



TUSCOLA COUNTY

Board of Commissioners

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, September 14, 2023 – 8:00 AM

H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro, MI 48723

Public may participate in the meeting electronically:

(US) +1 929-276-1248 PIN:112 203 398#

Join by Hangouts Meet: meet.google.com/mih-jntr-jya

8:00 AM Call to Order - Chairperson Vaughan
Prayer - Commissioner Young
Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Vaughan
Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

Page

Adoption of Agenda

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

1. Action on Previous Meeting Minutes 5 - 10
[Board of Commissioners - 31 Aug 2023 - Minutes - Pdf](#)

Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only

Consent Agenda

[Committee of the Whole - 11 Sep 2023 - Minutes - Pdf](#) 11 - 13

1. Sheriff's Office 2022 Annual Report
2. Motorola Service Agreement Renewal
3. Bid for Painting Health Department Building

New Business

1. Republican and Democratic Board of Canvasser Member Appointments by Vote - Jodi Fetting, County Clerk, CCO

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 2. | Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Program - Clayette Zechmeister, Controller/Administrator
CDBG Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Program - Due September 25, 2023
Community Development Block Grant Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Program | 14 - 20 |
| 3. | Proposed Resolution 2023-20 Opposing Solar & Wind Developments - Clayette Zechmeister, Controller/Administrator
Proposed Resolution 2023-20 Opposing Solar & Wind Developments | 21 - 22 |

Old Business

Correspondence/Resolutions

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| 1. | Legislative Update 9-8-23 - The Michigan Association of Counties | 23 - 25 |
|----|--|---------|

Commissioner Liaison Committee Reports

Lutz

- Board of Health
- Community Corrections Advisory Board
- Department of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison
- Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works
- Jail Planning Committee
- Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
- MAC Judiciary Committee
- MEMS All Hazard
- Local Units of Government Activity Report
- Human Development Commission Board of Directors Liaison

Koch

- Behavioral Health Systems Board
- Recycling Advisory
- Jail Planning Committee
- MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC)

Local Units of Government

Bardwell

Behavioral Health Systems Board

Caro DDA/TIFA

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

MAC 7th District

MAC Workers Comp Board

MAC Finance Committee

NACo Rural Action Caucus (RAC)

Local Units of Government Activity Report

Young

Board of Public Works

County Road Commission Liaison

Dispatch Authority Board

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Great Start Collaborative

Human Services Collaborative Council (HSCC)

MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee

Region VII Economic Development Planning

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Senior Services Advisory Council

Tuscola 2020

Local Units of Government Activity Report

Vaughan

Board of Health

County Planning Commission

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

MAC Environmental Regulatory

Mid-Michigan Mosquito Control Advisory Committee

NACO-Energy, Environment & Land Use
Parks and Recreation Commission
Tuscola County Fair Board Liaison
Local Units of Government Activity Report

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 (2) days in advance of the meeting.



MINUTES

Board of Commissioners

Meeting

8:00 AM - Thursday, August 31, 2023

H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro, MI 48723

Commissioner Vaughan called the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro, MI 48723, on Thursday, August 31, 2023, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Prayer - Commissioner Bardwell

Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Young

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present In-Person: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Bill Lutz

Commissioners Absent: Matt Koch

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Clayette Zechmeister, Mike Miller, Steve Anderson

Also Present Virtual: Tracy Violet, Cody Horton, Debbie Babich, Treasurer Ashley Bennett, Mary Drier, Shawn Robinson, Dara Hood, Greg Rynearson, Mark Haney, Mitchell Holmes, Barry Lapp, Don Derryberry, Cindy Hughes

At 8:02 a.m., there were a total of 14 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Adoption of Agenda

1. Adoption of Agenda -

2023-M-202

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Young to adopt the agenda as amended.
Motion Carried.

Action on Previous Meeting Minutes

1. Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -

2023-M-203

Motion by Thomas Bardwell, seconded by Thomas Young to adopt the meeting minutes from the August 17, 2023 Regular meeting and the August 17, 2023 Closed Session. Motion Carried.

Brief Public Comment Period for Agenda Items Only

None

Consent Agenda

2023-M-204

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Bill Lutz that the Consent Agenda Minutes and Consent Agenda Items from the August 28, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Annual Delegation of School Plan Review and Inspection Authority -
Move that SAFEbuilt be approved for the annual administration and enforcement for plan review and inspection for school buildings for Akron-Fairgrove Schools, Caro Community Schools, Cass City Public Schools, Kingston Community Schools, Mayville Community Schools, Millington Community Schools, Reese Public Schools, Unionville-Sebewaing Area Schools, Vassar Public Schools and Tuscola ISD. Annual approval of this inspection work is a requirement of the State of Michigan. Also, all appropriate signatures are authorized.
2. 2023 L-4029 Tax Rate Request -
Move that form L-4029 authorizing the 2023 Tax Rate Levy for County General Operating and Special Voted Tax Rates be approved and all appropriate signatures are authorized.
3. 2024 Budget Calendar -
Move to approve the 2024 Draft Budget Development Calendar as presented.

New Business

1. Proposed Resolution Regarding the State of Michigan Sanitary Code -

2023-M-205

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Young that Resolution 2023-19 Opposing State of Michigan Sanitary Code Senate Bills 299, 300 and House Bills 4479, 4480 be approved and placed on file.

Yes: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, and Bill Lutz

Absent: Matt Koch

Motion Carried.

2. County Portion of Funding the Smith Drain -

2023-M-206

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Bill Lutz to approve an advance appropriation of \$170,272.00 from the General Fund Provision of Government Services (PGS) balance to prepay the Smith Drain Project. This will result in an approximate savings of \$88,361.34 in interest over the next 15 years. Also, all appropriate budget amendments are authorized. Motion Carried.

3. Dispatch to Refill Vacant Full-Time Position Clarification -

2023-M-207

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Young to amend Motion 2023-M-190 Consent Item #5 to correct the stated hourly wage from \$20.91 to \$18.89.

Motion Carried.

4. Sheriff's Department to Refill Vacant Full-Time Position Clarification -

2023-M-208

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to amend Motion 2023-M-190 Consent Item #6 to correct the stated employment status from full-time to part-time and to also correct the start date from August 14, 2023 to August 23, 2023. Motion Carried.

5. Tuscola County Medical Care Facility Funds Transfer Request -

2023-M-209

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Bill Lutz that per the request from the Medical Care Community Chief Executive Officer, Robert Cody Rabideau, that \$155,868.00 be transferred from the Voted Medical Care Facility Fund (298) to the regular Medical Care Facility Fund (291) for the items listed in the August 29, 2023 letter. Motion Carried.

6. Purdy Building Closure for Security Training -

2023-M-210

Motion by Thomas Young, seconded by Bill Lutz to close the H.H. Purdy Building on Thursday, September 7, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. until approximately 12:00 p.m. for security training. Notice to be posted on the H.H. Purdy Building (doors) and on the homepage of the County website. Motion Carried.

Old Business

None

Correspondence/Resolutions

1. Legislative Update 8-18-23 - The Michigan Association of Counties
2. Legislative Update 8-25-23 - The Michigan Association of Counties
3. Charlevoix County Resolution 23-084

Commissioner Liaison Committee Reports

Vaughan

Board of Health

County Planning Commission

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment
EDC received \$800,000.00 in grant awards recently.

MAC Environmental Regulatory

Mid-Michigan Mosquito Control Advisory Committee

NACO-Energy, Environment & Land Use

Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuscola County Fair Board Liaison

Local Units of Government Activity Report

Lutz

Board of Health

Community Corrections Advisory Board

Department of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison
Update provided.

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Jail Planning Committee

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

MAC Judiciary Committee

MEMS All Hazard

Local Units of Government Activity Report

Human Development Commission Board of Directors Liaison

Koch

Absent

Behavioral Health Systems Board
Recycling Advisory
Jail Planning Committee
MI Renewable Energy Coalition (MREC)
Local Units of Government

Bardwell

Behavioral Health Systems Board
Mental Health issues were discussed at the meeting. Presentation to be scheduled to allow information to be provided regarding that as well as to have Dr. Morrone to report.
Caro DDA/TIFA
Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment
MAC 7th District
Meets in October.
MAC Workers Comp Board
MAC Finance Committee
NACo Rural Action Caucus (RAC)
Local Units of Government Activity Report

Young

Board of Public Works
County Road Commission Liaison
Dispatch Authority Board
Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works
Great Start Collaborative
Human Services Collaborative Council (HSCC)
MAC Agricultural/Tourism Committee
Region VII Economic Development Planning
Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative
Phragmites will be sprayed at Vanderbilt Park.
Senior Services Advisory Council
Tuscola 2020

Local Units of Government Activity Report

Other Business as Necessary

1. West Nile Virus Update -
There have been positive cases found throughout Tuscola County.
2. RAP Grants -
Clayette Zechmeister reported the two RAP Grants were awarded. One for the K-9 program and one for Beacon Emergency Systems project.
3. MAC Newsletter - Losing Local Control over Green Energy

At 8:32 a.m., there were a total of 19 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Extended Public Comment

None

Adjournment

2023-M-211

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Young to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 a.m.
Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk, CCO



MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Meeting

8:00 AM - Monday, September 11, 2023

H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln St., Caro, MI 48723

Commissioner Vaughan called the regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building Board Room, 125 W. Lincoln St., Caro, MI 48723, on Monday, September 11, 2023, to order at 8:00 AM local time.

Roll Call - Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present In-Person: Thomas Young, Thomas Bardwell, Kim Vaughan, Bill Lutz

Commissioners Absent: Matt Koch

Others Present In-Person: Clerk Jodi Fetting, Tracy Violet, Clayette Zechmeister, Steve Anderson, Mike Miller, Jon Ramirez, Heidi Stark, Sheriff Glen Skrent

Also Present Virtual: Eean Lee, Mary Drier, Mark Haney, Cristi Smith, Don Derryberry, Brandon Bertram, Carrie Tabar, Amanda Ertman, Cindy Hughes, Dara Hood, Debbie Babich, Shannon Beach, Register Marianne Brandt, Kim Brinkman, Bob Baxter

At 8:07 a.m., there were a total of 18 participants attending the meeting virtually.

County Updates

None

New Business

1. Sheriff's Office 2022 Annual Report -
Glen Skrent, Sheriff, presented the 2022 Annual Report. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.
2. Update on the New K9 Officer -
Glen Skrent, Sheriff, stated K9 Bert should arrive in Tuscola County today.
3. Tuscola County General Development Plan -
Heidi Stark, Planning Commission, presented information on the proposed 5-year Master Plan. Board will review the matter to determine if the Board would like to adopt the plan.

4. Motorola Service Agreement Renewal -
Jon Ramirez, Dispatch Director, explained the details of the renewal agreement. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

-Board discussed the need for generators at County Buildings.

5. Republican and Democratic Board of Canvasser Member Appointments -
Jodi Fetting, County Clerk, CCO, explained the Board will vote on appointments to the Board of Canvassers on Thursday.

Old Business

None

Finance/Technology

Primary Finance/Technology

None

On-Going and Other Finance

None

On-Going and Other Technology

None

Building and Grounds

Primary Building and Grounds

1. Update on 2023 Capital Projects -
Mike Miller, Buildings and Grounds Director, reviewed the 2023 projects that have been completed, are underway or are being bid out.
2. Bid for Painting Health Department Building -
Mike Miller, Buildings and Grounds Director, no bids were received from the Request For Proposal (RFP) so Director Miller reached out to Dan's Painting. The price for the hallways and common area is \$17,946.00 and the office areas is \$2,800.00. Matter to be placed on the Consent Agenda.

On-Going and Other Building and Grounds

None

Personnel

Primary Personnel

None

On-Going and Other Personnel

None

Other Business as Necessary

None

Internet Connection Lost at 9:37 a.m.

Internet Connection Restored at 9:44 a.m.

At 9:47 a.m., there were a total of 8 participants attending the meeting virtually.

Public Comment Period

None

Adjournment

Motion by Bill Lutz, seconded by Thomas Bardwell to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 a.m.
Motion Carried.

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk, CCO

DRAFT



Tuscola County

Clayette Zechmeister <zclay@tuscolacounty.org>

[EXTERNAL] FW: CDBG Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Program - Due September 25, 2023

1 message

Brian Neuville <briann@hdc-caro.org>

Thu, Aug 31, 2023 at 1:16 PM

To: Clayette Zechmeister <zclay@tuscolacounty.org>, Jeff Smith <smithj@co.huron.mi.us>, "tbowers@sanilacounty.net" <tbowers@sanilacounty.net>, Nathan Roskey <nroskey@sanilacounty.net>, Jackie Arnold <jarnold@lapeercounty.org>, Moses Sanzo <msanzo@lapeercounty.org>

POTENTIAL HOMEOWNER REPAIR FUNDING

Please review the attached notice ---- MSHDA has some new funding that appears very similar to the old CDBG Homeowner program that will allow for repairs with no lien if work is below \$10,000, or a 5 year forgivable lien for work between \$10,000 to a max of \$40,000. Let me know if you are interested in the program and if so please reach out to me as the funding is only available to UGLG (Units or General Local Government) so we would complete the application and be the 3rd party administrator for the project.

The Letter of Intent is due 9/25/2023 to be eligible to apply for the full grant so let me know by 9/15/23 if you are interested.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Neuville, Deputy Director

Human Development Commission (HDC)

429 Montague Avenue

Caro, MI 48723

Phone: 989-672-1711 (Direct)

Fax: 989-673-2031

The mission of HDC is "Restoring Hope by Helping People and Changing Lives"

Visit us at www.hdc-caro.org or visit us on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Human-Development-Commission-Community-Action-Agency/141105532612558>

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From: Michigan State Housing Development Authority <MSHDA@govsubscriptions.michigan.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 3:27 PM
To: Brian Neuville <briann@hdc-caro.org>
Subject: CDBG Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Program - Due September 25, 2023



**Announcing Up to \$20 Million in Funding for the
CDBG Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Program
Letters of Intent Due Monday, September 25, 2023**

The Neighborhood Housing Initiatives Division (NHID) of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) is pleased to announce the availability of \$20 million in funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for the creation of housing activities that benefit low- and moderate-income households. MSHDA's CDBG Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) program provides annual grants to non-entitlement units of general local government—cities, towns, townships, villages, or counties not currently receiving a direct allocation of CDBG funds from HUD. Two activity types are eligible for funding: homeowner rehabilitation, to preserve affordable housing units; and demolition/reconstruction/resale, to remove blight and create single-family housing for resale to income eligible homebuyers.

MSHDA is currently accepting Letters of Intent (LOI) from eligible Units of General Local Government (UGLG) for proposals that meet the objectives of the CHILL program. The letters will be used to establish a pool of eligible applicants, who will then be asked to complete a full application. Application approval and awards will be made via a

competitive process. To be considered for funding, please submit a LOI by completing the forms and uploading requested documents located **here** no later than 11:59 p.m. Monday, September 25, 2023.

To review program details, visit www.michigan.gov/mshdacdbg

Questions? [Contact Us](#)

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This email was sent to briann@hdc-caro.org using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Michigan State Housing Development Authority · [735 E. Michigan Ave](#) · Lansing, MI 48909 · 1-517-335-9928

**MSHDA**

Community Development Block Grant Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Program

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT**

CDBG HOUSING IMPROVING LOCAL LIVABILITY (CHILL) PROGRAM

FUNDING WINDOW

LETTER OF INTENT SUBMISSION IS OPEN 8/28/23 and CLOSSES 9/25/23.

The Neighborhood Housing Initiatives Division (NHID) of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) is pleased to announce the availability of \$20 million of funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for the creation of housing programs that benefit low- and moderate-income households. MSHDA's CDBG Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Program provides annual grants to non-entitlement units of general local government—cities, towns, townships, villages, or counties not currently receiving a direct allocation of CDBG funds from HUD (see *CDBG Municipalities Map*). Two activity types are eligible for funding: homeowner rehabilitation, to preserve affordable housing units; and demolition/reconstruction/resale, to remove blight and infill with single-family housing for resale to income eligible homebuyers.

MSHDA is currently accepting Letters of Intent (LOI) from eligible Units of General Local Government (UGLG) for proposals that meet the objectives of the CHILL program. The letters will be used to establish a pool of eligible applicants, who will then be asked to complete a full application. Application approval and awards will be made via a competitive process.

Please review the following CHILL documents prior to submitting the LOI.

[CHILL Demo/Reconstruction/Resale \(DRR\) Quickfinder, 08.24.23](#)

[CHILL Homeowner Improvement Program \(HIP\) Quickfinder, 08.24.23](#)

[CDBG Municipalities Map, 08.15.23](#)

[CHILL Program Statement, 08.24.23](#)

[CHILL Term Sheet, 08.24.23](#)

Below are the LOI documents needed for submission:

[CHILL LOI Submission Guidance, 08.24.23](#)

[LOI Compliance Requirements form \(LOI #2\)](#)

[CHILL Budget Worksheet form, 08.24.23 \(LOI #3\)](#)

To be considered for funding, please submit an LOI by completing the forms and uploading requested documents no later than Monday, September 25, 2023, at 11:59:59 pm.



CHILL LOI TIMELINE

Due Date

Action Step

8/28/23

LOI announcement

9/14/23 at 11 am

LOI Q & A conference call via MS Teams

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 243 452 404 104 | Passcode:
b3CibC

9/15/23	LOI Questions submitted to mshda-cdbg@michigan.gov
9/20/23	LOI Questions and answers posted on website
9/25/23	LOI Submission Deadline by 11:59:59 pm
9/26/23 – 9/29/23	LOI Review by MSHDA
On or before 10/6/23	Local government unit notification and application authorization for those selected to move forward

CHILL APPLICATION TIMELINE – T E N T A T I V E

Dates and key action steps for applicants approved to complete a full application.

Due Date	Action Step
10/6/23	Application access granted to UGLG
10/18/23	First Q & A conference call for applicants
10/19/23	Agencies begin uploading Partnership Profile data/documents
11/1/23	Second Q & A conference call for applicants
11/6/23	Application submission deadline
11/7/23 – 11/17/23	Application review by MSHDA

11/17/23	Deadline for Application selection completed and communicated to Agencies
11/17/23	Access granted to Agencies to complete partner profile
12/31/23	Deadline to have Grant Agreements executed by both parties
1/1/24	Grant Award Effective Date
6/30/25	End of Grant Term (all projects completed and closed)

**Community Development Block Grant Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL)
Program**

Copyright State of Michigan

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

125 W. Lincoln Street
Suite 500
Caro, MI 48723

Telephone: 989-672-3700
Fax: 989-672-4011

At a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, on the 14th day of September 2023, with the meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

Commissioners Absent:

The following resolution was offered by Commissioner _____,
seconded by Commissioner _____,

RESOLUTION # 2023-20

OPPOSING ANY LEGISLATION PREEMPTING LOCAL CONTROL FOR SOLAR AND WIND DEVELOPMENTS

Whereas Executive Directive 2020-10 aims to achieve 100 percent carbon neutrality in Michigan by 2050; and

Whereas industry leaders have pledged to reduce carbon emissions to help achieve this goal; and

Whereas efforts to expand renewable energy projects will continue to increase in this state; and

Whereas the governor has proposed the Michigan Public Service Commission be the sole regulating authority for solar and wind projects to expedite these efforts; and

Whereas by granting the Michigan Public Service Commission this authority, local control will be preempted; and

Whereas should local control be preempted, a county, township, city or village would be unable to determine the location, size, setback distance, decibel level or any other criteria for a solar or wind facility; and

Whereas should local control be preempted, a county, township, city, or village would be unable to determine requirements for construction, operation, use, or maintenance of a solar or wind facility; and

Whereas if a county already has a solar or wind policy, practice, regulation, rule or ordinance on record it would be null and void; and

Whereas all other types of energy facilities, while regulated by the Michigan Public Service Commission, must adhere to local zoning; and

Whereas this proposal grants far more regulating authority to the Michigan Public Service Commission than for any other energy source; and

Whereas the Michigan Association of Counties opposes any legislative action that may grant the Michigan Public Service Commission this power.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that TUSCOLA COUNTY opposes the pre-emption of local control in solar and wind siting and zoning.

ADOPTED: Yeas: _____

Nays: _____

Absent: _____

Resolution 2023-20 declared adopted this 14th day of September, 2023

Date _____

Kim Vaughan, Chairperson
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

I, Jodi Fetting, Tuscola County Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners at its meeting on September 14, 2023.

Date _____

Jodi Fetting
Tuscola County Clerk, CCO

Adopted this 14th day of September, 2023



Members-only materials ▾

MACPAC

Advocacy ▾

Education ▾

Magazines

Documents

Membership Directory

Legislative Update 9-8-23

WRITTEN BY [DEREK MELOT](#) ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2023. POSTED IN [BLOG](#), [EVENTS](#), [LEGISLATIVE](#), [MAC NEWS](#), [NACO](#)

Conference early-bird prices end at 5 p.m. today

County leaders wishing to attend the 2023 Annual Conference, Oct. 1-3 in Kalamazoo County, have until 5 p.m. today (Sept. 8) to utilize the early-bird price of \$415 for members.

Starting tomorrow, a full conference registration will cost a member \$490.

In other conference news, the performance team of “[Yellow Brick Dueling Pianos](#)” will be the entertainment after the annual President’s Banquet on Oct. 2. This group was chosen for its high-energy approach to audience participation.

Registration for the event, which will celebrate MAC’s 125th Anniversary, is online only:

- [Click here for Attendee Registration](#)
- [Click here for Exhibitor and Sponsor Opportunities](#)

In honor of MAC’s anniversary year, the annual President’s Banquet will be capped by music and dancing in the ballroom of the [Radisson Hotel in downtown Kalamazoo](#).



Additional highlights for this year's event are:

- A keynote from Jeff Butler, a workforce strategist specializing in bridging generational issues in the workplace
- A two-part, two-day dive into the details of Public Act 51, the state's road funding formula via workshops held on Sunday afternoon and Monday morning
- A plenary session on Michigan's affordable housing crisis
- MAC's Annual Business Meeting, during which members will review and approve MAC's policy platforms for the coming year

The schedule of the conference is carefully crafted to respect members' weekly schedule, with conference registration opening around noon Sunday and events concluding prior to hotel check-out on Tuesday morning.

Commissioners who attend the conference will earn 3 credit hours for MAC's County Commissioner Academy.

[Click here for a full Agenda](#)

House committee considers bills to add judges in Kent and Macomb counties

Macomb County would get a new probate judge and Kent County a new district judge under legislation reviewed this week by the House Judiciary Committee.

The committee heard testimony on House Bills 4823 and 4920, by Rep. Doug Wozniak (R-Macomb) and Rep. John Fitzgerald (D-Kent) respectively.



HB 4823 would add a third judge to the Macomb Probate Court, while HB 4920 would add a judge to the 63rd District Court in Kent County. However, the Kent addition would still need approval from the Kent County Board of Commissioners if the bill becomes law. After approval from the Kent Board, an election would have to be held in 2024 to fill the new slot.

Committee Chair Kelly Breen (D-Oakland) said the committee will likely vote on the bills at its next session.

MAC supports these bills, as does the State Court Administrator's Office.

For more information on this issue, contact Samantha Gibson at gibson@micounties.org.

Frequently asked questions on opioid settlements documents released

Two new documents have been released to assist counties around the opioid settlements. MAC helped create the documents in collaboration with the Opioid Advisory Commission; the Michigan Departments of Attorney General, Civil Rights, Corrections and Treasury; and the Michigan Municipal League and Michigan Townships Association.

OPIOID STRATEGY

The [Michigan Opioid Settlement Funds Part I: Key Agencies and Settlements](#) document outlines which agencies are involved in the settlement work and provides an overview of all national settlements coming to Michigan.

The [Michigan Opioid Settlement Funds Part II: Frequently Asked Questions](#) document answers questions commonly asked by local governments, providers and the general public.

For more information on this issue, contact Amy Dolinky at dolinky@micounties.org.

Staff picks

- [Bridging the child-care funding cliff](#) (Governing)
- [Other states are raking in hundreds of millions of dollars for rural energy projects. Michigan is not.](#) (Michigan Radio)
- [Michigan has the Midwest's most power outages](#) (Axios Detroit)
- [Michigan denies almost all pothole repair claims, despite billions in damages](#) (Bridge Michigan)

