



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

Unofficial Minutes February 13, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Oscoda County Board of Commissioner’s was held on **Tuesday, February 13, 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 of Members:

Roll Call: Marsh, yes; Handrich, yes; Bondar, yes; McCauley, yes and Varner, yes.

Members Excused:	N/A
Public Present:	10
Public by Teleconference:	6
Zoom Participants:	3

D. Approval of Agenda

The B.O.C approved the Agenda for **February 13, 2024**, as presented.

Handrich/McCauley a motion to approve the agenda for **February 13, 2024**, B.O.C Regular Meeting, 2024-042 as presented.

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

E. Approval of the Consent Calendar Items for February 13, 2024.

The B.O.C. approved the Consent Calendar Items for **February 13, 2024**.

McCauley/Handrich a motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items for **February 13, 2024**. 2024-043

Item #1 Unofficial Minutes for **January 23, 2024**, as presented.

Item #2 Budget Amendments

Treasurer: a request to add a new budget line Credit Card Fee 208-751-729.01 to the County Park budget.

Treasurer: a request to add a new budget line Elections Employee Training 101.191.960.00 to the Elections budget.

Treasurer: a request to add a new budget line Uniform Allowance 101.270.741.00 to the Motor Pool budget.

Park: a request to appropriate funds into budget line Credit Card Fee 208-751-729.01 in the amount of \$8,000.00, and so, amend the budget.

Motor Pool: a request to appropriate funds in the amount of \$900.00 for the year of 2024 to the Uniform Allowance budget line 101.270.741.00, to be transferred from the Courthouse Grounds budget line 101.265.741.00, and so, amend the budget.

Building Department: a request to increase the Uniform Allowance budget line 249.371.741.00, in the amount of \$850.00, to be transferred from the Courthouse Grounds budget line 101.265.741.00, and so, amend the budget.

Housing: a request to move funds in the amount of \$262,500.00 from Federal Grants budget line 535.000.510.00 to MI-HOPE Grant budget line 535.000.511.00, and so, amend the budget.

Housing: a request to decrease funds in the amount of \$72,684.24 from Cont. Svc Labor budget line 535.690.801.00, and so, amend the budget.

Housing: a request to increase funds in the amount of \$273,500.00 to MI-HOPE Contracted Labor budget line 535.690.801.00, and so, amend the budget.

Housing: a request to increase funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 to MI-Hope Contracted Service budget line 535.690.809.00, and so, amend the budget.

Govt Admin: a request to increase funds in the amount of \$150.57 in the Liability Insurance budget line 101.115.912.00, to be paid out of Contingency 101.890.965.00, and so, amend the budget.

County Park: a request to increase funds in the amount of \$1,005.95 in the Liability Insurance budget line 208-751-912.00, and so, amend the budget.

Building Dept: a request to increase funds in the amount of \$630.26 in the Liability Insurance budget line 249.371.912.00, and so, amend the budget.

Historical Commission: a request to increase funds in the amount of \$79.18 in the Liability Insurance budget line 232.803.912.00, and so, amend the budget.

Drug Law Enforcement: a request to increase funds in the amount of \$26.46 in the Liability Insurance budget line 265.301.912.00, and so, amend the budget.

Item #3 General and Special Fund Budget Summary for **January 2024**.

Item #4 Expenditure Reports for **December 2023** and **January 2024**.

Item #5 Claims and Audit Docket for **February 13, 2024**, as received from the County Clerk's Office in the amount of **\$43,575.92**.

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

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

N/A

G. Appointments:

- 1) Mr. Richard Landry, Veterans Affairs Board – Proposed Drawings for Veterans Affairs office building

McCauley/Bondar
2024-044 a motion to authorize the proposed drawings for the Veterans Affairs office, based on the designs that have been submitted for review, to be built on property owned by Oscoda County, Parcel#000-469-005-00 located at 205 E. 11th Street, Mio, Michigan 48647, with Rights of Ownership of the building being owned by Oscoda County and all expenses accrued by the Veterans Affairs to be paid out of the Veterans Affairs budget, and for the exclusive use of the building to be used by the Veterans Affairs Department.

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

- 2) Mr. Scott Lawrence, Fire Chief – Oscoda County Fire Department Radios and Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant Discussion
 - o Quote received from Grand Traverse Mobile in the amount of \$19,688.15 for 800 megahertz radios for the Dispatch portion;
 - o Possible use of 911 funds in the future to be able to dispatch fire on 800 MGH radio from the new Sheriff Building dispatch;
 - o Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant (Grant period ends March 8, 2024); Grant writer would like to have everything included by March 1, 2024
 - o Possibility of Oscoda County EMS joining with Fire in the AFG Grant; additional cost to add EMS
 - o Estimated amount for the County Regional Grant
 - o Grant amount + 7% = \$8,000 per fire department (with EMS, cost will decrease because it will be divided 8 ways rather than 7 (fire departments).

H. Correspondence/Reports/Resolutions:

- 1) Mr. Nico Tucker, NEMCOG – Materials Management Resolutions

ELGE officially opened the Notice of Intent (NOI) period for the Materials Management Planning (MMP) process on January 8, 2024, which begins the 180-day clock for Oscoda County to file their NOI. The NOI is a two-step process. Deadline July 6, 2024.

Step one:

The board of commissioners to determine if they want to accept the responsibility of being the County Approval Agency (CAA) for MMP. They will need to pass the resolution accepting that responsibility and then upload it in an online form as part of the NOI.

Handrich/McCauley 2024-045 a motion to officially adopt **Resolution 2024-004**; Assuming the Responsibilities of Becoming the County Approval Agency (CAA), as written.

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

Step two:

A second resolution that could be used to designate NEMCOG as the Designated Planning Agency (DPA) for Oscoda County, going through the multi-county planning coordination, developing any interlocal agreements if needed, and identifying your Materials Management Planning Committee (MMPC).

Bondar/Marsh 2024-046 a motion to officially adopt **Resolution 2024-005**; Designated Planning Agency (DPA) Designation, as written.

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

I. Unfinished Business/New Business:

1) Sheriff Grace – Acknowledgement of Resignations

McCauley/Handrich 2024-047 a motion to acknowledge the resignation from Mr. Adrian Anderson, as a Full-time Deputy, effective February 10, 2024.

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

Marsh/Bondar 2024-048 a motion to acknowledge the resignation from Mr. Taylor Kann, as a Full-time Deputy, effective January 23, 2024 with the intentions of continuing employment as a Part-Time Deputy.

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

Marsh/Handrich 2024-049 a motion to acknowledge the resignation from Ms. Candace Thuss, as a Part-time/Temp Deputy, effective January 19, 2024.

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

2) Mr. Lowell Eastman, Pastor of Fairview Mennonite Church – Good Friday Service

Bondar/Handrich 2024-050 a motion to authorize the request to erect an approximately 9' x 6' plain wooden cross (carried in the procession) and to stake (3) 18" x 24" signs on the court building lawn in a spot visible to the road from on Friday, March 29, 2024 until the morning of Monday, April 1, 2024, when it will be removed, and to allow a gathering on the county lawn for approximately 20-30 minutes.

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

J. Financial:

1) Ms. Jenny Cronkright, Payroll Specialist – Amend 2023 PTO Payout

McCauley/Handrich 2024-051 a motion to amend a previous Motion#2024-014 dated January 9, 2024 and increase the 2023 PTO Payout amount by an additional \$351.36 for a total of **\$32,617.28** to be transferred from Contingency (101.890.965.00) for those General Funds and the others will be paid out of their Special Funds fund balance, and so amend the reflected budgets.

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

2) Mr. Michael Bowers, Emergency Management - Purchase of Supplies

Marsh/Bondar 2024-052 a motion to approve the purchase of a five-foot wall for the Courtroom in the Annex Building in the amount of \$6,817.78, and so, amend the reflected budgets.

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

3) Mr. Michael Bowers, Emergency Management – Cyber Security Assessment

Marsh/Bondar
2024-053 a motion to amend Motion#2024-036 dated January 23, 2024 and revise by authorizing the purchase of a Cyber Security Assessment in the amount of \$14,934.00, which is an increase of \$2,229.00 from the previous motion, and so, amend the budget.

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

4) MDOT – FAA Documents

McCauley/Handrich
2024-054 a motion to review and complete and signed the FAA Documents which include (FAA Form 5100-135, Certification and Disclosure Regarding Potential Conflicts of Interest; FAA Form 5100-130, Drug-Free Workplace; and FAA Form 1500-134, Selection of Consultants) and authorize the Chairman to sign, as requested.

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

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

Mr. Frank Beek, Veterans Affairs:

- Expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Bondar as Liaison for the Veterans Affairs.
- We have distributed \$9,000 in food vouchers, in one month.
- At a recent meeting we passed a Motion to do an assessment of needs to be capped at an income level of \$2,500 per month or less.
- He is supportive of the Veterans.
- The client needs have increased substantially.
- We have a great Veterans Affairs Board.
- Kudos to the Board of Commissioners for their support

Commissioner Marsh:

Stated that the comments on social media regarding the Sheriff Department building project have been humorous.

Commissioner Varner:

Made mention of a statement that was made on social media that said, “Where is the County getting the money to build a Sheriff Department, the budget is in the red.” Commissioner Varner said that this is an untrue statement.

Commissioner Handrich departed the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

Ms. Ann Galbraith, Clerk:

Meet with Mr. Randy Booth, and they have decided that the flower beds at Statewide located at the intersection of M-33/M-72 will be removed. There has been discussion of a mural wall (field of wildflowers) instead.

Sheriff Kevin Grace:

- Meet with Neil at Grand Traverse Mobile, it seems as though the steps to upgrade radio system will include the \$19,000 cost.
- Mio AuSable School will be holding an event tonight and they will be honoring the Veterans as well as recognizing our Seniors during Senior Night. They will have a band and various things going on during the event. He encouraged attendance to support the Veterans as well as the student athletes. “Thank you to the Veterans for all that they do.”

L. Committee Reports:

Commissioner Handrich:

- Attended Oscoda County Sheriff Department in-person meeting
 - Did an on-site walk through of the grounds
 - Making great progress
 - Walls are due to be delivered end of March, or 1st part of April 2024
- Attended Steiner Museum Meeting
 - Very productive meeting

Commissioner Bondar:

- Attended NMAC Meeting
 - A couple of presentations were given during the meeting
 - Big businesses coming into Michigan buying out big farms
 - The State wants to take control of:
 - Solar and wind farms from local government,
 - Septic
 - In Alpena, MI the State is sending surveyors to test the residential water supply for lead
 - Mental Health
 - MI Works; some offices have been shut down. The Onaway location is still in operation.
 - Zoning & Housing
 - Read Proposals
 - Make yourself aware with the local government proposals.
 - “Axe my Tax” is very important to read, when this will penalize the taxpayers.
 - Gas Tax – If the push in on for electric and hydrogen, you will not have gas tax and therefore the gas tax funding will not be going to the Road Commission, which will result in deterioration of our road conditions.
 - Ms. Amber Woehlert stated that if “Axe My Tax” passes, this will eliminate all emergency services by the State utilizing the revenue sharing funding.
 - Commissioner Varner stated that these proposals are on the radar, however, he does not think that people will be for it.
 - There is an organization “Citizens for Local Choice” that wants to add onto the ballot, asking for public opinion to rescind local government taking over solar and wind.
 - They are looking for community Captains to obtain signatures.
- Attended NEMCOG Meeting
 - Election of the Board and members, everything remains the same
 - DNR Recreational Passport Grant, replaces the Spark Grant
 - Letters of Support
 - Narrative of the Grant will be revised by NEMCOG
 - Resolution will be required at the first meeting on March 12, 2024
 - Site Control Form, signature required.
 - Due April 1, 2024
 - 25% required local match
 - Park Manager has been requesting revised quotes for playground equipment
 - Expressed her appreciation to Mr. Nico Tucker and NEMCOG
- MOA Landfill Meeting
 - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be held on February 23, 2024
- Veterans Affairs Meeting
 - Election of members, everything remains the same
 - Mr. Frank Beek expressed his appreciation to the Board of Commissioners for their support
 - Commissioner Bondar quoted “If you stop defending your defenders, you won’t have anything to defend.”
- COA Meeting
 - Exercise classes are well attended
 - Thia Chi classes will begin in April 2024
 - New building idea has been tabled; the current mortgage will be paid in full in July 2024
- Petition for Solar Wind is available for signature

Commissioner McCauley:

- Receiving multiple phone calls and have had conversations regarding Union grievances at the Health Department.
- District Library Meeting
 - Upgrade electronics/computers
 - Chrome Books, licensing will be expiring soon and needs updated.
- MTA Meeting
 - Mr. Dave Yoder attended the meeting, representing the Road Commission

Commissioner Bondar mentioned that she was approached by residents in Fairview, asking why isn’t there a sign at the library? Commissioner McCauley stated that eventually there will be a sign.

Commissioner Varner:

- NEMSCA Meeting
 - Discontinuing the food distribution, the federal government has changed their funding
- AVSCMH Facilities Meeting
 - Program & Planning
- Attended Oscoda County Sheriff Department in-person meeting
 - Walk through
- Labor Attorney communications
- MOA Landfill
 - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be held on February 23, 2024

Commissioner Marsh:

- Steiner Museum Meeting
 - Waiting for funding from Townships for their portion
 - Productive meeting
 - Budget Planning
 - Develop Committees
- DHHS Meeting
 - Working on Medicaid recipients
- Finance Committee Meeting
 - Tackle objectives
- Donated her time and talents to making hats to be donated to the Veterans.

M. Adjournment:

Marsh/McCauley a motion to adjourn today's meeting at 11:26 a.m.

2024-055

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

The Board of Commissioners will hold their "Regular B.O.C Meeting" scheduled for **Tuesday, February 27, 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 Chairman**

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