

TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
January 26, 2017 Minutes  
H. H. Purdy Building

Commissioner Thomas Bardwell called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Tuscola, Michigan, held at the H.H. Purdy Building in the City of Caro, Michigan, on the 26th day of January 2017, to order at 8:00 o'clock a.m. local time.

Prayer – Commissioner Kirkpatrick

Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Bardwell

Roll Call – Clerk Fetting

Commissioners Present: District 1 - Thomas Young, District 2 – Thomas Bardwell, District 3 - Kim Vaughan, District 4 – Craig Kirkpatrick (via Google Hangouts), District 5 – Matthew Bierlein

Commissioner Absent: None

Also Present: Mike Hoagland, Clerk Jodi Fetting, Eean Lee, Mike Miller, Tisha Jones, Tom Gilchrist, Treasurer Patricia Donovan-Gray, Susan Jensen, Vicky Sherry, George Holmes, Julie Holmes, Steve Anderson, Sheriff Glen Skrent, Jim Mantey, Art Graff, Henry Wymore, George Mika, Register John Bishop, Rick Russell, Mitch Russell, John Cook, Steve Erickson, Brian Chapman, Drain Commissioner Bob Mantey, Jan Daniels

*Adoption of Agenda*

17-M-018

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young to adopt the agenda as amended.  
Motion Carried.

*Action on Previous Meeting Minutes -*

17-M-019

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young to adopt the meeting minutes from the January 12, 2017 meeting. Motion Carried.

*Brief Public Comment Period - None*

*Consent Agenda Resolution -  
17-M-020*

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that the following Consent Agenda Resolution from the January 23, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting be adopted. Motion Carried.

## CONSENT AGENDA

- Agenda Reference:** A
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/23/17
- Description of Matter:** Move that the 2016 Human Development Commission Audit be received and placed on file.
- Agenda Reference:** B
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/23/17
- Description of Matter:** Move to concur with the appointment of Commissioner Bierlein to the reactivated Michigan Association of Counties Agricultural Committee.
- Agenda Reference:** C
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/23/17
- Description of Matter:** Move that the Recycling Coordinator be authorized to use a part-time recycling employee to temporarily work full-time (5 days per week) not to exceed 1,560 hours for a year while a full-time employee is out on Medical leave. (This action is budget neutral).
- Agenda Reference:** D
- Entity Proposing:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE 1/23/17
- Description of Matter:** Move that the County Clerk be requested to advertise to fill vacancies on the Region VII Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council as further explained in the January 17, 2017 communication from Region VII Area Agency on Aging.

*New Business -*

-Submittal of Amendment to Tuscola County Solid Waste Management Plan - Vicky Sherry explained the updates completed to the Solid Waste Management Plan. The Plan will now be sent for Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for approval. Upon DEQ approval, the Board will be able to adopt the Plan.

## 17-M-021

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that per the request of the County Economic Development Corporation that a letter be approved to be sent to the Department of Environmental Quality requesting amendments to the Tuscola County Solid Waste Management Plan. Also, said letter be authorized for signature. Motion Carried.

-Potential Incentive Program for Hiring Police Officers - Sheriff Skrent serves on the Delta College Advisory Board. To increase candidate interest in a Department a suggestion was made to pay for the candidate's academy costs. The Sheriff would like to implement a form of an incentive program as suggested. He would like to provide an incentive program that after the candidate is employed with Tuscola County that the cost of the academy be reimbursed on a 3- year tier program. The Board would like to review this possibility further. Matter Tabled to next meeting.

-Economic Development Corporation Update Regarding Former Vassar Foundry - Steve Erickson stated there is an interested party in the Vassar Foundry property. The groundwater needs to be tested for contamination. Steve is asking the Board to cover a portion of the costs to have the test completed. The portion that would be due by the County is \$2,500.00. The City of Vassar wants to work in collaboration with the county and will be paying for the additional costs of the test. The property is currently in bankruptcy court. Matter discussed at length.

## 17-M-022

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that per the request of the County Economic Development Corporation that the County pay \$2,500 to conduct an environmental assessment of the groundwater around the former Vassar Foundry to determine if there are environmental issues. (The City of Vassar will also pay \$2,500 as the other half of the cost for the environmental assessment. Information from this assessment will help prospective buyers determine if they will purchase the property which is currently in the foreclosure process). Motion Carried.

-Information Technology Services Agreement with Columbia Township - Eean Lee is requesting approval to enter into a contract with Columbia Township to provide technology services to them.

## 17-M-023

Motion by Young, seconded by Bierlein that per the request of the Information Technology Director a County Information Technology Services Agreement with Columbia Township be approved and all appropriate signatures are authorized. Motion Carried.

-Recycling Committee Commissioner Liaison -  
Mike Miller on behalf of the Recycling Committee would like clarification of the roll of the County Commissioner on the Committee. The question has been raised if the County Commissioner would be only a liaison with no voting rights or a member of the Committee with voting rights.

17-M-024

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Kirkpatrick that in the new Recycling Advisory Committee Bylaws that the assigned County Commissioner is listed as a voting member of the Committee. Motion Carried.

-Register of Deeds Request for Temporary Staffing -  
Register Bishop is requesting the temporary staff member currently employed be offered a temporary position in beginning in March 2017 due to a staff member being on medical leave. The current temporary position she is employed in will be completed as of February 1, 2017. This is not a continuation of employment for the current temporary staff member as there will be a break in services.

17-M-025

Motion by Bierlein, seconded by Young that the Register of Deeds be allowed to employee temporary staffing assistance while an employee is on medical leave with the understanding this is a budget neutral arrangement. Motion Carried.

*Old Business - None*

*Correspondence/Resolutions -*

- The Public Officials conference will be held on March 31, 2017 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bay City.
- The Thumb Regional Sobriety Court Graduation will be held on February 3, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.
- Henry Wymore is in agreement to serve on the Region VII Board again and this matter will be handled at the next Board meeting.

**COMMISSIONER LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS**

KIRKPATRICK - No update.

Board of Health

Community Corrections Advisory Board

Dept. of Human Services/Medical Care Facility Liaison

MI Renewable Energy Coalition

MEMS All Hazards

MAC-Environment Energy Land Use

Cass River Greenways Pathway

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

NACO- Energy, Environment & Land Use

Jail Planning Committee

Land Acquisition

Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Tuscola In-Sync

BIERLEIN

Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works

Human Development Commission (HDC)

Recycling Advisory Committee

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Great Start Collaborative Council

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

MAC Board of Directors - Committee breakdowns have been changed and

Commissioner Bierlein is asking for guidance to which committee Commissioner

Bardwell and Commissioner Young would like to serve on.

Human Services Collaborative Council

MAC Judiciary Committee

Tuscola County College Access Network

VAUGHAN

Board of Health - Meeting recently held and Board was very receptive.

Planning Commission

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment

Local Unit of Government Activity Report

Mid-Michigan Mosquito Control Advisory Committee

Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuscola County Fair Board Liaison

YOUNG

Dispatch Authority Board - Meeting upcoming.  
County Road Commission Liaison  
Board of Public Works  
Senior Services Advisory Council  
Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative  
Local Unit of Government Activity Report  
MAC Economic Development & Taxation Committee  
Strategic EDC Planning Committee  
Jail Planning Committee  
Genesee Shiawassee Thumb Works - Update provided.  
Region VI Economic Development Planning  
Tuscola 2020

BARDWELL

Economic Development Corp/Brownfield Redevelopment - Update provided during the meeting today.  
Caro DDA/TIFA  
MAC Economic Development/Taxation  
MAC 7<sup>th</sup> District  
Local Unit of Government Activity Report  
TRIAD  
Behavioral Health Systems Board - Meeting tonight.  
MAC Workers Comp Board - Update provided.

*Other Business as Necessary - None*

*Extended Public Comment -*

-Jan Daniels, Almer Township - Expressed concerns of comments expressed in the Advertiser that the wind issue is like the Hatfield's and McCoy's. She feels the Commissioners need to become more educated on the wind issue. Commissioner Vaughan explained the Hatfield's and McCoy's comment was taken out of context and was part of a conversation that was not in reference to the wind issue. He apologized as that was not the Board's intent.  
-Jim Mantey, Almer Township - Thanked Commissioner Bardwell for attending local township meetings. He expressed that Almer Township welcomes economic development in the township.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Jodi Fetting  
Tuscola County Clerk