BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1 S. Main St., 9th Floor
Mount Clemens, Michigan 48043
586.469.5125 ~ Fax: 586.469.5993
www.macombBOC.com

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR SESSION

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2013, 7 P.M.

FINAL AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Invocation by Commissioner Robert Mijac
5. Adoption of Agenda, AS AMENDED, TO INCLUDE #10
6. Approval of Minutes dated March 28 and April 11 (special), 2013 (previously distributed)
7. Public Participation (five minutes maximum per speaker, or longer at the discretion of the Chairperson related only to issues contained on the agenda)
8. Correspondence from Executive (none)
9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
   a) Health & Human Services, April 22 (page 1) (attached)
   b) Infrastructure, April 23 (no report)
   c) Finance, April 24 (page 5) (attached)

MACOMB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

David J. Flynn – Board Chair
District 4
Kathy Tocco – Vice Chair
District 11
Mike Boyle – Sergeant-At-Arms
District 10
Toni Moceri – District 1
Marvin Sauger – District 2
Veronica Klinefelt – District 3
Robert Mijac - District 5
James Carabelli – District 6
Don Brown – District 7
Kathy Vosburg – District 8
Fred Miller – District 9
Bob Smith – District 12
Joe Sabatini – District 13
10. Item Waived by Justice & Public Safety and Finance Committee Chairs:
   a) Contract Amendment/Juvenile Court/Sound Counseling, P.C. (page 15) (attached)

11. Board Chair’s Report (page 30) (attached)

12. RESOLUTIONS:
   a) Supporting House Joint Resolution L (2013) and House Joint Resolution M (2013) Ensuring In-State Tuition Rates for all Honorably Discharged Veterans, Reservists and Active Duty Service Members (offered by Moceri; recommended by Health & Human Services Committee on 4-22-13) (page 72)
   b) Supporting Clean Water Fund and its Commitment to Lake St. Clair and the Clinton River Watershed (offered by Moceri; recommended by Health & Human Services Committee on 4-22-13) (page 74)
   c) Supporting the Goals of Michigan’s Integrated Care Pilot Program (offered by Moceri; recommended by Health & Human Services Committee on 4-22-13) (page 76)

13. PROCLAMATIONS:
   a) Memorial for Bobby Hill (offered by Miller; recommended by Finance Committee on 4-24-13; currently being developed)
   b) Commending Tom Wing – Chosen 2013 Lutheran Layman of the Year (offered by Klinefelt; recommended by Finance Committee on 4-24-13; previously provided at committee meeting)
   c) Commending Zuccaro’s Holiday House – 40th Anniversary (offered by Sabatini and Vosburg; recommended by Finance Committee on 4-24-13; previously provided at committee meeting)
   d) Commending Betty Oleksik – Retirement from Register of Deeds (offered by Flynn) (page 79) (attached)

14. New Business

15. Public Participation (five minutes maximum per speaker or longer at the discretion of the Chairperson)

16. Roll Call

17. Adjournment
April 22, 2013

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FROM: TONI MOCERI, CHAIR
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

RE: RECOMMENDATION FROM HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 22, 2013

At a meeting of the Health & Human Services Committee, held Monday, April 22, 2013, the following recommendation was made and is being forwarded to the April 25 Full Board meeting for approval:

1. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Boyle, supported by Tocco, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt an Ordinance to prohibit smoking near entryways, exits, windows capable of being opened, and air intake systems at County facilities and to provide penalties; Further, a copy of this Board of Commissioners’ action is directed to be delivered forthwith to the Office of the County Executive. The Motion Carried.

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE COMMITTEE REPORT WAS MADE BY CHAIR MOCERI, SUPPORTED BY VICE-CHAIR BOYLE.
MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO adopt an Ordinance to prohibit smoking near entryways, exits, windows capable of being opened, and air intake systems at County facilities and to provide penalties

INTRODUCED BY  Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee

COMMITTEE /MEETING DATE
HHS  4-22-13
Full Board  4-25-13
ENROLLED ORDINANCE
NO. 2013-____

INTRODUCED BY COMMISSIONER(S):

AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT SMOKING NEAR ENTRYWAYS, EXITS, WINDOWS CAPABLE OF BEING OPENED, AND AIR INTAKE SYSTEMS AT COUNTY FACILITIES AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES

SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

Studies show that tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in the United States and that tobacco leads to more deaths than most other leading causes combined. Secondhand smoke contains many harmful chemicals and cancer-causing agents and is a serious health risk to human beings. For those suffering from asthma or other chronic lung disease, secondhand smoke can trigger debilitating and even life threatening conditions. To others, secondhand smoke is a nuisance. Public Act No. 188 of 2010, as amended, MCL 333.12601 through 333.12616 (“Act 188”) prohibits smoking in public places, including areas owned or operated by local governmental agencies and used by the public or serving as a meeting place for public bodies. While Act 188 prohibits smoking inside public places, including County-owned facilities, smoking near entryways, exits, open windows, and air intakes outside County-owned facilities may still lead to secondhand smoke exposure for County employees and visitors both inside and outside County-owned facilities. Accordingly, this Ordinance is intended to extend protections against secondhand smoke in order to protect and enhance the public health, safety, and general welfare.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS. The following definitions shall apply to this ordinance:

A. “County facility” means any building owned or operated by the County for use for offices, courts, meetings, recreation and other uses, but does not include any building not used for human occupancy or that is operated by a County agency having a separate oversight board such as the Social Services Board or the Mental Health Board.

B. “Smoking” or “smoke” means the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other matter or substance that contains tobacco product.

C. “Tobacco product” means a product that contains tobacco and is intended for human consumption, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, noncigarette smoking tobacco, and cigars.

SECTION 3. SMOKING PROHIBITED.

An individual shall not smoke within 100 feet from any entrances, exits, windows capable of being opened, and air intakes of County facilities.
SECTION 4. OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS.

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to permit smoking where otherwise prohibited by County policy or state law.

SECTION 5. PENALTIES.

Any person who violates any provision of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a municipal civil infraction punishable by a fine in an amount of not less than $100 for a first offense, $250 for a second offense, and $500 for any third or subsequent offense within a 12-month period, or in such higher amounts as may from time to time be established by resolution of the Commission. Contested hearings under this section before the district court may be conducted as an informal hearing and as a formal hearing, as may be applicable, as provided by the Revised Judicature Act, 1961 PA 236, as amended, MCL 600.101 et seq.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its publication.

Date: , 2013  David Flynn, Commission Chair

Adopted: , 2013  Carmella Sabaugh, County Clerk

Notice Published: , 2013
April 24, 2013

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FROM: FRED MILLER, CHAIR
FINANCE COMMITTEE

RE: RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 24, 2013

At a meeting of the Finance Committee, held Wednesday, April 24, 2013, the following recommendations were made and are being forwarded to the April 25 Full Board meeting for approval:

1. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Tocco, supported by Mijac, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners authorize the County Clerk/Register of Deeds to rehire retired Deputy Register of Deeds Betty Oleksik for up to 45 working days to aid in the transition of staff to the new location due to the fire in the County Building; Further, a copy of this Board of Commissioners’ action is directed to be delivered forthwith to the Office of the County Executive. THE MOTION CARRIED.

2. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Sauger, supported by Vosburg, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve a revision to the previously approved (2-27-13) resolution regarding the rehiring of the retired Equalization Manager until such time that the vacant full-time budgeted position is filled and the new person is properly trained, for a period not to exceed 180 days, per County Charter Section 10.6.2; Further, a copy of this Board of Commissioners’ action is directed to be delivered forthwith to the Office of the County Executive. THE MOTION CARRIED.
3. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Moceri, supported by Vosburg, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the amendment and submittal of the 2011 Macomb HOME Consortium Consolidated Plan to reflect the allocation of previously approved funds totaling $1,314,848 to identified projects; Further, a copy of this Board of Commissioners’ action is directed to be delivered forthwith to the Office of the County Executive. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

4. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Vosburg, supported by Sauger, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve an increase in budgeted revenues and expenditures in the 2012/2013 Macomb County Community Services Agency’s The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFA) Fund in the amount of $78,900, bringing the total grant amount to $159,090; Further, this budget action addresses budgetary issues only. It does not constitute the Commission’s approval of any County contract. If a contract requires Commission approval under the County’s Contracting Policy or the County’s Procurement Ordinance, such approval must be sought separately; Further, a copy of this Board of Commissioners’ action is directed to be delivered forthwith to the Office of the County Executive. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

5. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Moceri, supported by Vosburg, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve an increase in budgeted revenues and expenditures in the 2012/2013 Macomb County Community Services Agency’s Michigan Public Service Commission/Energy Assistance Program (EAP) Fund in the amount of $52,187, bringing the total grant amount to $129,851; Further, this budget action addresses budgetary issues only. It does not constitute the Commission’s approval of any County contract. If a contract requires Commission approval under the County’s Contracting Policy or the County’s Procurement Ordinance, such approval must be sought separately; Further, a copy of this Board of Commissioners’ action is directed to be delivered forthwith to the Office of the County Executive. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

6. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Brown, supported by Carabelli, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve an increase in budgeted revenues and expenditures for the 2012/2013 Health Department’s Health Grant Fund to accommodate the end date extension for GLRI – Beach Modeling and GLRI – Rapid Water Testing Programs in the aggregate amount of $70,461.12; Further, this budget action addresses budgetary issues only. It does not constitute the Commission’s approval of any County contract. If a contract requires Commission approval under the County’s Contracting Policy or the County’s Procurement Ordinance, such approval must be sought separately; Further, a copy of this Board of Commissioners’ action is directed to be delivered forthwith to the Office of the County Executive. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**
7. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION  (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Vosburg, supported by Tocco, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the 2013 Equalization Report recommendation as submitted by the Equalization Department; Further, a copy of this Board of Commissioners’ action is directed to be delivered forthwith to the Office of the County Executive.  **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE COMMITTEE REPORT WAS MADE BY CHAIR MILLER, SUPPORTED BY VICE-CHAIR MOCERI.
MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Resolution Number: ________________________________ Full Board Meeting Date: ________________________________

RESOLUTION

Resolution to:
authorize the County Clerk / Register of Deeds to re-hire retired Deputy Register of Deeds Betty Oleksik for up to 45 working days to aid in the transition of staff to the new location due to the fire in the County building.

Introduced By:
Kathy Tocco, Chair, Government Operations Committee

Additional Background Information (If Needed):
The Deputy Register was scheduled to retire on April 26, 2013. Due to the County building fire, the Register of Deeds office is forced to relocate, re-set up its office and catch-up the backlog of work that was on hold during this time. The Clerk / Register of Deeds needs to re-hire the Deputy Register to aid in this transition so staff is properly managed and business remains efficient for the county residents.

*This item was waived to Finance Committee by Government Operations Committee Chair because the April Government Operations Committee meeting was already held.

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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Finance*</td>
<td>04-24-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Board</td>
<td>04-25-13</td>
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RESOLUTION TO: Revise the previously approved (2/27/13) resolution, regarding the rehiring of the retired Equalization Manager until such time that the vacant full-time budgeted position is filled and the new person is properly trained, for a period not to exceed 180 days, per County Charter Section 10.6.2.

INTRODUCED BY: Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee
Resolution to:
Approve the amendment and submittal of the 2011 Macomb HOME Consortium Consolidated Plan, to reflect the allocation of previously approved funds totaling $1,314,848 to identified projects.

Introduced By:
Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee*

Additional Background Information (If Needed):
At the time of the preparation of this plan, projects for the HOME funds had not been finalized. Instead of allocating funds to specific projects, the plan stated that 2011 funds would be used for "other housing projects". The Consortium, comprising the Urban County of Macomb, Clinton Township, and the Cities of Roseville and Sterling Heights, has now determined the allocation of those funds.

*WAIVED TO FINANCE BY HHS COMMITTEE CHAIR

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</tbody>
</table>
RESOLUTION TO: Approve increase in budgeted revenues and expenditures in the 2012/2013 Macomb County Community Services Agency's The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFA) fund in the amount of $78,900, bringing the total grant amount to $159,090.

Further, this budget action addresses budgetary issues only. It does not constitute the Commission's approval of any County contract. If a contract requires Commission approval under the County's Contracting Policy or the County's Procurement Ordinance, such approval must be sought separately.

FORWARD TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

*(This language was added by Health & Human Services Committee Chair Moceri.)*

INTRODUCED BY: Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee

Background:

The budget for MCCSA's The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), ending September 30, 2013, was developed as part of the fiscal year ending September 2013 budget submission, approved by the Board of Commissioners. The budget was based on the information known at that time. Since then, the County was made aware of an actual allocation higher than originally estimated.

Specifics for the program are as follows:

The original amount budgeted was $80,190. This amount is being increased by $78,900, for a total grant amount of $159,090.

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

HHS 4-22-13

Finance 4-24-13

Full Board 4-25-13
RESOLUTION TO: Approve increase in budgeted revenues and expenditures in the 2012/2013
Macomb County Community Services Agency’s Michigan Public Service Commission / Energy Assistance Program (EAP) fund in the amount of
$52,187, bringing the total grant amount to $129,851.

Further, this budget action addresses budgetary issues only. It does not constitute the Commission's approval of any County contract. If a contract requires Commission approval under the County's Contracting Policy or the County's Procurement Ordinance, such approval must be sought separately.

FORWARD TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

*(This language was added by Health & Human Services Committee Chair Moceri.)*

INTRODUCED BY: Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee

Background:
The budget for MCCSA's Michigan Public Service Commission / Energy Assistance Program (EAP), ending July 31, 2013, was developed as part of the fiscal year ending September 2013 budget submission, approved by the Board of Commissioners. The budget was based on the information known at that time. Since then, the County was made aware of an actual allocation higher than originally estimated.

Specifics for the program are as follows:
The original amount budgeted was $77,664. This amount is being increased by $52,187, for a total grant amount of $129,851.

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<th>COMMITTEE MEETING DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>HHS 4-22-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance 4-24-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Board 4-25-13</td>
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</table>
RESOLUTION NO. ____________  FULL BOARD MEETING DATE: ____________

AGENDA ITEM: ____________________________

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO: Approve increase in budgeted revenues and expenditures for the 2012/2013 Health Department's Health Grant Fund to accommodate the end date extension for GLRI - Beach Modeling and GLRI - Rapid Water Testing programs in the aggregate amount of $70,461.12.

*SEE BELOW

INTRODUCED BY: Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee

The budget for the Health Department's Health Grant Fund, ending September 30, 2013, was developed as part of the fiscal year ending 2013 budget submission, approved by the Board of Commissioners; and was based on information known at that time. Since then, the State of Michigan has agreed to extend the end date of two (2) grant contracts (GLRI - Beach Modeling and GLRI - Rapid Water Testing) to May 31, 2013; thereby allowing for program work to continue using unexpended grant funds from the prior year's budget.

The two (2) extended programs are:

GLRI - Beach Modeling $35,207.34
GLRI - Rapid Water Testing $35,253.78

Aggregate amount of extended funding $70,461.12

There is no impact on the County general fund. These programs are funded by the extension of two (2) grants provided to Macomb County by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

*Further, this budget action addresses budgetary issues only. It does not constitute the Commission's approval of any County contract. If a contract requires Commission approval under the County's Contracting Policy or the County's Procurement Ordinance, such approval must be sought separately.

FORWARD TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

*(This language was added by Health & Human Services Committee Chair Moceri.)

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>HHS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>4-24-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Board</td>
<td>4-25-13</td>
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</table>
MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO: Approve the 2013 Equalization Report recommendation as submitted by the Equalization Department

INTRODUCED BY: Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

A "Master Copy" of the 2013 Equalization Report will be provided, electronically.

Pursuant to MCL 209.5 and 211.34, the Equalization Director files a tabular statement (L4024) of equalization for adoption by the County Board of Commissioners at their equalization session in April, then furnishes the adopted values to the State Tax Commission.

COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
Finance 4-24-13
Full Board 4-25-13

4/9/2013
To:    David Flynn, Board Chair

From:  Pamela J. Lavers, Assistant County Executive

Date:  April 24, 2013

RE:    Agenda Item – Juvenile Court, Sound Counseling, P.C.

Attached you will find documentation and a resolution from Nicole Faulds, Juvenile Division Director, to approve a contract amendment to increase the amount to be paid for professional services to Sound Counseling, P.C. in the amount of $48,200.00. Please see attached materials for further information.

The Executive Office respectfully submits this agenda item for the Commission’s consideration and recommends approval of the amendment to increase the existing contract with Sound Counseling, P.C. in the amount of $48,200.00 as stated above.

PJL/smf

cc:    Nicole Faulds, Juvenile Division Director
Resolution to:
Amend the contract with Sound Counseling, P.C. to provide further counseling services in accordance with the grant from the State Court Administrative Office.

Introduced By:
Nicole Faulds, Juvenile Division Director

Additional Background Information (If Needed):

*THIS ITEM WAS WAIVED TO FULL BOARD BY JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRS.

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>04-25-13</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CONTRACT REVIEW ROUTING FORM

**ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT INFORMATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department Leader:</th>
<th>Department:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Faulds</td>
<td>Juvenile Court</td>
<td>04/03/2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contact Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract Contact Person:</th>
<th>Contact Phone Number:</th>
<th>Notes:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Faulds</td>
<td>469-5413</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CONTACT / PROGRAM INFORMATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract / Program Title:</th>
<th>Return By Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contract Amendment with Sound Counseling, P.C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DEPARTMENT ROUTING & AUTHORIZATIONS**

1. **Office of Contract Management**

   - [ ] Verified - Send to Risk Management
   - [ ] Rejected - Return to requesting Department - See Below:
   - [ ] Board Approval Required
     - [X] Yes
     - [ ] No

   - **Authorized Signature**
     - [ ] Date

2. **Risk Management**

   - [ ] Approved
   - [ ] Approved with changes

   - **Send to Finance Department**

   - **Authorized Signature**
     - [ ] Date

3. **Finance Department**

   - [X] Approved
   - [ ] Approved with changes

   - **Send to Corporation Counsel**

   - **Authorized Signature**
     - [ ] Date

4. **Office of Corporation Counsel**

   - [X] Approved
     - **Send to OCE**

   - [ ] Approved with changes
     - **Return to Contract Management**

   - **Authorized Signature**
     - [ ] Date

5. **Office of County Executive**

   - [ ] Approved
     - If required, send to BOC.
     - If not, return to Contract Management.

   - [ ] Approved with changes
     - **Return to Contract Management**

   - **Authorized Signature**
     - [ ] Date

**Notes:**

- Contracts are returned interoffice mail unless specified below:
- [ ] Call
  - for Pick Up: # 5413
**Contract Review Routing Form**

**Originating Department Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department Leader:</th>
<th>Department:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Faulds</td>
<td>Juvenile Court</td>
<td>04/03/2013</td>
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</table>

**Contract Contact Person:**

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<tr>
<th>Contact Person:</th>
<th>Contact Phone Number:</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Faulds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Contracts are returned interoffice mail unless specified below:

- Call for Pick Up: 

**Contact / Program Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor Number (if known):</th>
<th>Vendor Name:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sound Counseling, P.C.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original Contract Amount:</th>
<th>Amendment Amount:</th>
<th>Total Amended Contract Amount:</th>
<th>Funding Source - Org Key / Object - (if known):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$ 253,760.00</td>
<td>$ 48,200.00</td>
<td>$ 301,960.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract Begin Date:</th>
<th>Amendment Date:</th>
<th>Contract End Date:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02/01/2013</td>
<td></td>
<td>09/30/2013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contract:** If Renewal or Amendment, what terms have changed (if any): **Amendment Amount:** Increase amount of contract by $48,200

**Contract Bid:**

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] No

If not bid-out, please explain:

- Amend existing contract

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lowest Bid:</th>
<th>If not lowest bid, please explain:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ ] No</td>
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**Bid Number:** How many bidders responded?

- Winning bidder Macomb County Enterprise:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winning bidder Macomb County Enterprise:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>[ ] No - Explain:</td>
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**Contract / Program Synopsis:**

Expand current services to include youth with both a substance abuse disorder and mental health history.

**Other Contract Information**

- **Contract Requires Signature of County Executive Only.** Designee signature will not be accepted.
- **Contract Does Not Require Board of Commissioner Approval.**
- **Contract Does Require Board of Commissioner Approval.** Attach cover letter and resolution form.

**Please check appropriate item below:**

- [ ] Awarding a contract of $35,000 or more for services, supplies, materials, equipment or real estate.
- [ ] Awarding a contract of $100,000 or more for construction.
- [ ] Awarding a contract modification exceeding 10% of the original approved contract amount.
- [ ] Awarding a contract that exceeds 5 years in length.
- [ ] Employer paid fringe benefits.
- [ ] Collective bargaining agreements.
- [ ] Intergovernmental agreements as defined by charter section 3.1.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBJECT:</th>
<th>Amendment of existing contract with Sound Counseling, P.C. for $48,200.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE EXECUTIVE SUBMIT TO THE BOARD:</td>
<td>A contract amendment to increase the amount to be paid for professional services to Sound Counseling, P.C. by $48,200.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PURPOSE / JUSTIFICATION:</td>
<td>A grant was received from the State Court Administrative Office to offer expanded services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FISCAL IMPACT / FINANCING:</td>
<td>This amendment is 100% grant funded. No General Fund match is required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Amend Contract with Sound Counseling, P.C.
Nicole Faulds, Juvenile Division Director

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACTS AND PROVISION / LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See attached contract amendment</td>
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<tr>
<th>CONTRACTING PROCESS:</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (PROJECTS):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This amendment will expand current services to include youth with a substance abuse disorder and mental health history.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

Nicole Faulds, Juvenile Division Director
AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT
FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER

This Amendment is effective February 1, 2013 between the MACOMB COUNTY (County) with its principal office located at One S. Main, 8th Floor, Mount Clemens, Michigan 48043 and SOUND COUNSELING (Professional Service Provider) whose address is 22310 Greater Mack, Avenue, Suite 3, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080.

A. The County and the Professional Service Provider entered into an Agreement dated April 1, 2012 in which Professional Service Provider agreed to perform certain counseling services for the County under the terms and conditions as set forth in the Agreement,

B. The County received notification from the State Court Administrative Office that the County was awarded an additional grant for counseling services for the term February 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013.

C. The County wishes to extend the Agreement with Professional Service Provider for provision of the counseling services under the grant.

In consideration of the mutual covenants contained in this amendment, the parties agree as follows:

1. The County will pay the Professional Service Provider the sum of forty-eight thousand two hundred Dollars ($48,200) as follows:

   68 hours of parent support group at $38.73/hour
   340 hours of individual counseling sessions at $38.73 hour
   680 hours of family counseling sessions at $38.73 hour
   Professional Service Provider will sub-contract psychiatric evaluations and medication reviews for a total cost of $6,031.76

2. This amendment shall commence on February 1, 2013 and terminate on September 30, 2013.

3. All other terms and conditions of the Agreement dated April 1, 2012 between the parties will remain in full force and effect.
Mark Deldin
Deputy County Executive

Sound Counseling
By: Robert Schumann

John Foster, Acting Chief Judge
Macomb County Circuit Court
March 20, 2013

Mr. Mark Deldin  
Deputy County Executive  
Macomb County  
One South Main Street  
Mount Clemens, MI 48043

Dear Mr. Deldin:
Attached is a contract extension for Juvenile Drug Court and Juvenile Sex Offender Response and Prevention treatment services between the Macomb County Circuit Court and Sound Counseling, P.C.

The Circuit Court selected Sound Counseling, P.C. to provide treatment services through a competitive bid process. The original treatment contract was for a period of one year from April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013, with the option for three additional one year extensions if both parties agree in writing. I am recommending that the contract be extended for the period of one year from April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014 under the same terms of the initial contract. I have attached a letter from the treatment provider expressing their interest in extending the contract for an additional year as well. Please feel free to call me at 469-5413 with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicole N. Faulds  
Juvenile Division Director
EXTENSION OF CONTRACT
FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER

This Extension is effective April 1, 2013 between the MACOMB COUNTY (County) with its principal office located at One S. Main, 8th Floor, Mount Clemens, Michigan 48043 and SOUND COUNSELING (Professional Service Provider) whose address is 22310 Greater Mack, Avenue, Suite 3, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080.

A. The County and the Professional Service Provider entered into an agreement dated April 1, 2012 in which Professional Service Provider agreed to perform certain counseling services for the County.

B. The Agreement provides that it may be extended for three additional one year extensions.

C. Both parties wish to extend the agreement for one year on the same terms and conditions.

In consideration of the mutual covenants contained in this extension, the parties agree as follows:

1. The agreement dated April 1, 2012 shall be extended for one year for the term April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014.

2. All other terms and conditions of the Agreement dated April 1, 2012 between the parties will remain in full force and effect.

Mark Deldin
Deputy County Executive

Sound Counseling
By: Robert Schumann

John Foster, Chief Judge
Macomb County Circuit Court
Nicole Faulds Court Administrator
380 North Rose
Mt. Clemens MI 48043

Dear Ms. Faulds

The current contract between The County of Macomb County Michigan and Sound Counseling PC provides for yearly extensions of the contract if both parties are in agreement. The specific contract is to provide counseling services for the substance abuse treatment program, known as Macomb County Juvenile Court Drug Court and counseling services for the sex offender treatment program, known as JSORP along with associated psychological evaluations.

This letter is to formally request our desire to continue the contract for another year. We hope you agree our partnership continuing would be the best arrangement for our shared clients.

Sincerely,

Conrad M. Aumann II Ph.D., LPC
COUNTY OF MACOMB
VENDOR DISCLOSURE FORM

The Macomb County ethics ordinance requires vendors of the County to complete and file a disclosure statement, the purpose of which is to disclose any financial relationships or other conflicts of interest that may exist between vendors and employees or elected officials (or their appointees) of the County. Once filed, the disclosure form does not need to be updated unless there is a change in circumstance that would cause the answer to any of the questions to change, at which time an amended disclosure form must be filed. Filing of the disclosure form is considered a condition of payment.

Vendor Name: Sound Counseling PC
Vendor Phone Number: 586-530-6701
Street Address: 34094 Flower Hill
City: Fraser
State: MI
Zip Code: 48026

1. Does the vendor currently employ a relative of any employee, elected official or appointee of an elected official of Macomb County? Relative is defined as husband or wife, father or mother, son or daughter, brother or sister, uncle or aunt, first cousin, nephew or niece, great uncle or great aunt, grandfather or grandmother, grandson or granddaughter, father-in-law or mother-in-law, son-in-law or daughter-in-law, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, stepfather or stepmother, stepson or stepdaughter, stepbrother or stepsister, half-brother or half-sister, the parents or grandparents of the individual’s fiancé.

☐ YES ☑ NO

If yes, please answer the following:

A. Name of County employee or elected official (or appointee): ____________________________
B. County Position/Title: ____________________________
C. County Department or Agency: ____________________________

2. Does any employee or elected official of Macomb County have an interest in the vendor organization in any of the following capacities, either compensated or non-compensated: director, officer, partner, beneficiary, trustee, member, employee or contractor?

☑ YES ☐ NO

If yes, please answer the following:

A. Name of County employee or elected official (or appointee): Richard Sweet
   County Position/Title: Juvenile Justice Center Psychologist
   County Department or Agency: Juvenile Justice Center
   Position/Title with Vendor: Class Instructor
3. Does any current employee or elected official of Macomb County have legal or beneficial ownership of 10% or more of the outstanding stock of the vendor organization?

☐ YES  ☒ NO

If yes, please answer the following:

A. Name of County employee or elected official (or appointee):

B. County Position/Title:

C. County Department or Agency:

D. % of Ownership of Vendor Organization:

4. In the last five calendar years, has the vendor failed to perform or otherwise deliver on the terms of a contract or agreement with Macomb County, or any other public entity, including suspensions or debarments?

☐ YES  ☒ NO

If yes, please provide further explanation:

I hereby certify that the information included on this form is complete, true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that either myself or the organization to which this form applies may be subject to sanctions and/or penalties as set forth in the ethics ordinance if any information has been falsified or omitted.

CONRAD M. AUMANN

VICE PRESIDENT

Name (Please Print)  Title

Signature  4/3/13

Date

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO:

Macomb County Finance Department
ATTN: Vendor Disclosure
10 North Main, 12th Floor
Mount Clemens, MI. 48043
COUNTY OF MACOMB
PERSONAL DISCLOSURE FORM

GENERAL INFORMATION:
First Name: Richard Sweet
Last Name: Sweet
Department: Juvenile Justice Center

PURPOSE:
Macomb County's Ethics Ordinance requires that every Public Servant of Macomb County file a Personal Disclosure Form. In order to comply with the requirements of the Ethics Ordinance, please answer each of the following questions

(1) Do you or a member of your immediate family* have an interest as a partner, member, employee or contractor in or for a co-partnership or other unincorporated association in a company, business or entity that has contracted with Macomb County or which has sought licensures or approvals from Macomb County in the two calendar years prior to filing of this statement?

YES X NO 

If yes, please explain: I work approximately 10 hours/month for Sound Counseling running a sex offender education group.

(2) Do you or any member of your immediate family* have an interest as a beneficiary or trustee in a trust in a company, business or entity that has contracted with Macomb County or which has sought licensures or approvals from Macomb County in the two calendar years prior to filing of this statement?

YES _____ NO X

If yes, please explain: ________________________________

(3) Do you or any member of your immediate family* have any interest as a director, officer, employee or contractor in or for a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other business entity that has contracted with
Macomb County or which has sought licensures or approvals from Macomb County in the two calendar years prior to filing of this statement?

YES ______  NO __

If yes, please explain: ____________________________________________________________

(4) Do you or a member of your immediate family* have a legal or beneficial ownership of 10% or more of the total outstanding stock of a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other business entity that has contracted with Macomb County or which has sought licensures or approvals from Macomb County in the two calendar years prior to filing of this statement?

YES ______  NO __

If yes, please explain: ____________________________________________________________

(5) Did you or a member of your immediate family* receive any gifts** from a company, business or entity that has contracted with Macomb County or which has sought licensures or approvals from Macomb County in the two calendar years prior to filing of this statement?

YES ______  NO __

If yes, please explain: ____________________________________________________________

Note: If you discover that you neglected to disclose some required information, you are required to all file an amended form within 10 days of the discovery or notification.

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, IS TRUE, CORRECT AND ACCURATE. I UNDERSTAND THAT I MAY BE SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINE AND/OR OTHER SANCTIONS AS SET FORTH IN THE ETHICS ORDINANCE IF I HAVE OMITTED OR FALSIFIED INFORMATION. ____________________________

Date 2/17/12

Signature on file

* Means a person’s spouse and the person’s children who are age 18 or older by birth, adoption or anyone over the age of 18 who resides with that person.

** Gifts as defined in the Ethics Ordinance means any gratuity, discount, entertainment, hospitality, loan, forbearance, or other tangible or intangible item having monetary value including, but not limited to, cash, food and drink, travel, lodging, and honoraria for speaking engagements.
RESOLUTION TO receive and file report from Board Chair for April, 2013

INTRODUCED BY: Dave Flynn, Full Board

The following is a report on activities within the Board Office which do not usually appear on committee agendas.

Meetings with OCE:
Discussions regarding budget, contract review process, status updates regarding the County Emergency Situation.

Other:
Oakland University
CMH meeting
DC3S meeting in Sterling Heights
Enbridge meeting – Commissioners Carabelli, Vosburg
PACE – Commissioners Carabelli and Mijac
Interviews - Director of Legislative Affairs

The BOC offered to share 9th floor workspace with the IT Department indefinitely with hosting and hospitality services taking place since the IT Department’s displacement from the building fire last week.

Upcoming Board Events and Activities:

Volunteer Recognition Program
- Nominations are coming in at a good pace; will be accepted until the end of the month.
- Volunteers will be recognized at the May Full Board meeting.

Court Building Reno Tours
- Updates

Events-Meetings in Macomb:

Green Schools Award Ceremony took place on April 16 at the MISD
- 272 attendees
- 127 schools achieved Official Michigan Green Schools status
- 17 new to the program this year
- Only 1 school was unrepresented
- 5 volunteers were recruited to assist at the event
- Professional photos were taken and will be available soon

CMH Legislative Update Breakfast
- BOC represented by Commissioners Moceri, Boyle, Klinefelt

Governor Snyder Event
- BOC represented by Commissioners Brown, Vosburg

Forum on Education, St. Clair Shores
- BOC represented by Commissioner Klinefelt

Region:

R-PATH meeting
- BOC represented by Commissioner Moceri

Macomb County Legislative Delegation
- Economic Development discussed

SEMCOG Executive Committee
- April 26, 2013 at 1pm
Region, continued:

RTA Meeting
  • April 24, 2013, 2 – 4pm

Upcoming: Mackinac Policy Conference, May 29-31

Media:
See attached articles.

Misc.:
See attached DIA schedule of General Admission Attendance

BOC – Independent Counsel: Expenditures for Outside Counsel Professional Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Litigation Invoice Charges</th>
<th>Contract Svs Invoice Totals</th>
<th>Contract Services Budget Amount</th>
<th>Budget Remaining</th>
<th>% Utilized</th>
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<td>$2,502.50 (Jan.)</td>
<td>$10,167.00 (Jan)</td>
<td>$62,333.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>111.50 (Feb.)</td>
<td>3,893.00 (Feb – revised)</td>
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<td>$2,614.00</td>
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<td>$58,440.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3,985.00 (March)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>$18,045.00</td>
<td>$54,455.00</td>
<td>0.248</td>
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COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
Full Board 04-25-13
## DIA General Admission Attendance

**August 7, 2012 – March 15, 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Comp-Macomb County Resident-Adult</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comp-Macomb County Resident-Youth</td>
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<td>Comp-Macomb County Resident-Schools</td>
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<td>Comp-Macomb County Resident-Adult Group</td>
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<td>Comp-Macomb County Resident-Senior</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member Scans-Macomb County</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Macomb County Scans 8/7 - 3/17/2013</strong></td>
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<td>33,795</td>
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<td>Comp-Oakland County Resident-Youth</td>
<td>8,883</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comp-Oakland County Resident-Schools</td>
<td>5,894</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comp-Oakland County Adult Group</td>
<td>483</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comp-Oakland County Senior</td>
<td>717</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member Scans-Oakland County</td>
<td>10,397</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Oakland County Scans 8/7 - 3/17/2013</strong></td>
<td><strong>60,169</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Value:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$337,634</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Comp-Wayne County Resident-Schools</td>
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<td>Comp-Wayne County Resident-Adult Group</td>
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<td>Comp-Wayne County Resident-Senior</td>
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<td>Member Scans-Wayne County</td>
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<td><strong>Total Wayne County Scans 8/7 - 3/17/2013</strong></td>
<td><strong>71,334</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Value:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$379,147</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mark Hackel, Macomb County board reach a truce

By Chad Selweski
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Thursday, March 28, 2013

County Executive Mark Hackel and the county Board of Commissioners have finally reached a truce after two years of political infighting.

They have agreed to a two-page set of rules, a Communication Protocol, that outlines how and when commissioners can interact with the executive’s office and department heads.

“We agreed to open up the lines of communication. And … all branches of government need to be treated fairly and equally,” said Hackel, who took office in January 2011. “But I hope everyone understands that I won’t relinquish responsibility. We are in charge of day-to-day operations.”

County board Chair Dave Flynn said the commissioners simply wanted to establish a more fluid, accessible system of interaction between the legislative and executive branches.

“It (the agreement) dealt with the pressure points we encountered in the first two years of this government,” said Flynn, a Sterling Heights Democrat. “This should alleviate some of the tensions.”

During the first several months of the Hackel administration, the executive cut off verbal communications with then-board Chair Kathy Vosburg. All messages and memos were sent back and forth via email. Department heads were not allowed to appear before the 13-member Board of Commissioners.

In late 2011 and early 2012, Hackel engaged in veto fights with the board over ordinances pertaining to ethics and government contracts. The battle over contracting rules was not decided until it reached the Michigan Court of Appeals.

But last December Hackel made a New Year’s resolution to communicate better with the commissioners. In January, when Flynn was selected by the commissioners as the new board chair, he vowed to extend an olive branch to the executive’s office.

Flynn said he now meets with Hackel or one of his top aides once or twice a week. At some of these closed-door sessions, one or two commissioners also participate in the discussion.

Hackel’s staff signed off on the rules earlier this month and the county board was expected to approve it on
Thursday night.

Much of this Communication Protocol calls for a continued reliance on email and Google Drive software, but the commissioners will now be free to directly contact department heads in search of information or documentation or to pass along a constituent concern.

Any reports or memos that need to be created for a commissioner will be handled with “reasonable diligence,” meaning as soon as practicable, given a department’s workload for the upcoming five days.

“There were three or four of us who worked on this (Communications Protocol) for several months with the idea of improving communications,” Flynn said. “This is a big step in the right direction.”
Shelby Township
April 02, 2013

Carabelli named to Macomb Orchard Trail Commission

By Brad D. Bates

SHELBY TOWNSHIP — As Macomb County officials looked for a member of the county’s Board of Commissioners to take a seat on the Macomb Orchard Trail Commission, no candidate knew the trail better than Shelby Township’s James Carabelli.

Carabelli, who said he regularly uses the trail with his family, has known the trail as long as anyone because he was on the Shelby Township Board of Trustees when the trail’s construction was first discussed.

“When the trail first came together, I was on the Board of Trustees of Shelby Township, and it was going to be limestone at that time,” Carabelli said.

“I thought, if we’re going to do this and we have the budget, we should pave it so everyone can use that trail, from strollers to rollerblades to wheelchairs. (The Macomb Orchard Trail) was one of the things I was very proud to be a part of when I was part of the board.”

Carabelli was named to the trail commission to replace Commissioner Don Brown March 14 and will serve a five-year term on the commission.

“I am very appreciative of the confidence of the (county) executive and Board of Commissioners to appoint me,” Carabelli said. “I will do my due diligence to make sure the trail continues to be one of the jewels of Macomb County.”

Carabelli said the major significance of the trail commission is that it gives local governments a voice in the trail’s management, as it features representatives from all of the municipalities along the trail.

“The collaboration of all the communities involved, their input, is the most important thing,” Carabelli said. “For all the communities to have a say and their input in the maintenance of the trail is very important.”

Shelby Township’s voice on the trail commission is Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Director Joe Youngblood, who said he is eager to welcome Carabelli to the trail commission.

“Jim has been a big backer of trails and pathways in southeast Michigan at the county level,”
Youngblood said. "Jim has got a lot of projects started and seen them finish. He brings a lot of good qualities to our trail commission."

Carabelli said he hopes to continue building and promoting the trail with projects like this summer's plan to connect it with the city of Utica's hike and bike trail, which will in turn connect Stony Creek Metropark and Lake St. Clair Metropark.

"Hike and bike trails are something that people realize is important, not only for exercise; it's important for economic development," Carabelli said. "And if you go to any of the parking lots (along the Macomb Orchard Trail) in midsummer, the parking lots are full, and you see all the empty bike racks on the cars."

Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel has embarked on his newest public relations campaign by giving the county website a makeover, with the help of public input.

The effort to update the design of the Macomb County site, www.macombgov.org, will work off of the look and design of a companion website, MakeMacombYourHome.com, in order to create a “more cohesive appearance across all of Macomb County’s communication channels,” according to a press release distributed by Hackel’s office.

“Whether you’re a company or a small business or a government organization, a website is important to promote yourself,” the executive said. The new website is “not just for people who live here who want to find out about community services. It’s also for out-of-the-county people who want to do a little research and find some information about Macomb County.”

All of the county web pages will be redesigned by the Information Technology Department and will be converted beginning in April. A new organizational structure will help site visitors more easily find what they’re looking for based around a theme of Macomb as a great place to “live, work and play.”

The revamped design will integrate social media, such as Facebook and Twitter, and other web content tools to
better engage county residents and local officials using 21st Century online methods. Formats that will be user-friendly for mobile devices also will be offered.

The Planning and Economic Development Department and the Macomb County Clerk’s Office also are working on the initiative. The IT Department has developed the entire platform in-house — taking advantage of free, open-source software widely used in the federal government called Drupal. That keeps costs minimal while providing the county with a powerful digital tool and platform for future growth.

“Image is everything. Image is about your brand,” Hackel said. “It doesn’t matter if you’re McDonald’s, Coca-Cola, Chevy or Ford, you have to engage in PR. That’s my job. It was one of the main reasons why I took this job, to do the job of marketing Macomb County.”

To offer suggestions, go online to macombgov.org and click on “Feedback” in the upper right-hand corner. Visitors will be able to link to a site where they can submit ideas and suggestions for the new website. Suggestions can also be submitted by e-mail to websupport@macombgov.org.

URL: http://www.macombdaily.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20130403/NEWS01/130409871&template=printart

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DIA tax upheld in court, appeal planned

By Chad Selweski
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Thursday, April 4, 2013

An appeal of some kind is expected to a Macomb County Circuit Court ruling that dismissed a legal challenge to the new tax that helps fund the Detroit Institute of Arts.

On Wednesday, Circuit Judge John Foster dismissed the case brought by Leon Drolet, director of the Michigan Taxpayers Alliance, which claimed that the DIA hoodwinked Macomb County taxpayers while promoting the August 2012 ballot proposal.

At issue is the contract that was drawn up by the newly created Macomb County Arts Authority board that provided “unlimited, free admission” to the DIA for county residents — a key selling point — if the millage passed. Museum officials have argued that the free entrance does not include freedom from paying the extra fee associated with special exhibits, such as the 2012 display of Faberge eggs and artifacts.

Foster ruled that the taxpayers do not have legal standing to intervene, based on the language of the contract.

“The service agreement … plainly excludes potential third-party beneficiaries, such as the residents of Macomb County, from suing to enforce the service agreement,” Foster said in his written opinion.

The judge also rejected the plaintiffs’ argument that a nonprofit group that engages in major business transactions such as the DIA, contrary to provisions in state law, should not be excluded from the Michigan Consumer Protection Act. Drolet had argued that the DIA violated the MCPA by using a misleading definition of free admission.

“There are a couple of different legal options. We will likely be pursuing one of these options,” said Drolet, a Macomb Township Republican who served in the state House and on the county Board of Commissioners. “We very strongly disagree with the judge. We think he was wrong on both counts.”

The options could include an appeal of Foster’s ruling to the Michigan Court of Appeals or a request for the judge to reconsider his dismissal of the case based on certain court precedents that he did not cite in his opinion. Drolet said a decision on the next step will probably be made within two weeks.

In addition to Drolet, the plaintiffs in the case include Macomb County Republican activists Simon Haddad of Clinton Township, Phills DeSaele of Sterling Heights and Judy and Dennis Bucholtz of Warren. Though the lawsuit was filed on behalf of Macomb County residents, a court victory for the plaintiffs would surely have created ripple effects in neighboring Wayne and Oakland counties.
After the property tax was placed on the tri-county ballot to benefit the financially struggling DIA, museum officials waged a low-budget millage campaign and in August saw the small levy pass by wide margins in Oakland and Wayne counties and by a whisker in Macomb County.

A statement by DIA officials in reaction to the court ruling said: “The DIA is pleased with the result and the dismissal of this case. The DIA is grateful to the residents of Macomb County for their continued support and looks forward to welcoming them to the museum.”

The 0.2-mill DIA tax costs a typical Macomb County homeowner between $10 and $15 a year.
Detroit Regional Transit Authority to discuss funding options

BY LEONARD N. FLEMING | THE DETROIT NEWS | 6 COMMENTS

Detroit — After three decades in the making, the Michigan Regional Transit Authority will officially meet for the first time today with the mission to improve transportation and find ways to pay for it.

The millions that would be needed for a bus rapid transit system and future projects such as high-speed and light rail could come from voter-approved ballot initiatives or state and federal sources.

"I don't have any illusions about what's going to be required in terms of hard work because there's a lot to be done," said Curtis Ivery, a Wayne County representative to the 10-member board and chancellor of the Wayne County Community College District system.

"But I think if we create some synergy and an element of excitement and infuse that excitement into this project, we'll get it done. There's been several attempts at trying to make this happen, and I think we have a chance to make history."

The board will discuss finding a CEO and setting up an advisory council to tackle mandates set by the Legislature when it created the authority last December.

Meetings will be held once a month and shifted among the four counties represented on the governing board — Wayne, Macomb, Oakland and Washtenaw. There are two members selected by each county executive, one by Detroit Mayor Dave Bing and another by Gov. Rick Snyder.

Paul Hillegonds, the former Republican House speaker and current DTE executive appointed by Snyder to chair the board, said the authority has a mission to seek "better ways we can better coordinate routes and how the local systems connect with each other."

"We want to be able to accomplish early value with better coordinated services between the local authorities and take a plan for enhanced public transportation service — mainly bus rapid transit — to the people of the region in a way that will merit support for financing," Hillegonds said.

The RTA can raise money through special assessment districts or increasing vehicle registration fees — both of which voters would need to approve. The Legislature appropriated $250,000 for start-up costs.

A bus rapid transit system would only stop when picking up and dropping off passengers in special operating lanes along four service corridors: Downtown Detroit to Pontiac along Woodward Avenue; downtown to Mount...
Clemens along Gratiot; Pontiac to Mount Clemens running parallel to M-59; and downtown to Ann Arbor, with service in between to Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

The board will dole out federal funds to local transit agencies and is expected to work closely with DDOT, the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) and the Ann Arbor Transportation Authority.

Lisa Franklin, president of the Warriors on Wheels group that advocates for the disabled and Bing's representative on the authority, said the first year is going to be about figuring out the RTA's structure.

"I would like to sit down and look at what we want, how we want to connect the dots, what we want as far as rail," she said. "Once we do that, we need to figure out how much it's going to cost to fund it and figure out where we're going to get the money from."

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Events Calendar

Steve Lippia Simply Swingin'
Friday, Apr 12, 8:00 pm
Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Charter Township Of Clinton

Mutual of Omaha's Wild...
Saturday, Apr 13, 2:00 pm
Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, Charter Township Of Clinton

MCREST Journey Home Benefit...
Saturday, Apr 13, 8:00 pm
WJS Performing Arts Center, Sterling Heights

Jazz Beat on Wurlitzer...
Sunday, Apr 21, 3:00 pm
Senate Theater, Detroit

POLICIES
Community Policy
Privacy Policy
Terms of Service
WARREN — Greener buildings mean a greener Earth and more green in the owner's bank account.

That's the multiple-bottom-line message of "All Things Green," the Macomb County Chamber's fifth annual green technologies conference, which attracted a crowd of well over 100 people Thursday.

The conference venue was appropriate too — the Electrical Industry Training Center jointly operated by Local 58 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Southeast Michigan Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association.

To listen to a podcast with Macomb Chamber CEO Grace Shore about the event, visit this link.

The opening panel focused on lessons learned in real-world green projects. Paulette Alos, a consulting specialist at Novi-based Greenspace Consultants LLC, described her company's work to bring Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification to General Dynamics Land Systems' operations in Macomb County — work that saved the company $1.4 million a year and has the defense contractor now using 100 percent renewable power.

David Gassen of Mt. Clemens-based Partners in Architecture described how his firm transformed a 1909 fire station in downtown Mt. Clemens into a beautiful, energy-efficient office building, including major replacement of lighting and heating equipment, work with a four- to five-year payback.

Al Hildreth, in charge of all things green at General Motors' buildings, described a just slightly larger project — getting GM to 125 megawatts of renewable energy by 2020, and cutting the auto giant's power use and carbon emissions by 20 percent by that date (and cutting water use 15 percent, too). Included are everything from...
replacing 1,000-watt mercury and sodium vapor factory lighting with 200-watt LEDS to major improvements in auto painting technology.

New Haven High School was at the event in force, bringing in about 30 students who are taking a high school renewable energy course that also gets them credit at Macomb Community College. Felicia Holfield, renewable energy coordinator of the program, described how the school district starts its renewable energy education in first grade and continues through giving seniors a chance to get a valuable college certificate from MCC.

A second panel covered planning for renewable projects and new technologies.

Eric Hansel, a lighting expert who’s worked with Ford Land and DTE Energy through the Green Team Coalition, described how lighting is the low-hanging fruit in making industrial and commercial buildings more efficient. David McKinney, founder and CEO of Clean Light Green Light, described how his company has been designing and manufacturing LED products in Michigan since 2003.

Sheldon Wardwell, principal and president at EcoGreen Energy, talked up his company’s SunTracker lighting tubes, which route sunlight into buildings to maximize the use of natural sunlight in building lighting. (The system also uses light sensors to automatically blend room lighting with sunlight to achieve the desired level of illumination.)

Robert Feldmaier, director of the Center for Advanced Automotive Technology at Macomb Community College, covered the rise of green fleets, including compressed natural gas, hydraulic hybrids, electrics, and hybrids.

And Kathleen Klein, community relations representative for Waste Management, described how the nation’s largest waste hauler is getting more involved in the recycling business and is converting its fleets to clean-burning natural gas.

A final panel covered financial incentives for environmental projects. Included were Andy Levin of Lean and Green Michigan, David Kirk, energy rebate and incentive expert from Consumers Energy, and Alden Hathaway, senior vice president of business development for Sterling Planet, an energy efficiency consultant.

Closing keynoter Jim Saber, vice president of business development at NextEnergy, described how the state’s energy industry accelerator...
Loving Detroit But Leaving It If No Transit Built

Posted to MichiganNow.org on Thursday, April 11, 2013

INTRO: The Regional Transit Authority for Southeast Michigan held its first board meeting Wednesday afternoon in Detroit. Michigan Now’s Chris McCarus got a feel for what transit advocates want the authority to do.

I followed about 50 people up the elevator. We got to the 14th floor... the new offices of SEMCOG, southeast Michigan Council of Governments. You can see the River, Windsor and several of the spokes of the wheel, the main avenues of Detroit. In the hallway before the meeting started, politicians and transit advocates seemed like the same people. Dave Flynn is chairman of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.

"On so many levels, transit has helped revitalize struggling communities and cities across this nation. Transit does something that is seemingly complex but simple. It connects people to the places they work, the schools they attend and the entertainment they enjoy. Today is not the end of the process. It’s the beginning of a long strategic plan of how we get rolling rapid transit going up Gratiot, Woodward and Hall Road."

Charles Pugh was invited to speak. He’s the Detroit City Council President.

"Transit is for everyone. It has to be accessible. It has to be affordable. It has to be clean and on time. But it also has to be comprehensive so the region is connected. So that’s what we’re looking forward to. This is the beginning of having tried and tried and tried again to get this to work. So we finally have it and now we have to work it. So this is a big day for Detroit."

Cindy Reese has been a transit activist for 25 years.

"My own children didn’t have that opportunity. My grandchildren didn’t have that opportunity. And now maybe my great grandchildren will possibly have an opportunity to ride on something around this region. I am so happy today. It’s been a hard struggle. But at least we’ve started."

"Hi my name is Kate Mills. We’re glad that this first meeting of the regional transit authority is open to the public. I’m a grad student at Oakland University and the co-chair for the Young Adult Caucus. Youth are typically the ones to leave the area to..."
seek mass transit otherwise. We’ve used turnstiles in Chicago, D.C. and in Paris. But we’re looking forward to using them in Detroit. We love Michigan but we also love getting to work. And to school and around town. So as a student with two semesters left the brain drain is a relevant issue to me and my peers.”

The meeting itself was brief. They know they’ll need billions for a good system. For now they’ve got just $250,000 from Lansing. There are 10 RTA board members. None are paid. Liz Gerber is one of them. She’s a political science professor at the University of Michigan. She wants lots of citizen help.

“I hope that by both inviting participation early on and then being sure that this is not seen as a closed process once people are appointed to this citizens’ advisory committee and that’s not the end of the game. But that there are additional opportunities for people to come onto this committee. It would be a terrible shame to shut people out.”

The Regional Transit Authority was born last month. Activists sang happy birthday RTA. Joel Battersman of the Michigan Suburbs Alliance wrote these words. And a couple dozen people sang along.

For Michigan Now, I’m Chris McCarus

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Van McCarty, 24, of Troy and Jordan Mulka, 22, of Dearborn in the lobby of SEMCOG. It’s on the 14th floor of 1001 Woodward that was bought recently by Dan Gilbert. Elevator interiors are covered by plywood as furniture is taken up into offices. Paint is wet and carpets are clean. Investment is increasing density and walkability. But none of this will ever rival major downtowns without mass transit.
$300M would go toward Great Lakes restoration

Washington — President Barack Obama Wednesday proposed $300 million in Great Lakes restoration funds and new initiatives to boost manufacturing and cities hurting from job losses.

In his 2014 budget proposal, Obama called for maintaining funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

The money is designed to clean up contamination, stop invasive species such as the Asian carp, and reduce pollution sources.

"This budget will maintain momentum for one of the largest restoration efforts in the nation," said Chad Lord, policy director for the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition, in praising Obama's plan.

Obama wants to add 94 cents a pack to the federal $1.01 excise tax on cigarettes to fund expansion of preschool programs.

Michigan has the 18th highest number of smokers in the nation, with 19.6 percent of adults lighting up. The state has the 15th highest cigarette prices, averaging $6.04 a pack, according to the federal government.

Also of relevance to Michigan, Obama followed through with a State of the Union pledge to launch 15 manufacturing innovation hubs seeking up to $1 billion in funding, modeled after a pilot institute in Youngstown, Ohio. He is asking for new tax credits for manufacturing communities to attract investments and jobs.

White House domestic policy adviser Cecilia Munoz unveiled more details of the administration's plan to help struggling cities like Detroit dubbed the Promise Zones proposal.

The plan is to offer additional "investment in 20 of the hardest-hit communities across the country with the highest poverty. And it does this by expanding tax credits, but also by making additional investments in existing administration programs," she said.

"There's a $35 million investment improving public safety, anti-crime, anti-violence programs for these communities; a $350 million investment in the Department of Education's Promise Neighborhoods program; and a $400 million investment in HUD's Choice Neighborhoods program."

The administration has not set how it will pick the 20 cities.

"We would seek to build also on a program that we have called Strong Cities, Strong Communities, where federal agencies have actually embedded staff on the teams of six mayors around the country so that we're really supporting local leadership and identifying clear goals and clear metrics ...," she said.

Detroit is one of the cities in that program.

dshepardson@detroitnews.com
MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN DEVELOPS REAL ESTATE FRAUD DETECTION TOOL, DATA SEARCH STANDARD

April 10, 2013 - by Bailey McCann - in Business Processing, e-Discovery & CMS, Featured

In 2011, the news program "60 Minutes" did a full length expose on real estate fraud happening in the housing market in and around the real estate crisis. In that piece, evidence showed that financial services firms, caught up in a web of poor or lost mortgage paperwork in the wake of 2008, have sometimes turned to fraud in an effort to save themselves from taking a bigger loss. Banks and loan servicers have forged documents or misrepresented disclosures in an effort to unwind bad investments. On the local government side, these activities leave municipal and county officials caught in the middle of having to find and verify the accuracy of all the paperwork on both the homeowner and loan.

Enter the SuperIndex. In Macomb County, Michigan, officials there were tasked with trying to figure out just what was happening in their housing market, and which documents were both real and present.

"The deeds office is tasked with being the keeper of public records, and we are tasked with supporting homeownership," explains Todd Schmitz, Chief Deputy Clerk, Macomb County in an interview with CivSource. Officials there understood the often laborious process of physically finding, moving and verifying documents about homes, and wanted to make the records as searchable and easy to use as possible.
Macomb County, Michigan develops real estate fraud detection tool, data search standard | CivSource

Through the county's relationship with Xerox and Google, Macomb County developed the SuperIndex, a search tool for county residents to get information about a home they may be looking at buying, or even their own. The SuperIndex puts real estate deeds, court docket entries, and other information online for users and attorneys to access. They can also receive PDF copies of documents online after paying for them with Google Checkout.

Schmitz explains that the county first approached Xerox about making real estate transactions easier and more searchable as Xerox already has some fraud detection solutions available as part of its other lines of service. Through those conversations, Xerox brought in Google to partner on building the search technology behind the SuperIndex.

"I think this could really change the way public records are searched, as it creates a standard for dealing with this type of data," he says. Right now, each county in Michigan handles its real estate documentation and transactions differently. As such, further implementation locally will have to happen on a county-by-county basis, but both the vendor companies and county officials, feel that the core of this technology could be widely applicable.

According to Bert Auburn, vice president, government records management, Xerox, the company is already in early stage conversations with other counties about deploying similar solutions. Future feature enhancements, like bringing in the Xerox fraud alert technology are also in the pipeline.

"Ideally, in the future, someone could go into a real estate transaction with a full record of documents about a property, even those recorded just 24 hours earlier, maybe even from their smart phone, so they can make an educated decision," Schmitz said.

The county has created a video chronicling their approach:
Selfridge Military Air Museum opens for 2013 season with new aircraft on display

Friday, April 12, 2013 2:29 AM EDT
By Don Gardner
For The Oakland Press

See the history of military aviation come alive as the Selfridge Air Museum is now open to the public for 2013.

The museum, inside the Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Harrison Township, was established in 1979 to recover the history of Selfridge, one of the oldest continuously running military airfields in the United States. It houses historic aircraft from all military branches, both active and reserve units.

New this year are the F-89C Scorpion, a C-130E "Hercules" and an A-10A "Thunderbolt II" in the outdoor air park. A three-quarter scale historically accurate model of the original "Wright Flyer" will soon be on display in the SPAD WWI hangar.

The museum is designed to take visitors through a chronological history of military aviation, starting with World War I, World II and Vietnam, and other noted conflicts through the modern day. One of the most popular sections of the museum, especially for kids, houses three airplane cockpits, including a World War II Link instrument trainer, a Vietnam A-7 jet fighter and a modern era F-16. Visitors can actually get in the cockpit, put on a helmet and imagine themselves in a battle for sky supremacy. Two of the 32 aircraft in the air park can actually be accessed as well, including the C-130 Hercules transport and the P-3 Orion sub hunter.

The F-89C Scorpion, believed to be the only one of its kind still in existence, will require a new paint job and should be fully restored and ready to go by early summer.

"The F-89 was designed as an interceptor flown by the Air Force and then the Michigan Air National Guard, and it had nuclear capability," said museum Executive Director Lt. Col. (Ret.) Lewis Nigro.

The museum is staffed completely by volunteers, receives no federal or state funding, and stands as one of the few remaining historical venues of its kind.

"I think this museum is critically important, especially for the people that live in this area," Nigro said. "This base has been around since 1917. We're almost 100 years old. And now that the Air Force and the Air National Guard have eliminated the historian position, we're all that's left to track the history of this base and the Michigan Air Guard."

Nigro added that the museum is a great place for aviation veterans to come and reminiscence and share memories with their families.

"We have quite a few veterans that come through here," Nigro said. "I think the most touching thing I ever saw was a World War II veteran who brought his grandson out to our World War II Corsair — apparently he flew it. I saw Grandpa
Selfridge Military Air Museum opens for 2013 season with new aircraft on display - The Oakland Press (theoaklandpress.com)

and his grandson walk out to it, and I saw Grandpa reach out and touch the side of it. I could feel the electricity from here.

The museum is accessible by vehicle only through the main Selfridge gate at the intersection of M-59 and Jefferson Avenue. For security reasons, guests arriving in a private vehicle that is being driven by someone without a valid government identification card must register for a visitor's pass at the gate. A current and valid driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of vehicular insurance will be required to obtain a visitor's pass.

Admission is $4 per guest over the age of 12 and $3 for children between 4 and 12 years of age. There is a minimum admission of $25 for all by-appointment tours. General public hours of operation for the museum is noon to 4:30 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, Independence Day and Memorial Day, from now through Oct. 27. The museum can be opened by appointment at other times throughout the year by calling 586-239-5035.

Further information on the Selfridge Military Air Museum and Air Park can be found on its website (www.selfridgeairmuseum.org), by mail (Selfridge Military Air Museum, 27333 C St., Bldg. 1011, Selfridge ANGB MI 48045), or by phone (586-239-5035).

URL: http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2013/04/12/news/local_news/doc5167a6e2c72e4579251942.prt
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Born in 1931, Hill came from a family of Texas sharecroppers. Raised by his mom, with six siblings, and forced to go to segregated schools, Hill excelled in school. After completing high school, and shortly after President Harry Truman issued an executive order ending official discrimination in the United States military, Hill enlisted in the United States Air Force, where he served for nearly 21 years until retiring at Selfridge AFB as a master sergeant.

Hill was the "first" on many fronts. In most instances, he was either the first or the only, and in other situations, he is the first and the only to date (more about that later). What struck people the most about him was his smooth style of engaging differing viewpoints while maintaining respect for the person presenting the opposing perspective.

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Say what you will about Bobby L. Hill, but one thing should be made clear: he was more of a fighter than most think.

The first and lone black former Macomb County Commissioner had plenty of what the elders in our community call “fire in the belly” and what some in others call “the right stuff,” but his style was to keep his powder dry until the very last minute.

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Bobby Hill: A true fighter - The Macomb Daily

Hill, along with former Air Force Technical Sergeant Edgar L. Gunn and other veterans, started the now-defunct Retired Armed Forces Association of Michigan. Hill was the organization's first president, and emphasized the need to mentor and provide scholarships to local students, which they did for more than two decades. His love for his community's children blossomed and flourished.

He could have stopped there and watched the mailbox for his retirement check, but his drive to contribute took another turn, this time as an educator, serving as both the director of Vocational Studies and the director of Adult Education programs for the Mount Clemens Community Schools district. He took the Vocational Studies program to new heights, and actually had the program participants build houses in Mount Clemens. He stayed with the district for 20 years.

Hill was virtually a local Paul Robeson. He served as a virtuous man and genuine role model for the entire community, and especially so for black youth. The '50s and '60s were tumultuous for blacks in America and Michigan, and Hill continued demonstrating a steady leadership throughout his educational career.

In 1979, Hill ran a rather intense race for a seat on the Mount Clemens City Commission. He won his first electoral campaign, was seated on the commission, and remained there for 11 years. He was the only black on the commission during that period. He often told me he had to "work with white gloves" during that first foray into politics. The fact that he was black and a black male made it doubly important for him to not sour the political tastes of the majority so that other blacks could follow.

Hill was one of four people I met in a restaurant on Jefferson in Harrison Township back in 2004. The purpose of the meeting was to convince me to run for a trustee position on the Mount Clemens school board. After that is when I got to know the man, upfront, personally and privately. We spent many an hour talking politics, with me and others frequenting his home to get advice.

Hill also told me that the unwritten rule at the time was that no two blacks should run at the same time. The vote could be split and the result could end up that no black candidate would win. He wanted to see that prohibition die. Well, that taboo was shattered in 2004, when Nancy Mitchell and I ran for trustee positions of the Mount Clemens Board of Education. We both won. Hill was ecstatic.

Hill served as a county commissioner from 1990 through 2006, when he was involved in a near-fatal car collision. Forced by health issues to not run again, Hill hoped his legacy of providing a diverse viewpoint would continue. That dream was shattered when Ed Bruley, chair of the Macomb County Democratic Party, coveted and took Hill's commission seat. The MCDP has yet to support or field a minority candidate for any commission district seat since 2006. Hill would be disappointed.

Many will say Hill will be missed and remembered. I say put his name on the county administration building as a testament to his temperament, tenacity and legacy on behalf of all Macomb County residents.

Gregory A. Murray is a community activist who lives in Clinton Township. He can be reached at gahmurray@gmail.com.
Macomb County Board Honors Clinton Township Green Schools

An award ceremony took place Tuesday at Macomb Intermediate School District in Clinton Township.

Several Clinton Township schools were among those recognized, including Robert G. Lutz School—crowned the Top Emerald School. The school on Cass Avenue was one of 127 schools across the county that have achieved Official Michigan Green School status.

"The Board is very proud to partner with the MISD on this successful hands-on program," Board Chairman David Flynn said in prepared statement. "Green Schools not only teaches students how to be responsible stewards of the natural resources in their community, but it also has the potential to lower energy costs for the schools involved."

St. Mary School in Mount Clemens and Jefferson Middle School in St. Clair Shores tied for the honor of Top Overall School 2012-13. They were selected for their outstanding level of participation and enthusiasm with a wide range of projects like going paperless, park clean-ups, composting and creating a community garden, according to the county.

Romeo High School took home the award for Top Evergreen School while Robert G. Lutz School for Work Experience was named Top Emerald School and Elmwood Elementary was named Top Green School in St. Clair Shores.

Chippewa Valley, Clintondale, Fraser and other local districts were also recognized.

The Macomb County Green Schools Program is in its fifth academic year, with participation growing each year. This year, 27 Macomb County schools earned green status, 48 achieved emerald, and 52 achieved the highest level of evergreen status. The program is funded by grants and donations from sponsors, including Macomb County Prosecutor Eric Smith, IBEW Local 58-NECA, Automation Alley, Waste Management Inc., Anderson Eckstein & Westrick Inc., and Ray Weigand's Nursery, according to the county.

For a complete list of green schools in your district, visit the county website.
County officials honor ‘green’ schools

By Frank DeFrank
frank.defrank@macombdaily.com; @fdefrank

Tuesday, April 16, 2013

Going for the green paid off Tuesday for 127 Macomb County schools recognized for achieving official status as a Michigan Green School.

"The board is very proud to partner with the Macomb Intermediate School District on this successful, hands-on program," said David Flynn, chairman of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners. "(The) Green Schools program not only teaches students how to be responsible stewards of the natural resources in their community, but it also has the potential to lower energy costs for the schools involved."

Schools earn different levels of “green” status by implementing environmentally friendly programs and efforts in their buildings. Those levels are: Green, Emerald and Evergreen. The more programs they initiate, the higher the level they achieve.

Previous recipients realized significant cost savings for their schools by going paperless, reducing trash, offering zero-waste lunches and using energy from solar panel systems.

Each year, the Board of Commissioners honors those who make the efforts to become green schools.

"The reason we’re involved is not only to ensure students learn about green practices, it’s to instill an ownership; an ownership not in our future, but in their future," Flynn said.

While 127 schools were honored Tuesday, two schools were singled out as Top Overall Schools for 2012-2013: St. Mary School in Mount Clemens and Jefferson Middle School in St. Clair Shores were cited for their "outstanding level of participation and enthusiasm with a wide range of projects."

"I was super-surprised," said Lisa Beckman, a teacher at Jefferson. "We’re very, very excited … We’ve worked very hard for the past five years.

“Our students … are going to be super-excited. They work hard every day.”

Among the green efforts at Jefferson, said teacher Sarah Bowman, are growing and maintaining a community garden, the fruits of which are donated to community organizations; and a golf course at the school made up entirely of recycled material. Students pay $1 to play the course, and proceeds are donated to charity.

Regina Newlin, a teacher at St. Mary, said a recycling program at the school that involves students, staff and
parents is among the highlights of St. Mary’s efforts.

The Macomb County Green School program is financed through grants and from donations by sponsors, including Macomb County Prosecutor Eric Smith, IBEW Local 58-NECA, Automation Alley, Waste Management, Inc., Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc. and Ray Wiegand Nursery.

For more information about the program, visit www.macombcountymi.gov/macomb_gov/GreenSchools.htm.

URL: http://www.macombdaily.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20130416/NEWS01/130419613&template=printart

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More than 100 Macomb County schools earn ‘Green School’ status

By Sara Kandel
C & G Staff Writer

CLINTON TOWNSHIP — The Macomb County Board of Commissioners recognized 127 schools with environmentally friendly practices and programs at a breakfast banquet April 16.

Taking on a variety of recycling projects that fall under various environmental categories, participating schools achieved official Michigan Green School status in one of three categories — green, emerald or evergreen — depending on the amount of points they earned for their projects.

This year in Macomb, 27 schools achieved green status with 10-14 points, 48 schools achieved emerald status with 15-19 points and 52 schools achieved evergreen status with 20 or more points.

St. Mary School in Mount Clemens and Jefferson Middle School in St. Clair Shores earned the most points and tied for the spot of top-earning school, with projects that included going paperless, having park cleanups, composting at St. Mary and creating a community garden and solar ovens at Jefferson.

In Eastpointe, Kelly Middle and Pleasantview Elementary schools both earned green status during the 2012-13 school year.

“We have a box in each classroom for recycling, and we started a garden in our courtyard,” said Shelley Polinar, a sixth-grade science teacher at Kelly Middle School.

“We are really proud that our younger students are taking an interest in the environment, not only for their future, but for future generations,” said Joann Lelekatch, superintendent of East Detroit Public Schools.
In Roseville, Reach Charter Academy earned green status and Huron Park Elementary School earned emerald status. Eastland Middle School and Steenland, Kaiser, Dort and Fountain elementary schools all earned evergreen status through projects that included Dort’s participation in National Walk to School Day and Kaiser’s Trashion Show, a fashion show with apparel made from recycled materials.

While schools must participate in a minimum of two projects in each of four specific areas — recycling, environmental protection, energy and miscellaneous/awareness/technology — they are also given the option to earn additional points through independent projects, like an upcycled fashion show.

“Green Schools was started by the State of Michigan to make sure kids met a certain amount of criteria for energy efficiency and sustainability, so that they can incorporate it in their everyday lives,” said Macomb County Board of Commissioners Chair David Flynn of Sterling Heights.

“As leaders, our goal, in many respects, is that kids have the opportunity to have a quality education, that we instill a sense of community with them, but also I think it is important to make sure that students have an ownership in their future. Green Schools incorporates all three of these important principles.”

The Macomb County Green Schools Project was adopted by the board in 2008 and has since become one of their primary projects. They work on it in conjunction with Oakland and Wayne counties and the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD).

“It’s one of our signature initiatives in the community, but the teachers, students and parent volunteers are really at the forefront of making the program a success,” said Toni Moceri, the Warren commissioner who chairs the project.

“One of the biggest challenges facing us is the environment and how we protect it, and this program puts the students and the teachers at the forefront of taking on this challenge. It gives them the skills and knowledge to push forward in that cultural shift.

“With younger generations, this is a given — protecting the environment is something they believe in — and this gives them the opportunity to explore it and be leaders in it and create the future they want to see. It puts them at the forefront of environmental issues and prepares them for the careers that will be here in the future.”

The Macomb County Green Schools Project is funded through state and federal grants and donations.

For more information on the program or to make a donation, call (586) 469-6484 or visit www.greenmacomb.com and click on the “Michigan Green School Program” icon on the right side of the page.

You can reach C & G Staff Writer Sara Kandel at skandel@candgnews.com or at (586)498-1030.

Source URL: http://www.candgnews.com/news/more-100-macomb-county-schools-earn-%E2%80%98green-
Hackel blames computer breakdown on longtime 'lack of leadership'

By Chad Selweski
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Monday, April 22, 2013

County Executive Mark Hackel said on Monday that a long-term “lack of leadership” led to the breakdown of the county’s computer system due to an electrical fire in the old County Building last week.

Without a back-up system, the damage has crippled county government services as workers in nearly every department carry on with intermittent phone service at the same time that they resort to pen and paper to record all transactions.

“I think it was due to the lack of vision and lack of leadership with regard to IT and not having a director of that department,” Hackel said. “We know the potential was there for this kind of thing to happen and, guess what? It did.”

County government services could be back up to speed by the end of the week, with phone and computer operations restored after extensive water, smoke and soot damage to the old County Building, according to Hackel. Technical assistance from neighboring Oakland County will hopefully result in a temporary revival of Macomb’s information technology system.

But the County Building, located in downtown Mount Clemens, is expected to remain closed for months as officials contemplate the millions of dollars that will be needed to repair and upgrade the 69-year-old facility.

What’s more, Hackel said some of the temporary moves, with departments taking up quarters in other facilities, could become permanent and the county could lease portions of the 13-story County Building to private companies.

As for the reasons why a county with dozens of facilities and more than 2,000 employees did not have a computer back-up system, Hackel said the dysfunctional aspects of past county government, with 26 commissioners serving as the executive branch and a controversial IT director in charge of the computer system, led to last Wednesday’s disaster.

“It sometimes takes a crisis to get things moving,” the executive said. “This … was destined to happen.”

The Board of Commissioners had been warned for years that the county’s mainframe computer and the IT infrastructure located several floors below in the basement of the County Building were vulnerable because
the facility had no modern fire-suppression or sprinkler system.

As recently as three weeks ago, the new IT director warned the board that the current IT process was unreliable and dangerous.

When the former IT director, Cindy Zerkowski, abruptly resigned in the summer of 2010, it took 2½ years for the county to replace her.

By the end of this year, officials hope to relocate the IT Department and equipment to a new $14 million communications center at the Department of Roads building on Groesbeck Highway, along the outskirts of Mount Clemens. A backup system will be created at Macomb Community College. Bid requests for the purchase of computer servers at both locations will be sent out soon but Hackel said the county has no estimate of the cost.

The newest information indicates that the County Building suffered “a tremendous amount of damage” to its electrical panels and wiring. Most troubling is the buckling of walls in one stairwell from the basement to approximately the fifth floor.

The county faces payment of a $100,000 deductible on its insurance coverage and possibly more, but the extent of short-term repairs is unknown.

Paychecks due this Friday to county employees will be distributed as usual.

The relocations of county departments due to the fire are as follows: Register of Deeds moved to the Clemens Center in downtown Mount Clemens; the Sheriff’s Department Civil Division went to the west lobby courthouse in the county jail; the Prosecutor’s Office attorneys who handle paternity and juvenile crime cases is now operating out of the Juvenile Court Building on Rose Street in Mount Clemens; purchasing, facilities and operations and the mail room shifted to a county warehouse in Clinton Township; and the IT Department is working in the Board of Commissioners offices at the Administration Building, also located in the downtown area.

The Finance and Human Resources Departments have been scattered to the Roads Department and the Emergency Management Center adjacent to the Juvenile Court building, but Hackel said they will likely be relocated a second time in the coming days to vacant, privately owned office space downtown.
Macomb County moves step closer to outdoor smoking ban

By Chad Selweski
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Monday, April 22, 2013

A strict ban on outdoor smoking near Macomb County government buildings moved forward on Monday as a Board of Commissioners committee unanimously approved the proposed ordinance.

Lighting up outdoors would be banned within 100 feet of entrances, exist, windows that open and air intake unit, under the new rules.

"I think this is a smart, effective policy for employees and members of the public who enter our buildings," said board Chairman Dave Flynn, a Sterling Heights Democrat, just prior to the vote by the Health and Human Services Committee. "These people shouldn't have second-hand smoke thrust upon them."

Employees typically congregate near the entrances of county buildings and take a cigarette break. At the county courthouse in downtown Mount Clemens, jurors, attorneys and courtroom spectators mix with the employees who light up a smoke near the Main Street entryway.

The draft ordinance, which was written by the board’s Independent Counsel, says: "This ordinance is intended to extend protection against second-hand smoke in order to protect and enhance the public health, safety and general welfare."

Violators would face a $100 fine. A second offense would bring a $250 fine and three-time offenders would be hit with a $500 penalty. The ban would apply to cigarettes, cigars and pipes.

The legislation was created in response to complaints from county employees, said Commissioner Toni Moceri, a Warren Democrat who chairs the board’s Health and Human Services Committee. Since the ordinance was introduced last month, Moceri said the email responses she has received have all been positive.

The county has had an indoor smoking ban in place for many years, long before the statewide ban took effect. But this is the first attempt to outlaw outdoor tobacco use.

County Executive Mark Hackel could veto the county ordinance, which would then require a two-thirds majority of commissioners to override the veto. The executive’s office, which would be responsible for implementing and enforcing the ordinance, has not yet taken a position on the proposed smoking regulations.
The measure now goes to the full board on Thursday for final approval.
Huge ‘green’ parking lot will reduce Lake St. Clair pollution

By Chad Selweski
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Monday, April 22, 2013

For two decades, Macomb County officials wrestled with the pollution problems plaguing Lake St. Clair and have concluded that a major cause of the foul waters is the rainwater that runs off of streets and parking lots into the lake.

Yet, the largest parking lot in Macomb County, located within a few 100 feet of the lake, never received attention.

Until now.

A $3.3 million project to substantially alter the sprawling, 42-acre asphalt parking area at Lake St. Clair Metropark in Harrison Township, making it more environmentally friendly, will break ground on May 9.

On Earth Day 2013 county commissioners were told about the plan to divert stormwater runoff from the parking lot at the facility formerly known as Metro Beach to newly constructed wetlands areas, or swails, and into a marsh near the Metropark’s marina that has been drying out on a yearly basis.

“I think that’s a pretty exciting project for Macomb County and we should be proud of that,” said Margi Armstrong, Lake St. Clair program coordinator for the nonprofit group Clean Water Fund.

Armstrong told the county Board of Commissioners’ Health and Human Services Committee on Monday that stormwater runoff was pinpointed as the No. 1 culprit when environmental experts studied the pollution that leads to beach closings and abnormal weed growth on the lake.

The rain that falls during storms washes numerous contaminants – animal and bird feces, fertilizer, pesticides and auto oil, gasoline and anti-freeze – into streams, drains and stormwater sewers that flow into the lake.

Denise Semion, a spokesman for the Huron-Clinton Metroparks Authority said the “stormwater greenscape project” will be financed with HCMA tax dollars and a $1.5 million federal grant from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

The crumbling parking lot, which was first created in 1950, will be transformed into an area that combines parking spaces with ponds, swails, grassy areas, trees and shrubs.
The parking lot will be re-graded so that stormwater is diverted into those natural areas rather than into the lake. Half of this “green” lot will be reconstructed and half will receive a new “seal coat” on the asphalt.

“The whole layout is going to change – new ‘islands,’ new roadways. We’re using turf and vegetation landscape and swails,” said Tim Phillips, an HCMA park planner.

The redesign will add a sledding hill and two ice skating ponds near the metropark’s nature center.

Clearly marked two-lane roads and two roundabouts will be constructed and the entire parking area will be re-striped to eliminate the current angle-parking layout. The project is slated to be completed by the end of the year.

The capacity will fall from 4,000 parking spaces to 3,400 but officials said they have contingency plans to accommodate large crowds on the busiest summer weekends of the year.

The public is invited to a groundbreaking ceremony at the park, located at Metropolitan Parkway and Jefferson, on Thursday, May 9, at 1 p.m.
WITH VIDEO: Protecting the planet one project at a time

Tuesday, April 23, 2013
By MATTHEW FAHR

It started with a simple paper recycling program and has grown into a mentality that has earned Romeo High School top honors from the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.

At a presentation April 16, 127 schools from across the county were recognized for successfully achieving official Michigan Green School status. Awards, banners and badges were given during a ceremony at the Macomb Intermediate School District in Clinton Township.

This year, 27 Macomb County schools earned "green" status, 48 achieved "emerald" and 52 achieved the highest level of "evergreen" status.

At the top of the list for schools achieving "evergreen" status was Romeo High School.

"I was completely surprised," said Students Enriching Romeo through Volunteer Experience Coordinator Kelly Carson. "Based on what we saw other schools doing, I did not even know where we stood against them."

A paper recycling program that began in fall 2009 expanded to include the recycling of batteries and cell phones. Now the school, along with the Romeo Engineering and Technology Center, has added several different aspects to its goal of environmental advocacy.

The high school reached "evergreen" status by accumulating points in five categories within Michigan Green School program guidelines.

An alternative energy class is in its second year at the high school, a solar array system has been installed on the roof of the RETC building and water testing by a biology class in the Clinton River tributary are just a few examples of the opportunities the district has taken to become a quality "green" school.
The high school has also begun to branch out to educate the next generation through projects such as an Earth Day program at an afterschool day care program. The current generation is working hard as well, planting flowers in downtown Romeo, performing energy audits on their own homes and updating the selection of available research sources in the school’s media center.

"The board (of commissioners) is very proud to partner with the MISD on this successful hands-on program," Chairman David Flynn wrote in a statement. "Green Schools not only teaches students how to be responsible stewards of the natural resources in their community, but it also has the potential to lower energy costs for the schools involved."

Carson admitted that changing the actions and habits in a school of 1,800 teenagers is not an easy task, but she still has an eye on the future when it comes to one of the biggest activities at the school - lunch.

She said she hopes to take salads out of plastic packaging and serve them fresh, as well as persuade students to start bringing reusable lunch bags and beverage containers to school to cut down on the amount of garbage that goes out of the cafeteria.

Although some of that garbage is now being taken down to Detroit and powering some buildings down there, she said she hopes to lessen their load.

"To me the lunch trash can be changed, and with a few small changes in how students think and learn about reusable containers," she said, adding that she will also look into grants to help subsidize possible future endeavors, but is happy with what she and the students have helped create in Romeo.

"We have come a long way from where we started a few years ago," she said. "Who knows where we can go from here."

Contact Matthew Fahr at 586-323-8147 or at matt.fahr@advisorsource.com. Follow him on Twitter @FahrOutMan
Macomb eyes tougher outdoor smoking law

BY URSULA WATSON  THE DETROIT NEWS  8 COMMENTS
Mount Clemens — The Macomb Board of Commissioners' Health and Human Services Committee voted Monday to recommend adoption of a county ordinance that would prohibit smoking within 100 feet of entryways at county buildings and courts.

The ordinance would also prohibit smoking near windows that open and air intake systems.

Toni Moceri, committee chairwoman, said there had been complaints about smoking so close to entryways where there is high foot traffic such as in front of the courthouse.

"It is an effort to create a healthy environment around the buildings," Moceri said.

She added she hasn't received any negative feedback from smokers against the ordinance.

"This is a policy that prevents citizens and employees from going through smoke while entering public entrances. It just makes sense," David Flynn,
Macomb Board of Commissioners chairman.

Prohibiting smoking within 100 feet of entryways is parallel to the state law, Flynn said. State law does not designate a minimum distance required from doors or windows where someone can smoke outside a building.

Dade Dimaggio, manager of the new Mount Clemens nightclub the Vault, said the proposed ordinance doesn't concern him.

"I don't preach for or against smoking," he said. "To each his own."

The smoking ordinance will go to the board of commissioners Thursday for a possible vote.

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Add a comment...

Mono V. D'Angelo • Top Commenter • Poet, writer and artist at I am independently wealthy

This is just another small step toward outlawing tobacco in public completely. The dirty, lethal secret that cigarettes kill, hidden for 50 or so years but the tobacco lobby, is now standing naked in front of the whole world. Tobacco is poison, plain and simple, and should be classified as such. The smokers will rant about their rights being attacked but second hand smoke is just as dangerous as smoking itself. The political trends are shifting towards a smokeless society as the American public gets smarter about real health threat of this drug. To the smokers out there, I say, quit or die....it's your choice.

Reply • 3 • Like • Follow Post • 5 hours ago

Tom Lemon • Top Commenter

Says Mono as he sits there drinking himself into a stooper, with a couple of chili dogs by his side.

Reply • 2 • Like • 4 hours ago

Nancy Rudolph • Top Commenter • Wheaton College

Remember: If it were not for a smoker (an evil, tax paying smoker), the 2nd Muslim Boston Bomber would NOT have been caught. And, if you don't like smokers supporting children's health care programs, start paying your fair share.

Reply • Like • 46 minutes ago

http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20130423/METRO03/304230347/1412/METRO03/Macomb-eyes-tougher-outdoor-smoking-law
Savings await in wake of county cooperation efforts

Between and among our municipal and county governments and the formal regional associations exist less formal groups. City clerks, township officials and other local government specialists meet regularly.

Mayors in some neighboring communities meet monthly. So do some city managers; a group in southeastern Oakland County has been known for years as the "dirty dozen."

We're all for those associations, however loosely or tightly knit. Local officials profit from a view of issues and solutions beyond their municipal, intellectual and official limits.

If we chastise residents for having a 40-foot-lot mentality, for considering their own immediate needs and desires to the detriment of their community, we should be equally critical of officials who don't, won't or can't see past their own boundaries.

In Richmond, nestled against Macomb County's eastern border, county and local officials and businesspeople from Macomb and adjacent St. Clair County met recently at a breakfast sponsored by the city's Chamber of Commerce to discuss matters of common interest. State and federal officials also attended.

There were no earth-shaking announcements or conclusions.

But cooperation was clearly on the minds of the participants. Supervisor Cindi Greenia of Richmond Township wants to work more closely with officials in adjacent Columbus and Casco townships across the county line and those of Lenox Township and the City of Richmond in Macomb. "I'm really, really hoping that the city and the four townships can start doing things together as a group."

Jeff Bohm, chairman of the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners, said county officials get together regularly with state and federal officials. Those discussions have led to some goal-setting, including redevelopment of the Marysville power plant and college education. St. Clair Community College and other institutions offer college-level courses in the area.

Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel praised regional cooperation, support and participation. That, he said, "is what's really going to add value to the future of this entire area."

He's correct. Even if the discussion in Richmond yielded no concrete plans or proposals, such meetings can be a seedbed of ideas, preparing participants for cooperation to come.

Combining and consolidating services still elude our local governments, in part as projections show minimal savings. But we believe savings are out there, waiting for the imaginative to grab.
RESOLUTION NO. _______  FULL BOARD MEETING DATE _________

AGENDA ITEM ______________________

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO adopt a resolution supporting House Joint Resolution L (2013) and House Joint Resolution M (2013) ensuring in-state tuition rates for all honorably discharged veterans, reservists and active duty service members

INTRODUCED BY  Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee

COMMITTEE /MEETING DATE
HHS  4-22-13
Full Board  4-25-13
Official Resolution
Of the Board of Commissioners
Macomb County, Michigan

A Resolution Supporting House Joint Resolution L (2013)
and House Joint Resolution M (2013) Ensuring In-State Tuition Rates
For All Honorably Discharged Veterans, Reservists and Active Duty Service Members

Commissioner Toni Moceri, on Behalf of the Board of Commissioners,
Offers the Following Resolution:

Whereas, House Joint Resolution L (2013) and House Joint Resolution M (2013) are proposed amendments to the Michigan Constitution that would ensure that all honorably discharged veterans, reservists, and active duty service members receive the benefit of in-state tuition rates at institutions for higher education; and

Whereas, under current law, military personnel who return home to enroll in college after being stationed overseas or out of state face tuition policies that add enormous expense to their costs. The added expense for vets stems from not meeting standard residency guidelines and imposes much higher out-of-state resident tuition rates. Federal veterans’ benefits apply to in-state tuition and not the more costly out of state rates; and

Whereas, the State of Michigan is currently ranked at 53rd among the nation’s states and territories for treatment of veterans. Inflated tuition costs are an economic hardship and an example of a deterrent for veterans who wish to settle in Michigan to earn a degree; this situation adds to the perception that Michigan is not a pro-veteran state; and

Whereas, veterans serve unselfishly for their home state as well as their entire country and deserve the opportunity to pay in-state tuition rates when they wish to pursue higher education. Michigan has the opportunity to be a national leader on this issue since most states do not mandate an in-state tuition guarantee for veterans; and

Whereas, the two proposed House Joint Resolutions – L, M (2013) – are Constitutional amendments which require a yes vote from two-thirds of the members of each of our state’s legislative bodies as well as a majority of voters on a ballot proposal; and

Whereas, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners urges Michigan legislators, and voters, to vote yes on House Joint Resolutions L and M to amend the Constitution to ensure in-state tuition rates for active-duty, reserve or honorably discharged service members and veterans who return home and enroll college after active duty.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of Commissioners Speaking on Behalf of All County Residents As Follows:

THAT BY THESE PRESENTS, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners supports House Joint Resolution L (2013) and House Joint Resolution M (2013).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution will be transmitted to Senator Carl Levin, Senator Debbie Stabenow, and to Macomb County’s congressional delegation; a copy of the resolution will be on file in the Board of Commissioners office.
RESOLUTION TO adopt a resolution to support the Clean Water Fund and its commitment to Lake St. Clair and the Clinton River Watershed

INTRODUCED BY Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

COMMITTEE /MEETING DATE
HHS 4-22-13
Full Board 4-25-13
Official Resolution of the Board of Commissioners  
Macomb County, Michigan

A Resolution to Support Clean Water Fund and its Commitment to Lake St. Clair  
And the Clinton River Watershed

Commissioner Toni Moceri, on Behalf of the Board of Commissioners,  
Offers the Following Resolution:

Whereas, Lake St. Clair and the Clinton River are vital to the health of our residents, economy and ecosystem in Macomb County; and

Whereas, the over 100,000 registered boats in the Lake St. Clair area inject an estimated one billion dollars into the local economy each year, and with Lake St. Clair accounting for over one third of the Great Lakes sports fishing population each year, and with Lake St. Clair recently named one of the top ten fishing destinations in North America; and

Whereas, Lake St. Clair and the Clinton River are negatively impacted by combined sewer overflows and the harmful effects of stormwater runoff, which is the rainwater and melting snow that washes off parking lots, roads, driveways and rooftops, and collects and deposits pollutants such as excess fertilizer, oil, and trash directly into our lakes and streams and has been cited as the single greatest source of water quality degradation to the Clinton River watershed; and

Whereas, low impact development techniques and green infrastructure such as the use of rain gardens, cisterns, bioswales and porous pavement when included in new construction, reconstruction and retrofit projects can sustainably manage stormwater runoff and reduce combined sewer overflows; and

Whereas, Clean Water Fund is a network of dedicated activists working to educate residents about the harmful effects of stormwater runoff and combined sewer overflows while promoting the use of green infrastructure techniques to manage water quality on an individual and community-wide basis; and

Whereas, Clean Water Fund helps promote the Macomb County Blue Economy Initiative and the link between the health of the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair and their economic vitality; and

Whereas, Clean Water Fund’s policy work in support of changes to the State Revolving Fund and the 2002 Great Lakes Water Quality Bond resulted in bipartisan legislation to make bond dollars available for water quality initiatives and green infrastructure programs and Clean Water Fund’s work also helped expand the Strategic Water Quality Initiatives Loan Program into a state-based grant program; and

Now therefore be it proclaimed that the Macomb County Board of Commissioners applauds Clean Water Fund’s commitment to Lake St. Clair and the Clinton River watershed, and extends its support and partnership towards our shared goals of a healthy, safe and economically prosperous Lake St. Clair and Clinton River watershed, and supports Clean Water Fund’s efforts to promote water quality, environmental sustainability and economic vitality through advocating for low impact development throughout Macomb County, supporting legislation to protect Lake St. Clair and the Clinton River, and educating community leaders in smart stormwater solutions.
RESOLUTION TO adopt a resolution to support the goals of Michigan’s Integrated Care Pilot Program

INTRODUCED BY Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

COMMITTEE / MEETING DATE
HHS  4-22-13
Full Board  4-25-13
Official Resolution of the Board of Commissioners
Macomb County, Michigan

A Resolution to Support the Goals of Michigan’s
Integrated Care Pilot Program

Commissioner Toni Moceri, on Behalf of the Board of Commissioners,
Offers the Following Resolution:

Whereas, Macomb County has been selected as a demonstration site for Michigan’s Integrated Care Project, which is intended to strengthen support and services for persons who are dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare; and

Whereas, by bridging the divide between the physical health, long-term care and behavioral health systems, the Integrated Care Project seeks to improve quality and access to care by more effectively aligning Medicare and Medicaid services; and

Whereas, Integrated Care Organizations (ICOs) will be responsible for the provision of all physical health, long term care, and pharmacy services, while Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs) will be expected to cover behavioral health and rehabilitative services for people with developmental disabilities, mental illness, or substance use issues; and

Whereas, Care Bridge is the care coordination platform through which services and support planning and delivery will be integrated. The ICOs and PIHPs will be connected through the Care Bridge; and

Whereas, the Michigan Department of Community Health designated Macomb County Community Mental Health a “stand-alone” region as a Pre-paid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) to manage Medicaid services funds beginning January 1, 2014. Macomb County Community Mental Health has been providing quality mental health, developmental disability and substance use disorder treatment services for the consumers of Macomb County for more than 45 years; and

Whereas, Martha T. Berry Medical Care Facility is a renovated, state-of-the-art skilled nursing facility serving Macomb County adult residents with skilled rehabilitation therapy, nursing and medical care governed by a joint operating agreement between the Macomb County Board of Commissioners and Human Services Board; and

Whereas, 83 percent of Martha T. Berry residents are Medicare and Medicaid dual eligible and 76 percent of their revenue is from Medicaid and an additional 12 percent from Medicare; and

Whereas, Michigan Medicaid, within their state plan for payments to nursing facilities separately classifies categories of providers to pay them different rates. The two main classification categories are Class I — representing all “free standing” nursing facilities, both proprietary and
non proprietary — and Class III for County Medical Care Facilities and hospital - licensed long term care units. The Medicaid rate consists of three components of cost: plant or capital, variable or operating, and the provider tax or Quality Assurance Supplementation (QAS). The plant or capital costs are for the mortgage payments, related interest expense, property tax paid by proprietary facilities and depreciation for the Class III facilities. Class III have about $30 per day higher limits which relates to their higher cost base; and

Whereas, Martha T. Berry’s Class III designation provides needed revenue and access to matching Federal dollars.

Therefore Be It Resolved, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners supports the goals of Michigan’s Integrated Care Pilot Program dependent on the following assurances:

- Preservation of the Class III designation for medical care facilities and concomitant funding structure so that Martha T. Berry can retain access to Federal matching funds and continue to be Macomb County’s safety net for individuals who have high needs or are unable to pay for their own care.

- Prioritization of quality care for fragile seniors and people with disabilities who need nursing home care and adequate Medicaid funding to provide that care rather than Integrated Care Organizations directing dual-eligible beneficiaries to lower cost providers. Cost savings as a result of integrated care for dually eligible individuals are achieved through quality improvements and efficiencies, and not as a result of a reduction in reimbursement rates to providers and contractors.

- Development of the Care Bridge with the necessary resources and technology infrastructure in order to truly facilitate a collaborative relationship between the ICOs and PIHP and provide accurate, real-time communication that ensures the seamless coordination of care.
Official Proclamation  
Of The Board of Commissioners  
Macomb County, Michigan

A Proclamation Commending Betty Oleksik  
On Her Retirement as Chief Deputy Register of Deeds  
For Macomb County

Commissioner David Flynn, On Behalf of  
The Board of Commissioners,  
Offers the Following Proclamation:

Whereas, public service with sincerity, honesty and devotion and a genuine involvement in activities and projects that generate improvement and betterment in the quality of life for all people is an aspiration and dream sought by many, but seldom achieved or fulfilled; and

Whereas, the aforesaid attributes aptly describe Betty Oleksik who has unselfishly given of her time, energy and undaunted efforts to the community; and

Whereas, on July 21, 2969, Neil Armstrong took "One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind," when he became the first person to walk on the Moon. That same day, Betty Pallante started her career journey as she reported for her first day of work at Macomb County, not knowing the county was closed for the historic event. Betty had graduated from college with a degree in computer programming but, due to a common misconception in those days that a woman would leave a job when starting a family, she had a difficult time finding suitable employment. Through a friend, who happened to be Edna Miller's daughter, Betty was able to secure a job working in the court section of the County Clerk's file room which was located in the County Building. She then helped the office move to the newly-built Court Building. After five years, Betty transitioned to the Courts area, trained as a Judge's clerk and became Clerk to Judge Deneweth for the next ten years. Following that, she spent one term for Judge Balkwill and moved on to clerk for Judge Schwartz. Betty was promoted to Chief Court Clerk and worked in that position for nearly ten years. On April 1, 2001, she received a temporary appointment to serve as Chief Deputy Register of Deeds, which became permanent and she has served with dedication and commitment until retirement; and

Whereas, the Board wishes Betty Oleksik many well-deserved years to relax, travel, enjoy scrap-booking, oil painting and photography classes, and to enjoy her family and friends; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that public recognition be given to this individual for her outstanding contributions and years of dedicated service to Macomb County.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, by the Board of Commissioners, speaking for and on behalf of all county citizens as follows:

I

That By These Presents, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners publicly acknowledges and expresses congratulations to Betty Oleksik on the occasion of her retirement from the Macomb County Register of Deeds office.

II

Be It Further Resolved that a suitable copy of this Proclamation is presented to Betty Oleksik in testimony of the high esteem in which she is held by the Board of Commissioners.