



# COUNTY OF OSCODA

Board of Commissioners  
Telephone (989) 826-1130  
Fax Line (989) 826-1173

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

## Unofficial Minutes August 8, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Oscoda County Board of Commissioner's was held on **Tuesday, August 8, 2023 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 of Members:

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Members Present:          | Commissioners Varner, Marsh, Handrich, Bondar and McCauley |
| Members Excused:          | N/A  |
| Public Present:           | 10   |
| Public by Teleconference: | 7  |
| Zoom Participants:        | 4  |

### D. Approval of Agenda

The B.O.C approved the Agenda for **August 8, 2023**, as presented.

Handrich/McCauley a motion to approve the Agenda for **August 8, 2023**, as presented.  
**2023-223**

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

### E. Approval of the Consent Calendar Items for August 8, 2023, 2023.

Marsh/Bondar a motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items for **August 8, 2023**.  
**2023-224**

**Item #1** Unofficial Minutes for **July 25, 2023**.

**Item #2** Budget Amendment

Treasurer:

- A request to add a new budget line to the Motor Pool budget for Office Supplies 101.270.729.00.

**Item #3** General & Special Fund Budget Summary for July 2023.

**Item #4** Claims and Audit Docket for **August 8, 2023**, as received from the County Clerk's Office. Total Claims & Audit **\$40,486.09**.

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

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

Ms. Cheryl Davis, Comins, MI (Clinton Township):

Spoke regarding her concerns and the process of the Gypsy Moth Spraying. Ms. Davis was informed by the local township to address the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Varner introduced Ms. Amber Woehlert, Gypsy Moth Coordinator and asked that she address the matter.

G. Appointments:

- 1.) Mr. Roger Swets, Bond Attorney - Oscoda County Sheriff Department Building Project Discussion

Ms. Lori Burzlaff, First Vice President and Mr. Alan Bruder, Senior Vice President, Mercantile Bank

A meeting was held on June 26, 2023 with the Oscoda County Treasurer, Commissioner McCauley, Commissioner Handrich and Ms. Rene Welsler, BOC Executive Secretary to inform us about the counties options to borrow funds to round up the cost of the Oscoda County Sheriff Department building project.

Option 1: Installment Purchase Agreement

Option 2: General Obligation Limited Tax Fund

Handrich/McCauley 2023-225 a motion to move forward with the Bond issue through Mercantile Bank in the amount of \$2 million dollars, for up to a ten-year period including early payoff without penalty and incidental payments to retain Mr. Roger Swets, Bond Attorney and approve the continuation of the Sheriff Department building project.

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

H. Correspondence/Reports/Resolutions:

- 1.) Sheriff Grace – Acknowledge the Resignation of Deputy

McCauley/Marsh 2023-226 a motion to acknowledge the resignation from Deputy Meyer, effective Saturday, August 12, 2023.

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

- 2.) Statewide Septic Code Resolution

Handrich/McCauley 2023-227 a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-010 to Oppose the Statewide Septic Code into Oscoda County, as requested.

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

- 3.) Ms. Brenna Kirkpatrick, Court Administrator – Acknowledge the Resignation of District Court Criminal Clerk/Magistrate

McCauley/Handrich a motion to acknowledge the resignation from Ms. Lois Foss, District Court  
**2023-228** Criminal Clerk/Magistrate, effective Tuesday, August 15, 2023.

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

- 4.) Ms. Brenna Kirkpatrick, Court Administrator – Transfer of position from District Civil Clerk to District Criminal Clerk/Magistrate

Bondar/Marsh a motion to acknowledge the transfer of position for Ms. Tiffany Bugg from  
**2023-229** District Civil Clerk to the position of District Criminal Clerk/Magistrate, as a full-time non-union employee, with an effective date of Wednesday, August 16, 2023, working a standard 35 hours per week at a starting wage of \$18.64 per hour, and eligible for County benefits. Ms. Tiffany Bugg will also be entitled to on-call magistrate pay at the rate of \$5,000 annually, after training has been complete.

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

I. Unfinished Business/New Business:

- 1.) Mr. Christopher Fuhr, Motor Pool Supervisor – Dispose of Motor Pool Vehicle

McCauley/Handrich a motion to authorize the disposal of a Motor Pool vehicle; 1989 Chevrolet  
**2023-230** Caprice 4-Door, VIN# 1G1BL5176KR166491, as requested.

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

- 2.) Oscoda County Veterans Affairs Board – Termination of Board Position

Bondar/Marsh a motion to terminate Mr. Jack Treppa from the Oscoda County Veterans Board,  
**2023-231** per the vote of the Veterans Affairs Board.

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

- 3.) Oscoda County Veterans Affairs Board – Appoint for Board Position

Marsh/Bondar a motion to appoint Mr. Dennis Cooper to the Oscoda County Veterans Board, as  
**2023-232** recommended by Mr. Richard Landry, Veterans Board Chairman.

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

J. Financial:

- 1.) Sheriff Grace – Employee Wage Increase Discussion

Tabled for further discussion

- 2.) Sheriff Grace – Promotion to Lead Dispatcher

Marsh/Bondar  
2023-233

a motion to acknowledge to remove Mr. Ryan Blair as the Lead Dispatcher and the promotion for Ms. Courtney Lindstrom to the Lead Dispatcher position and to be paid a monthly stipend of \$125.00, effective July 30, 2023, and to be paid on the first pay period of every month, and so, amend the budget.

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

3.) Sheriff Grace – Budget Line-Item Change

McCauley/Handrich  
2023-234

a motion to authorize the change of paying Ms. Gwen Shafer out of the 911 Emergency Service budget line 104.301.704.04, effective July 30, 2023, and so, amend the budget.

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

4.) Commissioner Varner – MOA Landfill Funds

Received an apportionment from the M.O.A. Landfill in the amount of \$125,000 that went to the Treasury Department.

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

Ms. LeeAnn Fischer, Housing Commission:

- Introduced Ms. Brittany Harrison who has been hired into the Housing Commission working in the office three days per week.
- There was a new client came in seeking housing and this will be a task that Ms. Brittany Harrison will be working on. Commissioner Bondar mentioned that the building department has a list of names of everyone that owns rentals within the County, that may be helpful.

Mr. Al Chaney, Veterans Affairs:

- Veterans Memorial Site Update
  - The Plumber will be on-site this week and the sewer lines will be taken out.
  - Spoke with the Mason about installing the new sidewalk and removing the concrete base at the site, work will begin in September.
  - Get with Amy Knepp to use the landscaper that they used to get a quote.
  - Get with IT department to find out who they use for the video feed to the Sheriff's Department.
  - The headstone will be here in November but will not be set until next year.
  - A presentation will be held on Veterans Day in 2024.

Sheriff Grace:

- Badges for a Cause 5K Run/Walk event
  - Setup will be done on Friday, August 12, 2023 in the evening in front of the Sherriff Department.
  - Registration for the 5K Run/Walk will begin at 9:00 a.m.
  - The run/walk begins on Saturday, August 13, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.
  - There will be a Chinese auction, and a Silent auction held.
  - Local food vendors will be present for the event.

- All fundraiser/donations will go to Friends Together in Alpena to help Oscoda County residents with their fight against cancer by providing rides to appointments, gas cards, counseling, etc.

Commissioner Bondar stated that she is feeling guilty of her “yes” vote on Motion#2023-225 regarding the Oscoda County Sheriff Department Building Project Bond and wanted to know what the process is to change her vote to “no”?

L. Committee Reports:

Commissioner Varner:

- Oscoda County Dennis Kauffman Memorial Airport
  - A letter was sent to FAA regarding the Tree Removal/Obstruction Issues.
  - The obstruction trees on Runway 28 have been removed.
  - The obstruction trees on Runway 10 have been marked to be removed.
  - The Forester from the DNR has provided his service to us by marking the tree obstruction at the cost of \$200.00.
  - We are working on hiring a crew to remove and cleanup the remainder of the trees identified.
- Attended AuSable Valley Community Mental Health Meeting
- Attended Northern Michigan Regional Entity Meeting
- Attended Community Mediation Board Meeting

Commissioner McCauley:

- Attended Greenwood Township Meeting
  - The antenna has been installed for wireless internet.
  - Verizon has already petitioned to install there as well.

Commissioner Bondar:

- Attended Big Creek Township Meeting
  - They are obtaining bids for houses to be demolished.

Commissioner Marsh:

- Steiner Museum Update
  - Currently working on the 2024 budget.
  - Commissioner Marsh has taken on the grounds cleaning project at the Steiner Museum.
  - There has been a lot of participation/involvement from the community.
  - An individual who is doing community service has also been assisting with the cleanup.
  - The Mio football team has volunteered to help with cleanup project.

Commissioner Handrich:

- Attended Comins Township Meeting
  - The Resolution was given to them from the District Health Dept to oppose Septic Code.
  - A BBQ In the Park potluck event will be held monthly during the summertime.
- Attended EDC Board Meeting
  - The EDC Board has reached a tentative agreement with MI Works. The draft agreement will be presented to the EDC Board for discussion and then brought to the Board of Commissioners.
- Northern Michigan Relief Sale

M. Adjournment:

Marsh/Bondar                    a motion to adjourn today’s meeting at 11:50 a.m.

2023-235

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

The B.O.C will hold their “Regular B.O.C Meeting” scheduled for **Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.** held in the **B.O.C Boardroom or join the meeting by Teleconference** by dialing 989-826-1163 (Pin#353).

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

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

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