



COUNTY OF OSCODA

Mr. Charles E. Varner, Jr, Chairman
Ms. Jackie Bondar
Mr. Joe Breaugh

Mr. Tom McCauley, Vice Chairman
Mr. Ted Handrich

Telephone (989) 826-1130

Fax Line (989) 826-1173

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

Official Minutes January 13, 2026

A Regular Meeting & Annual Organizational Meeting of the Oscoda County Board of Commissioner's was held on **Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.** open to the public and offered to join by teleconference and zoom; in compliance with Michigan Legislature requirements and as allowed by Public Act 228 of 2020, Open Meetings Act (Excerpt) Act 267 of 1976, MCL - Section 15.263, from the Oscoda County Government Center Building, Commissioner's Boardroom, 311 S. Morenci Avenue, Mio Michigan 48647.

A. Call to Order

Commissioner Varner called today's "Public Meeting" to order at 10:02 a.m.; including those joining the meeting by teleconference and zoom.

B. Invocation and/or Pledge

Pledge to the Flag

C. Roll Call of Board Members

Roll Call of Members:

Members Present:	Commissioners Varner, Breaugh, Handrich and McCauley
Members Excused:	Commissioner Bondar
Public Present:	6
Public by Teleconference:	5
Zoom Participants:	9

D. Approval of Agenda & Annual Organizational Meeting

The B.O.C approved the Agenda & Annual Organizational Meeting for **January 13, 2026**, as presented.

Breaugh/Handrich
2026-001 a motion to approve the agenda for today's B.O.C Regular Meeting that includes the "Annual Organizational Meeting".

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

McCauley/Handrich
2026-002 a motion to open the B.O.C. "Annual Organizational Meeting" at 10:03 a.m.

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

The Board of Commissioners Chair, Charles E. Varner, Jr. asked for nominations for the 2026/2027 Vice Chair. Commissioner Breough nominated Commissioner McCauley. After hearing no other nominations, the opportunity for nominations were closed.

Handrich/Breough
2026-003 a motion to close the nomination for the 2026/2027 Board of Commissioners Vice-Chair.

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

Breough/Handrich
2026-004 a motion to approve the nomination and appoint Tom McCauley as the 2026/2027 Board of Commissioners Vice-Chair.

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

Handrich/McCauley
2026-005 a motion to hold the 2026 Regular Board of Commissioner’s Meetings at 10 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the Month, held at the Government Center building in the Board of Commissioners Room, unless otherwise noted.

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

Breough/McCauley
2026-006 a motion to accept the 2026 Holiday Schedule for Oscoda County designated by the Michigan Supreme Court.

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

Breough/McCauley
2026-007 a motion to designate the Huntington National Bank as the depository for County Funds, designate Blue Water Fuel Management for gas cards for the County, designate the Oscoda County Web Site as the public notification of record with the Oscoda County Herald as the advertising newspaper of record, and designate the County Clerk’s Office as the location, for the public, to obtain copies of Official Minutes, for the Fiscal Year 2026.

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

Varner/Handrich
2026-008 a motion to refer to the Robert’s Rules of Order for procedural guidelines, to adopt the revised B.O.C Bylaws & Rules of Procedures, including Appendix -A (Ethics Policy), with the option to review and up-date as needed including the current County’s Personnel Policy Manual.

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

Commissioner Varner announced that Oscoda County follows that IRS set standard mileage rate which increased from .70 cents per mile to .725 cents per mile effective January 1, 2026. A reference was made to the standing motion

Handrich/Breough
2026-009 a motion to adjourn the “Annual Organizational Meeting” at 10:20 am and return to the Regular Board Meeting.

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

E. Approval of the Consent Calendar Items for **January 13, 2026.**

The B.O.C. approved the Consent Calendar Items for **January 13, 2026.**

McCauley/Breaugh a motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items for **January 13, 2026.**
2026-010

Item #1 Official Minutes for **December 16, 2025,** as presented.

Item #2 General and Special Funds Budget Summary Reports for **December 2025.**

Item #3 Budget Amendments

Treasurer: a request to add a new budget line 263-000-616.00 C.P.L. Fingerprints to the Special Fund budget.

Treasurer: a request to add a new budget line 263-215-977.00 C.P.L. Capital Imp. Over \$5000 to the Special Fund budget.

Item #4 Claims and Audit Docket for **January 13, 2026,** as received from the County Clerk's Office in the amount of **\$359,662.03.**

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

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

Ms. Lori Lewis, Zoning Admin/Supervisor of Comins Township asked for a contact information for the Drain Commissioner regarding the Perry Lake Dam.

G. Appointments:

- 1) Mr. Steve Defour, Oscoda County Road Commission – Perry Lake Dam

The discussion regarding the Perry Lake Dam in Oscoda County, as of January 2026, focuses on essential improvements, projected costs, and unresolved funding responsibilities. Oscoda County officials are currently researching the legalities of the assessment district to determine how major repairs will be funded.

H. Correspondence/Reports/Resolutions:

- 1) Ms. Deb Coulon, EDC Board Chair - Economic Development Corporation Board Resignation and Election of Officer

Handrich/Breaugh a motion to acknowledge the resignation of Ms. Christine Curley from the
2026-011 Economic Development Corporation & Brownfield Board, effective Monday, August 25, 2025.

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

Handrich/McCauley a motion to recommend to the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, with
2026-012 the advice and consent of the County Board of Commissioners, shall appoint the members of the Board of Directors, the appointment of Ms. Olivia Myers, as a board member to the Oscoda County Economic Development Corporation & Brownfield Board, for the term expiring December 31, 2027, per Section 125.1604, Economic Development Corporations Act 338 of 1974.

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

I. Unfinished Business/New Business:

1) 2026 Dog License Extension

Breaugh/McCauley 2026-013 a motion to advertise and authorize the Treasurer's Office to extend, to the Oscoda County residents, to purchase 2026 Dog Licenses, at ½ price (\$5 or \$10) with proof of vaccinations, through March 31, 2026 due to the annual Vaccination Clinics being scheduled on Saturday, March 21, 2026.

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

2) Ms. Libby Marsh-Shephard, County Clerk/Register of Deeds – Clerk Office Staffing

McCauley/Handrich 2026-014 a motion to acknowledge the hiring of Ms. Michelle Hengy, as a full-time non-union employee to fill the Payroll/Payable Clerk position, working 35 hours per week, with a start date of Monday, January 5, 2026, at a starting wage of \$17.80 per hour, and eligible for County benefits.

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

3) Department of Human & Health Services Board Appointment

Breaugh/McCauley 2026-015 a motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Joan Fox, to the Department of Human & Health Services Board for a three-year term from December 1, 2025 through November 30, 2028, as requested by the DHHS Board.

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

J. Financial:

1) Ms. Terri Shattuck, President - Steiner Museum Ice Storm Damage Repairs

McCauley/Breaugh 2026-016 a motion to authorize the Steiner Museum board to enter into a contract with Rondo & Sons Builders Inc. for work related to the insurance settlement for Ice Storm damage repairs at the Steiner Museum and accept the quote as submitted in the amount of \$4,246.00 with payment terms of \$2,100.00 due upon approval and the remaining balance due upon completion, to be paid out of Historical Commission Contracted Services budget line 232-751-806.00, and so, amend the budget.

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

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

Mr. Douglas MacDermaid, Perry Lake Representative identified defects and reported leaking through the boards and expressed his belief that the dam is not functioning properly. He voiced uncertainty regarding long-term maintenance requirements and noted that a video was provided to the inspector to be reviewed showing footage of the issues. Commissioner Varner acknowledged these concerns, and stated that the board would be "diving into the issues" with the dam in the near future.

L. Committee Reports:

Commissioner McCauley:

- Attended Michigan Township Association (MTA) Meeting in Mentor Township
 - A fireman from Alcona County was discussing the fires caused by lithium batteries and the complications that arise.
 - Organizational Meeting and setup meeting dates for FY26
- Attended Oscoda County Road Commission Meeting
 - Organizational Meeting and setup meeting dates for FY26

Commissioner Breagh:

- Attended Veterans Affairs Board Meeting

Commissioner Handrich:

- Attended Historical Commission/Steiner Museum Board Meeting
 - Annual Organizational Meeting
- Reviewed Claims & Audit
- Attended Michigan Township Association (MTA) Meeting in Mentor Township
- Comins Township Meeting
 - Plans to attend this evening
- Economic Development Corporation (EDC) & Brownfield Board Meeting
 - Plans to attend Wednesday evening

Commissioner Varner:

- Attended Northern MI Substance Use Disorder Board Meeting in Gaylord, MI
- Attended Community Mediation Services Meeting
 - One board member recently passed away; and
 - Discussion about Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs).

M. Adjournment:

Handrich/Breagh a motion to adjourn today’s meeting 10:48 a.m.
2026-017

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

The Board of Commissioners will hold their next scheduled “Regular B.O.C Meeting” on **Tuesday, January 27, 2026 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 Chairman**

**Libby Marsh-Shephard, Oscoda County
 Clerk & Register of Deeds**