

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS June 2008 Activity Report

- Four county millage renewals will be decided at the August 5, 2008 primary election – primary roads, bridges, medical care facility and recycling – all of these millages have been previously renewed and provide the essential funding necessary to deliver public services – quality roads and bridges are essential to economic development, medical care facility is an excellent care provider to those in need and recycling is vital to maintaining our environment
- Recently the Board of Commissioners renewed a police services contact between Millington Township and the Sheriff Department for two police officers – in addition to the two officers in Millington Township, Arbela and Vassar Townships also have contracts with the County for police services – these contracts provide for four police officers in the southwestern portion of the county enhancing public safety in this area
- Tuscola County was the recipient of another Community Development Block Grant from the State of Michigan Housing Development Authority – this is the 12th consecutive year the county has received this grant which provides for housing rehabilitation for qualified citizens from throughout the county – the Human Development Commission administers the grant for the county – additional information can be obtained from Wendy Fall at 673-4121
- Denmark Township recently was approved for a \$43,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture to complete the township sewer system that was started last year – the additional funds were needed to resolve certain site contamination problems – these problems were identified after the project was started – the project is anticipated to be completed before the end of 2008
- The county is working to solve a pager coverage issue that is occurring in the northwestern part of the county – another transmitter placed on a tower in this area may be the solution – testing, costs and other details are being worked out – solving the issue quickly is important
- According to Sheriff Annual Reports traffic violations and other summons issued by the County Sheriff department have decline dramatically in Tuscola County – in the year 2000 there were 7,364 violations compared to 2,870 in 2007, this is a decline of over 60% – this decline has resulted is a significant reduction in District Court revenue for county operations
- Another interesting statistic is the decline Court case filings – according to the State Court Administrator's Office in peak year 2000 there were 19,004 new case filings in District Court compared to 10,120 in 2007, this is a decline of over 47% (in part attributable to traffic violation declines) – Probate Court case filings have declined from 588 in peak year 2001 to 322 in 2007, this is a decline of approximately 45% – Circuit Court case filings have declined from 1,899 in the year 2001 to 1,595 in the year 2007, this is a decline of approximately 16%

- The county has recently encountered problems with credit card fraud – credit card companies have paid the losses – the county will phase out all current credit cards and re-issue new cards in an attempt to avoid future abuses
- The County plays an important financial role in helping to strengthen Downtown areas by allowing the capture of property tax growth in these areas – total county property taxes provided for Downtown Development Authorities in 2007 was \$106,344 as follows: Caro \$53,189, Cass City \$17,678, Millington \$14,319, Vassar \$10,710 and Mayville \$10,447.

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