

**DRAFT – Agenda**  
**Tuscola County Board of Commissioners**  
**Committee of the Whole – Monday, December 9, 2013 - 7:00 A.M.**  
**HH Purdy Building - 125 W. Lincoln, Caro, MI**

**Finance**

Committee Leaders-Commissioners Trisch and Kirkpatrick

**Primary Finance**

1. **2014 County Budget Development (See A)**
2. **Equalization Appeal of Wavier Denial (See B)**
3. **Abused/Neglected/Delinquent Child Care Costs Update**
4. **Medical Care Facility Small House Project**
5. **Overview of Updated County Web Page**
6. **Email Retention Policy**
7. **Rescheduling of Final Board Meeting of 2013**
8. **Replacing Jail and Courthouse – AED (See C)**

**On-Going Finance**

1. Potential Re-Use of former Camp Tuscola
2. Denmark Township Litigation Update
3. Medical Care Facility Certificate of Need for Small House Project Update
4. Health Insurance Affordable Care Act
5. Requirements to Receive Full State Revenue Sharing
6. eCivis Grant Writing Service
7. Joint Service Consolidation Ideas
8. Tuscola “In Sync” – County Web Site, Micamp and GIS Review
9. Natural Gas/Shale Resource Workgroup
10. Register of Deeds Recording of Wind Project Land Transactions
11. 911 Radio Purchases
12. New Method of Cost Sharing for MREC Legal Invoices
13. Jail Law Suit
14. Personal Property Tax – Change to Use Tax (Ballot Question in 2014)

**Personnel**

Committee Leader-Commissioners Kirkpatrick and Trisch

**Primary Personnel**

1. **Commissioner Organization for 2014 – Post for 12/12/13 Board Organizational Meeting after Regular Board Meeting**
2. **Appointments to Vacant Boards and Commissions**
3. **Jury Board Vacancy (See D)**
4. **Dispatch Director Letter of Retirement (See E)**
5. **Sheriff Union Proposed Letter of Understanding for Streamlining Promotion Procedures (See F)**
6. **Jail Administrator Letter of Resignation (See G)**
7. **Medical Examiner System Changes Update**

On-Going Personnel

1. Court Personnel Policy Revisions
2. Equalization Waiver Request
3. Labor Negotiations

**Building and Grounds**

Committee Leader-Commissioners Allen and Beirlein

**Primary Building and Grounds**

1. Jail Boiler Repair or Replacement
2. Request to Use Courthouse Lawn (See H)
3. Department of Corrections Telephone System Request (See I)
4. Jail Bed Addition Update

On-Going Building and Grounds

1. Cass River Greenway
2. Dead Ash Trees Roadway Problems/Concerns
3. Update to the County Solid Waste Management Plan – EDC
4. State Police Post

**Other Business as Necessary**

**Public Comment Period**

**Closed Session – If Necessary**

**Other Business as Necessary**

**GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT – ADOPTING THE  
2014 TUSCOLA COUNTY BUDGET (Calendar Fiscal Year)**

WHEREAS, The Tuscola County Board of Commissioners has examined the financial reports and budget requests for 2014 of the various departments, agencies, offices, and activities (“Budgetary Centers”) which it, by law or by policy, must finance or assist in financing;

WHEREAS, The Board has taken into consideration the fact that there are certain required functions of county government or operations, which must be budgeted at serviceable levels in order to provide statutory and constitutionally required services and programs;

WHEREAS, The Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act (“UBAA”), MCLA 141.421, et seq., requires that the Board enact a General Appropriation Act designed to appropriate for all county expenditures;

WHEREAS, The Board has reviewed the recommended budget for 2014 and believes the same to contain funds sufficient to finance all mandatory county funded services at or beyond a serviceable level;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2014 Tuscola County Budget, as detailed in the document attached which is incorporated by reference herein, is hereby adopted on a fund, activity, and line-item basis, subject to all County policies regarding the expenditure of funds and the conditions set forth in this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #1, a public hearing has been held on the proposed 2014 budget following notice as required by law, including notice concerning the millage rates to be levied as required by the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, P.A. 2 of 1978, as amended, the following tax rates are hereby authorized, certified, and reaffirm the previously adopted rates for the 2013 tax year (2014 Budget Year) for a total county levy of 8.4921 mills as listed in detail below:

**2013 AUTHORIZED TAX RATES – 2014 BUDGET**

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Millage</b>	<b>Fund</b>
General Government Operations	3.9141 mills	General Operating
County Bridge & Local Streets	.4807 mills	Bridge
Senior Citizens	.2000 mills	Senior Citizens
Recycling	.1500 mills	Recycling
Medical Care Facility	.2500 mills	Voted Medical Care
Medical Care Facility Construction	1.0000 mills	Medical Care Construction
Road Patrol	.9000 mills	Road Patrol
Primary Roads/Streets	.9657 mills	Primary Roads
Mosquito Control	.6316 mills	Mosquito Control
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.4921 mills</b>	

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #2, that each budgetary center shall limit expenditures within the appropriations and accounts authorized and for purposes consistent with the name of the

account, and shall not attempt to expend funds that will result in an account deficit or at a rate that will eventually result in an account deficit;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #3, that in order to expedite ongoing budget amendments, the County Controller/Administrator shall have the authority to transfer up to \$5,000 between non-wage/fringe benefit accounts within an adopted activity (departmental) budget without approval of the Board of Commissioners. However, any increase in a total activity budget appropriation requires Board of Commissioner approval.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #4, that the Board is appropriating to the Child Care Funds with the understanding that such sums are reasonable and necessary for the Probate (Family) Court and Department of Human Services to meet critical needs in an adequate manner and without waiving the County's entitlement to 50% reimbursement from the State of Michigan as mandated by Michigan's Constitution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #5, that the sum of **\$49,606,771** as set forth in the budget adopted by this Board is hereby appropriated for the use by departments and for the use of defraying and paying boards of the County of Tuscola for all costs and expenses for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #6, that said sums appropriated to and shall be available for expenditures from several funds in accordance with the law, and no obligation or liability shall be incurred, nor any vouchers drawn in payment thereof by any county department, which shall be confined to the objects or categories of expenditures and shall not exceed the amount appropriated therefore, as set forth in the categories of said budget;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #7, that all County elected officials and county department heads shall abide by County Policies, as adopted and amended by this Board, and that these budgeted funds are appropriated contingent upon compliance with all financial and other policies of the County (Official copy of all county policies maintained in the Controller/Administrator's Office);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #8, that all the approved full time and part time positions identified for various departments and funds in the budget, shall limit the number of employees who can be employed and no funds are appropriated for any position or employee not in the 2014 budget document. Further, there may be a need to increase or decrease various positions within the budget and/or impose a hiring freeze and/or impose lay-offs due to the unforeseen financial changes; therefore, the number of authorized full time and part time positions in the budget may be changed from time to time by the Board and/or the Board may impose a hiring freeze. The County elected officials and County department heads shall abide by whatever changes are made by the Board, if any, relative to the approved positions and the number of employees;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #9, that certain positions contained in the budget which are supported in some part by a grant, cost-sharing, child care reimbursement, or other source of outside funding, are only approved contingent upon the County receiving the budgeted revenues. In the event outside funding is not received, then said positions shall be considered unfunded and removed from the budget as necessary;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #10, that revenues received by the County under Public Act 106 and 107, 1985 (Convention Facility tax revenues) shall not be used to reduce the County's operating millage levy as defined by Public Act 2, 1986;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #11, that in the event the Board imposes a hiring freeze and vacancies occur during the existence of that hiring freeze, the vacancies shall be considered and hereby declared to be vacated positions. Said vacated positions shall not be refilled except by specific Board authorization. Further, the existence of a hiring freeze which may be imposed by the Board shall be, and is hereby declared to be, contingent upon the expenditure of budgeted funds, as well as the position specifically listed on the approved position control number roster list;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #12, that in accordance with Public Act 106 of 1985 and Public Act 2 of 1986, if 50% of the estimated Convention Facility Tax Revenues are not used to reduce the County's operating tax rate, then these funds shall be transmitted to the Substance Abuse Coordinating Agency with remaining revenues to be deposited in the County's general fund;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #13, that the revenues received by the County under Public Act 264 of 1987 (Health and Safety Fund Act) shall not be used to reduce the County's operating millage levy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #14, that in accordance with Public Act 264 of 1987, that 12/17 of the estimated Cigarette Tax revenues not used to reduce the County's operating tax rate shall be used for other purposes specified by Public Act 264 of 1987, with the remaining revenues generated by PA 264 of 1987 to be used for other General Fund expenditures;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #15, that the Controller/Administrator be, and is hereby appointed, Budget Administrator pursuant to the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, MCLA 141.421 et. seq., with power to administer such duties in connection with said budget, as may from time to time, be delegated to the Office of Controller/Administrator by the Board of Commissioners;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED # 16, that the Budget Administrator be directed to disburse to the various agencies, the approved County appropriation on the basis of need as determined by the cash balances within their respective funds;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #17, that the Controller is authorized to establish funds, activities, and line item accounts as necessary under the State Uniform Chart of Accounts to maintain effective financial accounting of county operations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #18, that inter-fund transfers are automatically approved on a quarterly basis in January, April, July, and October based on the quarterly transfer schedule included in the annual County Budget unless otherwise changed by the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners. Notification of any changes shall be submitted by the Controller/Administrator to the appropriate accounting offices;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #19, that claims shall be paid by the Statutory Finance Committee following the normal claims approval process unless other payment provisions have been made by County Board action. By previous Board action, the Board Chairperson

and Finance Chairperson have the authority to approve payment of claims in advance of the regular claims approval process in situations to avoid not meeting payment deadlines, to avoid interest penalty charges and other situations deemed necessary by the Board Chairperson and Finance Chairperson;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #20, that Maintenance of Effort payments may be paid from the Voted Medical Care Facility Fund #298 upon signature of the Medical Care Facility Director. Said claim is a fixed per day amount paid by the County to the State for patients housed at the facility;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED #21, that in conformance with the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act, the budget includes the following information;

- 1) Expenditure data for the most recently completed fiscal year.
- 2) An estimate of the expenditure amounts required to conduct, in the ensuing fiscal year, the government of Tuscola County.
- 3) Revenue data for the most recently completed fiscal year.
- 4) An estimate of the revenues, by source of revenue, to be raised or received by Tuscola County in the ensuing fiscal year.
- 5) The amount of surplus or deficit that has accumulated from prior fiscal years, together with an estimate of the amount of surplus or deficit expected in the current fiscal year.
- 6) An estimate of the amount needed for deficiency, contingent, or emergency purposes, and the amounts needed to pay and to discharge the principal and interest of the debt of Tuscola County due in the ensuing fiscal year.
- 7) The amount of proposed capital outlay expenditures, except those financed by enterprise, public improvement, or building and site, or special assessment funds, including the estimated total cost and proposed method of financing of each capital construction project and the projected additional annual operating costs of each capital construction project, and the projected additional annual operating cost of each capital construction projected for three (3) years beyond the fiscal year covered by the budget.



## Mike Hoagland

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**From:** Mike Hoagland [mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2013 1:42 PM  
**To:** Sobel Kelli (SobelK2@michigan.gov); Senator Mike Green (senmgreen@senate.michigan.gov); (terrybrown@house.mi.gov); Jim Mcloskey (mcloskey@charter.net); JODI ESSENMACHER; Walt Schlichting (Walt Schlichting); Bierlein Matthew (mbierlein@tuscolacounty.org); Kirkpatrick Craig (kirkpatrick\_craig@sbcglobal.net); Roger Allen (beetman95@yahoo.com); Tom Bardwell (tbardwell@hillsanddales.com); Trisch Christine (christinetrisch@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Huron-Tuscola Joint Equalization Director Services  
**Attachments:** Kelli Sobel Letter.doc; Huron Co-State Tax Comm Letter.pdf

Ms. Kelli Sobel

The purpose of this communication is to respectfully appeal the decision of the State Tax Commission. The recent decision does not allow for the current Equalization Director (Mr. Walt Schlichting) to serve both Huron and Tuscola Counties with his Level 3 Certification. We have been successful with this two county "best practice" arrangement in achieving what has been a major objective of the Governor and other state leaders to jointly deliver services and reduce costs in the process. Please take the necessary steps to reverse this decision.

It is in the best interests of the taxpaying public of both counties to reverse this decision and allow the significant cost savings from this effective arrangement to continue. Attached is a letter from the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners and a letter from Huron County Corporation Council that provides further explanation of why the two county Equalization Director should be allowed to continue. A copy of the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners letter and Huron County Corporation Council letter has also been sent in hardcopy mail.

Thank you for reconsideration of the original State Tax Commission decision.

Michael R. Hoagland  
Tuscola County/Controller Administrator  
125 W. Lincoln  
Caro, MI. 48723  
989-672-3700  
[mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org](mailto:mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org)

# TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

125 W. Lincoln Street  
Suite 500  
Caro, MI 48723

Telephone 989-672-3700  
Fax: 989-672-4011

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November 25, 2013

Michigan State Tax Commission  
Attn: Ms. Kelli Sobel, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 30471  
Lansing, MI 48909-7971

Dear Ms. Sobel:

We are writing to appeal the decision of the State Tax Commission that does not allow for the current Equalization Director (Mr. Walt Schlichting) to serve both Huron and Tuscola Counties with his Level 3 Certification.

The Tuscola County Board of Commissioners believes it is in the best interest of both counties and our taxpayers to continue what has proven to be an excellent model of how consolidations can effectively work. We have been successful with this "best practice" arrangement in achieving what has been a major objective of the Governor and other state leaders to jointly deliver services and reduce costs in the process.

Attached is a letter from the Huron County Corporation Council, Stephen J. Allen which we fully endorse. Mr. Allen clearly explains in detail the advantages and tremendous value to continuing this arrangement.

We are respectfully requesting the State Tax Commission to reconsider this decision and take the necessary action to allow Mr. Schlichting to continue to perform the duties of Equalization Director for both counties.

Sincerely,

Tuscola County Board of Commissioners



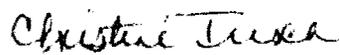
Thomas Bardwell

  
Roger L. Allen

Roger Allen



Matthew Bierlein

  
Craig Kirkpatrick  
Christine Trisch

Christine Trisch

**Huron County Corporation Counsel  
Stephen J. Allen**

250 East Huron Avenue  
Bad Axe, MI 48413

Phone (989) 269-8242  
Fax (989) 269-6152

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November 22, 2013

Michigan State Tax Commission  
Attn.: Ms. Kelli Sobel, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 30471  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7971

Re: Request for an Appeal to the State Tax Commission for a denial of Huron and Tuscola Counties' request for waiver of certification level requirements for the shared equalization director by the Commission's Certification Advisory Committee

Dear Ms. Sobel:

This Request for an Appeal is in response to your correspondence dated September 20, 2013, wherein you informed both Counties that the Commission's Certification Advisory Committee had denied the Counties' request for a waiver of certification level requirements for the shared position of equalization director for the year 2014. On behalf of Huron County, I am asking the State Tax Commission to reconsider this decision and to allow Mr. Walt Schlichting to continue performing the duties of the Equalization Director for both Counties, so long as the shared arrangement results in a sufficient level of quality with regard to the equalization process for each county. This Appeal to the State Tax Commission is based on numerous reasons, as set forth below.

**1. Walt Schlichting, a MAAO Level (3), is well qualified**

Mr. Schlichting was the Equalization director for the County of Sanilac from 1992 – 1996 and has performed the duties of Equalization Director for the County of Tuscola since 1996, without any exception taken to his work product. Since 2007, Huron County has shared Mr. Schlichting's services with Tuscola County as the Equalization Director for both Counties and his performance in that capacity has been without exception taken to his work product. Regardless of what the requirements for certification are, Mr. Schlichting has provided an appropriate work product of the equalization process for twenty-one years.

**2. The initial cooperative agreement was on a trial basis**

The initial approval for this shared arrangement was on a trial basis with an express commitment that if it resulted in a satisfactory work product that it would likely be continued. On January 03, 2008, Mr. David Lee, Executive Secretary of the State Assessors Board, wrote that the shared arrangement for Equalization Director had been approved until June of 2009. He further wrote, “[s]hould this arrangement result in a sufficient level of quality with regard to the equalization process of the two Counties, the Board would likely entertain a renewed request for a shared level 3 director in June of 2009 for subsequent years.” That trial period has provided assurance that his work product was subjected to closer scrutiny and by all accounts, he passed the test.

**3. Trial period for shared arrangement was successful**

Apparently the arrangement did result in a “sufficient level of quality” as the State Assessors Board, at its June 15, 2009 meeting, extended the arrangement through June of 2012, a period of three years. The decision of that extension was communicated in a letter, dated June 22, 2009, from Ms. Kelli Sobel, the successor Executive Secretary for the State Assessors Board. Significantly, she reported that part of the Board’s action required her to periodically consult with the Assessment and Certification Division staff regarding the quality of the equalization process for the two Counties. The quality of that process was such that a 2011 request from Mr. Schlichting to extend the arrangement through December of 2012 was granted, with notification in a letter dated October 31, 2011, from Mr. Kyle Broeke, an Analyst for the Department of Treasury, which characterized the partnership between the two Counties as a “success.”

**4. Mr. Schlichting’s certification Level is in compliance with MCL 211.34d(11)**

Mr. Schlichting should be allowed to continue as the Equalization Director for both Counties, as he met the required certification at the time of his appointment. The mechanism for determining the appropriate level of certification for the equalization director is set forth at MCL 211.34d(11), which, in pertinent part, reads:

“(11) The director of a county tax or equalization department required by Section 34 of this act shall be certified by the board [Tax Assessors Board] *before being appointed by the county board of commissioners* pursuant to section 34 . . . .” (Emphasis added).

In the fall of 2007, the State Assessor’s Board required Huron County to have a MAAO Level (3) assessor for the performance of the equalization process. Through Resolution No. 07-176, the Huron County Board of Commissioners executed an inter-local

agreement with Tuscola County to have Mr. Schlichting function as the County's equalization director until August 1, 2008. In July of 2009, the Huron County Board of Commissioners, through Resolution No. 08-149C, authorized the continuation of the inter-local agreement with Tuscola County in order to satisfy the MCL 211.34(3) requirement to appoint an appropriate person as the equalization director.

Mr. Schlichting was certified by the [State Assessor's] Board at the level determined to be necessary *before he was appointed by the Huron County Board of Commissioners*. Since the Tax Assessor's Board certified his level before his appointment by the County, his certification should be continued.

**5. The Board has discretion to determine qualifications for certification**

The Board has discretion to make a determination that a person possesses the requisite qualifications for performing the job by other than formal training. The last sentence of MCLA 211.10d(1) reads as follows:

"The board may determine that a director of an equalization department or an assessor, who has not received the training, possesses the necessary qualifications for performing the functions of the office by the passage of an approved examination."

Mr. Schlichting's work product has been examined in his joint capacity as Equalization Director for both Counties for six years, as of this writing, without any issues. Clearly he possesses the necessary qualifications for performing the job. The County is asking the Commission to use its discretion to determine that the passage of the test of time meets (or exceeds) the requirements of an approved examination and that Mr. Schlichting has the requisite qualifications for performing the job.

**6. The Committee only relied on the SEV to determine the need for Level 4**

The Commission's Certification Advisory Committee has relied predominantly on the escalated SEV in Huron County for its decision that the County requires an MMAO (4) level certification for 2014. The State Tax Commission on August 27, 2013 determined that the MMAO Level (4) shall be based on the following:

"The total combined state equalized value of the county is greater than \$1,927,000,000, or the total combined state equalized value in the county of the commercial and industrial real and person classifications, including utility and special acts properties, exceeds 20 percent of \$1,927,000,000 (or \$385,000,000)."

See State Tax Commission website at [http://www.michigan.gov/treasury/0,1607,7-121-1751\\_228---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/treasury/0,1607,7-121-1751_228---,00.html) and go to the category "Assessor Levels" and then click on "2014 Certification Levels" PDF.

Included in the "Assessor Levels" at the above website location are the requirements for the years 2012 and 2013. For the year 2013, the MMAO Level (4) requires:

"The total combined state equalized value of the county is greater than \$1,997,000,000, or the total combined state equalized value in the county of the commercial and industrial real and personal classifications, including utility property, exceeds 20 percent of \$1,997,000,000 (or \$400,000,000). *The equalized value limits in this paragraph shall not apply to a county where no local assessing unit in the county has a certification level requirement above the MCAO level. [level 2].*" (Emphasis added).

The last sentence of the above requirement is emphasized to focus the Commission's attention on the fact that regardless of the SEV for the county, a Level 4 is not required in the current year if none of the assessing units in the county require a certification above a Level 2. That same exception existed for the requirements set for the year of 2012. In other words, if none of the underlying assessing units are required to have an assessor certified above a level 2, the combined SEV for the County is not taken into consideration for the determination of the level of certification for the equalization director. Currently, none of the assessing units in Huron County are required to have a certification level above the MCAO Level (2). Commencing in 2014, one township in each County (Oliver Township and Gilford Township) will require the MAAO Level (3). In light of the foregoing, it seems arbitrary to base the requirement for the certification level for the equalization director for 2014 only on the SEV and not allow the exception that existed in prior years.

#### **7. Increase in SEV does not equate to increase in complexity of task**

The Committee's sole reliance on the SEV for the county fails to take into consideration that the increase in the SEV does not necessarily equate to an increase in the complexity of the task at hand. As noted above, in previous years the Committee would ignore the SEV if none of the underlying assessing units required more than a Level 2 certification. That exception was recognition that regardless of the composite SEV for the communities within the county, the communities, when reviewed individually, did not present a situation that required the expertise of Level 4 certification. Likewise, the escalation of Huron County's SEV results from two phenomena, neither of which has increased the task of equalization. First, the continuing expansion of the development of commercial wind energy turbines has only increased the number of like units to consider. Second, the continued increase of the value of agricultural property has been a driving force on the

increase of the total SEV. Neither of those events has increased the complexity of the equalization process for the two Counties.

**8. There was insufficient notice for a higher level of certification for 2014**

The September 20, 2013 correspondence from the State Tax Commission was the first notice for either Huron or Tuscola County that a Level 4 certification would be necessary for the year 2014. The Commission's Bulletin 9 of 2013 recognizes that a requirement for a higher level of certification for 2014 should have been received in the year 2012. In pertinent part, Bulletin 9 of 2013, Paragraph 7, reads as follows:

“Those units which require a higher level assessor for 2014 than was determined Under the previous method of determination, *and were not notified in 2012 of the need for a higher level of certification*, will receive a one-year special waiver through December 31, 2014.” (Emphasis added).

As previously noted, the two Counties received notice of the requirement for a higher level of certification in the September 20<sup>th</sup> correspondence. Based on Bulletin 9 of 2013, Paragraph 7, the Counties should receive “a one-year special waiver through December 31, 2014.

**9. Bulletin 9 of 2013 does not prohibit equalization for multiple counties**

The denial of the request for waiver wrongfully relies on a sentence quoted from paragraph eight of Bulletin 9 of 2013, for additional support for the Committee's position. In pertinent part, the denial letter dated September 20, 2013, reads:

“Additionally, Bulletin 9 of 2013 states ‘No waivers will be approved for assessors and equalization directors to allow assessment of multiple local units or counties.’”

That provision of Bulletin 9 of 2013, addresses the “appropriate certification necessary for proper *assessment* of a local assessing unit.” It does not prohibit a waiver for the *equalization* of two or more counties. Though some equalization directors do or have assessed some assessing units outside of the county for which they perform the equalization function, Mr. Schlichting only performs the equalization function for the two Counties at issue herein. Since he is not assessing multiple units, that restriction should not prohibit him from performing the equalization process.

**10. Denial of waiver contravenes State policy for consolidation of services**

The denial of the request for waiver is contrary to the policy that the State of Michigan is attempting to implement through revenue sharing incentives to encourage inter and intra county consolidation of services. The budget act for the State for fiscal 2013-14, Act No. 59 of Public Acts of 2013, Section 950, is replete with monetary incentives for, among other things, combining governmental services.

Additionally, the General Property Tax Act has allowed two or more counties to join together to provide equalization services since at least 1973; see MCL 211.34b. Pursuing the benefits of inter-county cooperation, Huron and Tuscola have successfully operated under an inter-local agreement since 2007. Not only has the Commission applauded the Counties' efforts for each of the prior waiver approvals, but it also took the opportunity in its notice of the denial of a request for waiver to commend the Counties for their efforts. The notice of the denial of the waiver request states:

"The State Tax Commission commends Huron and Tuscola Counties in their efforts to cooperate in sharing an Equalization Director and encourage the Counties to continue their partnership into the future."

That quoted portion goes on to declare that the citizens of the two Counties are entitled to equitable and fair treatment. In light of the fact that the equalization process has been correctly performed for each and every year that the shared agreement has been in place, it would be inequitable and unfair to force the citizens to expend more tax dollars on a system that is not broke.

**11. The cooperative agreement between the Counties works**

At all times pertinent hereto, a Level 3 was a sufficient certification for performing the equalization function for both Counties, especially in light of the fact that prior to the new requirements for 2014 a Level 4 was not required if no assessing unit within the counties required a certification higher than a Level 2. To raise the bar now has the practical effect of forcing Mr. Schlichting to give up one of his positions, thereby forcing a reduction in his compensation package. It would seem that the better approach is to allow the arrangement to continue, as long as the same equalization director is retained, or until such time that the Commission determines that the equalization function is not being properly performed.

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**Conclusion**

Huron County is appealing to the Tax Commission to allow the continuation of a collaborative effort that has been successful for six years. The Commission, by the equalization process alone, is in an excellent position to immediately detect any problems that may arise from this collaboration. If that should happen, then, and in that event, the matter can be addressed in a timely manner.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen J. Allen  
Corporation Counsel

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# Tuscola County Office of Emergency Management

**420 Court Street Suite # 1, Caro, Michigan 48723-1606**

**Tele: 989-673-5181 Fax: 989-673-5182 E Mail – [tcemanderson@tuscolacounty.org](mailto:tcemanderson@tuscolacounty.org)**

**Deputy Steven Anderson, Coordinator**

To: Michael Hoagland, County Controller  
From: Deputy Anderson  
Reference: Jail/courthouse AEDs  
Date: December 3, 2013

Sir,

Recently Deputy Schuman, our AED/CPR trainer for the Sheriff's Office, approached me with some concerns about the current jail/courthouse AEDs. The current model AED that we have is the Cardiac Science Powerheart G3 and they were put into service sometime in 2009.

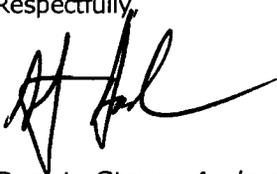
Deputy Schuman advised me that as of January 31, 2014 both AEDs will require new pads (pads expire every two years). In order to correctly outfit the current units, we will need to purchase two sets of pads for each unit for a total of four sets. In addition to the pads, the batteries on the current units are both below 50% and will need to be replaced in roughly 18 months.

Deputy Schuman also provided me with information on current replacement batteries and pads from AED.com. The batteries for the units are \$395.00 each (we need two) and the pads are \$45.00 for each set. The total would be \$970.00 without shipping and handling. AED.com does offer a small break if you purchase a battery and a set of pads together, that cost is \$419.00. but we would still need two for a total of \$838.00 plus the cost of two sets of additional pads

After researching the cost of the items that are required for the current AED units, we feel that it would be in the best interest for the county to consider purchasing two new Zoll AEDs through Mercy Sales in Saginaw. I obtained a quote from them for two units in the amount of \$2635.00. I also found that Zoll is currently offering a rebate or trade in on the units we are using currently. The rebate would pay us \$250.00 for each unit saving us an additional \$500.00. Plus, Undersheriff Skrent checked with MMRMA and learned that MMRMA will reimburse half of one unit since it will be placed in the jail, saving additional money. Total cost for two new Zoll AEDs with all available rebates would be roughly \$1485.00.

In addition, I would also recommend the Zoll AEDs for two other cost saving reasons, first the batteries in these units can be purchased at Walmart for under \$40.00 per unit and second, the pads can be swapped out with MMR which would save the county from purchasing pads in the future.

Respectfully,



*Deputy Steven Anderson, E.S. Coordinator*

**MISSION STATEMENT: *Tomorrow's Solutions to Today's Emergencies***

**A Division of the Tuscola County Sheriff's Office**

**Sheriff Leland Teschendorf**

**Undersheriff Glen Skrent**



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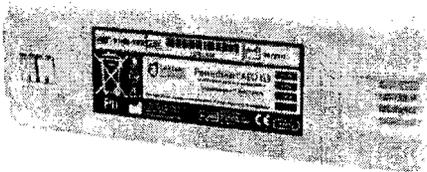
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## Cardiac Science Powerheart G3 Battery

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Qty\* : 1

Price

**\$395.00**

\* Required Fields

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The Cardiac Science Intellisense Lithium Battery is used in the Powerheart G3 models. This non-rechargeable lithium battery has an estimated 5-year shelf life (from date of manufacture), and a 4-year full operational replacement guarantee from date of installation. It will operate up to 290 shocks at full charge.

The battery technology offers advanced capabilities including an integrated memory chip that stores important usage information and maintains a complete history of its operating life. This battery history can be reviewed using the RescueLink software. Powerheart AEDs include a Diagnostic Panel with a SMARTGAUGE battery indicator status. The LED display gives a quick visual of the battery capacity at all times. This indicator screen has 5 LEDs – 4 green and 1 red. The 4 green LEDs display the remaining battery capacity, similar to a fuel gauge. As the battery life decreases, these 4 LEDs gradually extinguish one at a time. When the red LED illuminates, it is time to replace the battery. Once the red LED illuminates, a voice prompt will state "Battery Low."

The AED is still capable of delivering at least 9 shocks at this point. Storing batteries outside of the temperature range will decrease the battery life. As with all batteries, please dispose of them properly and in accordance with state and federal laws.

\*Due to aviation regulations, there is no express shipping on this battery.

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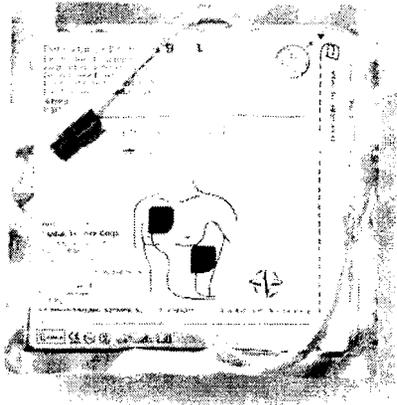
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### Cardiac Science Adult Electrodes

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Qty\* : 1

Price **\$45.00**

\* Required Fields

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\*\*\*4 to 6 Weeks Estimated Time Of Arrival

The Cardiac Science Adult Electrodes can be used on all Cardiac Science AEDs, including the Survivalink FirstSave, Powerheart AED (9200RD), Powerheart G3, and Powerheart G3 Pro. These electrodes are non-polarized so that both pads can be placed on either chest location (Apex or Sternum), making the rescue process much easier. The electrodes have a 2 year shelf life with the expiration date printed clearly on the front of the pad package. We recommend keeping a second pair of pads on hand in case multiple emergencies occur.



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Pin It

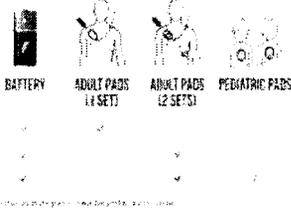
## Cardiac Science Powerheart G3 Accessory ReFitKit

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### REFITKIT OPTIONS

CHOOSE PLAN THAT SUITS YOU!

LIST OF REFITKIT PLANS  
BATTERY  
ADULT PADS  
ADULT PADS  
PEDIATRIC PADS



#### ReFitKit Options

Price

\$419.00

Please select the kit that best suits your needs

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Basic +\$37.00

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#### Customize Your ReFitKit

[Add to Wishlist](#)

Please select the items to add to your kit.

Adult Electrodes +\$37.00 Qty: 1

Powerheart G3 Battery +\$340.00 Qty: 1

Pediatric Electrodes +\$92.00 Qty: 1

Qty\* : 1

\* Required Fields

[Description](#) [Product Info](#) [Reviews](#) [Product Downloads](#)

AED Maintenance should be easy. Unfortunately, if you aren't familiar with AEDs and their accessories it can sometimes get confusing.

AED.com has created a system for reordering your AED batteries and pads with ease. Choose your customized Cardiac Science Powerheart G3 ReFitKit and rest assured that your facility will be protected from Sudden Cardiac Arrest for years to come.

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	\$	-
Subtotal	\$	2,600.00
Tax rate (use decimal)		
Sales tax		
Shipping		\$35.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,635.00</b>

Heather Lange  
Quoted By

11/21/2013  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved By

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Purchase order number must appear on all invoices and correspondence.**

D

STATE OF MICHIGAN



TUSCOLA COUNTY TRIAL COURTS

440 NORTH STATE STREET  
CARO, MICHIGAN 48723  
(989) 672-3800

HON. KIM DAVID GLASPIE  
CHIEF JUDGE OF THE COURTS  
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

HON. AMY GRACE GIERHART  
CHIEF JUDGE PRO TEMPORE  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

HON. NANCY L. THANE  
PRESIDING JUDGE/FAMILY DIVISION  
PROBATE COURT JUDGE

DONNA L. FRACZEK  
COURT ADMINISTRATOR

ADAM D. PAVLIK  
DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR

TO: Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

FROM: Honorable Kim David Glaspie, Chief Judge 

RE: Jury Board Vacancy

DATE: November 25, 2013

Effective December 31, 2013, the appointment of Jury Board Member, Edward P. Jagosz, will end. Accordingly, the vacant position will be posted on the Tuscola Courts website and in the Courthouse.

Applications must be forwarded to me no later than Friday, December 20, 2013, so that I may make a recommendation to the County Board for approval of the appointment for 2014.

It would be appreciated if the Board would prepare a written commendation and recognize Mr. Jagosz for his dedicated service to Tuscola County and the Courts.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

9-1-1

Tuscola County Central Dispatch

Robert Klenk, Director



December 9, 2013

From: Robert J. Klenk, Director

Subject: Resignation/Retirement

To: Board of Commissioners

Board of Commissioners,

After over thirteen (13) years as the director of Tuscola County Central Dispatch, I have decided it is time for me to retire. Therefore, I am letting you know that July 1, 2014 will be my last official day.

It has been a pleasure working with all of you. I wish you the best of luck in selecting my replacement. Both you and the Authority Board have been very supportive of me and of Central Dispatch. You have supported numerous improvements to the dispatch center that has lead to Tuscola County Central Dispatch to be on the forefront and a leader in keeping pace with emerging technology. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to be the Central Dispatch Director here in Tuscola County. I believe you have a Central Dispatch Center that you can be very proud of and this has only been possible with the support of the Board of Commissioners. I know the names have changed over the years but the support for Central Dispatch has not changed.

Thank you very much for allowing me to direct Central Dispatch for Tuscola County.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Klenk, Director  
Tuscola County Central Dispatch

**Mike Hoagland**

---

**From:** Mike Hoagland <mhoagland@tuscolacounty.org>  
**To:** Doug Van Essen <dvanessen@silvervanessen.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 22, 2001 3:47 PM  
**Subject:** Amendment to Dispatch Authority By-Laws Article VI

Doug

I faxed to you the other day Article VI of the Dispatch Authority By- Laws regarding appointment of the Director. Please review the following possible revision of this section which fits how we actually recently conducted the interviews for the new Director.

ARTICLE VI

Director

Section 1: Appointment

Candidates for the position of Dispatch Director will be reviewed by an interview panel consisting of the following representatives:

- 3 members from the County Dispatch Authority one of which shall be the Chairperson of the Authority Board
- County Controller/Administrator
- County Human Resources Coordinator
- Chairperson County Board of Commissioners
- Vice-Chairperson County Board of Commissioners
- Personnel Committee Chairperson County Board of Commissioners

The Tuscola County Board of Commissioners shall make the appointment of the Director from the candidates reviewed by the interview panel after giving consideration to the interview panel's recommendation.



## Tuscola County Sheriff's Office

420 Court Street • Caro, MI 48723

Lee Teschendorf, Sheriff  
Glen Skrent, Undersheriff

Phone (989) 673-8161  
Fax (989) 673-8164

December 3, 2013

Tuscola County Board of Commissioners  
Mr. Michael Hoagland, County Controller

I have attached a proposed letter of understanding between Tuscola County and the Police Officers Labor Council that represents our command officers labor unit.

The letter modifies Section 10.0 of the current agreement by adding a new subsection K. This will allow a promotion to a vacant supervisors position without the time and expense of a written test, oral board and seniority points calculation in the event that three (3) or fewer eligible employees submit a request for consideration to fill the position.

Since the contract language allows the sheriff to select from the top three candidates it only makes sense to eliminate these requirements.

I ask that the board sign the letter that has already been agreed to, and signed by, Mr. John Stidham, POLC representative and union stewards Sgt. Ryan Pierce and Sgt. Brian Harris after a vote of approval by the employees in that labor unit.

Sincerely,

Leland Teschendorf, Sheriff

TUSCOLA COUNTY  
-and-  
POLC

Letter of Understanding Regarding Promotional Testing

Section 10.0 Promotional Testing

Add new subsection K.

"Three (3) applicants or less. Regardless of the above, should there be three (3) or less applicants for the vacancy, the Sheriff may fill the vacancy from the applicants submitted for the promotion without the necessity of a written examination, oral interview or seniority point's consideration.

FOR THE COUNTY

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Leon Tucker, Sheriff*

FOR THE UNION

\_\_\_\_\_  
*John Stohar, Polc*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*[Signature]*



## Tuscola County Sheriff's Office

420 Court Street • Caro, MI 48723

Lee Teschendorf, Sheriff  
Glen Skrent, Undersheriff

Phone (989) 673-8161  
Fax (989) 673-8164

December 3, 2013

Tuscola County Board of Commissioners  
Mr. Michael Hoagland, County Controller

I am forwarding a copy of the letter submitted by Lt. Penny Turner advising me she will be retiring with her last scheduled work day being January 7, 2014.

She has been employed at the sheriff's office for over 17 years beginning her career on August 10, 1996. Lt. Turner has faithfully served Tuscola County as jail administrator for the last 5 years having been promoted to that position on January 26, 2009.

At some point after her retirement date we will begin the process of selecting a replacement and I will keep you advised on the progress of that task.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Leland Teschendorf".

Leland Teschendorf, Sheriff

Cc/Ms. Dawn Bowden, County Personnel Director

December 2, 2013

Sheriff Teschendorf,

The Tuscola County Sheriff's Office has been good to me from my first days as a Dispatcher to my current position as Lieutenant of the Corrections Division. It has been a learning experience and a privilege to work under your command. I especially admire the steadfast way you maintained your high moral standard the past couple of years. 2012 and 2013 have been trying on everyone. If I take nothing else away from it I will remind myself not to let others pull me down into their misery and discontent. Life is what you make it – not what others tell you it is. In spite of our recent "set-backs", I have truly enjoyed my job and the friendships I have made throughout the years.

There is never a good time to move on. There is always a shortage of help or an overabundance of work yet to be done. This is evident by the amount of vacation time I have yet to use. I have submitted paperwork for my retirement to MERS. Please accept this letter as notice of my intention to retire. I plan for January 7, 2014 to be my last official workday.

I would like to purchase my badge if that is possible. Let me know the cost of replacing the badge and I will get the money to you.

Thank you for everything,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lt. Penny Turner". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Lt. Penny Turner

Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

Mr. Mike Hoagland

November 26, 2013

Dear Commissioners,

Tuscola County Right to Life would like to have its annual Memorial Service in front of the Tuscola County Court House on Sunday, January 19, 2014 at 3:30 in the afternoon.

This event is open to the general public, and usually lasts about 30 minutes. This is considered to be a peaceful event designed to remember those of our County who were lost to abortion in 2013. Similar events will be hosted by other chapters of Right to Life in all parts of Michigan.

On behalf of the Tuscola County Right to Life group, I am requesting permission to have this meeting/ service in front of the Court House on this date. If your schedule allows, we also invite each of you to attend and stay as long as you want. Thank you for your consideration, and please let me know your decision on this request.

Sincerely,

Jim McLoskey

Right to Life Board Member

[mcloskey@charter.net](mailto:mcloskey@charter.net)

cc Clerk Jodi Fetting

# MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

*“Expecting Excellence Every Day”*

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** November 26, 2013

**TO:** Tuscola County Commissioners

**FROM:** SPP Charles Walker, Tuscola Probation/Parole

**SUBJECT:** Upgraded Phone System

Please be advised that the current phone system used by the Tuscola County Probation/Parole Office is not adequately handling our needs. We currently have 10 Probation Agents, 1 Clerical, a Fax line and my number. The system message, as it is currently set up, does not allow enough time to list all 12 people that have phone lines, the phone numbers for those people and the fax number.

I was informed that a totally new system would run several thousand dollars. With the help of your staff and Amy Messer at Century Link, we were able to come up with an upgraded phone system that will cost a mere \$59 extra per month. The upgraded system will allow calls from the public- this includes the courts, offenders, law enforcement, treatment agencies and others- to come into the office and be answered by clerical. The upgrade comes into play when there is no answer. The upgrade will allow the caller to press a corresponding keypad number to reach their intended party then reach that person or leave a message. The current system does not allow the caller to transfer the call if there is no answer at the main number. I have received numerous complaints from the public that the current system is outdated and the message is too fast because of all the information that needs to be relayed in the short time frame.

I am asking that Buildings and Grounds budget be upgraded to allow this \$59/month upgrade to our system to allow a more professional, friendly system that callers can use.

Thank-you in advance for your consideration.