - Personal property tax
 - Payment in lieu of taxes
 - Mental Health Substance Abuse merger
 - Unfunded state and federal mandates
 - Road commission gas tax funding
 - State take over of the court system
 - County discretion in setting local fees
 - Juvenile competency

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Telephone
989-672-3700

To: Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

From: Controller Administrator

Date: November 9, 2012

RE: Report of County Activities

Report of County Activities and Projects (As of November 9, 2012)

The following is a brief overview of various county activities and their status as of November 9, 2012. It is intended to be a brief overview of primary projects and activities involving Tuscola County government. The objective is to assist commissioners and others by providing project status updates.

1. **2013 1st Draft County Budget** – The 2013 draft county budget preserves current staffing levels, does not provide wage increases but pays for employee health and retirement system cost increases. The most significant factor impacting the budget is the availability of wind energy revenue for the general fund in 2013. Some of the appropriation reductions required in 2012 have been restored in the 2013 budget. The draft budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners (BOC) to be sent to departments for review and comment. Department requests for budget changes will be reviewed at the November 14, 2012 BOC meeting. A public hearing will then be scheduled for the November 29, 2012 BOC meeting to receive input. Further changes to the budget can be made after the public hearing. The budget can also be adopted after the public hearing or at a subsequent BOC meeting. By law, it has to be adopted before the end of the calendar fiscal year.

2. **Citizens Financial Guide and Performance Dashboard** – County financial transparency and accountability information is required to be summarized on the county website in order to qualify for portions of state revenue sharing payments. Staff submitted the state required Citizens Guide, Performance Dashboard and Projected Budget to gain compliance with some of the new state requirements. The State has approved the information submitted which is now posted on the county website and available in the County Clerk and County Controller Offices for public use. Staff has started to work on the next state requirement which is an explanation of past service consolidations along with new planned service consolidations. Information regarding service consolidations is due to the state by February 1, 2013. The final requirement involves employee compensation which has to be completed by June 1, 2013.

3. **Wind Energy Revenue** – The BOC recently approved an agreement with other counties to pay legal costs to appeal the State Tax Commission (STC) decision to change the multiplier trending schedule that reduces county/local revenue from wind projects by an estimated 27%. Tuscola County's share of legal costs is capped at \$15,000. The STC unilateral decision will result in millions of dollars in reduced revenue to county/local governments. The counties may finance an independent study to determine how wind generators should be fairly assessed. The objective is to work with utility companies to ask the STC to change the new STC multiplier schedule to assess wind generators based on a study that justifies the method of assessing and taxation. Information was recently provided to Fairgrove Township officials to determine if they want to join the effort to reverse the STC decision. Passage of Proposal 3 on the November 6 ballot will further impact Tuscola and other counties with wind generation capabilities.
4. **Labor Negotiations** – The BOC and unions agreed to a one-year contract extension with POAM 911 Dispatchers, POAM Sheriff Deputies, POAM Correction Officers and POLC Command Officers. The BOC has agreed to pay the cost increases for health insurance and retirement for this one-year period of time. Contracts still being negotiated include AFSCME courthouse employees and AFSCME deputies. Commissioner Representatives on the Board of Health are going to discuss 2013 wages/fringe benefits with health department employees in the near future.
5. **Medical Care Facility (MCF) "Small House Project"** – This MCF housing project is planned for construction in the spring of 2013 on property purchased from Davenport University. These housing units are designed for 24/7 care while also providing patients with separate bedrooms and independent living. Two units are being planned with 10 beds in each housing unit. Total project cost is estimated at \$7 million with \$4.6 to be financed and 2.4 million using MCF reserves. The county bond attorney recommended that bonds be paid through a dedicated millage or through the use of revenue bonds. The full faith and credit of the general fund is not used when revenue bonds are issued. Financing using revenue bonds requires the MCF Board to adjust and to correct any funding difficulties if they occur in the future. Financial consultants for the project are Baird and Company. Steps to issue the bonds are underway. Procedures to gain final state approval for the project are also being undertaken. It is important that the Commissioner liaison to the MCF monitor the status of this project and provide status reports to the BOC as this project moves forward.
6. **Federal Prisoner Rape Elimination Act** – The Sheriff Department requested and the BOC approved funding for the purchase of indoor and outdoor security cameras to gain compliance with the Federal Prisoner Rape Elimination Act. This purchase was made to comply with the new federal mandate. Cost of the camera system was \$55,415. The low bid was received from Mid-State. Up to one-half of the cost may be received from the county insurance carrier through a grant. The Sheriff will not initiate the project until grant funding is approved. It is anticipated that the project will be completed before the end of the year.
7. **Big Brother/Big Sister (BB/BS) Lease Cancellation** – When the BB/BS operation discontinued, the County was fortunate to gain ownership of the former BB/BS Pole

Building at no cost to the county. The cancellation of a lease for the building which was located on county property turned ownership of the building over to the county. This pole building is being used for storage for remonumentation, buildings and grounds and the Sheriff Department. The ability to use this building has enabled storage space lease costs paid by both the Sheriff and the remonumentation program to be eliminated resulting in county savings.

8. **Staffing Turnover** – The County has experienced turnover of several key positions in 2012. Dawn Bowden was hired in June to replace the former Human Resource Director. Pat Finn who was the long term Emergency Services Director retired in August and was replaced by Steve Anderson. With the retirement of Richard Hofmeister who was the Sheriff Department Information Technology (IT) staff member the county chose to provide this service by expanding the computer services contract with Zimco. Steve Erickson was hired to replace the former Economic Development Corporation Director. The Chief Judge is in the process of refilling the vacant Deputy Court Administrator/Circuit Court Law Clerk position. Other recent staff turnovers include several deputy sheriff positions, Circuit Court secretary position and the Investigator in the Prosecutor's office. In addition, there will be several newly elected officials beginning in 2013.
9. **Retirement System Funding** – Staff recently received the 2011 County Actuarial Report from the Municipal Employees Retirement System (MERS). The report provides information that determines 2013 county payment requirements for each of the 16 separate Tuscola County divisions in MERS. Total assets for all divisions are over \$24 million as of 12/31/11. Total unfunded accrued liability for all divisions as of 12/31/11 is an estimated \$3.6 million dollars. MERS does not require this total liability to be funded at 100%. The funding percentage for these divisions varies from 98.9% to 54.8% for major divisions. The required contribution for all 16 divisions for 2013 is approximately \$504,000. These costs have been incorporated into the 2013 county budget. It is important to note that the county does not provide health insurance upon retirement, resulting in overall low county legacy costs.
10. **Housing Grant Application** – For approximately 20 years, low and moderate income residents of the county have benefited from a Michigan State Housing Development Authority Community Development Block Grant for housing rehabilitation. Grant funds have been used for housing rehabilitation and repairs. The county has received an estimated \$125,000 per year. At a recent BOC meeting, application for a two year grant of \$250,000 was approved. The County contracts with the Human Development Commission for grant administration. The County will know before the end of 2012 whether the 2013-2014 grant is approved.
11. **Jail Overcrowding** – The County continues to grapple with more prisoners than available jail beds to house these prisoners. This situation forces prisoners to be housed in other county jails. For several years, costs to house prisoners in other counties were contained, but for 2012 costs have begun to increase again. The county was recently able to add 6 more beds at the jail without cost because of changes by the state in prisoner housing regulations. The 2013 budget includes approximately \$88,000 to make shower and other changes to the C-Wing of the jail which enables

adding 5 more jail beds. The sheriff has sent a letter to the union asking if this change can be made without increasing the number of current corrections officers. The union has not responded, so it is assumed that the 5 beds can be added without increasing corrections officers. Even with these additional beds, prisoner overcrowding is projected to continue into future years.

12. Irrigation and Residential Water Wells – During the summer of 2012, many residential wells dried up in the Gagetown area due to a variety of factors. These factors included well age and depth (including aquifer type), proximity of irrigation wells, and drought conditions. Meetings were held with area farmers, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, legislators, and county officials regarding the issue. Community Forums were also held with residents impacted by the lack of water. Senate Bill 1008 was drafted to aid residents in dealing with this issue through a formal process overseen by the Michigan Department of Environmental Health. This bill has not yet passed. The local farmers have also agreed to conduct an aquifer study by an independent company to show the areas impacted by their irrigation wells. If next summer has similar drought conditions, the issue could resurface.

13. Michigan Community Dental Clinics – In June of 2012, the Michigan Community Dental Clinics (MCDC) held meetings with Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola County officials to discuss the possibility of establishing a program in the Thumb to provide adult dental care for Medicaid recipients and low income uninsured people. Local dentists expressed a desire to investigate the possibility of starting their own program to serve the Thumb. The Tuscola BOC agreed to delay any action to start a program with MCDC until the dentists in the Thumb complete their study. The public sector objectives are to minimize risk and cost while providing for the needed dental service. Mr. Jim Rutkowski is a consultant hired by the local dentists to assist in studying the potential of establishing a local program. The Tuscola BOC formed a committee to work with the dentists to determine the feasibility of a local program. The study is anticipated to be completed in early 2013.

14. MAC Legislative Priorities – One of the significant concerns of MAC is elimination of the Personal Property Tax (PPT) without full guaranteed replacement revenue. There is also concern that elimination of the industrial portion of the PPT may be on the agenda with the current lame duck sessions. Other statewide priorities of MAC include: PILT, state revenue sharing, court funding, unfunded mandates. A complete list of 2012 MAC Legislative Priorities has been provided in a separate document.

15. Infrastructure Work – The Controller's office continues to assist many local units of government with the administrative functions involved with funds borrowed for sewer and water projects. Current sewer and water projects include: City of Caro, Village of Mayville, Richville, Village of Millington and Denmark, Wisner and Wisner Townships. Also, the county is retiring bonds for the State Police Post and the purchase of the Purdy Building along with the Medical Care Facility upgrade. The Denmark Township water project has been controversial with some residents expressing objections to the project. Approximately \$400,000 in engineering and related costs has occurred.

Assessments in the water district have been determined. A law suit has been filed by residents in Denmark Township related to this project. The County Drain Commissioner oversees approximately 550 drains in the county. The County is responsible for a portion of drainage projects which increased from \$416,000 in 2012 to \$446,000 for 2013.

16. County Building and Grounds Projects – Several important projects have been completed by the Buildings and Grounds Department in 2012 including new roofs at the Courthouse and Jail. Work in District Court includes: painting along with remodeling of the judicial office and bathroom. Remodeling work for the Courthouse basement was not completed because it was determined that remodeling this area for Probate Court juvenile activities was not viable at this time. Jail window replacement work has been postponed until 2013 to seek a vendor who can do the specialized window replacement required. County property was bid under a lease to continue using the property for farming purposes. By going through the bidding process, the annual rent received for the property was more than doubled to approximately \$14,000 per year. The county is working to capitalize on savings by contracting with a company called Xoom to reduce natural gas costs. Major projects planned for 2013 include: Health Department parking lot replacement and jail changes to provide for 5 additional beds.

17. Central Dispatch Motorola Radio Project – Central Dispatch has recently completed the installation and implementation of a new radio system. This system replaces the County owned EF Johnson radio system that was installed in 1996. The EF Johnson radios and infrastructure were no longer repairable. EF Johnson no longer made replacement parts for the end user radios or the infrastructure. Sprint/Nextel acquired public safety frequencies throughout the US which included Tuscola County. Because of this, Sprint/Nextel was obligated to replace 367 mobile and portable radios. Tuscola County used this opportunity to move away from EF Johnson and move to the state radio system and Motorola radios. This left Tuscola County having to purchase 3 Dispatch radio consoles and two repeaters on the state radio site on M-46. The cost to the county was approx \$1.6 million. The remaining balance to be paid off over the next two years is \$472,000. All of the end user radios and installation was paid for by Sprint/Nextel as per their agreement with the FCC in obtaining some of the Public Safety radio frequencies.

18. Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG911) – The demands of the public are moving 9-1-1 toward the ability of dispatch centers to receive text messages, photos and streaming video. In order to meet these requirements, dispatch centers throughout the US will need to upgrade their existing land line 911 trunked telephone systems. Dispatch centers will need to move to an IP (internet protocol) based phone systems. This type of phone system will enable dispatch centers to receive text messages, photos and videos. Tuscola County Central Dispatch has already upgraded our recording system to handle texts, photos and videos.

19. Joint Huron/Tuscola Equalization Director is in Jeopardy – Several years ago Tuscola and Huron Counties decided to consolidate services by having a joint Equalization Director to serve both counties. The counties entered into an agreement whereby

Huron County pays Tuscola County to provide Equalization Director services for Huron County. This service base consolidation is estimated to save the taxpayers of the counties \$35,000 to \$40,000 per year. The STC has indicated that beginning in 2014 this arrangement cannot continue because the taxable value of the counties is too large. The counties are seeking help from our state representatives and will be appealing the STC decision.

20. Recycling – The recycling operation of Tuscola County continues to provide a valuable service to county residents. The Recycling Director and Building and Grounds Director are a joint position which reduces costs for both operations. Recycling has been in county operation for approximately 16 years. Funding is provided through a millage and sale of recycled materials. The price for recycled materials has recently declined. The volume of material recycled at the facility continues to increase. Recycling with financial assistance from Mosquito Abatement provides a highly successful tire recycling program by placing trailers in local communities for residents to recycle tires. Another beneficial program is recycling of household hazardous waste which is conducted using grant funds from the state. Inadequate storage space for recycled material remains an issue. Funding was provided to increase storage capabilities.

21. Mosquito Abatement – County residents support the county Mosquito Abatement program. This operation is financed by a special purpose millage. Mosquito Abatement has been in existence for approximately 16 years. This is a major county program with an annual budget of over \$900,000 to reduce mosquitoes in targeted areas of the county and to improve our quality of life. The operation is in the process of replacing original equipment including trucks and treatment equipment. One of the two co-directors may retire soon. Preliminary discussion is to move to one director and hire a new biologist. Other mosquito abatement activity planned for 2013 is renovation of certain office and other work areas for increased efficiency.

22. Caro Residential Re-Entry Facility – This facility has closed and no re-use for the facility has been determined. There was once discussion of re-use as a veteran's facility. Approximately 30 to 35 jobs have been lost to the local economy with the Department of Corrections decision to close the facility.

23. Some of the other recent county activities include:

- Downtown Development Authority/Tax Increment Financing (DDA/TIFA) changes whereby the BOC will discontinue capture of county tax base in the future portions of DDA/TIFA for which the county has control
- The Blue Cross/Blue Shield lawsuit regarding access fees was continued
- A new body transport contract with Emergency Medical Services and funeral directors was adopted
- County changed workers compensation coverage to the Michigan Association of Counties Service Corporation

- County signed a lease to allow Thumb Cellular to erect a new Cellular Telephone Tower



Tuscola County Sheriff's Office

120 Court Street • Caro, MI 48723

Leland Teschendorf, Sheriff

John Skrent, Undersheriff

Phone (989) 673-8161

Fax (989) 673-8164

December 13, 2012

Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
Mr. Michael Hoagland, County Controller

Attached is a letter of retirement from Detective Sergeant Michael Pine. After 26 years of service to the citizens of Tuscola County his last day of employment at the sheriff's office will be January 18, 2013.

I am requesting authorization to promote a current deputy sheriff to the rank of sergeant and hire a full-time replacement to fill the deputy's position within 90 days of Sgt. Pine's departure.

Additionally I am attempting to obtain letters of agreement from the deputies and supervisors bargaining units to allow the temporary assignment of a deputy to the detective's position until the promotional process can be completed. We are in the process of obtaining a comprehensive promotional exam because we have not had a need for any promotions in the last 4 years and our former provider has retired.

If you need any additional information or have any questions contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Leland Teschendorf, Sheriff



Tuscola County Sheriff's Office

420 Court Street • Caro, MI 48723

Lee Teschendorf, Sheriff
Glen Skrent, Undersheriff

Phone (989) 673-8161

Fax (989) 673-8164

November 7, 2012

Sheriff Teschendorf:

First let me congratulate you on your reelection, clearly the public understood that you were the best candidate and felt strongly that you deserved four more years in office. Well done!

I am writing to inform you that after 32 years as a police officer I have decided to retire.

For the past 26 years I have proudly served four sheriffs here in Tuscola County. I have worked in the jail, and as a road and detective sergeant. I have had the honor to work for the citizens of Tuscola County where I was born and raised.

I leave with a lot of great memories and few that keep me up some nights! But that is the nature of this business as you well know.

I will terminate my employment here on January 18, 2013 and have faxed my paperwork to the Michigan Municipal Retirement System.

I wanted to allow you some time so that you can choose someone to take my spot and ensure I would be around to help them in the transition.

Sincerely
Michael T Pine #46
Detective Sergeant
Michael T Pine #46

Michael T Pine

December 6, 2012

A regular meeting of the Board was held in their offices at 1733 S. Mertz Rd., Caro, Michigan on Thursday, December 6, 2012 at 8:00 A.M.

Present: Road Commissioners John Laurie, Gary Parsell, Mike Zwerk, Julie Matuszak, and Pat Sheridan; County Highway Engineer Michele Zawerucha, Superintendent/Manager Jay Tuckey, Director of Finance/Secretary-Clerk Michael Tuckey.

Also Present: County Commissioner Roy Petzold.

Motion by Parsell seconded by Matuszak that the minutes of the November 21, 2012 regular meeting of the Board be approved. Sheridan, Matuszak, Zwerk, Parsell, Laurie --- Carried.

Payroll in the amount of \$141,510.35 and bills in the amount of \$35,040.00 covered by vouchers #12-42 and #12-43 were presented and audited.

Motion by Zwerk seconded by Parsell that the payroll and bills be approved, and that bills be paid next week upon receipt of township road account deposits at the discretion of the Director of Finance. Sheridan, Matuszak, Zwerk, Parsell, Laurie --- Carried.

Brief Public Comment Segment:

(1) Mr. Ken Dunton appeared before the Board to discuss the Road Commission's retired employee benefit package and presented a copy of the board minutes from November 3, 1994 regarding the same.

Terry and Sabina Monroe appeared before the Board to discuss Old State Road and the Michigan Department of Transportation's M-25 bridge project. Mr. and Mrs. Monroe expressed their concerns regarding the additional traffic on Old State Road during the M-25 bridge closure. The Board explained the scope of the project and the proposed detour routes. Other discussion included the weight limit posting on the Old State Road Bridge and law enforcement on the detour route. After further discussion, the Board requested that Management meet with the Michigan Department of Transportation to improve the warning signs regarding the detour route, and that the Old State Road Bridge be inspected and reviewed due to the additional traffic from the M-25 bridge closure.

Management and the Board further discussed a proposed agreement between the Road Commission and the City of Caro regarding vehicle fleet maintenance. Director of Finance Michael Tuckey presented to the Board a further revised proposal received from the Caro City Council's Finance Committee. After reviewing the revised proposal and after further discussion, the following motion was introduced:

Motion by Zwerk seconded by Parsell that the Tuscola County Road Commission approves the final revised draft of the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Caro for Mechanic Repair Services, pending the final approval of the Caro City Council. Sheridan, Matuszak, Zwerk, Parsell, Laurie --- Carried.

Motion by Parsell seconded by Sheridan that the Road Commission hire Richard Shaver and Kenneth Sebert as full time employees in the Laborer classification effective Monday, December 10, 2012; all in accordance with the Union Labor Agreement. Sheridan, Matuszak, Zwerk, Parsell, Laurie --- Carried.

Management and the Board further discussed the Road Commission's group health insurance plan. Management and the Board discussed complying with Public Act 152, the Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act, as well as continuing the Health Reimbursement Account as specified in the plan proposal. After further discussion, the following motion was introduced:

Motion by Zwerk seconded by Sheridan to approve E.H.I.M., Inc. as the Third Party Administrator for the Road Commission's Health Reimbursement Account for the 2013 plan year, all in accordance with the Blue Cross & Blue Shield PPO-12A Plan. Sheridan, Matuszak, Zwerk, Parsell, Laurie --- Carried.

Director of Finance Michael Tuckey presented to the Board a revised 2012 Budget. After discussion and review of various financial reports, the following motion was introduced:

Motion by Sheridan seconded by Matuszak to approve the revised 2012 Budget as presented. Sheridan, Matuszak, Zwerk, Parsell, Laurie --- Carried.

Director of Finance Michael Tuckey presented to the Board a proposed 2013 Budget. After discussion and review of various financial reports, the Board will table approving the proposed 2013 Budget pending the Budget Hearing scheduled at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Motion by Parsell seconded by Zwerk to approve the request from Air Advantage to install their fiber optic cable network to the Cemetery Road Bridge over the Cass River south of Cass City. Sheridan, Matuszak, Zwerk, Parsell, Laurie --- Carried.

County Highway Engineer Zaverucha reported to the Board that the Tuscola County Local Task Force 7A meeting will be held Monday, December 17, 2012 at 1:00 P.M.

County Highway Engineer Zaverucha presented to the Board the county-wide primary road list of proposed future paving projects.

Motion by Zwerk seconded by Parsell that the meeting be adjourned at 10:20 A.M. Sheridan, Matuszak, Zwerk, Parsell, Laurie --- Carried.

Chairman

Secretary-Clerk of the Board

Mike Hoagland

From: Laura Tyll [laura@huroncounty.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2012 10:37 AM
To: gilfordtwp@airadv.net; jamsterburg@giresd.net; nfrost@gratiotmi.com; celftman@airadvantage.net; rdwubble@comcast.net; krause.michaelp@gmail.com; carl@huroncounty.com; jmurphy@hisd.k12.mi.us; fknizacky@masoncounty.net; t_oconnor@echoicemi.com; kdorman@sanilacounty.net; dlange@sanilac.k12.mi.us; dick.jane@echoicemi.com; mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org; gpierce@tisd.k12.mi.us; jerry@wheelertownship.com; essenmacherj@co.huron.mi.us; rsundquist@clarkhill.com; nestola64@hotmail.com; kandersen@lighthousegroup.net; wc48601@aol.com; dlongbethany@gmail.com; todflacker@sbcglobal.net; mharris@mcbain.org

Subject: January 10th Meeting

Greetings! With all the holidays coming up after the first of the year we will get back to Wind Tax Issues. We will be hosting a meeting at the Bay City Wirt Public Library- 500 Center Avenue Bay City, MI 48708. The meeting will be held on January 10th at 10:00 a.m. Conference calling will be available if you are unable to make the meeting in person. Please call 1.866.906.7447 enter code 3613190.

Please send me a quick email or phone call to let me know who's calling in and coming in person. Thanks!

This meeting will be key to setting our actions for the critical first quarter of 2013 so try and attend in person or by conference call.

Agenda:

1. Report from Rick Sundquist
 - a. Update of recent legislation and commitment by Lt. Gov. Calley
 - b. Treasury Letter
 - c. Study/Consultant

2. Strategy Discussions
 - a. DTE
 - b. STC
 - c. Board of Reviews
 - d. Other Topics

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Laura Tyll
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