

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Monthly Report of County Activities (June 2005)
Linking County/Local Government for Efficient Public Services

- District Court revenues are tracking dramatically below budget - tremendous reduction in traffic tickets and certain other court caseload reductions - full funding for the road patrol failed - District Court revenues account for 10% of total general fund revenues
- 2005 General Fund Budget was premised on receiving large increases in revenues from District Court - the Judge increased court fines and costs - even with these increases, revenues are continuing to decline - taking the six month trend and projecting it for the year results in District Court revenues nearly \$357,000 or 32% below budget - this is the least amount of revenue from District Court in at least six fiscal years - this is without question the most significant factor that has pushed the 2005 budget out of balance forcing further adjustments
- County is aggressively involved in economic development planning and implementation - funding assistance from Community Bank and the Tuscola County Farm Bureau has enabled a community assessment (CAT) - Strategic economic development planning work will set a course and provide important direction in the pursuit of grant and loan funds – please discuss your ideas with Hal Hudson (MSU-Extension Director) at 989-672-3883 or Jim McLoskey 989-673-2849
- Medical costs for prisoners are well over budget through six months, jail medical costs are \$58,127 - if this level of expenditure continues for the balance of the year over \$116,000 in prisoner medical costs will occur - a total of \$26,968 was spent in 2004 - county is required to provide medical costs if prisoners have no coverage
- On July 7, 2005 county officials will again conduct a tour of the former Camp Tuscola Prison to determine possible re-use ideas – if you have ideas for the possible re-use of this facility please contact your county commissioner
- The Village of Millington will be using Act 185 financing through the County Board of Public Works to borrow funds at lower interest costs so emergency repairs of \$625,000 can be made to the sewage lagoon system
- County Drain-At-Large costs have increased over the past 12 years - in 1993 these costs were approximately \$70,000, for 2005 these costs are over \$561,000 - this is one of the largest costs to the general fund of the county
- [Attached is a table showing cuts the Board has made to non-mandated services to maintain a balanced county budget](#) - there is very little in remaining non-mandated services that can be cut - the Board has made the difficult decisions so that the county continues to operate within its declining financial means, but this is becoming increasingly difficult and may soon approach impossible without a state reassessment of the services they require the counties to provide - the county is dependent on the state to again pay over \$1,000,000 in state revenue sharing beginning in 2008 that was temporarily discontinued and replaced with the property tax roll forward