



COUNTY OF OSCODA

Mr. Charles E. Varner, Jr, Chair
Ms. Jackie Bondar
Ms. Libby Marsh

Mr. Tom McCauley, Vice Chair
Mr. Ted Handrich

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Oscoda County Government Center, 311 S. Morenci Ave, P.O. Box 399, Mio, MI 48647

Official Minutes June 11, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Oscoda County Board of Commissioner's was held on **Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.** "Open to the Public" and offered to join by Teleconference, from the Commissioner's Boardroom, located at the Oscoda County Government Center Building, 311 S. Morenci Ave, Mio Michigan 48647.

A. Call to Order

Commissioner Varner called today's "Public Meeting" to order at 10:00 a.m.; including those joining the meeting by teleconference.

B. Invocation and/or Pledge

Pledge to the Flag

C. Roll Call of Board Members

Roll Call: Commissioners Handrich, Bondar, Marsh, McCauley and Varner.

Members Excused:	N/A
Public Present:	5
Public by Teleconference:	2
Zoom Participants:	7

D. Approval of Agenda

The B.O.C approved the Agenda for **June 11, 2024**, as presented.

Bondar/Handrich
2024-151 a motion to approve the agenda for **June 11, 2024**, B.O.C Regular Meeting, as presented.

5 yes: 0 no: **Motion Carried.**

E. Approval of the Consent Calendar Items for June 11, 2024.

The B.O.C. approved the Consent Calendar Items for **June 11, 2024**.

McCauley/Bondar
2024-152 a motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items for **June 11, 2024**.

Item #1 Unofficial Minutes for **May 28, 2024**, as presented.

Item #2 Budget Amendments

Treasurer: a request to add a new budget line Historical Commission Imprest Cash 232-000-004.00 to the Historical Commission budget.

Treasurer: a request to add a new budget line Uncashed Bond Checks 101-000-684.00 to the General Fund budget.

Gypsy Moth: a request to increase Printing/Publishing budget line 239.428.900.00 in the amount of \$153.57 and so, amend the budget.

Item #3 General & Special Fund Budget Summary for **May 2024**.

Item #4 Claims and Audit Docket for **June 11, 2024**, as received from the County Clerk's Office in the amount of **\$429,696.47**.

Roll Call Vote: Marsh, yes; Handrich, yes; Bondar, yes; McCauley, yes; Varner, yes. **Motion Carried.**

F. Public Matters & Comments (Limited to three minutes per person)

Mr. Christian Marcus:

- Currently running for the Michigan House of Representatives District 105, Otsego County which includes this section of Oscoda County.
 - 10 years of service as a Former Commissioner of Antrim County;
 - 7 years of service on the MAC Board of Directors and National Association of Counties;
 - 4 years of service as a Township Trustee;
 - 4 years of service as a reserved Deputy.
- Feels as though we are lacking in representation from townships to political parties.
- Previously owned a gas station and liquor store for 18 years.
- Mental Health is a passion and area that he will be focusing on once he gets to Lansing, MI.

G. Appointments:

- 1) Ms. Julie Darnton, MSU Extension District 4 Director – Oscoda County 2023 Annual Report Presentation

Michigan State University Extension represents seven counties in Northern Michigan which are Oscoda, Crawford, Roscommon, Ogemaw, Alcona, Iosco and Arenac. Oscoda County does not have an agreement with Michigan State University Extension however they are still working to serve the needs of residents of Oscoda County.

There are resources and research that is created by Michigan State University is made available to the public. You can access their website at [Oscoda County \(msu.edu\)](https://www.oscodacounty.msu.edu) for details on the programs that are offered. A snapshot of the programs that have been utilized by Oscoda County residents were programs about natural resources, Michigan birding, being good stewards of our water resources, wildlife, harmful alga blooms, health and nutrition, mental health, anger management, balancing budgets, elected officials' programs, etc. These programs are accessible online to help eliminate the expense and difficulties of traveling.

There is a small number of the youth who are enrolled in the 4-H programs, which is a statewide program. Michigan State University is interested in growing this program and are currently seeking volunteers who will be working with youth, clubs and statewide event involvement.

Commissioner Bondar stated that the attendees to the Thia Chi class being held at the Oscoda County Senior Center are "loving the classes" and appreciate the instructor.

H. Correspondence/Reports/Resolutions:

- 1) Commissioner Varner – ASVCMH and NMRE Boards - Resolution Opposing Conflict Free Access and Planning (CFAP) Discussion

The AuSable Valley Community Mental Health and Northern Michigan Regional Entity have both passed Resolutions Opposing Michigan Department of Health and Human Services decision to implement Conflict Free Access and Planning (CFAP) in Michigan which separates service assessment and planning from service delivery. Therefore, Commissioner Varner is requesting support from the other board members to send out a Letter of Support to both entities, AuSable Valley Community Mental Health and Northern Michigan Regional Entity and our State Representatives Mr. Ken Borton, Mr. Cameron Cavitt and Ms. Michelle Hoitenga. The Board of Commissioners agreed to mailing Letters of Support.

Mr. Christian Marcus explained that this new regulation is filled with statutory conflicts. It is also transferring responsibilities onto the individuals, that has always been the State’s responsibility. This is due to their efforts to be more transparent with the reporting, when in fact the opposite is happening.

I. Unfinished Business/New Business:

- 1) Ms. Peggy Smutek, Oscoda County Chamber of Commerce – Annual Craft Show

McCauley/Bondar motion to authorize the request for the use of the property located between the
2024-153 Courthouse Annex and the EMS Building (Volleyball Courts) to hold their annual Craft Show on Thursday, July 4, 2024.

5 yes: 0 no: **Motion Carried.**

- 2) Ms. Brenna Kirkpatrick, Court Administrator – Court Staffing

Marsh/McCauley a motion to acknowledge the resignation from Ms. Allison Herrell, as a full-time
2024-154 Collections/Family Clerk, effective June 14, 2024 with the intentions of continuing employment on a part-time basis to assist with backlog and training for an estimated period of two months on an as needed basis, not to exceed 14 hours per week, and so, amend the budget.

Roll Call Vote: Varner, yes; Marsh, yes; Handrich, yes;
Bondar, yes; McCauley, yes. **Motion Carried.**

- 3) Ms. Brenna Kirkpatrick - Advertise and Hire Collections/Family Clerk Position

Marsh/Bondar a motion to advertise and hire to fill the position of the Collections/Family Clerk,
2024-155 as a full-time union position, working 35 hours per week with a starting wage of \$16.83 per hour, and eligible for County benefits, effective immediately.

5 yes: 0 no: **Motion Carried.**

- 4) Mr. Robert Stankiewicz, EMS Director – EMS Staffing

Varner/Bondar a motion to acknowledge the termination of an EMS employee as a full-time
2024-156 EMT position, effective Wednesday, May 29, 2024.

5 yes: 0 no: **Motion Carried.**

McCauley/Marsh
2024-157

a motion to acknowledge the hiring of Mr. Adrian Brooks, as a full-time union employee to fill the EMT position, with a start date of Saturday, June 15, 2024, at a starting wage of \$15.83 per hour, with full benefits and so, amend the budget.

5 yes: 0 no: **Motion Carried.**

5) Historical Commission Staffing

Bondar/Handrich
2024-158

a motion to acknowledge the hiring of Ms. Mackenze Kaminski, as a part-time seasonal employee to fill the position at the Historical Commission, with a start date of Saturday, June 1, 2024, working up to 24 hours per week at a starting wage of \$14.00 per hour, and so, amend the budget.

5 yes: 0 no: **Motion Carried.**

McCauley/Bondar
2024-159

a motion to acknowledge the hiring of Mr. Zeke Morris, as a part-time seasonal employee to fill the position at the Historical Commission, with a start date of Saturday, June 1, 2024, working up to 24 hours per week at a starting wage of \$14.00 per hour, and so, amend the budget.

5 yes: 0 no: **Motion Carried.**

6) Maintenance Department Staffing

Bondar/McCauley
2024-160

a motion to acknowledge the hiring of Mr. Steve Cowie, as a full-time non-union employee to fill the Maintenance Custodian III position, with a start tentative date of Monday, July 1, 2024, at a starting wage of \$16.90 per hour, and eligible for County benefits, and so, amend the budget.

5 yes: 0 no: **Motion Carried.**

McCauley/Bondar
2024-161

a motion to acknowledge the hiring of Ms. Angela Rizzardi, as a full-time non-union employee to fill the Maintenance Custodian II position, with a start date of Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at a starting wage of \$15.68 per hour, and eligible for County benefits, and so, amend the budget.

5 yes: 0 no: **Motion Carried.**

J. Financial:

1) Historical Commission – Amend Previous Motion “Imprest Cash”

Marsh/McCauley
2024-162

a motion to amend Motion#2024-149 dated May 28, 2024 to authorize the Treasurer’s Office to provide the Historical Commission (Steiner Museum) with “Imprest Cash” in the amount of \$100.00 from the Historical Commission fund balance to be used for startup money for the gift shop, and to be reconciled on daily basis and part of the annual County Audit. If at any time the imprest cash is no longer required, those funds are to be returned to the Historical Commissions fund balance.

Roll Call Vote: Handrich, yes; Bondar, yes; Marsh, yes; McCauley, yes; Varner, yes. **Motion Carried.**

- 2) Mr. Brian Smutek, Airport Assistant Manager – Quote from Esch’s Septic Service for Oscoda County Dennis Kauffman Memorial Airport

McCauley/Bondar
2024-163 a motion to authorize the quote from Esch’s Septic Service for the rental of a hand sanitation station to be used during the July 13, 2024 Annual Dawn Patrol Breakfast fly in event at the Oscoda County Dennis Kauffman Memorial Airport, in the amount of \$75.00, and so, amend the budget.

Roll Call Vote: Marsh, yes; Handrich, yes; Bondar, yes; McCauley, yes; Varner, yes. **Motion Carried.**

- 3) Ms. Brenna Kirkpatrick, Court Administrator - Restitution Account

McCauley/Marsh
2024-164 a motion to authorize a check to be issued to Fremont Insurance Company in the amount of \$1,146.59 to correct a restitution account, and so, amend the budget.

Roll Call Vote: McCauley, yes; Varner, yes; Marsh, yes; Handrich, yes; Bondar, yes. **Motion Carried.**

Marsh/McCauley
2024-165 a motion to authorize a check to be issued to Loyal Riders Clubhouse, in the amount of \$50.00 to correct a restitution account, and so, amend the budget.

Roll Call Vote: Varner, yes; Marsh, yes; Handrich, yes; Bondar, yes; McCauley, yes. **Motion Carried.**

- 4) Ms. Michelle Knepp, County Administrator/HR Director – EMS Computer Equipment

Marsh/McCauley
2024-166 a motion to review the quote from 1010 Technology Center, Inc. and authorize the purchase of a Dell Laptop, docking station, monitor and software installation at the Oscoda County EMS Department to be paid for out of the 102 Ambulance Equipment Non-Capital budget line 102.651.775.00 in the amount of \$1,933.15, and so, amend the budget.

Roll Call Vote: Bondar, yes; McCauley, yes; Varner, yes; Handrich, yes; Marsh, yes. **Motion Carried.**

K. Public Comments (Limited to three minutes per person):

Ms. Ann Galbraith, Chamber of Commerce:

- Annual 4th of July parade;
- Craft show will be held on the volleyball courts;
- Working to raise \$10k-\$12K for fireworks which will be fired off over the backwaters;
- New visitors guide is available;
- Planning for the Murder Mystery dinner with The Moose Lodge.

Mr. Christian Marcus:

- The Community Center will be holding the Meet & Greet with the Republican Party on Saturday, June 29, 2024.

L. Committee Reports:

Commissioner Varner:

- Attended Clinton Township Board Meeting
- Attended Community Mental Health Meeting in East Tawas, MI
- Attended Republican Meeting
- Attended NEMSCA Meeting at Kirtland College
- Dealt with issues with Animal Control and MDOT Aeronautics
- Attended Construction Meeting
 - Toured the construction site and everything is running on schedule. Invited other board members to go for a tour of the construction site.
- The Veterans' Affairs building project is scheduled for completion in November 2024.

Commissioner Marsh:

- Attended Republican Party Meeting
- Steiner Museum Update:
 - Working on a daily basis at the museum;
 - The inventory has been completed in the main area;
 - Working on a project to convert what used to be the garage into a meeting room which can also be used for events, groups, birthday party, etc.
 - Storage space has been added to the back room;
 - The gift shop is doing very well.

Commissioner Handrich:

- Steiner Museum
 - Encouraged a visit to the museum, the transformation is a great change.
- Attended Building Committee Meeting
 - Scheduled for completion in November 2024.

Commissioner Bondar:

- Attended Council on Aging Meeting
 - Scheduled to be closed from June 28, 2024 through July 7, 2024, reopening on July 8, 2024. They are doing a new well;
 - Thai Chi and balance classes are growing and going very well;
 - Dealing with the Park, Airport and Veterans Affairs issues.

Commissioner McCauley:

- Attended Republican Party Meeting
- Attended Road Commission Meeting
 - Bidding on a new plow truck w/sander;
 - Increased their credit card limit from \$10,000 to \$20,000 due to making larger transactions rather than waiting for approval.
- Attended Library Meeting
 - Attorneys were in attendance and there were many questions addressed on behalf of the public and answers were provided. Overall, he feels that the community was satisfied with the outcome of the meeting. We need more transparency. There will be additional discussion regarding employee actions.
- Attended Greenwood Township Meeting

Commissioner Varner will be leaving for vacation, and Commissioner McCauley will hold the next Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

Commissioner Handrich will be leaving for vacation and will not be in attendance to the next meeting on Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

M. Adjournment

Marsh/McCauley a motion to adjourn today's meeting at 10:51 a.m.
2024-167

5 yes: 0 no: **Motion Carried.**

The Board of Commissioners will hold their "Regular B.O.C Meeting" scheduled for **Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.** held in the Board of Commissioners Boardroom.

- Join the meeting by Teleconference by dialing 989-826-1163 (Pin#353)
- Join the meeting by Zoom by using the link below along with the Meeting ID and passcode
<https://zoom.us/j/95321452263?pwd=enN2MTFFMnYxeFRnOFUzQWVqSUIrZz09>
Meeting ID: 953 2145 2263
Passcode: 676747

**Charles E Varner, Jr., Oscoda County
Board of Commissioners Chair**

**Ann Galbraith, Oscoda County
Clerk & Register of Deeds**