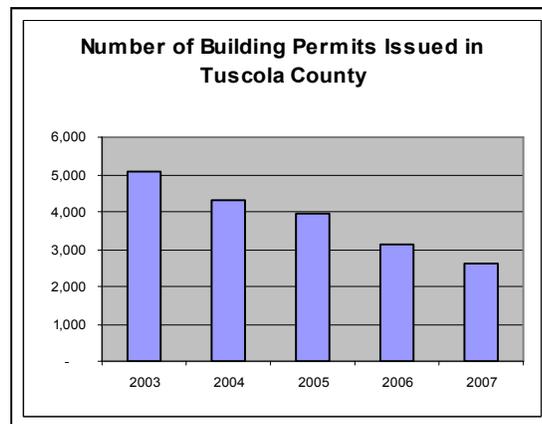


## TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS March 2008 Activity Report

- Wind energy is an issue of tremendous significance at this time – on March 31, 2008 a well timed and highly successful conference was sponsored by the Tuscola County Farm Bureau Land Use Committee, MSU-Tuscola County Extension and Tuscola County Planning Commission – experts provided pertinent information and updates – for additional information or questions you may contact MSU-Tuscola County Extension at 989-672-3870 and/or go to the Tuscola County web site [www.tuscolacounty.org](http://www.tuscolacounty.org) where conference materials are available
- Property foreclosures continue to rise in Tuscola County – according to information recently provided by the County Register of Deeds foreclosures over the past four years have increased as follows: 2004 – 108 foreclosures, 2005 – 146 foreclosures, 2006 – 201 foreclosures, 2007 – 277 foreclosures – many of these occurred in the southern portions of the county – by comparison, 10 years ago during stronger economic times only 19 foreclosures occurred
- Building permit trends is also an indicator of the current difficult financial times – according to information recently provided by the South Central Construction Code Commission the number of building permits over the past five years has decreased as follows: 2003 – 5,063 permits, 2004 – 4,326 permits, 2005 – 3,960 permits, 2006 – 3,126 permits, 2007 – 2,601 permits



- The three major capital improvement projects planned in the 2008 budget are: tuck pointing of the courthouse, Circuit Court sound system and planning/implementation of county optical imaging systems
- The Sirolli Institute will be conducting extensive training of the Enterprise Facilitator (Mike Green) and Management Board members during the week of April 7 – 11 and then networking the facilitator will be networked to the community by introduction of the Facilitator by each of the 50 Board of Management members to at least 10 people in the community
- Of the six county union contracts, four remain unsettled after the contracts expired on December 31, 2007

- A very useful web site has been prepared by the Michigan Department of Treasury – [http://www.michigan.gov/treasury/0,1607,7-121-1751\\_31038---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/treasury/0,1607,7-121-1751_31038---,00.html) from this site every county and local unit of government audit in the state can be reviewed allowing for important financial comparisons

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