

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Report of County Activities (March 2007)
Linking County/Local Government for Efficient Public Services

- Carrie Krampits was chosen as the Human Resources Director for Tuscola County and will begin her new position on April 16, 2007 - She has a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources and has successfully passed the State Human Resource Certification exams.
- In order to reduce prison overcrowding and provide financial relief to the state budget, state officials have made the decision that certain state prisoners will be released from prison and put on probation earlier than in the past - Because of this change, at least one additional probation officer will be added to the State Probation Department in Tuscola County - Under state law the County is responsible to house state probation officers – the county is required to pay for remodeling costs and increased building lease costs
- The Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative was formed in August of 2006 – this is an important initiative to improve the environment of the bay and surrounding areas along with capitalizing on the bay as a tremendous asset for tourism/recreation and economic development – some of the projects include: tourism enhancement, fisheries improvement, muck removal and control, wetland protection, increasing access to the bay, phragmites control, river shed improvements (including the Cass River), etc. – the next meeting is May 2, 2007 at the Double Tree Hotel in Bay City at 1:00 P.M.
- Planning for the mosquito season has been completed – Mosquito Abatement will work with the county health department in tracking birds that may have the West Nile Virus – collection of mosquitoes for disease surveillance will continue – Mosquito Abatement continues to replace, and if possible expand, equipment and personnel annually in an effort to keep up with the increasing demand for service
- Please mark your calendar for May 26, 2007 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. for the Re-Opening of Vanderbilt County Park and Campground – lunch and other refreshments will be served to celebrate this occasion – a task force has been working for several months making park improvements and upgrades because of the importance of the park to overall economic development in the northern part of the county
- Job creation is our top priority – please review the county web site regarding the Sirolli Institute and consider making a public or private pledge so this important and effective economic development/job creating initiative can be implemented in Tuscola County – pending the success of grants and other funding sources the goal is to initiate this proven program in July of 2007
- The County recently approved an agreement with Northstar Bank to expand automatic direct deposit services for county employees so they can be made to multiple banks
- Health insurance is by far the largest fringe benefit cost to the county – in order to be prepared if further benefit changes are required, an employee committee was formed to review and analyze alternatives – assistance is being provided by county staff and county health insurance consultants
- The state fiscal crisis remains unsolved – Michigan is facing what may be the greatest economic and financial challenge in its history

Prepared by: Michael R. Hoagland, Tuscola County Controller/Administrator 989-672-3700