

TUSCOLA COUNTY CONTROLLER/ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

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DRAFT

To: Tuscola County Board of Commissioners

From: Controller/Administrator

Date: Wednesday, January 2, 2013

RE: 2013 Initial Work Program

Initial Work Program for 2013

Financial and Personnel

1. Work with the Michigan Renewable Energy Coalition, utility companies, state officials and the State Tax Commission to determine a fair and equitable method of wind energy assessing and taxation
2. Work with the county health insurance consultants and conduct a county health insurance bidding process to comply with state law and protect employee health insurance coverage at the lowest cost
3. Comply with new federal laws regarding health insurance coverage with assistance from the county health insurance consultants and labor attorney
4. Gain a more in depth understanding of the financial impacts of state changes in the personal property tax on county and local units of government
5. Prepare 2014 and future year financial projections to help determine what strategy to establish for labor negotiations to begin in the summer of 2013
6. Use financial projections to form the basis for 2014 county budget development
7. Work with the State Tax Commission (STC) and Huron County officials to obtain a STC waiver so that the cost savings achieved by having a two county equalization director can continue
8. Work with the county auditors to prepare the 2012 Comprehensive County Financial Report (Audit)
9. Develop specifications and conduct a bidding process for the county audit beginning with the 2013 county audit
10. Work with the Court Administrator and Judges and continue to build uniformity in county and court personnel policies

11. Work to adapt to the unusually high rate of staff turnover in both elected and appointed county positions
12. Determine the new Right-To-Work laws on county labor relationship and union contract negotiations
13. Evaluate the benefit/cost of using a three-year dog licensing schedule
14. Evaluate cost savings achieved by changing natural gas service to Xoom
15. Monitor the \$7 million small house development project being constructed by the County Medical Care Facility
16. Review status and updates regarding the BC/BS access fees lawsuit
17. Provide countywide training on the county attendance system software to capitalize on the efficiencies from this software
18. Conduct transitions audits for the two offices with new department heads (Register of Deeds and County Clerk)
19. Ask the court to continue to provide periodic financial updates regarding the child care funds and friend of the court funds because of their significance to the overall county budget

Building and Grounds

20. Prepare alternative short and long range plans to mitigate jail overcrowding and solve an aging jail facility problem also review with the Sheriff the benefit/cost of locating certain sheriff administrative functions to the lowest level of the Courthouse
21. Work with county health department officials, DEQ and others and review S.B. 1008 to determine alternative solutions to agricultural irrigation and residential well problems
22. Review and update the 20 year plan and cost estimates to maintain the 14 county buildings – incorporate this information into the multi-year county financial planning
23. Work with state officials and public-private interests to determine potential reuses for the former Camp Tuscola
24. Gain assistance from Michigan State University and others for a strengthened understanding of all aspects of Fracking including land leases, environment practices and protection of groundwater
25. Work with the County Economic Development Corporation to prepare an updated county solid waste management plan which will enable application for Brownfield Redevelopment funds

26. Conduct bidding as necessary to implement 2013 budgeted capital improvement projects including: jail shower/remodeling \$88,000, Jail window replacement \$25,000 and Health Department/Department of Human Services parking lot \$160,000

Other

27. Review and analyze a contract to form a joint public-private arrangement to provide dental care for Medicaid eligible citizens in Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola Counties – gain assistance in reviewing the contract from the county attorney and health department officials

28. Remain engaged and active with the Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative and work to seek solutions to low water levels in the great lakes which is having negative economic and ecological impacts

29. Continue to work with the County Economic Development Corporation and other economic development interests to create employment opportunities and overall economic growth

30. Update and make adjustments to the county web site so that it remains relevant and useful to all parties

31. Work to capitalize on cost effective computer and other technology in all county operations

32. Evaluate conducting a forum or another method of continuing exploring with other counties and units of government within Tuscola County to assess methods of service consolidation for efficiency

33. Complete the installation of the camera monitoring system in the county jail for federal compliance

34. Continue to provide administrative services in assisting local units of government with bonding issues involving sewer and water projects

35. Complete the final stage of the radio 911 new generation infrastructure/technology upgrades at the dispatch center

36. Work closely with the Michigan Association of Counties regarding issues such as:

- State revenue sharing
- Personal property tax
- Payment in lieu of taxes
- Mental Health Substance Abuse merger
- Unfunded state and federal mandates
- Road commission gas tax funding
- State take over of the court system
- County discretion in setting local fees
- Juvenile competency

37. Form a committee to study oil shale potentials in Tuscola County
38. Evaluate the potential of establishing and methods of financing an electronic parcel mapping system
39. Assess Geographic Information System technology and potential uses