BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR SESSION

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2013, 7 P.M.

FINAL AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Invocation by Commissioner Don Brown
5. Adoption of Agenda
6. Approval of Minutes dated May 23 and June 13 (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 Office of Executive (none)
9. PRESENTATIONS:
   a) Proclamation for Jennifer Morgan (Moceri)
10. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
    a) Health & Human Services, June 17 (no report)
    b) Finance, June 19 (page 1) (attached)
11. Board Chair Report (page 25) (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
Kathy Vosburg – District 8
Fred Miller – District 9
Bob Smith – District 12
Joe Sabatini – District 13
12. **RESOLUTIONS:**

   a) Opposing the $20 Billion in Cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in H.R. 1947 Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act (FARRM) of 2013 (offered by Moceri; recommended by Health & Human Services Committee on 6-17-13) *(page 88)*

   b) Opposing the Construction of an Underground Nuclear Waste Repository in Ontario, Canada, nor any Other Underground Repository be Constructed in the Great Lakes Basin, in Canada, the United States or any First Nation Property (offered by Moceri; recommended by Health & Human Services Committee on 6-17-13) *(page 91)*

   c) Amending Resolution 2012-1, to Provide Comprehensive Policies and Procedures Governing the Awarding of Contracts, to Add Section II.A.3 (offered by Miller; recommended by Finance Committee on 6-19-13) *(page 94)*

   d) Amending Resolution 2012-1, to Provide Comprehensive Policies and Procedures Governing the Awarding of Contracts, to Amend Section II.B.1.c (offered by Miller; recommended by Finance Committee on 6-19-13) *(page 97)*

   e) Amending Resolution 2012-1, to Provide Comprehensive Policies and Procedures Governing the Awarding of Contracts, to Amend Section II.B.3.f (offered by Miller; recommended by Finance Committee on 6-19-13) *(page 99)*

   f) Amending Resolution 2012-1, to Provide Comprehensive Policies and Procedures Governing the Awarding of Contracts, to Add Section II.B.3.o (offered by Miller; recommended by Finance Committee on 6-19-13) *(page 101)*

   g) Amending Resolution 2012-1, to Provide Comprehensive Policies and Procedures Governing the Awarding of Contracts, to Add Section II.D.4 (offered by Miller; recommended by Finance Committee on 6-19-13) *(page 103)*

   h) Authorizing the Publication of the Notice of Intent to Issue Revenue Bonds for the Macomb County Wastewater Disposal District and Notice of Right of Referendum on the Issuance of the Bonds (offered by Board Chair; recommended by Finance Committee on 6-19-13) *(page 105)*

13. **New Business**

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

15. **Roll Call**

16. **Adjournment**
June 19, 2013

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FROM: FRED MILLER, CHAIR
FINANCE COMMITTEE

RE: RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 19, 2013

At a meeting of the Finance Committee, held Wednesday, June 19, 2013, the following recommendations were made and are being forwarded to the June 20, 2013 Full Board meeting for approval:

1. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Mijac, supported by Moceri, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt an ordinance amending Ordinance 2012-1, Providing Comprehensive Policies and Procedures for County Contracts (Section 1, Article 1, Section 1.4), to require Commission approval of all contracts providing for naming rights of any County facility; 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 WITH CARABELLI, SABATINI AND SMITH VOTING “NO.”**

2. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Boyle, supported by Tocco, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt an ordinance amending Ordinance 2012-1, Providing Comprehensive Policies and Procedures for County Contracts (Section 1, Article 4, Section 4.1), to require project labor agreements to assure labor harmony on County 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 WITH BROWN, CARABELLI, SABATINI AND VOSBURG VOTING “NO.”**

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
3. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION  (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Moceri, supported by Tocco, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt an ordinance amending Ordinance 2012-1, Providing Comprehensive Policies and Procedures for County Contracts (Section 1, Article 4, Section 4.2), to require Commission access to the County Competitive Bid Library; 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 WITH CARABELLI AND VOSBURG VOTING “NO.”**

4. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION  (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Moceri, supported by Flynn, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt an ordinance amending Ordinance 2012-1, Providing Comprehensive Policies and Procedures for County Contracts (Section 1, Article 6, Section 6.3), to provide requirements for repeat small purchases and the use of purchase orders; 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 WITH CARABELLI VOTING “NO.”**

5. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION  (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Moceri, supported by Tocco, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve the budget amendment requests as follows:

- increase the previously approved Macomb County Community Services Agency’s Senior Nutrition FY 2012/13 budget for the Evidence Based Disease Prevention/Health Promotion Program in the amount of $500, bringing the total grant amount to $7,200;

- amend the Health Department Fiscal Grant Fund in the amount of $4,000 with an increase in Other Revenue and accompanying increases in Supplies & Services and Conference and Training;

- amend the Health Department Fiscal Grant Fund in the amount of $1,100 with an increase in State-Other Revenue and accompanying increases in Supplies & Services and Conference & Training and

- amend the Health Department Fiscal Grant Fund in the amount of $7,534 with an increase in State-Grants Revenue and accompanying increases in Conference & Training, Salaries & Wages, Contractual Services and Internal Service Costs;

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 Vosburg, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners concur in the request of the Macomb County Provider Alliance (MCPA) and approve a continued exemption from compliance with the requirements of the Living Wage Policy for all organizations that are members of the MCPA and which contract with Macomb County Community Mental Health, for the upcoming contract period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2015; 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.
RESOLUTION TO adopt Ordinance 2013-__ amending Ordinance 2012-1 to require Commission approval of all contracts providing for naming rights of any County facility (Section 1, Article 1, “Purpose, Policy, Applicability and Definitions,” Section 1.4, “General Contracting Policy”)

INTRODUCED BY: Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

*At the 6-19 Finance Committee meeting, Commissioners Carabelli, Sabatini and Smith voted “No.”
Commissioner __________, supported by Commissioner __________, moved adoption of the following preamble and ordinance.

Whereas, on January 26, 2012, the Commission adopted Enrolled Ordinance No. 2012-1 providing comprehensive policies and procedures for the County contracts; and

Whereas, County buildings, facilities, and other County-owned property are public assets owned and operated for the benefit of the County and its residents and the naming of that property should be a deliberative process open to the public.

ENROLLED ORDINANCE
NO. 2013-____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2012-1 TO REQUIRE COMMISSION APPROVAL OF ALL CONTRACTS PROVIDING FOR NAMING RIGHTS OF ANY COUNTY FACILITY

THE PEOPLE OF THE CHARTER COUNTY OF MACOMB ORDAIN:

Section 1. Amendment. Article 1, “Purpose, Policy, Applicability, and Definitions,” Section 1.4, “General Contracting Policy” is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1.4 General Contracting Policy.

A. Procurement of services, supplies, materials, and equipment shall comply with the provisions of articles 2 through 9 of this ordinance.

B. All activities of Public Servants and other covered persons related to Procurement shall comply with the Ethics Ordinance and the Commission’s Contracting Policy.

C. As required by Charter, the County Organization Plan will provide for public access to the expenditure records of the County, including all Procurement Contracts.

D. Contracts that provide for any naming rights on County buildings, facilities, or other County owned property shall require Commission approval.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its publication.

Date: ____________________, 2013

________________________________________
David Flynn, Commission Chair
Carmella Sabaugh, County Clerk

Adopted: __________________________, 2013
Delivered to Executive: ________________, 2013
Notice Published: _________________, 2013
RESOLUTION NO. ____________  FULL BOARD MEETING DATE:______________

AGENDA ITEM:______________________________

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO adopt Ordinance 2013-   amending Ordinance 2012-1 to require project labor agreements to assure labor harmony on County projects (Section 1, Article 4, “Competitive Bidding and Proposals,” Section 4.1, “General”)

INTRODUCED BY:  Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

*At the 6-19 Finance Committee meeting, Commissioners Brown, Carabelli, Sabatini and Vosburg voted “No.”

COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
Finance  6-19-13
Full Board  6-20-13
Commissioner __________, supported by Commissioner _____________, moved adoption of the following preamble and ordinance.

Whereas, on January 26, 2012, the Commission adopted Enrolled Ordinance No. 2012-1 providing comprehensive policies and procedures for the County contracts; and

Whereas, the Commission wishes to include provisions in Enrolled Ordinance No. 2012-01 ensuring that skilled tradespersons and laborers constructing, altering, repairing, and improving County-owned facilities work in harmony with all contractors working on a given project.

ENROLLED ORDINANCE NO. 2013-___

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2012-1 TO REQUIRE PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS TO ASSURE LABOR HARMONY ON COUNTY PROJECTS

THE PEOPLE OF THE CHARTER COUNTY OF MACOMB ORDAIN:

Section 1. Amendment. Article 4, “Competitive Bidding and Proposals,” Section 4.1 “General,” is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4.1. General

An openly publicized competitive process for the Procurement of services, supplies, materials, and equipment is the most effective means of determining the lowest cost from a responsible source and shall be utilized whenever possible. Procurements in excess of $35,000, involving multiple purchases within a fiscal year that are likely to exceed $35,000, that involve purchases over 3 or more fiscal years that will exceed $105,000, and Procurements for Construction in excess of $100,000, shall be subject to competitive sealed bidding. Professional Services Contracts shall not be governed by this article but shall instead be subject to the requirements set forth in Article 7.

A. Procurements shall be effected through one of the following methods:

1. Informal Bids
2. Sealed Bids
3. Multi-Step Sealed Bids
4. Small Purchases
5. Request for Proposal
6. Sole Source Procurement

7. Cooperative Procurement

8. Emergency Procurement

The conditions for the use of each method will be determined by the Purchasing Manager pursuant to the dollar expenditure limits adopted in this ordinance.

B. Except where otherwise provided:

1. Informal bids may be used for Procurements of $5,000 to $35,000. Competitive quotes are secured through bids generated by the Purchasing Manager. At least 3 bids shall be requested. These requests for bids shall contain standard terminology and specify a date by which they must be returned.

2. Sealed Bids shall be used for Procurements of $35,000 and above. Requests or invitations for Sealed Bids shall contain standard terminology and performance specifications as well as the date and time due. Sealed Bids are solicited by public invitations for bids. All Sealed Bids must be received by the due date and time specified. Sealed Bids may not be received by facsimile or electronic mail.

3. Multi-step Sealed Bids may be used when it is impractical to initially prepare a purchase description to support an award based on price. An Invitation for Bids may be issued requesting the submission of un-priced offers to be followed by an Invitation for Bids limited to those bidders whose offers have been determined to be technically acceptable under the criteria set forth in the first solicitation.

4. Requests for proposals may be used to procure outside services or a combination of services and/or products based on a description of a problem or specific need. This Procurement method is more flexible and accommodates situations where it is desirable to obtain a custom proposal where ingenuity or creative solutions can be submitted to solve a problem in a more cost-effective manner.

5. A sole source procurement process may be used upon the written recommendation of the Purchasing Manager and the approval of the County Executive if, after conducting a good faith review of available sources, it is determined that there is only one source for the required supply or service item. Under this method, pricing must be established under government contract or negotiated. With this type of purchase more documentation is required and
must be filed with each purchase order including the specific reasons for the designation as a sole source item and how the pricing was determined.

6. Cooperative Procurement allows the County to take advantage of bidding undertaken by other governmental units and may be used when state or federal governments enable local governments to take advantage of their bidding or when a joint effort with other local governments provides such procurement opportunities. Utilization of such programs requires verification that the programs used a procurement process that would meet the County’s requirements under this ordinance given the types of goods being acquired and the amount of the proposed contract. Purchases over $35,000 shall not utilize this process unless there is a cost per unit being acquired that is clearly more advantageous than is likely to result from the County’s own solicitation of bids.

7. The Purchasing Manager may make or authorize others to make emergency Procurements of supplies or services pursuant to section 5.2.

8. Small purchases shall comply with Article 6.

C. When the County makes a Procurement, preference shall be given to products manufactured or services based first in Macomb County, then in Michigan, and then in the United States, when they are available at comparable prices and are of equal, superior, or similar quality.

D. To the extent not prohibited by law, all contracts for construction, repair, alteration, or rebuilding of a County building or other property shall include a provision requiring the contractor and any subcontractor providing services under the contract to conduct pre-hire screening for illegal drug use by their employees who provide services under the contract.

E. To the extent not prohibited by law, all contract bid specifications involving the construction, alteration, repair, and improvement of County-owned buildings and facilities in which the cost is anticipated to exceed $50,000, not including work done pursuant to any Collective Bargaining Agreement between the County and its employees, shall include such terms as will promote harmonious relations among all skilled tradespersons and laborers employed on the project. These terms shall include, when appropriate, a requirement that the successful bidder shall certify that he or she is able to furnish skilled tradespersons and laborers who are able to work in harmony with all other contractors who are employed upon the project and that the successful bidder shall enter into a project labor agreement with respect to prevailing wage rates and certified skills, with the Greater Detroit Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, and its affiliated unions for the development and construction of the project.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its publication.
Date: ________________, 2013

David Flynn, Commission Chair

______________________________
Carmella Sabaugh, County Clerk

Adopted: ________________, 2013
Delivered to Executive: ________________, 2013
Notice Published: ________________, 2013
RESOLUTION TO adopt Ordinance 2013-__ amending Ordinance 2012-1 to require Commission access to the County Competitive Bid Library (Section 1, Article 4, ‘Competitive Bidding and Proposals,’ Section 4.2, ‘Procedures for Sealed Bidding’)

INTRODUCED BY: Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

*At the 6-19 Finance Committee meeting, Commissioners Carabelli and Vosburg voted ‘No.’

COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
Finance 6-19-13
Full Board 6-20-13
Commissioner __________, supported by Commissioner ____________, moved adoption of the following preamble and ordinance.

Whereas, on January 26, 2012, the Commission adopted Enrolled Ordinance No. 2012-1 providing comprehensive policies and procedures for the County contracts; and

Whereas, the Commission finds its access to the County’s bid library could help to improve transparency and institutional accountability for County contracts by enabling the Commission to better understand what projects are being bid, what qualifications are being sought, and what contractors are bidding on particular projects.

ENROLLED ORDINANCE
NO. 2013-___

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2012-1 TO REQUIRE COMMISSION ACCESS TO THE COUNTY COMPETITIVE BID LIBRARY

THE PEOPLE OF THE CHARTER COUNTY OF MACOMB ORDAIN:

Section 1. Amendment. Article 4, “Competitive Bidding and Proposals,” Section 4.2, “Procedures for Sealed Bidding” is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4.2. Procedures for Sealed Bidding

A. All vendors interested in providing goods or services to the County must register their business on the Purchasing System Website currently in use by the County. Vendors may access the Purchasing System Website through the County’s website. All current bidding documents shall be posted at the Purchasing System Website. Vendors shall comply with the personal disclosure requirements set forth in the Ethics Ordinance.

B. An Invitation for Bids shall be issued and shall include specifications and all contractual terms and conditions applicable to the Procurement.

C. Adequate public notice of the Invitation for Bids shall be provided not less than 12 calendar days prior to the date of the opening of bids. At a minimum, such notice shall be posted to the Purchasing System website. The public notice shall state the place, date, and time of bid opening.

D. The Purchasing Manager, after consultation with Corporation Counsel, may establish standard contract provisions for use in County Procurement Contracts. To the extent not prohibited by law, these clauses may include equal
protection and non-discrimination compliance, labor harmony, and living wage provisions.

E. Bid, payment, and performance bonds or other security may be requested for Contracts as the Purchasing Manager deems necessary to protect the County’s interests. Any such bonding requirements shall be set forth in the solicitation. Bid or performance bonds shall not be used as a substitute for a determination of a bidder’s responsibility.

1. The limits for bonds are 5% of the total bid quote covered either by a 5% bid bond or bank certified check for 5%, and 100% for a performance bond. Bid bonds or bank certified checks will be held by the Purchasing Manager until an award decision is made. Upon final award, all other bid deposits shall be returned. If a vendor fails to submit a bid bond or bank certified check with its bid, the bid will be rejected.

2. When a Construction Contract is awarded in excess of $20,000, the following bonds or security shall be delivered to the County and shall become binding on the parties upon the execution of the Contract:

   a. A performance bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the State, or other security in a form satisfactory to the Purchasing Manager, in an amount equal to one-hundred percent (100%) of the price specified in the Contract; and

   b. A payment bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the State, or other security in a form satisfactory to the Purchasing Manager, for the protection of all persons supplying labor or material to the Contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the Contract. The bond shall be in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the price specified in the Contract.

F. The Purchasing Manager shall have the discretion to determine, in consultation with Corporation Counsel, whether insurance coverage by the Contractor shall be required, and, if so, the types and amounts of coverage that shall be required. The Contractor shall have the County named as an additional insured as its interest may appear and furnish the Purchasing Manager with satisfactory evidence of the insurance.

G. An Invitation for Bids, a Request for Proposals, or other solicitation may be canceled, or any or all bids or proposals may be rejected in whole or in part as may be specified in the solicitation, when done for good cause and in the best interests of the County in the discretion of the Purchasing Manager in
consultation with the County Executive and Corporation Counsel. Each solicitation issued by the County shall state that the solicitation may be canceled by the Purchasing Manager and that any bid or proposal may be rejected in whole or in part for good cause when in the best interests of the County. The reasons shall be made part of the Contract file and shall be provided upon request to unsuccessful bidders.

H. All Sealed Bids shall be opened publicly by the Purchasing Manager or authorized representative in the presence of one or more witnesses at the time and place designated in the bid invitation. Information as deemed appropriate will be read by the Purchasing Manager including the name of each bidder, the amount of each bid, and relevant information pertinent to the award. Bids shall be unconditionally accepted without alteration or correction.

I. After solicitation has been made to vendors it may become necessary in certain instances to issue addendums amending the specifications, or extending the bid due date. If the Purchasing Manager or requisitioning Department deems it necessary to make changes to the specifications, such changes will be posted to the Purchasing System website. Clarifications, modifications, or amendments may be made to any bidding document and will appear on the Purchasing System website. It shall be the responsibility of the bidder to check the website for additional postings. This procedure ensures that the process stays intact and is completed by the deadline or opening of the Sealed Bid. Sealed Bids received by the County prior to the issuance of an extension or addendum shall be returned to the vendor along with the amended bid specification and due date.

J. A vendor may correct or withdraw a bid prior to the bid opening. The correction or withdrawal because of a mistake may be either in written form, delivered via the U.S. Postal Service or other carrier, or can be faxed or emailed to the Purchasing Department prior to the bid deadline. After the bid opening no changes in the bid prices or provisions shall be permitted. In lieu of correcting the bid, a bidder alleging a material mistake may withdraw its bid if the mistake is clearly evident or the bidder submits evidence that clearly demonstrates that a mistake was made. All decisions to permit the correction or withdrawal of bids are to be supported by a written determination to be made by the Purchasing Manager in consultation with the County Executive and Corporation Counsel.

K. Bids shall be evaluated based on the requirements in the Invitation for Bid, which may include criteria to determine acceptability such as inspection, testing of quality, workmanship, delivery, and suitability for a particular purpose. The “Invitation for Bids” shall establish the evaluation criteria to be used which may include such factors as discounts, transportation costs, total life cycle costs,
and/or value analysis. Criteria not requested in the bid or intentionally left out may not be used in the award evaluation. The responsibility and responsiveness of the bidder will also be a factor. A Responsible Bidder is a bidder whose reputation, past performance, and financial capabilities are such that the bidder would be judged by the appropriate authority to be capable of satisfying the County’s needs for a specific contract. A responsive bid is a bid that does not vary from the specifications and the terms set in the RFP.

L. Failure to perform or unsatisfactory performance on one or more County Contracts within a 2-year period shall be cause for the Purchasing Manager to determine non-responsibility. The unreasonable failure of a bidder to promptly supply information or samples in connection with an inquiry with respect to responsibility, or unacceptable performance on prior Contracts, may also be grounds for a determination of non-responsibility with respect to such bidder. If a bidder who otherwise would have been awarded a contract is found non-responsible, the Purchasing Manager shall consult with the County Executive and Corporation Counsel and prepare a written determination of non-responsibility setting forth the basis of the finding. A copy of the determination shall be sent promptly to the non-responsible bidder.

M. A local preference percentage credit from the following allowance table will be applied to the bid of any County-based Enterprise. This credit will be subtracted from the bid of the County-based Enterprise. In comparing bids, the bid of the County-based Enterprise after subtraction of the credit shall be considered the official bid. However, if the County-based Enterprise is awarded the Contract, the bid without the equalization percentage credit shall be the Contract price.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contract Amount</th>
<th>Local Preference Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Up to $50,000.00</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>$50,000.01 to $200,000.00</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200,001.00 and over</td>
<td>1</td>
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1. No business shall receive these credits unless it has been certified by the Purchasing Manager.

2. Any business who claims entitlement to any local preference credit shall disclose the records necessary to establish eligibility to the County.

3. After applying any local preference credits as provided above, the Contract shall be awarded to the lowest Responsible Bidder thus evaluated.
N. After approval by the County Executive and any requisite Commission approval, the Contract shall be awarded by appropriate written notice to the lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder whose bid best meets the requirements and criteria set forth in the Invitation for Bids, if the bid is within the amount of funds appropriated.

O. The Commission shall have the right to access the County bid library to review all open and/or closed requests for proposals or requests for qualifications.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its publication.

Date: ______________________, 2013

________________________________________
David Flynn, Commission Chair

________________________________________
Carmella Sabaugh, County Clerk

Adopted: ______________________, 2013
Delivered to Executive: ______________________, 2013
Notice Published: ______________________, 2013
RESOLUTION NO. _____________  FULL BOARD MEETING DATE:__________________
AGENDA ITEM:______________________________

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO adopt Ordinance 2013-______ amending Ordinance 2012-1 to provide requirements for repeat small purchases and the use of purchase orders (Section 1, Article 6, “Small Purchases,” Section 6.3, “Purchase Order Requirements”)

INTRODUCED BY: Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

*At the 6-19 Finance Committee meeting, Commissioner Carabelli voted “No.”

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>6-19-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Board</td>
<td>6-20-13</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Commissioner __________, supported by Commissioner ____________, moved adoption of the following preamble and ordinance.

Whereas, on January 26, 2012, the Commission adopted Enrolled Ordinance No. 2012-1 providing comprehensive policies and procedures for the County contracts; and

Whereas, the Commission wishes to clarify its contract approval authority for multiple purchases in a fiscal year from a single vendor the amount set in Enrolled Ordinance 2012-1.

ENROLLED ORDINANCE
NO. 2013-___

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2012-1 TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR REPEAT SMALL PURCHASES AND THE USE OF PURCHASE ORDERS

THE PEOPLE OF THE CHARTER COUNTY OF MACOMB ORDAIN:

Section 1. Amendment. Article 6, “Small Purchases,” Section 6.3 “Purchase Order Requirements” is added to read as follows:

Sec. 6.3. Purchase Order Requirements

The procurement of tangible goods in an amount of $35,000 or more from any single vendor during one fiscal year through the use of Small Purchases as authorized by this Article or through the use of automatically renewing purchase orders shall require Commission approval.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its publication.

Date: ____________________, 2013

_______________________________________________________
David Flynn, Commission Chair

_______________________________________________________
Carmella Sabaugh, County Clerk

Adopted: ____________________, 2013
Delivered to Executive: ____________________, 2013
Notice Published: ____________________, 2013
RESOLUTION

Resolution to:

Increase the previously approved MCCSA Senior Nutrition FY 2012/13 budget for the Evidence Based Disease Prevention/Health Promotion program in the amount of $500, bringing the total grant amount to $7,200.

*SEE BELOW

Introduced By:

Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee

Additional Background Information (If Needed):

The Area Agency on Aging 1B (AAA1B) has allocated additional dollars to MCCSA’s Senior Nutrition’s Evidence Based Disease Prevention/Health Promotion program in the amount of $500. The original grant amount was $6,700. The new allocation will bring the grant amount to a total of $7,200. There is no impact to the County General Fund, as this program is implemented utilizing grant funds. The additional funds will be used to train two additional individuals in the implementation of the program, thereby expanding the program impact by helping seniors in making healthy food choices and preventing disease.

*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.)
RESOLUTION NO. __________________ FULL BOARD MEETING DATE: ________________

AGENDA ITEM: ______________________________

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO: Amend the Health Department Fiscal Grant Fund in the amount of $4,000 with an increase in Other Revenue and accompanying increases in Supplies & Services and Conference and Training.  *SEE BELOW

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

The budget for the Health Department was developed as part of the 2013 fiscal budget submission, approved by the Board of Commissioners; and was based on the information known at that time. This revenue is a result of a grant that has been awarded to Macomb County by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) for the further development of Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) units. These grant funds will enable the Health Department to continue MRC unit capacity building efforts.

This grant award will not affect the County's General Fund.

*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

Health & Human Services 6-17-13
Finance 6-19-13
Full Board 6-20-13
RESOLUTION TO: Amend the Health Department Fiscal Grant Fund in the Amount of $1,100 with an increase in State – Other Revenue and accompanying increases in Supplies & Services and Conference & Training. *SEE BELOW

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

The budget for the Health Department was developed as part of the 2013 fiscal budget submission, approved by the Board of Commissioners; and was based on the information known at that time. This revenue is a result of a grant that has been awarded to Macomb County by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development – Companion Animal Welfare Fund. These grant funds will enable the Animal Control Officers to enhance their knowledge and skills through educational opportunities.

This grant award will not affect the County's General Fund.

*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
Health & Human Services 6-17-13
Finance 6-19-13
Full Board 6-20-13
**MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

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**RESOLUTION**

**Resolution to:**

Amend the Health Department Fiscal Grant Fund in the amount of $7,534 with an increase in State Grants Revenue and accompanying increases in Conference & Training, Salaries & Wages, Contractual Services and Internal Service Costs.

*SEE BELOW*

**Introduced By:**

Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee

**Additional Background Information (If Needed):**

The budget for the Health Department was developed as part of the 2013 fiscal budget submission, approved by the Board of Commissioners; and was based on the information known at that time. This revenue is a result of a grant that has been awarded to Macomb County by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality - Clean Michigan Initiative. These grant funds will enable the Health Department, Environmental Health Services Division to monitor E.coli levels at Stony Creek Metropark Baypoint Beach and Stony Creek Metropark Eastwood Beach for the 2013 and 2014 bathing beach season.

This grant award will not affect the County’s General Fund.

*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.)*

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RESOLUTION NO. _____________  FULL BOARD MEETING DATE:__________________

AGENDA ITEM:______________________________

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO  concur in the request of the Macomb County Provider Alliance (MCPA) and approve a continued exemption from compliance with the requirements of the Living Wage Policy for all organizations that are members of the MCPA and which contract with Macomb County Community Mental Health, for the upcoming contract period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2015

INTRODUCED BY    Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE

Finance  06-19-13
Full Board  06-20-13
RESOLUTION NO. _____________  FULL BOARD MEETING DATE: ________________
AGENDA ITEM: __________________________

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO receive and file report from Board Chair for June, 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 - Events:
OCE – June 5th, lunch with Mark Deldin
County-wide Electeds
Drain Board
Mackinac Policy Conference (Commissioners Carabelli, Flynn)
MAPERS Conference
Veterans Connection organization (Flynn, Moceri)
Barbara Rossmann, HFH
Ron Chriss – DTE (smart meters study, shared with commissioners)
Congressman Levin Health Care Forum
Monika Rittner – Children’s Hands On Museum
Heartland Health Center Grand Opening

Office:
• Adam Scanlon has returned as a summer Intern – Oakland University
• Goran Ognjanoski will start next week – Oakland University
• Rico Rowe, working since May – Wayne State University

Upcoming Board Activities:
June 27th – Note this Full Board reserve date may be utilized for veto overrides on ordinances.

PED’s Annual Fundraiser to benefit the Fallen & Wounded Soldiers Fund, August 20th – PED contact is Denise Mentzer. Lunch and silent auction to be held in the BOC Hallway, Conference and Board Room. BOC will donate a basket, see staff for donation details.

Emerging Issues:
Freedom Hill
County Space Utilization
Court Budget-Space

Region:
RTA Meetings – see SEMCOG website
MAC

Media:
See attached articles.

BOC – Independent Counsel: Expenditures for Outside Counsel Professional Services

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COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
Full Board 06-20-13
Growing Interest: Macomb County Proactive Business Retention Program Creates Jobs to Meet Growing Population Needs

Category: Business - Original  Published on Wednesday, 22 May 2013 12:32  Written by Terence Thomas

As a former senior vice president for St. John Providence Health System and now as a member of Thomas Group Consulting, Inc., I have worked closely with Macomb County leaders as my stakeholders have invested millions in existing and new facilities throughout Macomb County. I also graduated from Leadership Macomb and was an active participant in Focus Macomb. Both of those activities brought me closer to the great people who help make relocating and expanding a business in Macomb County seamless as possible. More people are making Macomb County their home than any other county in the region, a leader in population growth and new housing permits. A surge in residents creates a greater need for new jobs to be created. Working under the direction of County Executive Mark A. Hackel, the Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development offers a spectrum of business development services, ranging from workshops and events for individuals interested in starting their own business to tailored assistance for Fortune 500 companies. When it comes to allocating scarce resources, the county is targeting its efforts on serving those employers that have already invested in Macomb County.

"We know that nearly 85% of all new jobs in Macomb County are created by existing companies," said Stephen Cassin, executive director for the Department of Planning and Economic Development. "Our Home in Macomb Business Retention Program works with existing companies to help them achieve their specific goals for growth."

The pool of potential clients is huge. Overall, there are nearly 18,000 businesses in Macomb County. An estimated
20 percent of these are certified women- or minority-owned businesses.

"The retention program is for all businesses in Macomb County with a goal to invest and grow," said Melissa Roy, assistant county executive. "The best thing for an interested company to do is to get in touch so that our business development specialists can help ascertain what is needed and connect company officials to the appropriate resources."

During 2012, 47 companies were served by the program. Combined, they invested more than $184 million in new facilities and equipment. As a result, participating companies were able to create 1,290 new jobs while retaining 3,450 existing ones.

Supreme Gear Company of Fraser is one of its successes. Privately owned, this certified minority business enterprise is 60 years old and provides machined solutions for the aerospace, defense and commercial industries. Its specialty is the production of highly critical aircraft engine and missile gears. During 2012, Supreme Gear invested more than $4.4 million in new machinery and is on target for creating 69 new jobs.

AGS Automotive, a Canadian-based supplier that specializes in engineering, metal stamping, printing and bumper systems, design and assembly, expanded its square footage in Sterling Heights. They expanded their presence in Macomb County by acquiring and renovating a 350,000 square foot facility. The company was able to access local and state incentives, along with employee recruitment and training services and is currently seeking to fill more than 60 positions.

Tax incentives available through Michigan's Tool & Die Rezone program enabled Baker Aerospace of Macomb Township to invest more than $10 million in an expansion that will create up to 170 new jobs.

Fost Automation is a global designer and supplier of the machinery that makes advanced manufacturing possible. Several years ago, it turned its attention to expanding its customer base to include defense, aerospace, agricultural and recreational vehicles. They were able to access employee recruitment, employee training, tax incentive, expedited permitting and utility services. Success in tapping these resources resulted in an expansion of its world headquarters in Shelby Township which will ultimately create 50 new jobs.

The Macomb Business Retention Program is available for all businesses in Macomb County. Its current focus is on second-stage companies, defined as those with nine or more employees, revenues in excess of $1 million and a need to grow. Working with a network of regional economic development partners, the department will meet with companies to determine needs and develop a plan for achieving success. Through its partnerships, the department can connect business clients with:

- Access to incentives and financing
- Assistance with workforce recruitment and training
- Market research
- Site selection
- Business counseling

The department also offers a range of events designed to educate the business community and create dialogue. Topics range from workforce development issues to up-to-the-minute updates on the Affordable Care Act. The department's website maintains a comprehensive calendar of events offered by the department and its regional partners.

For more information, visit www.MacombBusiness.com.
SELWESKI: Are Hackel and the board ready to bicker in court again?

By Chad Selweski
Digital First Media

Saturday, May 25, 2013

Just when it seemed that the long-running feud between County Executive Mark Hackel and the Board of Commissioners had subsided, it appears they're headed for another noisy spat.

Let's hope this is all in the family and doesn't lead to irreconcilable differences.

Though the board scored a resounding court victory over Hackel and now seeks to exercise its right, after the fact, to review and approve government contracts, the county executive is ignoring — and, in fact, belittling — the commissioners.

When the board met last week to retroactively scrutinize 124 contracts — worth $82 million — that were signed by Hackel during the yearlong legal battle, the Macomb Township Democrat refused to send any of his top aides or department heads to the board meeting.

At issue here is this: Is the Hackel administration committed to government transparency, or is the board simply using the spending and budgeting process to hold onto control of county government?

In 2011, the 13-member board passed a reasonable ordinance and policy that gave them final approval over contracts and purchases in excess of $35,000, and any construction projects with a price tag above $100,000.
The ordinance/policy was vetoed by Hackel, the veto was overridden by the bipartisan board, and then the executive filed a lawsuit. He won at the circuit court but lost badly at the appeals court.

When the commissioners attempted to backtrack and get a good look at all those financial agreements Hackel signed since he initiated the legal tussle, their requests were ignored. Until April 30, when a computer disc arrived at the board office at 4:50 p.m.

The disc contained more than 2,000 pages of electronic material but it was not indexed, and no list was attached. As county board Chairman Dave Flynn remarked at the time, it was like dumping a bunch of paper documents in a box and forcing the commissioners to sort it all out.

If taxpayers believe that this is no more than an internal struggle, a political soap opera playing out within the upper floors of the county Administration Building, consider this: The electronic files contained details about $60 million in sheriff’s patrol contracts for local townships; $11 million in road improvements; several million dollars for jail inmate meals and various services for those on probation or awaiting trial; nearly $1 million in contracts for county Medical Examiner Daniel Spitz; and an allocation of $550 per meeting attended for a contractor tied to sewer/drain issues.

What’s all that about? We may never know because no one from the administration was on hand to answer questions.

The April 30 “document dump” painted the commissioners into a corner. Under its own ordinance, the board has 21 days to accept or reject a contract once it is supplied by the executive’s office. That meant that two board staffers and one part-timer spent countless hours for three weeks sorting through the electronic material — all written in legalese — of 124 contracts.

When the commissioners met on the morning of May 21, they were under the gun. Because of the 21-day deadline, they had just hours to accept or reject each of the contracts that had been previously hidden from them.

As a result, the commissioners declared a victory for government transparency while they reluctantly, frantically approved — on a retroactive basis — nearly all of the contracts because no information from the administration was forthcoming.

Hackel and his top aides say that the contracts are a done deal and no one has complained about any of the details within those documents. Fair enough. But it’s also abundantly clear that Hackel, the former county sheriff, and Assistant Executive Al Lorenzo, the former community college president, have a long memory of hours-long county board meetings in the past where commissioners berated department heads, micromanaged their agencies, and engaged in political pettiness and dysfunction. The pre-charter board, for decades, was a model of inefficiency.

Because the commissioners’ reputation precedes them, Hackel and Lorenzo agreed last week that they did not want department heads sitting for hours in a board meeting, waiting for their time at the lectern so the commissioners could get their pound of political flesh. The subject up for discussion was old contracts, some of which have already expired.

That’s somewhat understandable, but equally dysfunctional. The executive branch of our new government treats
the legislative branch with disrespect and disdain.

We have now degenerated back to the tensions of early 2011, shortly after Hackel took office as Macomb’s first executive, when the administration refused to allow department heads to appear before the board or its committees. A bunker mentality in the Administration Building may soon resurface, similar to the long period in 2012 when the board office on the 9th floor and the executive’s office on the 8th floor never communicated, except through emails.

Once again, it must be pointed out that the one major flaw in the county charter is that it provided no oversight duties for the board.

When Macomb voters approved the charter in 2009, they expected two coequal branches of government, power sharing, give and take, checks and balances. Instead, they have a legislative branch that has been marginalized — some say the board’s powers have been gutted.

When angry unionized workers for the Department of Roads and the crew of jail guards wanted to vent about the new labor contracts imposed upon them, they packed into Thursday’s board meeting. But the administration, not the board, now controls labor negotiations and no public forum exists to wage an effective protest.

Despite the board’s checkered history, Hackel and Lorenzo need to put their personal sentiments aside and put a priority on transparency. Flynn needs to pull back and engage in a collaborative approach. If not, the same disputes that have plagued our new county government for nearly 2 ½ years may bubble to the surface again in the coming weeks as board Chairman Flynn proposes an ordinance that will mandate much more budget detail from the administration — on pay, benefits, overtime, pensions — than has been provided to the commissioners so far.

Watch for talk of a potential Hackel veto to percolate to the surface soon.

In January, Flynn was selected as the new board chair and he and Hackel promised that a new day had dawned. But the cooperative spirit and the good will of the past four months disappeared in an instant when the board asked to retroactively review and approve contracts, just as the court said they should.

Flynn once talked of new personal bonds and mutual trust but now, after the administration for months declined to supply the budget details the board demanded, the Sterling Heights Democrat seems ready to dare Hackel to veto another matter that appears to center upon government transparency.

I would suggest that this should not be about dares and bluster and I-Told-You-So’s.

Hackel and the commissioners may never get along. But this issue should be about good government and maintaining an open door to the taxpayers who foot the bills.
Tensions heighten between Hackel and commissioners

Sunday, May 26, 2013

By CHAD SELWESKI
Chad.selweski@macombdaily.com; @cbsnewsman

The heightened tensions between County Executive Mark Hackel and the Board of Commissioners may reach a new level in the coming weeks as board Chairman Dave Flynn puts forth an ordinance that will mandate far more detail within the county budget and quarterly financial reports than the Hackel administration has provided so far.

Flynn’s proposed county ordinance, announced at last week’s board meeting, would require the Hackel administration to submit information for each department on: employee wages, health benefits, pension set-asides, overtime pay, the number of full-time employees, part-time workers and temporary employees.

Government transparency, Flynn said, is the issue at hand.

“There are a number of options we have under our authority in the (county) charter, and as policy-makers we will decide the best course to provide more transparency,” said the Sterling Heights Democrat.

Commissioners have blanched as county Finance Director Pete Provenzano repeatedly presents annual budgets and quarterly reports in which much of the financial information is capsulized in a category simply called “personnel,” without any context.

Yet, Hackel administration officials say that their budget format provides more details than the finance materials routinely presented to the commissioners prior to the 2009 voter approval of the county charter, when the board
held all legislative and executive powers.

Deputy Executive Mark Deldin said the commissioners are disguising their true intentions.

"This is not about transparency, this is about control," Deldin said. "We ... see it as an attempt by the commissioners to micromanage the departments."

Deldin describes Flynn’s demands as “overkill” and unreasonable because a 20-page quarterly report would grow to about 200 pages. Last year, when some commissioners complained about a lack of specifics in the proposed 2013 budget, the Hackel administration responded with 3,000 pages of additional material.

Flynn, who had pledged to forge a cooperative relationship with the executive’s office when his colleagues selected him as board chairman in January, said the proposed ordinance would also require board approval of all building construction and renovation projects before the bidding process begins.

He said the new rules would be drafted in a preliminary text by the board’s independent counsel and would be presented to the 13-member board for approval in two to three weeks.

Deldin said a number of productive meetings on budget disclosures had taken place behind the scenes with Flynn and top administration officials and he thought progress was being made.

But when Provenzano presented the 2013 first quarter report last Thursday, the commissioners expressed dissatisfaction.

Commissioner Joe Sabatini, a Macomb Township Republican who is a CPA and corporate comptroller, said he was disappointed that his numerous requests for format changes in budget materials had been ignored. Sabatini said the finance documents lack proper comparisons to past revenues and expenditures and that “every company in the world does it that way.”

Provenzano may have precipitated Flynn’s push for new budget mandates when he responded to the commissioners’ criticisms with this: “I will bring back your concerns and wishes and we’ll see if that leads to more discussion.”

If the board approves a budget ordinance, Hackel has the power under the charter to veto it. The commissioners can then override the veto with a two-thirds majority.

According to Deldin, the issue has been blown out of proportion because only one or two commissioners routinely request more budget information, and they are supplied addendums and detailed documents quickly.

“I’m not sure,” Deldin said, “what problem they are trying to fix.”
EDUCATION
Gilda Hauser to director of capital campaigns and major gifts, College for Creative Studies, Detroit, from campaign director, Orchard Family Services, Southfield.

FINANCE
Abraham Karama to branch manager, Charter One Bank, Detroit, from assistant manager, Charter One Bank, Dearborn. Also, Martin Abdo to branch manager, Charter One Bank, Sterling Heights, from assistant bank manager, Charter One Bank, St. Clair Shores.
Brian Ludtke to president, Wetzel Trott Inc., Farmington Hills, from COO.
Peter Mauhe to vice president, corporate development, Flexible Plan Investments Ltd., Bloomfield Township, from independent consultant to registered investment advisors, Dallas, Texas.

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-YOM LINN, CFO Tiger Logistics Corporation

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People

Rita Cavato to senior vice president/relationship manager, Bank of Birmingham, Birmingham, from senior vice president and banking officer, Huntington National Bank, Troy.
Megan Trapp to vice president, commercial banking, Level One Bank, Farmington Hills, from vice president, middle market banking, Comerica Bank, Detroit.

GOVERNMENT
Andrew Kim to director of legislative affairs, Macomb County Board of Commissioners, Mount Clemens, from Get Out the Vote coordinator, Asian & Pacific Islander American Vote Michigan, Ann Arbor.

HOSPITALITY
Keith Schofield to food and beverage director, MGM Grand Detroit, from director of food and beverage operations, Townsend Hotel, Birmingham. Also, Alejandro Garza to assistant executive chef, from banquet chef.
Jared Chorney to food and beverage director, The Townsend Hotel, Birmingham, from general manager of beverage operations, Renaissance Baronne Hotel, Novi. Also, David McLeod to partner, Howard & Weiss PC, Southfield, from associate. Brian Kroucher to partner, Howard & Weiss Attorneys PLLC, Royal Oak, from partner, Keller Thoma PC, Detroit.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT
Kelly Services Inc., Troy, has named Judy Snyder senior vice president and chief information officer. She had been vice president of global applications. Snyder succeeds Joe Drouin, who now is CIO of PulteGroup.

Angela Emmerling Boufford to shareholder, Butzel Long PC, Bloomfield Hills, from senior attorney. Also, Robert Nemzin to shareholder, from associate attorney.
David DeVine to shareholder, Butzel Long PC, Detroit, from associate attorney. Also, Bernard Fuh to shareholder, from associate attorney; Bushra Malik to shareholder, from senior attorney; and Elisea Pinto to shareholder, from senior attorney.
Scott Seabolt to chairman of e-discovery and data management practice, Foley & Lardner LLP, Detroit. He is a partner in the firm.

MANUFACTURING

MARKETING
Rich Donley to senior vice president, public relations/marketing communications, Mort Crim Communications Inc., Southfield, from vice president, Airlife Public Relations Inc., Southfield.
Brandon Rea to senior director of sales, Videology Inc., Troy, from vice president of sales, Vibrant Media Inc., Birmingham.

MEDIA
Fred Corbus to director of sales, WXYZ-TV Channel 7, Southfield, from director of sales, WOOD-TV/WOTV-TV/WXSP-TV, Grand Rapids.

NONPROFITS
Teresa Donaldson
Macomb County seeks to boost defense industry business with state grant

By Tom Walsh Detroit Free Press Business Columnist Filed Under Business Michigan Business Mackinac Island Mark Hackel
May. 28

MACKINAC ISLAND — Macomb County will use a $231,000 grant from the state of Michigan to launch an effort to grow existing defense industry business and attract new ones to southeast Michigan, Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel will announce today.

Hackel is to be joined by Michigan Economic Development Corp. CEO Mike Finney at an 11 a.m. news conference prior to the start of the Detroit Regional Chamber’s Mackinac Policy conference here today.

“We’re the defense capital of the Midwest now, and we want to be the defense capital on the country,” Hackel said of the corridor of military suppliers clustered in Macomb, but also with other firms around the state.

In the past decade, he said, 1,600 Michigan companies have fulfilled U.S. defense contracts worth more than $46 billion. Hackel said Macomb companies receive about two-thirds of that work.

Activities funded by the grant will include a 60-second video aligned with the state’s Pure Michigan campaign that showcases the state’s defense and homeland security industry; a new website; efforts to creating a robotics cluster of firms; and facilitating three events to promote hiring veterans.

In addition to the new grant from the MEDC Collaborative Development Council’s regional projects program, Macomb has posted messages this week on two highway billboards along I-75 on the route from Detroit to Mackinac. One, near Birch Run, features a photo of a tank with the words “Macomb, Strong on Defense,” and the other with a photo of Hackel and the words “Macomb, Making It Regional.”
Billboard Boasts: ‘Macomb, Strong On Defense’

May 29, 2013 3:04 PM

Filed Under

Related Tags
billboards, defense industry, Mackinac Policy Conference, Macomb County, mark hackel

MACKINAC ISLAND (WWJ) - Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel says they want to grow the existing defense industry business and they're using two highway billboards to help make it happen.

Strategically positioned along I-75, one board reads "Macomb, Strong on Defense," and the other "Macomb, Making It Regional."

Hear Hackel's interview with WWJ's Vickie Thomas:

Talking to WWJ Newseradio 950 at the Detroit Regional Chamber's Mackinac Policy Conference, Hackel said there are 600 companies that do defense-related work in Macomb County.

"We have that corridor ... research, design, engineering technology. But that billboard is to let people know that that's a strong part of our economy in Macomb County," Hackel said. "But Macomb is making it regional — and that's what the second billboard was about. [We're] trying to let people know that I, as the figurehead — on behalf of Macomb County and Macomb County's residents — support the regional assets that we have. We want to build up the region."

Hackel stressed that Southeast Michigan's communities must work
cooperatively.

"We want talk about this defense industry being regional, and so, it's another asset," Hackel said. "There's always going to be the residual. Whether something happens in Oakland County, Wayne County, Detroit — Macomb County gets some benefits from it."

"Well, that's the same thing in Macomb County. We do something that's strong, it's an asset to use — they get some of the residual benefit as well, and obviously so does the state of Michigan," he said.

Hackel said no taxpayer dollars are being used to fund the billboards.

Get complete Mackinac Policy Conference coverage HERE.
What a scumbag! Using tax dollars to build support for his re-election! RECALL HACKEL!!!
Broken promises — Macomb officials could halt DIA tax

By CHAD SELWESKI
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Thursday, May 30, 2013

Patrons view the famous mural by Diego Rivera at the Detroit Institute of Arts, pictured Wednesday July 18, 2012. (File photo/VAUGHN GURGANIAN)

Expressing dismay over false promises provided in 2012 by the Detroit Institute of Arts, Macomb officials are ready to halt the DIA tax money collected in the county if some of the museum’s renowned artwork is sold to pay off the city of Detroit’s massive debts.

A review of audio recordings from Macomb County Board of Commissioners meetings from April 2012 show that DIA officials, ultimately successful at levying a tri-county property tax to rescue the beleaguered museum, repeatedly assured the commissioners that the multibillion-art collection could not be sold off, even if an emergency manager was brought in or the city declared bankruptcy.

In recent days, reports have indicated that state-appointed emergency manager Kevyn Orr might include the DIA art among assets up for sale. On Wednesday, Gov. Rick Snyder, who chose Orr, agreed that all assets, including the DIA collection and Belle Isle, must remain under consideration for sale as the city struggles to pay creditors and dig its way out from $14 billion in debts.

Macomb County Commissioner Jim Carabelli, who feels duped by the DIA sales pitch of last year, said that he
is ready to take action quickly if any paintings are put on the auction block.

"I'm not sure how some of the other commissioners feel, but Commissioner Jim Carabelli will be the first to call for an end to the tax if they sell one piece of art," said the Shelby Township Republican. "If... they're going to fleece our taxpayers, there's going to be a mutiny."

Annmarie Erickson, DIA executive vice president, explained that in 2012 she was relying upon information supplied by Detroit Mayor Dave Bing that indicated the valuable artwork would not be thrown into the fray while righting Detroit's financial ship.

"It's still fundamentally true. We believe the collection is protected because it's part of a public trust," she said on Wednesday in an interview with The Macomb Daily. "This has not been tested in court. We hope we don't have to test it in court."

But, as skeptical county commissioners peppered Erickson and other museum authorities with questions last year, the DIA VP sounded much more confident.

In response to a pointed question by Carabelli about concerns that an EM or a bankruptcy judge would be eager to sell masterpieces that could fetch $30 million or more, Erickson was firm.

"What stops them from doing that, right now, is legal action. They... would have to answer to the state attorney general," she told the commissioners. "If... the city went bankrupt, a bankruptcy judge could not sell the collection, or decide to sell the collection."

Erickson asserted that she had a legal opinion, presumably from Schuette, that backed up her contention. The governor and Bing had also told the DIA that the museum's treasures would be "held harmless" throughout any city sell-off, she added.

But on Wednesday Erickson said she did not recall offering the commissioners reassurances from the governor or expressing a willingness by Schuette to protect the DIA's assets in court. Now, she concedes that she has no written AG's opinion on the matter and that Schuette staffers had simply indicated that presenting a legal argument that the artwork is protected within a public trust would be a "viable way to proceed" if a court fight erupted.

A spokeswoman for Schuette could not be reached for comment.

"At that point, Mayor Bing was our foremost authority, and he told us the collection is not in distress," Erickson emphasized.

According to Board of Commissioners Chairman Dave Flynn, state Treasurer Andy Dillon, who must oversee the sale of Detroit assets under the emergency manager process, had hinted that the art was safe but "he wouldn't put it in writing."

On Thursday, state Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville said he has introduced a bill that says art institutes must adhere to the American Alliance of Museums' code of ethics. That code says museums must sell collections solely to advance their mission. Proceeds can only be used for "acquisition or direct care of collections."
However, bankruptcy judges hold extraordinary powers and it’s unclear what the legal outcome would be if the Richmond bill passed.

The DIA has hired a prominent New York City bankruptcy attorney, and museum associations and curators from across the nation have loudly indicated that they will help with the fight.

Also on Thursday, Snyder told The Associated Press that talk of selling the art collection is “premature” and under one form of bankruptcy, some assets are deemed too important to the public to be sold. In addition, some experts have said it’s unlikely the paintings will ever come into play as Detroit digs its way out of a financial crisis.

The tri-county tax, approved by Wayne, Oakland and Macomb voters in August 2012, is a 0.2-mill levy that amounts to a $15 annual assessment on a typical Macomb County family with a home worth $150,000. But the annual allocation of the funds is overseen by a Macomb County arts authority and that group could halt the disbursement if it concluded that a reduction in the DIA’s offerings was a breach of contract.

The tax proposal almost didn’t make it to the ballot in Macomb County. Initially, the commissioners’ Economic Development Committee deadlocked on the issue, 4-4, in part because of concerns about future depletion of the museum’s collection of art and artifacts. About 10 days later, Commissioner Bob Smith switched his vote to “yes” based on assurances from the DIA and the ballot proposal proceeded to final approval.

Now, Smith is among those perturbed county officials who feel they were misled.

“Those are the answers we got back. But, if they knew the city might pilfer the DIA and the museum then becomes a shell of what it was, they would not have gotten my vote,” said Smith, a Clinton Township Democrat.

The controversy marks the second time in less than a year that the DIA’s 2012 campaign pitch in favor of the millage has come under fire from Macomb County.

In December, a Macomb Township-based anti-tax group filed suit, claiming that the DIA hoodwinked voters by offering “unlimited, free admission” to Macomb County residents if the ballot proposal passed. The offer excludes all extra fees associated with special exhibits, such as the 2012 display of Faberge eggs and artifacts.

That suit was thrown out by Macomb County Chief Circuit Judge John Foster.

Board Chair Flynn and County Executive Mark Hackel are both hopeful that the pending matter will be resolved quietly in the coming months. But Hackel said the DIA board and administration should have no illusions about a halt to Macomb County tax dollars if the museum’s collection is depleted.

“If there’s not going to be exhibits, then we shouldn’t have a tax,” he said. “I … think that would be a given, quite honestly. To do anything otherwise, that would be like continuing the tax for the (Detroit) Zoo if they sold all the animals.”
Macomb coroner under scrutiny for new $377K contract

Terms come to light as board pores over documents tied to executive office's personnel decisions

By CHAD SELWESKI
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com
@chad sinsweski

County officials plan to call on Dr. Daniel Spitz, the Macomb County coroner, to explain the new $377,000-a-year contract he signed with the Hackel administration.

Spitz's agreement to handle all autopsies for the county nearly doubled last year after he formed a private company, Spitz Pathology Group, and hired

Dr. Daniel Spitz, a fully certified medical examiner to assist him with the operations at the county morgue.

The Board of Commissioners learned about the chief medical examiner's new arrangements two weeks ago when they finally got a look at 124 contracts signed by County Executive Mark Hackel while Hackel waged a losing court fight to block board approvals.

"State statute is clear that the board appoints the county medical examiner. This is a large contract and it deserves public scrutiny, to be vetted at a public meeting," said Commissioner Toni Moceri, a Warren Democrat who chairs the board's Health and Human Services Committee.

Since taking over the coroner's duties for his retired father, Dr. Werner Spitz, in 2004, Daniel Spitz has tack-
Spitz has gained a national reputation over the past decade by appearing on several real-life crime-mystery television shows that have highlighted some of Macomb County's most intriguing murder cases.

According to Ridella, the new arrangements provide greater "efficiencies" and consolidation with regard to staff oversight, medical examiner reports, consultations, crime scene visits and court appearances.

Steve Gold, director of the county Department of Health and Community Services, noted that Spitz receives no fringe benefits from the county and works 50-hour weeks running a 24/7 operation.

"Dan Spitz is a highly productive, highly certified, highly trained individual who is in a very small pool of talent," Gold said, explaining that probably no more than 600 forensic pathologists in the nation can match Spitz's credentials.

Another issue at play is the county's lengthy efforts to gain accreditation from the National Association of Medical Examiners, a distinction which is not required but demonstrates that Macomb meets all national standards. The second coroner makes that distinction closer to reality. In addition, the 15 employees at the morgue will be boosted by two staffers.

Spitz has gained a national reputation over the past decade by appearing on several real-life crime-mystery television shows that have highlighted some of Macomb County's most intriguing murder cases.

Spitz has clashed with the Board of Commissioners in the recent past.

In 2010, he was riddled with questions by commissioners when his autopsy failed to detect the fatal bullet wound on the body of prominent banker David Wallack, whose high-profile death remains a mystery.

In January 2012, when Spitz finally submitted his 2010 annual Medical Examiner's Office report to the commissioners, Gold was sent to the board chambers to explain the long delay. As the Hazel administration suffered through a strained relationship with the commissioners, Spitz's 2011 report was posted online but never delivered. The 2012 report is apparently not completed.

Though the coroner's contract requires that he answer media inquiries, Spitz twice declined to answer a series of questions from The Macomb Daily about the details in his old and new contracts. Referring to Ridella and Gold, Spitz said there are "a number of other items in the contract that are not salary-based."

ARE THYROID PROBLEMS KILLING YOU?
Do you suffer from thyroid symptoms such as fatigue, depression, cold hands and feet, or...
Curtain rises Tuesday for relaunch of Freedom Hill

New owners re-open Sterling Heights concert venue to crowds

The bands and comedians have been booked.

This new $150,000 LED video sign in front of Freedom Hill on Metropolitan Parkway will have the ability to provide video images of upcoming acts but also year-round messages for the city and county for road projects or weather emergencies.

A new LED video sign has been installed. The paint jobs, landscaping and other enhancements are nearing completion.

With the relaunch of Freedom Hill Amphitheatre in Sterling Heights a mere two days away, the new operators of the outdoor venue say there’s only one thing left to really focus on.

“It’s all about customer service,” said Tom Celani, a Detroit-area businessman who is part of the new management team that took over the facility in 2012 and began getting busy on the re-opening after a three-year shutdown.

“The entertainers are responsible for what happens on the stage. It’s our job to deliver a positive experience to our customers and make sure people want to come back in terms of food, parking, how they are treated. If our employees don’t deliver on that, nothing else matters.”

With a new all-star team of managers, along with new vendors, $2 million worth of property enhancements and ambitious plans for the future, the revived Freedom Hill is poised to take its place as a premier entertainment destination spot for the metropolitan Detroit region.
The management team is known as Luna Hillside, LLC, which has lined up close to 30 concerts and music festivals for the summer of 2013 at the venue on Metropolitan Parkway near Schoenherr Road.

Built in 2000, the 7,200-person capacity amphitheater is part of a 120-acre county-owned park that has hosted major entertainers ranging from Bob Dylan to Aretha Franklin.

On Tuesday night, Huey Lewis and the News will be the first national act to perform at Freedom Hill since the venue was forced to shut down in 2009 due to budget issues and legal wrangling.

Over the past 12 to 18 months, a number of changes took place that the paved the way for its return, most notably a partnership that brought the new team on board and secured a relationship with a national promoter that wasn’t tied to other area venues along with behind-the-scenes negotiations with county officials.

“There were some gloomy days in the past,” said Joe Vicari, a Detroit-area restaurateur who was involved with Freedom Hill since 2000.

“We had a lot of issues to deal with in lawsuits and the banks and all of that. But now we’re working with the city of Sterling Heights and Macomb County and we definitely have a new sense of community and what’s good for the community. We all have the same mindset now.”

Vicari, president of the Andiamo Restaurant Group, has teamed up with Celani to form Luna Hillside. He formerly operated the facility with developer Gary Roncelli, who is no longer part of the management team.

Celani, a longtime gaming investor who heads Novi-based Luna Entertainment, is an East Detroit native who loves Motown music.

He owns Motor City Harley-Davidson, Motor City Power Sports, Celani Family Vineyards, two Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram dealerships and was an investor in Motor City Casino.

Together, they turned to Funfest Productions — promoters of various festivals including Stars & Stripes — to run the facility’s day-to-day operations. The company includes Kevin Cassidy and Joe Nieporte, two longtime fixtures on the Detroit entertainment scene.

But the turning point that led to the project moving forward was landing concert promoters AEG Live, one of the leading booking agencies in the world, to line up the acts for the season. AEG uses a new website called AXS.com that will rival Live Nation’s Ticketmaster, according to Luna Hillside officials.

“In the past, Joe Vicari never had a promoter with the connections AEG Live has,” Celani said. “Joe did everything on his own. AEG will help us get acts Joe couldn’t line up before. This is a highly competitive market, with the Mike Ilitch organization, the Palace, and the casinos, so AEG’s presence is a huge plus.”

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News »Local »

‘Little Mermaid’ features Hackel, biz leaders

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

Monday, June 3, 2013

A charity-fundraiser stage production of “The Little Mermaid” on Saturday features a musical scene with local business leaders providing backup vocals and Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel singing solo.

Staged at the beautiful and historic Gray’s Opera House in downtown Romeo, the cast consists of local actors and the proceeds go to All The World’s A Stage, a nonprofit that helps troubled teens, handicapped children and at-risk kids by exposing them to the world of theater and music.

In the scene featuring local leaders, Hackel plays the role of Chef Louis and leads the way in singing “Les Poissons,” a tune from the 1989 blockbuster animated movie in which the chef enthusiastically describes the kitchen preparations for cooking fish.

“Mark Hackel sings a solo and we’re the chorus,” said Grace Shore, CEO of the Macomb County Chamber of Commerce. “It’s fun. It’s been a lot of fun. And the people from All The World’s A Stage are so professional and great to work with.”

Others in the scene -- like Hackel and Shore, all newcomers to the stage -- are: longtime District Court Judge Denis LeDuc; Wayne Oehmke, president of the Sterling Heights Regional Chamber of Commerce; Kathy Bartz, vice president of marketing and sales for Presbyterian Villages of Michigan; Bill Bowser, business director of Henry Ford Health Systems and an official in the Romeo/Washington Chamber of Commerce; and Melissa Gladieux-Jackson, Henry Ford Macomb emergency program manager.

Tickets are $50 and all proceeds go to All The World’s A Stage youth programs. Doors will open at 6:30 pm and tickets should be purchased in advance.

A fun and relaxed evening is planned. Dress is casual. Light refreshments and nonalcoholic beverages will be served.

For more information, send an email to loufazzini@mac.com or call (586) 243-2253. For more about the charity, go online to their website at atwas.org.

Submitted photo
Clerk’s Office Appointment System Evens Out Workday, Lines

By Charlie Ban
STAFF WRITER

Macomb County, Mich.

With a little planning, the Macomb County, Mich. clerk’s office has turned its feast-or-famine customer service situation into three square meals.

The feast usually happens, appropriately enough, at lunchtime. Between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., customers can get out of their respective offices and overrun the clerks. By trying to fit their trips into their breaks, many customers help overwhelm the office and possibly ensure they don’t get back to work on time. It left the clerk’s office staff members overworked for part of the day and underworked the rest of the day.

The vital records section processes an average of 180 transactions daily, enough, when focused in two hours, to make someone need a vacation, especially when combined with layoffs in the office shrinking the number of clerks available to handle those transactions. Coincidentally, Chief Deputy Clerk Todd Schmitt’s family vacation to Disney World sparked a plan to make life easier when he gets home to Michigan.

The FastPass system at the amusement parks allows visitors to make reservations for rides and avoid the standby queue, like the kind Schmitt was used to seeing at the office during lunch. It was similar to Apple stores, where customers could make appointments with salespeople. That type of planning, County Clerk and Registrar Carmella Stabuga thought, could work in her office.

Make a Reservation

Please choose the type of reservation that you would like to make. When you arrive at your scheduled time, you will check in and be moved to the front of the line, skipping the wait!

- Court Filing Processing
- Court File Return Services
- Deed
- Genealogy
- Marriage License
- Business Registration
- Birth Certificate
- Death Certificate
- Military Records – Veterans’ Identification Cards
- Motor

"It’s made a big difference. If people can sign up ahead of time, it makes it easier for everyone," she said. "Our employees can handle a more consistent work flow, and our customers can stress a little less about waiting in line. Their time is money, too."

The Macomb County FastPass system is available online, where customers can select from among 11 types of services, choose a date and time among 15-minute windows and leave their contact information.

Customers who arrive at the office can sign in on a computer and when they are "on deck," receive a text...
message from the system, telling them to get ready.

"It's helped us serve individual customers more smoothly," Schmitz said. "We can have documents ready to go and take the guesswork out of someone coming up to the desk, and the clerk having no advance notice what they want to do."

Visitors to the clerk's office have enjoyed the system.

"I used the FastPass system to set an appointment time to file some paperwork to apply for my concealed pistol license," said Craig Wrubal. "I found it to be very useful, I had no waiting in any lines."

A contractor's work to create the system cost a one-time fee of roughly $4,000, and the Web hosting costs average $240 a year.

"It is worth it," Sabaugh said.

"It's making work better for our staff and the experience better for our customers," she said. "It worked for us and could work for any county."

County Innovations and Solutions highlights award-winning programs.
Freedom Hill stages a return

New promoter, sponsors, renovations help concert venue book 32 shows

By Nathan Srnd

Workers are busy putting the finishing touches on $1 million in capital improvements at Freedom Hill Amphitheatre as the outdoor venue prepares for its first concert in three years.

The Sterling Heights venue has faced ownership changes, a quest for new sponsors and competition for musical acts, but a newly formed relationship with a Los Angeles booking company has amped up its summer season.

Concert promoter and booking company AEG Live secured Huey Lewis and the News, which is set to take the stage Tuesday evening, and a roster of other well-known acts. The Beach Boys, Cake, Randy Travis, Collective Soul, Steve Miller Band, Lady Antebellum and Tony Bennett are a sampling of the acts lined up for the balance of summer.

Kevin Cassidy, general manager of Freedom Hill, said the 7,200-seat venue has 32 concerts lined up for its summer playlist. Ticket prices range from $10 to $125 a person.

Freedom Hill simply couldn’t get those top acts without AEG’s help.

"It was imperative to have a promoter in place that allowed us to compete," Cassidy said. "AEG knows how to work with places from the Staples Center in Los Angeles to the Royal Oak Music Theatre, and that is a big deal for us."

Tom Celani, co-owner of Luna Hillside LLC, which leases Freedom Hill from Macomb County, and Joe Vicari, CEO of Warren-based Andiamo Restaurant Group, took over management of the venue in December by signing a 20-year lease with Macomb County.

Celani replaced Gary Roncelli, chairman of Sterling Heights-based Roncelli Inc., in September 2012 as partner with Vicari at Freedom Hill.

Celani, now the majority owner, acquired Hillside Productions Inc. by assuming and paying debts Hillside owed to Macomb County and Fifth Third Bank, Vicari said. Exact terms were not disclosed.

Now, Celani said, sponsorships will be as crucial to Freedom Hill’s success as the concerts. "If we couldn’t get sponsors behind us, this would be a nonprofit," Celani said. "There is simply not enough money in food and beverage sales."
Celani said Freedom Hill has several large sponsorships, including Lear Corp., General Motors Co., Central Michigan University, Quicken Loans Inc., The D Las Vegas Casino Hotel and McLaren Macomb Hospital.

Celani said General Motors is putting an 80-by-40 foot banner on the back of the stage, facing Metro Parkway, and will also sponsor a VIP plaza and concourse where it will showcase cars.

In all, Celani said, the venue has secured about $2.5 million in sponsorships, but he would like a new naming rights deal that could generate another $500,000 annually.

He expects Freedom Hill to generate revenue of $5.5 million in 2013 and will need to average about 4,500 in attendance for each show.

Cassidy said the venue renovations also will help Freedom Hill reach its targets. The improvements include four new bars, two of which will be located in the lawn seating area; a new sound system; the VIP area; and a new plaza.

The biggest draw, though, is the musical lineup, Celani said. Because of its size, Freedom Hill is uniquely positioned in the outdoor-concert venue market. Celani said Freedom Hill is an accommodating venue for newer artists who can't quite fill a place like DTE Energy Music Theatre in Clarkston or The Palace of Auburn Hills.

"Some of the bands coming out today just aren't big enough to fill DTE, and bands coming down from their prime want to play smaller venues," Celani said. "Bands today want to play to a packed house."

Adam Schneider, senior vice president of events and booking for Auburn Hills-based Palace Sports and Entertainment, said he uses 7,500-seat Meadow Brook Theatre in Rochester as a stepping stone to its larger venues.

"We look at Meadow Brook as the breeding ground for the best up-and-comers and building the headliners of DTE of tomorrow," Schneider said. "But ultimately the artist has a decision as to what size venue they want to play in."

Schneider pointed to Grammy-award winning artist fun., which opted to play Meadow Brook.

"They could have sold out DTE but wanted to create demand and buzz at Meadow Brook," he said.

Meadow Brook has 23 shows booked so far this year but will add more in the coming weeks, he said.

Schneider says metro Detroit is one of the most competitive markets when it comes to live music and he understands why Celani would want to get in on the action.

"It is a testament to how strong Detroit is as a market," Schneider said. "The reason people go places and start a business is because there is support for it, and we are known as one of the top music markets around."

Nathan Skid: (313) 446-1654, nskid@crain.com, Twitter: @NateSkid
Freedom Hill rocks on opening night

By DEBBIE KOMAR
debbie.komar@macombdaily.com

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Joe Vicari and Tom Celani of Luna Hillside LLC officially opened up Freedom Hill Amphitheater with a ceremonial ticket cutting on Tuesday during a VIP party. (Digital First Media/RAY J. SKOWRONEK

Huey Lewis & the News probably said it best: “This is it.”

“It” is Freedom Hill Amphitheater and it is back better than ever.

The Hill reopened Tuesday night with a show by Lewis and opening act 50 Amp Fuse. Enthusiastic concertgoers lined up early — some tailgating in the parking lot — to get a view of the venue that has undergone more than $2 million in property enhancements. Others lined up at the concessions, ordering anything from liquid libations at the Celani Family Winery bar to a Show Stopper Italian sub sandwich to popcorn.

The D Las Vegas VIP area bustled with arrivals of invited elected officials, hospitality industry insiders and other movers and shakers from the tri-county area.

Among those we spotted in the crowd were Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, Clinton Township Supervisor Bob Cannon, Warren Mayor James Fouts, Assistant Macomb County Executive Al Lorenzo, 41B District Court Judge Sebastian Lucido, Warren City Clerk Paul Wojno and his wife, former State Rep. Lisa Wojno, Christopher Pokorski of the Detroit Metro
Convention & Visitors Bureau, and Macomb County Commissioner Don Brown.

The mood was upbeat and memories were flowing freely at the Sterling Heights venue, from Hackel recalling the times he was on patrol there as a sheriff’s deputy, to retired school bus driver Chris Baker of Sterling Heights remembering shows put on by Aretha Franklin and Sheryl Crow.

Kathy Bogusz of Shelby Township said, “This is great. I’m so happy it’s open.” And Leah Reeves of St. Clair Shores said, “I missed it,” about the amphitheater that’s been closed since 2009 due to some legal and financial issues. A new management company, Luna Hillside LLC headed by restaurateur Joe Vicari and businessman and gaming investor Tom Celani, has taken over. The day-to-day operations are run by Funfest Productions, a company that includes Kevin Cassidy and Joe Nieporte.

In the renovated outdoor concourse, Jane Waggett and Suzzie Delongchamp, both of White Lake, enjoyed being out in the late-day sunshine.

“I love Freedom Hill,” said Waggett, recalling attending concerts by Travis Tritt and Rascal Flatts. “I like the comfortable atmosphere. It’s pleasant, clean and I feel safe. It’s definitely improved.”

Waiting outside the gates, Susan Recker of Clinton Township was anxious to get her first view of Freedom Hill after moving back to the area from Arizona.

At the VIP event, partygoers sampled Celani’s wines and dined on a buffet dinner provided by Vicari-owned Andiamo restaurants. Did we mention desserts? Chocolate-covered cannolis and strawberries, glazed fruit tarts, and giant cookies caught the attention of more than a few guests. For VIPs who wanted to light up or just lounge, assorted white couches were scattered in an adjacent outdoor area.

So what else can we tell you about this night? Hackel continually praised the new Freedom Hill, calling it a “regional asset,” and noting that even “Brooks (Patterson) wants to enjoy Macomb County.” Patterson, still in a wheelchair from an automobile accident, greeted lots of well-wishers at his table. He said it was his first time at Freedom Hill and he was enjoying the “friendly atmosphere.”

Vicari admitted there have been some sleepless nights getting Freedom Hill back in business, and partner and best friend Celani smiled and said he was “a little tired, but excited.”

“When I put my name on something, it’s got to be the best of the best,” Celani said.

More than 30 shows and assorted festivals are planned during the summer at Freedom Hill on Metropolitan Parkway east of Schoenherr in Sterling Heights. For schedule information, visit www.freedomhill.net

As Hackel said, “The heart of rock ‘n’ roll is beating in Macomb County.”

- Staff Writer Mitch Hotts contributed to this report.
Hackel imposes wage cuts on two unions

By CHAD SELWESKI
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Thursday, June 6, 2013

Two Macomb County labor unions are furious with County Executive Mark Hackel for imposing new “draconian” contracts on them that include significant wage cuts.

Unions representing road workers and jail guards had fought against concessions for two years until a state-appointed fact-finder sided mostly with the Hackel administration. The county executive’s office used that favorable ruling to impose new contracts that continued a wage freeze, dictated six unpaid furlough days, higher out-of-pocket costs for health care, and eliminated annual “longevity pay” checks.

But the administration went beyond that approach.

Insisting that the two unions catch up to the concessions other county unions had suffered through in 2011-13, the county mandated a 6.8 percent pay cut through the end of the year for the Roads Department workers and an 8.6 percent wage reduction until Dec. 31 for the jail’s corrections officers.

“They overstepped the fact-finder’s decision and they overstepped the Board of Commissioners,” said Scott Drwencke, president of the Road Tech union that represents about 120 workers who handle snow plowing, street repairs, and maintenance of traffic signals and road signs. “It’s a take-it-or-leave-it mentality.”

But Hackel said the implication that the two unions are suffering retribution for waging a long bargaining fight is off the mark.

“They’re upset about something that’s been two years in the making. They’ve been holding out longer than all the others. They’re frustrated, but they’re frustrated over something that their labor leaders brought about,” the executive said.

“I don’t really understand what the big fuss is about. They have their jobs. They’re making good wages.”

Due to budget cuts and plummeting property tax revenues, all county workers have endured a pay freeze and furloughs for several years.
While the unions are looking at possible legal options to negate the pay cut, county Human Resources Director Eric Herppich maintains that the cuts merely put the two unions on the same financial plain as the rest of the unionized county workforce.

“This is not punitive, it’s cumulative,” Herppich said. “It’s calculated based on the cost of the same concessions that all the other unions took.”

But what is especially hard for the rank and file to swallow is that this catch-up mode means they will be hit with two unpaid furlough days for the week of Thanksgiving — a weekly paycheck based on 24 hours of work — and will endure unpaid holidays on Christmas and Christmas Eve — another 24-hour weekly payday.

Many of the affected workers packed into a recent Board of Commissioners meeting and were stunned to learn that the elected commissioners no longer have any say over negotiations or contract settlement details.

That is the system established by the voter-approved county charter. It is a process upheld by a Michigan Court of Appeals ruling, written by former Macomb Circuit Judge Pat Donofrio, in a Wayne County case where labor leaders unsuccessfully argued that commissioners must approve an imposed contract.

The two controversial Macomb contracts will only last for seven months, until Dec. 31 when virtually all current labor agreements expire.

Eugene Groesbeck, a longtime union activist in the Macomb County Professional Deputy Sheriff’s Association, the bargaining unit that represents the jail guards, said he is especially upset that Hackel demonstrated no affinity with the officers.

“The fact that the contract was imposed by Hackel, who worked at the Sheriff’s Department for 30 years, the last 10 as sheriff, only adds insult to injury,” Groesbeck said.

Macomb Daily file photo

Macomb County road workers were hit with a 6.8 percent pay cut by County Executive Mark Hackel when contract negotiations dragged on for more than two years.

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Research alliance will improve lake’s ecosystem

By CHAD SELWESKI
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Saturday, June 8, 2013

Celebrating the new research project for Lake St. Clair on Friday were, left to right, Paul Muelle of the Huron-Clinton metroparks, Hilary Ratner of Wayne State University, County Executive Mark Hackel and Jim Sawyer of Macomb Community College. (The Macomb Daily/DAVID DALTON)

A four-way partnership was announced on Friday that will provide research to improve Lake St. Clair’s ecosystem for the benefit of fishermen, boaters and swimmers.

Macomb County, Wayne State University, Macomb Community College and the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority metroparks have teamed up on a center that will study the lake’s water quality, biodiversity, shoreline and marshes. With the help of funding from the National Science Foundation, the research will extend through the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River and the western section of Lake Erie.

“This is really a terrific celebration for a special project,” said Hilary Ratner, vice president of research for Wayne State.

The alliance will be known as the Huron to Erie Alliance for Research and Training, or HEART, a reference to Lake St. Clair’s heart shape. Nearly two years in the making, the HEART Freshwater Center will feature a
mobile laboratory and classroom based at the Lake St. Clair Metropark, formerly known as Metro Beach.

The lake’s 430-square-mile expanse functions as a rather unique body of water that connects the upper Great Lakes to the lower Great Lakes.

The source of one-fifth of the world’s fresh water, Lake St. Clair also contains one of the world’s most significant freshwater deltas and is considered one of the top fishing lakes in the nation. Bassmaster Magazine just proclaimed it the No. 1 lake in the United States for bass fishing.

An international shipping route, it is also the source of drinking water for nearly 4 million people in southeast Michigan.

Estimates indicate the lake generates $2 billion a year in economic activity for Macomb County related to the fishing and boating industries.

County Executive Mark Hackel said the new research project, combined with numerous summertime activities on the shoreline, is just another step toward making Lake St. Clair a major Michigan destination.

“There are so many things happening in Macomb County,” Hackel said, “and we need to promote our resources and assets. I think people are starting to understand that.”
Macomb County communities spar over sheriff's patrols

By Christina Hall Detroit Free Press Staff Writer Filed Under Local News Macomb County
Jun. 09

The supervisors of two northern Macomb County communities say their residents aren’t getting what they pay for when it comes to contracted police patrols.

Instead, they say, their residents are subsidizing neighboring communities that don’t pay for county sheriff’s patrols, but are sucking off about 30% of the contracted deputies’ hours with calls outside of the two townships.

“My money is being spent in other people’s communities,” Lenox Township Supervisor Ron Trombly said at a county board meeting last month. He told commissioners that if they were paying a bill and “only getting 60% to 70% of that service, you would stop paying.”

Washington Township Supervisor Dan O’Leary agreed, calling the four noncontract townships of Armada, Bruce, Ray and Richmond “deadbeat towns.” He said he wants to double what his township pays for patrols in its community, but he can’t sell the idea to residents and officials if the deputies they currently pay for aren’t there a third of the time.

O’Leary said when the Sheriff’s Office pulls a deputy from his township or another contract community to respond to a call or provide backup in a noncontract community, the county “is violating your agreement with me.”

Sheriff Anthony Wickersham said that 30% figure is an old one and that deputies in Lenox and Washington townships are pulled elsewhere less than 30% of the time. For example, he said, they were pulled outside 4.4% of the time in Washington Township during the first three months of this year.

Wickersham said he’s not going to make any changes to his patrol allocations or ask for a budget amendment to add deputies to the non-contract areas. He said if commissioners want to give him more money in his next budget, he will consider using the extra funds to put more deputies in those areas, which are the only ones in the county without their own police department or a contract with the Sheriff’s Office.

Commissioner Don Brown, a Republican who serves the northern communities and lives in Washington Township, said he plans to recommend adding money to the sheriff’s budget for extra deputies in those areas.

“If he needs more staff to maintain his constitutional responsibility for the townships, we have to make staff available,” Brown said. “It’s unfair to the taxpayers who are paying for the service.”

Wickersham said it would cost about $500,000 to add a roving car around the clock in the four noncontract communities.

Lenox and Washington have contracts with the Sheriff’s Office through 2015. The contract in Lenox Township averages just over $590,000 a year, and the one in Washington Township
averages nearly $984,000 annually.

The number of deputies in each community depends on the funds from each community. For example, Washington Township pays for seven deputies, but Wickersham said it probably should have 10 to 15 deputies based on size and population. Lenox Township pays for just over four deputies.

Last fall, voters in Armada, Ray and Richmond townships turned down millages for more police protection, some of which would have been provided by the Sheriff’s Office. Voters in Bruce Township turned down a similar millage earlier last year. The votes were overwhelming.

A deputy is on patrol 24-7 in the four noncontract townships to respond to emergencies. Wickersham said the Sheriff’s Office is sending calls in these areas to Michigan State Police, which has indicated it will respond if troopers are available. If not, the Sheriff’s Office handles the call. If backup is needed, a deputy comes from another community.

George Brumbaugh, who leads the county’s legal department, told commissioners that the Sheriff’s Office can’t bill the noncontract communities each time a deputy is pulled from a contract community unless it has a contract to do so with the noncontract townships.
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News » Local »

Macomb to start mental health court

By JAMESON COOK
jamie.cook@macombdaily.com; @jamesoncook

Sunday, June 9, 2013

Macomb County Probate Judge Carl Marlinga

Creation of a mental health court in Macomb County has been discussed informally for several years.

That talk will turn into action soon as officials have been meeting monthly to set up a court geared toward some criminal defendants who have treatable mental problems.

The court’s target start-up date is Oct. 1 in Probate Judge Carl Marlinga’s courtroom at North Rose and Dunham Road in Mount Clemens.

“We’re excited about it. I deeply believe in it,” said Chief Macomb Circuit Judge John Foster. “We need to find ways that we can be humanitarian and at the same time protect the public from the criminal behavior of those who are mentally ill.”

The court will be similar to other specialty courts in Macomb and the nation that target drug and alcohol users, veterans and business disputes.

A mental health court addresses the root of criminal defendants’ distress that may have caused them to commit a crime, with the goal of creating law-abiding citizens. It treats the defendant under the threat of additional...
punishment.

There are about eight mental health courts already operating in Michigan after Gov. Rick Snyder in 2012 approved funding of pilot programs, including in Oakland, Wayne and St. Clair counties. Macomb officials visited the Jackson County mental health court.

In Macomb, the cost will be minimal, according to Specialty Courts Chief Lisa Ellis. The mental health court caseworker to be hired will fill a post vacated through attrition and is funded, she said. Community Mental Health will absorb the new patients, all of whom would have been eligible for its program without criminal charges. State grants will be pursued to enhance the program, Ellis said.

Macomb County Sheriff Anthony Wickersham is participating in the founding committee and will be represented on the screening panel to select participants.

“We have to look at other alternatives for people who have mental issues rather than incarcerating them,” Wickersham said. “We’re not looking at coddling them. If the individual is not taking their medications or getting treatment, or are unable to get medication or treatment, this can put them on the right course.”

The more than 100-plus inmate mental health section of the Macomb County Jail “is always at capacity,” Wickersham said.

Longtime criminal defense attorney Steve Freers said he welcomes the new court although he remains skeptical about its permanent impact.

“I think it’s a great idea. We have a lot of mentally ill people in prison,” he said. “(But) are we going to overload the Community Mental Health system? My experience is that they, ‘Treat ’em and street ’em.’”

Community Mental Health Executive Director John Kinch could not be reached Friday.

The first mental health court started in Florida in 1997, and the therapeutic justice systems have gradually spread nationally.

Studies from around the nation show they reduce recidivism and incarceration rates, and thus costs, and improve outcomes, especially for those who successfully complete the program.

“Mental health court participants are significantly less likely to recidivate, as compared to similar offenders with mental illness who experience business-as-usual court processing,” says a 2012 study of Brooklyn and Bronx, NY, mental health courts for the National Institute of Justice.

“Mental health courts can broker diversion and protect the vulnerable from being crushed in the gears of the criminal justice system,” says the “position statement” of Mental Health America, which also recommends “minimal coercion” to get participants to comply in the court’s operation.

“There will be people who are saved from being a victim of a crime because people stuck through this process,” Judge Marlinga said.

A defendant approved for mental health court will get diverted to CMH for treatment, such as counseling and medication. Participants may get a break on their charge and/or sentence in exchange for complying with the
treatment conditions over a period of time.

A panel of representatives of various aspects of the criminal justice and mental health system are developing eligibility requirements. Criminals who commit capital and/or violent offenses, such as murder and rape, will not be eligible, although some minor violent offenders may be allowed in.

There will be a screening panel. Marlinga as well as county Prosecutor Eric Smith will have veto power over those who receive a deal.

It has to be a case “where mental health is so obviously the cause,” Marlinga said. “It is designed for those who are truly mentally ill but not, ‘not guilty by reason of insanity.’”

Not guilty by reason of insanity is the only and rare legal verdict that allows a defendant to avoid prison due to mental problems. The verdict, “guilty but mentally ill,” maintains a prison term but tells the state Department of Corrections the convict should receive mental health treatment in prison.

“I don’t think we’ll have the resources to allow everyone in every case but that’s why we’ll have a screening process,” Foster said.

Marlinga was chosen because probate court’s mental division approves petitions for the hospitalization of those in need of mental health services.

Creation of the court comes as the mental health of potential criminals has become a national topic of conversation following multiple mass shootings, especially the December school shooting in Newtown, Conn., that resulted in more than two-dozen dead.

In Michigan, Gov. Rick Snyder has focused on improving mental health services, and in February formed two panels that address mental health and illness.

Wickersham was named to the 14-member state Mental Health Diversion Council, which will develop a program to divert those with mental illnesses or substance abuse problems from the criminal justice system.

Snyder created the six-member Mental Health and Wellness Commission within the Department of Community Mental Health to advise the department on strengthening the state’s mental health system.

In Macomb, although former chief judge David Viviano initiated creating the court, Marlinga, Probate Judge Kathryn George and others have discussed it in the past. Viviano left in February to become a state Supreme Court justice.

Court Administrator Jennifer Phillips also pushed for the court.

County Executive and former sheriff Mark Hackel, represented by Deputy Executive Mark Deldin, has been supportive, Ellis said.

Foster, who is a minister, said he has been on board since the start, noting that he noticed the problem as a district court judge in Mount Clemens for about 16 years.

He said when former Gov. John Engler closed the mental institutions in the 1990s, the intent was for mentally ill
people to be moved into group homes, as many mental hospitals also have closed. But group homes over the years drew opposition from their neighbors and have not proliferated. That has left many mentally ill people without permanent solutions. He believes mental health courts can be part of the solution.

But he noted: “Criminal behavior is not always caused by mental illness, and mental illness doesn’t always cause criminal behavior.”
NEWS01

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News » Local »

Vacant factory space dragging down local economy

By CHAD SELWESKI
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Monday, June 10, 2013

Quadrate Corporate Park in Shelby Township

Macomb County suffers from a glut of vacant industrial buildings, millions of square feet of abandoned space looking for tenants, which may take years to fill and will likely block any efforts by local officials to attract new factories to the area.

That was the grim assessment offered on Monday by a 38-year veteran of the property appraisal business at a summit meeting of government and corporate leaders in Macomb Township that focused on the future of manufacturing.

Gilbert Zook, who keeps close tabs on the local real estate market for industrial and commercial buildings, said occupancy rates are up since late 2010 but rental rates plummeted so dramatically during the recession of 2008-09 that no builder can justify constructing a new manufacturing plant.

"I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but I think it's going to be a very, very long time until all of your industrial property is developed and used and creating a tax base," Zook told those attending the event, which was hosted by Macomb Township Supervisor Janet Dunn.

In the county's most economically healthy areas – Macomb, Shelby, Chesterfield and Clinton townships, plus the city of Sterling Heights – more than 3 million square feet of factory space is gathering dust. Vacancies for commercial properties are also a prime concern.

In Macomb Township alone, 2.5 million square feet of unused space for shops and stores is looking for tenants.

Large manufacturing facilities that once fetched $65 to $75 per square foot 10 years ago are now sold for $16 per square foot or less.
In Macomb Township, 426 acres of vacant industrial land awaits a buyer. But the builders cannot compete with developers who bought existing industrial space at prices of less than $4 per square foot during the economic downturn. One prominent developer reportedly bought a series of vacant industrial properties in Shelby Township for 32 cents per square foot.

Those parcels now present intense competition in the real estate market for the owners of vacant land in neighboring Macomb Township.

"You have to wonder what it is that's going to come in and fill those spaces," Zook said.

Jim Jacobs, president of Macomb Community College, offered a more optimistic view. An economist, Jacobs said creating links between county farmers and large food processing companies could pay big economic dividends.

"By uniting our agricultural production in the north end of the county with food processing, I think we're looking at the possibility of strong growth with the help of agri-business," Jacobs said.

Macomb County is "perfectly situated" for this growing biomanufacturing sector, he added, because many food products are being converted into materials to make auto interiors, such as dashboards and seats. In addition, Michigan's climate and soils allow for the growth of 98 percent of all crops that comprise the U.S. agricultural industry.

A survey conducted among the 30 people on hand for Monday's discussion found that the priorities for boosting the local industrial base should be: a focus on small- and medium-size businesses; more flexibility in zoning regulations; available, suitable land; and more accessible financing from community banks.

County Executive Mark Hackel said the county's growing economic diversity, extending beyond the auto industry to the defense industry, high-tech manufacturing, and the opportunities presented by Lake St. Clair are getting noticed. Local and county economic development efforts benefit from a new "connectivity" with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, a quasi-governmental agency.

"We have a lot of potential, but we have to understand what we're all about," Hackel said. "Are we blue collar? Yes. But we're more than that."

URL: http://www.macombdaily.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20130610/NEWS01/130619944&template=printart

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Macomb County to get $1 million from EPA to help biz with brownfield cleanups

Macomb County expects to receive a $1 million award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, to create a revolving loan fund to help businesses finance brownfield cleanups, the county announced Monday. Macomb’s Department of Planning and Economic Development is one of 240 local government agencies nationwide that will share a total of $62.5 million in EPA funds, and the only Michigan county to be awarded a grant.


Macomb County expects to receive a $1 million award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, to create a revolving loan fund to help businesses finance brownfield cleanups, the county announced Monday. Macomb’s Department of Planning and Economic Development is one of 240 local government agencies nationwide that will share a total of $62.5 million in EPA funds, and the only Michigan county to be awarded a grant.

The revolving loan fund will allow for low-interest loans to help companies with redevelopment projects on an eligible brownfield site — property where redevelopment, or reuse may be complicated by the presence or perceived presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant. “Brownfield sites create special challenges due to the expense involved with environmental cleanup,” Planning and Economic Development Executive Director Stephen Cassin said in a statement. “These funds will help put some of our vacant properties back into new use while creating investment and new jobs in our key industrial areas.”

Previously Macomb has received two EPA grants totaling $600,000 since 2005 to fund assessments, under a program that it estimates assisted 30 projects representing a combined $170 million investment that created or retained more than 3,000 jobs.

The county must still submit a work plan for EPA approval. Once authorized, it can offer loans for development projects with an eligible site cleanup component and then make new loans from the fund as initial loans are repaid.
County may loosen cronyism rules

By CHAD SELWESKI
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Macomb County officials may loosen transparency rules designed to root out government cronyism as the new Ethics Board is essentially incapable of keeping tabs on tens of thousands of contractors that do business with the county.

Every county official and employee -- and every contractor and bidder -- is required to disclose any connections they have, whether a financial partnership or family ties. But the five-member Ethics Board, straddled with a minimal budget, is charged with keeping tabs on 300,000 contractors in a county data base that represents current and future vendors, plus 30,000 contractors that currently do business with the county on a routine basis.

"Consequently, fulfillment of the requirement for all potential and existing Macomb County (contractors) to file a personal disclosure for vendors is very challenging," said Don Amboyer, Ethics Board chair in the panel’s 2012 annual report.

The County Executive’s Office has recommended setting a disclosure threshold of $35,000 on contracts and bidders, equal to the $35,000 benchmark that requires approval by the Board of Commissioners for contracts.

Board of Commissioners Chairman Dave Flynn said his colleagues were ready to discuss the proposal to narrow the transparency requirements on Monday when the Ethics Board’s annual report was presented, but Amboyer was not in attendance.

"The goal should be that, as much as practically possible, people should disclose any connections to government contractors. I don’t think this is a charter issue, I think is an implementation issue," said Flynn, a Sterling Heights Democrat.

The quasi-judicial body serves as an independent arbiter, acting on its own initiative or in response to complaints that cover issues such as graft, conflicts of interest, and the receipt of gifts or gratuities. With few exceptions, it applies to all elected officials, department heads, appointees and employees. Violators face fines and disciplinary action.

The annual report serves as further evidence that the Ethics Board, a key selling point in 2009 when voters approved the newly created county charter, is off to an extraordinarily slow start.

Though the charter took effect Jan. 1, 2011, the mandated Ethics Board did not meet for the first time until March 29, 2012. They held eight meetings last year, mostly to handle organizational issues and logistics, such as
establishing an office, website, phone line and rules of governance.

They received four ethics complaints last year. Three did not pertain to the county Ethics Ordinance. A fourth was handled administratively by the county Clerk’s Office.

At the same time, the Ethics Board received numerous phone calls from the public in the form of complaints or people seeking advisory opinions. The annual report indicates that none of these calls was relevant to the mission of the board. Instead, they raised landlord-tenant issues, local city council matters, divorce proceedings, family conflicts regarding wills and estates, special education for challenged children, and the “discretionary authority of an attorney.”

As a result, the board spent just $1,466 of its $60,000 budget for 2012. Board members serve on a voluntary basis.

Flynn and Amboyer apparently agree that much more public education, particularly workshops for county employees, is needed to inform the public about the role of the Ethics Board.

Meanwhile, the board’s revolving door continues, just 14 months after it first convened. Late last year two members, the Rev. John Mack of New Haven and Greg Bauer of Macomb Township, a UAW international representative, announced that they were not seeking reappointments.

They were replaced by Jermaine Jackson of Shelby Township, a former professional basketball player, and James Caygill of Washington Township, is president of UAW Local 400, which represents about 6,500 Ford workers.

At the same time, a third original member announced his resignation, Anthony Bellanca, a Chesterfield Township attorney.

In March, the Ethics board was supposed to meet to accept the resignation of Bellanca and welcome the two new board members, Caygill and Jackson. But the meeting was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum as Caygill, Jackson and Bellanca did not show up.

Meanwhile, last week County Executive Mark Hackel forwarded his appointment for the latest vacancy, Brian Bourbeau, a Harrison Township attorney. The Board of Commissioners has 60 days to approve or reject that appointment.
NEWS

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News »

County wins, unions lose Supreme Court ruling

By JAMESON COOK
jamie.cook@macombdaily.com; @jamesoncook

Wednesday, June 12, 2013

Macomb County government won a state Supreme Court ruling that if it lost may have cost it hundreds of thousands of dollars or more in pension payments to retirees.

The high court announced Wednesday that it ruled 4-2 (Justice David Viviano recused himself) in favor of the county, circuit court and the former Road Commission over three unions in a dispute regarding a 2006 decision by the Macomb County Retirement Commission.

The commission altered the actuary tables for married retirees who choose to provide survivor benefits to a spouse. The table was altered from 100 percent female to 60 percent male/40 percent female that it had used for 24 years to bring it in line with the table used for unmarried retirees sans a survivor. It resulted in reduced pension benefit payments for affected pensioners who likely number in the hundreds.

The retirement panel made the change effective in July 2007 in a 4-3 vote, saying it made both groups equal.

The unions protested the move, saying it should have been bargained and was unfair. The unions — also including UAW and Michigan Nurses Association — won at the Michigan Employments Relations Commission and state Court of Appeals in split decisions.

But the high court reversed the appeals court.

"This vindicates the retirement commission," said county attorney George Brumbaugh. "We carefully looked at whether we had to collectively bargain this."

Donna Cangemi, president of Local 411 of the American Federal of State, County and Municipal Employees, which represents about 800 workers, said she was disappointed but not surprised by the ruling. She blamed a conservative, anti-union Supreme Court.

"I was fearful we would lose because of the makeup of the court," she said. "I feel we had a strong case and won all the way up. I still believe this was a violation of the contract. It was an arbitrary decision by the
Brumbaugh said the decision was not anti-union because it also affects nonunion employees.

The change has reduced monthly payments by up to maybe $200 for the highest paid retirees, Cangemi said.

"It would've been a real hit for the county if it would have lost," she said. "They would've had to reconfigure pensions."

Cangemi said AFSCME's state organization, Council 25, paid its legal costs.

The majority included Chief Justice Robert Young Jr. and Justices Stephen Markman, Mary Beth Kelly and Brian Zahra. Dissenting were Justices Michael Cavanagh and Bridge McCormack.

In its decision, the top court's majority says that there was no "mutual commitment" that the board would continue the old table, and the board had the discretion to do it, according to the case's "syllabus" prepared by "the reporter of decisions."

The minority says the commission "knew" that the old method was not equivalent and that it amended the ordinance to set the interest rate and information that referred to the old mortality table, the syllabus says.
$1 million in redevelopment grants coming to Macomb County

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2013

The Environmental Protection Agency is sending $1 million Macomb County’s way so that local economic development officials can redevelop brownfield property that may be contaminated.

A brownfield is land that can be difficult to redevelop, reuse or expand because of pollution or perceived pollution. The upside is that brownfields let developers use municipal infrastructure that’s already in place and also preserve open space.

“Brownfield sites create special challenges due to the expense involved with environmental cleanup,” says Stephen Cassin, executive director of Macomb County Planning and Economic Development. “These funds will help put some of our vacant properties back into new use while creating investment and new jobs in our key industrial areas.”

Macomb County and one of 240 communities nationwide, and the only county chosen in Michigan, to receive the grant from the EPA’s Revolving Loan Fund.

In coming weeks and months, county officials will begin to identify and prioritize sites that have the most redevelopment promise.

Writer: Kim North Shine
Source: Stephen Cassin, executive director, Macomb County Planning and Economic Development
Hackel, board may be heading back to court

By CHAD SELWESKI
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Friday, June 14, 2013

Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel and the Board of Commissioners may be headed toward another court showdown as the board on Thursday sparked a power struggle by unanimously adopting a budget transparency ordinance that the Hackel administration has repeatedly insisted is unnecessary.

“We may need a (judicial) third party to decide this,” Hackel said. “I’m perfectly OK with that. There’s nothing wrong with that.”

The ordinance would mandate far more detail within the county budget and quarterly financial reports than the Hackel administration has provided so far.

Championed by county board Chairman David Flynn, who earlier this year had professed a new affinity and collaboration with the executive’s office, the proposed ordinance would require the Hackel administration to submit information for each department on: employee wages, health benefits, pension set-asides, overtime pay, the number of full-time employees, job vacancies, part-time workers and temporary employees.

“None of this was done in a vacuum. This board has bent over backwards to reach an amicable compromise. But the Office of County Executive rejected it,” said Flynn, a Sterling Heights Democrat.

The next steps appear to be a Hackel veto of the ordinance followed by a two-thirds majority of the board voting to override the veto. At that point, the administration could file a lawsuit.

The executive said the board continues to ignore the supplemental documents attached to the county budget that provide extensive details about personnel costs. The new format, he said, offers more transparency than the budgeting process prior to the 2009 voter approval of the county charter, when the board held all legislative and executive powers.

“We are probably more transparent with our budget and our finances than any other government entity in Michigan,” said Hackel, a Macomb Township Democrat.

“They … need to follow our lead on transparency,” said Hackel, a Macomb Township Democrat.

At the same time, commissioners have repeatedly complained that the new format keeps the public — and the board — in the dark about quarterly revenues and expenses compared to the previous quarter and in comparison to one year ago. In some cases, a single budget line item pertaining to personnel costs entails millions of dollars without a breakdown of those expenses.

The executive’s office has complained that the 13-member board is not seeking transparency but rather playing politics by clinging to its previous executive powers through the budget process. In contrast, Flynn, who acknowledges that his partnership with Hackel may be eroding, said that the board is trying to maintain the charter-mandated process of checks and balances between the executive and the legislative branches.

One of the first big battles after Hackel took office in January 2011 centered on a fight over approval of government contracts. The board sought approval of all contracts above $35,000. The executive’s office said that the commissioners’ demands showed that the board didn’t understand the parameters of the new county government.

A court fight ensued, beginning in the Macomb County Circuit Court and ending about one year later in the Michigan Court of Appeals, where the board was handed a victory on every disputed point.

“When it comes to understanding our role in this new government,” Flynn said, “we’re up, one to nothing.”
AY FORECAST FOR OAKLAND AND MACOMB COUNTIES

MICHIGAN WEATHER

TODAY

UV Index and RealFeel Temperature

CONDITIONS TODAY

REGIONAL CITIES

Correction

A story in Friday's Macomb Daily incorrectly reported that a budget transparency ordinance was not listed on the Macomb County Board of Commissioners' agenda for its Thursday Finance Committee meeting.
Diary of a food access advocate: A $4.50 daily food budget journey

By MARYANNE MacLEOD
maryanne.macleod@macombdaily.com; @MaryanneMacLeod

Saturday, June 15, 2013

As part of her regular monthly routine, Macomb County Commissioner Toni Moceri, D-Warren, roughly holds herself to a $200 monthly grocery budget, eats mainly fruits and vegetables, and frequently cooks from scratch.

This week that routine will be amplified and scrutinized as she challenges herself to eat on just $4.50 a day — or $31.50 for the week — the current benefit recipients of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program receive from the federal government.

Moceri, along with Congressman Sander Levin and Ferndale Mayor Dave Coulter are eating to raise awareness to proposed cuts to the U.S. Farm bill, which, if approved, would reduce the current SNAP benefit from $133 a month per person, by $2.5 to $30. The proposed legislation has already passed the House Agriculture Committee.

"I don’t want to spend the entire budget all at once," said Moceri, as she toured the aisles of Produce Palace on Dequindre, north of 12 Mile, which she chose based on accessibility to her home. "I want to hang onto a little cash in case I run out or need something in the middle of the week."
Moceri’s grocery cart included bags of rice, dried lentils and black-eyed peas, a small hunk of fresh ginger, a head of garlic, butternut squash, green beans, celery, onions and bananas, along with a package of sale-price potatoes, bearing a bright red tag: “managers special.”

“These potatoes were cheaper than those in the potato bin,” she said proudly.

Moceri knows that those living on SNAP benefits may not have the luxuries she enjoys, including a stable living environment, their own automobile and the money to buy gasoline, health insurance, etc. She also knows at the end of the week, she will go back to her relatively comfortable lifestyle.

“I’m not pretending to understand the financial stress some people live with on a daily basis,” Moceri said. “I do, however, hope to raise awareness regarding the proposed cuts to the farm bill. And I think I’m going to learn a lot personally.”

Produce Palace owner Sharon Hope Katz volunteered to donate Moceri’s grocery bill to the cause — just under $20 — which Moceri then paid it forward and doubled the donation, $40, to the Macomb Food Program.

“I think it’s a great idea,” Katz said. “Most politicians don’t realize how expensive it is to buy groceries.”

Curious about the hoopla one county commissioner, one staff member, one photographer and one reporter can drum up in a grocery store, a 47-year-old shopper from Warren who will go by the alias Amy in this story, was gung-ho about sharing her perspective on the issue.

“I think it’s great that somebody who doesn’t have to do this is giving it a try,” said Amy who works full time in the food service industry — 36 to 43 hours a week — is not on public assistance, but whose budget only allows $3 a day for food. “It’s not that hard but you have to be very conscious of what you’re buying and eating, there isn’t room for a lot of meat.”

“I think this helps us all better understand — ‘it isn’t easy street,’ ” said Kathi Hale, an educator for MSU Macomb Extension and director of the Macomb Food Collaborative, macombfood.org. “Food assistance is help from the government, but each family still needs to take time to make this work for them and it is not an easy undertaking.

Hale said she’s optimistic that awareness initiatives such as these help average Americans better empathize with the challenges faced by the working poor.

“I think all of us have ‘questionable thoughts’ in our heads when we see someone on food stamps buying food we don’t think is nutritious or well-balanced or even inappropriate,” Hale said.

By the time Moceri got to the popcorn kernel aisle, she discovered the bag was too big — read: expensive — for her budget, as was the oil she had planned to purchase to roast vegetables, etc., with and the peanut butter she thought would have made a tasty and nutritious supplement to her diet.

Under the SNAP challenge rules, participants are allowed to use condiments and spices they already have at home.

Her first dinner Wednesday night consisted of roasted green beans and carrots over a pile of rice; Thursday’s lunch was a tasty butternut squash soup.
Some of her meal ideas include butternut squash soup, rice with roasted vegetables, collard greens and black-eyed peas, Spanish tortilla — eggs, onions and potatoes — plus lentil and vegetables, supplemented with fruit or hard boiled eggs for breakfast “and lots of rice,” she said.

Advanced planning, Moceri acknowledges, has been one of the biggest challenges — something harried young mothers working one or two jobs may have difficulty making time for.

“As a single person, going out to eat, or staying in to cook with friends is a big part of how I socialize,” Moceri said. “I’m feeling a little bit like I’m going to be sitting in my apartment by myself, staring at four walls, this week.”

Congress begins debating the proposed bill, which aims to cut $20 billion over 10 years from the SNAP budget this week. National enrollment in the food stamp program is estimated to have jumped 70 percent since just before the recession hit 2007. During that period costs more than doubled from about $35 billion to $80 billion. SNAP recipients swelled in 2009 when eligibility for the program was expanded to help U.S. citizens during the nation’s worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. “I was raised to believe we will be judged by how we treat the least of our brothers, and taking food from the hungry and needy, almost half of which are children, is unconscionable,” Coulter said.

Macomb Daily reporter Mike McConnell contributed to this report.

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Coroner Daniel Spitz’s ‘tyrannical’ rule leads to $377,000 contract

By CHAD SELWESKI
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com; @cbsnewsman

Sunday, June 16, 2013

Macomb County coroner Dr. Daniel Spitz, by far the highest-paid county worker, is accused by his former colleagues of running a “tyrannical” regime at the county morgue and forcing out every member of the staff he inherited from his father, world-renowned medical examiner Dr. Werner Spitz.

The younger Spitz last year arranged a revised agreement with the county that pays his newly formed company, Spitz Pathology Group, $377,000 a year to handle all of the county’s autopsies. That new contract, which includes a second medical examiner and new administrative duties, represents an 88 percent increase in compensation compared to his previous deal as a single contract employee making $200,000 annually.

That pact raised the ire of former morgue employees who claim that Spitz has largely dismantled the morgue operations that existed under his father and has targeted employees through bullying tactics to convince them to leave county service.

Sherri Huntley, who worked nearly 30 years at the morgue for both father and son, suddenly retired without notice on June 4, making her the fourth staffer to quit in the past year. Huntley said she was so hampered by anxiety and stress due to Daniel Spitz’s combative management style that she retired two years early and gave up
$100,000 in pension benefits due her under a deferred compensation plan.

"I think Daniel was picking us off, one by one by one," she said. "Daniel was very rude and disrespectful."

Huntley, viewed as a valued morgue employee for more than two decades, served her last 19 years as the medical examiner's chief investigator, gathering evidence at crime scenes where circumstances ranged from suspected murder to suspicious deaths.

"He targeted people on the staff, berated people, picked on them constantly. Daniel and I had many loud altercations," she said.

Spitz, who took over as county coroner in 2004, counters that his critics are disgruntled former employees who could not keep up with a demanding workload and his efforts to modernize the morgue operations.

"The staff we have now is excellent. I think people are happy with some of the new directions we have taken at the morgue," he said.

County officials said recently that Spitz's substantially larger contract reflects his new administrative duties and the business expenses he will take on as an outside contractor. Yet, the tiny office for Spitz Pathology Group, located on Gratiot Avenue in Clinton Township, is merely a mailing address and a facility where the doctor stores some records, officials now concede. The office building is owned by his father.

Spitz's company has only one employee, the second medical examiner, Dr. Mary Pietrangelo. Though he is now a contractor, Spitz conducts all of his business in an office within the morgue that offers him a computer, telephone, printer and cellphone provided by the county.

The county built a $2.4 million state-of-the-art morgue in 2007, a 6,000-square-foot facility located next to Martha T. Berry Medical Care Facility at the county's Elizabeth Road complex on the outskirts of Mount Clemens.

Spitz's immediate boss, Macomb County Health Officer Bill Ridella, said Spitz's additional compensation pays for business expenses such as health care benefits, a retirement plan, taxes, payroll expenses and medical liability insurance.

Ridella, who took over as Health Department director in December, said he is not familiar with the track record at the morgue regarding personnel changes and could not comment on claims of a purge by Spitz.

The county Board of Commissioners, which did not learn until last month about Spitz's new compensation arrangement, which was negotiated with County Executive Mark Hackel, plans to call the coroner on the carpet to explain the details of his contract. Spitz's pact expires Dec. 31 and the commissioners assert that, under state law, they have sole discretion to fill the medical examiner's post.

The salaries paid by Spitz Pathology to Spitz and Pietrangelo have not been made public.

In addition to working as the county's chief medical examiner, Spitz also serves as the medical examiner for neighboring St. Clair County, he teaches and lectures at Wayne State University, and he conducts private autopsies and consultations.
While Spitz is the highest-paid Macomb County worker, wages for the morgue staff have been notoriously low. Many of the positions are classified as part-time, though work shifts can last 12 hours, and some pay scales range from $15 to $21 an hour.

In February, one former employee, William Robinette, wrote a scathing letter to Ridella warning that morale at the morgue was so bad that Spitz sometimes reduces co-workers to tears.

Ridella said he talked to Robinette on the phone afterward but took no action.

"I have not seen anything of that kind of behavior by Dr. Spitz," Ridella said. "If the staff has a problem, I'm sure they will let me know. In my encounters with Dr. Spitz, he's been very professional."

After The Macomb Daily published a story earlier this month about Spitz's $377,000 contract, Robinette wrote another letter, this time to Hackel. Again, no action was taken.

Robinette worked as a coroner's investigator for 12 years, and served 29 years before that with the Detroit Police Department, before retiring last August due to constant clashes with Spitz. He is an accomplished photographer and a scuba diver with expertise in underwater body recoveries.

"Bill was not a great employee, unfortunately," said Spitz, explaining Robinette's departure.

However, fellow former co-workers said Robinette was targeted by Spitz for harassment to force him out.

In separate interviews with The Macomb Daily, four former employees used similar words to describe Spitz as a boss: arrogant, erratic, vindictive, condescending.

As Spitz finishes a lengthy process of receiving approval from other county agencies to restructure his office and redefine job titles, he said he will begin conducting job interviews this week for four positions at the morgue that have remained vacant for a lengthy period of time.

The doctor has shifted job qualifications and expertise so that the medical examiner's investigators are, for the most part, not former police officers but instead nurses or other medical personnel with a certification in forensic medicine.

Under the new format, Spitz said, the county will have the second medical examiner to perform autopsies, certified staffers at crime scenes, health care benefits for employees, and a strong relationship with the Gift of Life, which works with coroners to secure skin tissue and eyes from bodies for use in patients needing transplants.
County wins seven ‘good government’ awards

By CHAD SELWESKI
chad.selweski@macombdaily.com @cbsnewsman

Tuesday, June 18, 2013

Macomb County has won seven national “good government” awards from the National Association of Counties for establishing efficient and effective programs that assist the public.

Five of the seven awards were received by the county Clerk’s Office. Other recipients were the new Business Court created within the Macomb County Circuit Court, which received a prestigious “best in category” honor and the Community Corrections agency that works to put non-violent criminal offenders on a road to rehabilitation.

The NACo Achievement Awards bestowed on County Clerk Carmella Sabaugh recognized five improvements made to the wide-ranging services provided by her office:

Establishing a high-tech version of the vital records system, with staff using hand-held scanners to create an electronic versions of birth and death records, marriage licenses and business registrations;

Producing photo ID cards for military veterans so that they can receive discounts at stores and restaurants without carrying on their person documentation from the Defense Department;

Launching a consolidated mobile office that brings Clerk’s Office services close to home, particularly for north Macomb residents, along with services provided by the Animal Shelter, such as dog license renewals and information about adopting stray pets;

Adding an online registry to the Clerk’s Office website that features historical information about Macomb County elections dating back to 1838;

Creating evening hours for the public -- 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays -- a shift that was started several years ago but has become increasingly popular with the public.

Sabaugh said she has placed an emphasis on basic customer-service improvements despite budget cuts and a substantial reduction of her staff over the past five years.

County Board of Commissioners Chairman Dave Flynn saluted Sabaugh and her staff for “an impressive record of visionary leadership and creative service delivery.”

The newest honors raise Sabaugh’s total to 53 NACo awards won in her 21 years in office. But the clerk said
receiving recognition from NACo never gets old.

“It never becomes routine or boring because when we meet with officials from other counties … they’re so excited to learn about these award-winning programs and about all the things that we do,” said Sabaugh, a Warren Democrat. “And they want to copy what we do.”

Most of Sabaugh’s awards have recognized her introduction of high-tech advances to her office, with many services offered on the Internet. She has been named a “Google Transformer” by the tech company and her “FastPass” system to eliminate lines at the Clerk’s Office was the subject of an article in recent NACo newsletter that is distributed nationwide to most of the 3,069 U.S. counties.

Linda Verville, Community Corrections assistant director, said her agency was singled out for creating a more expansive pre-trial experience for criminal suspects.

Defendants who are facing non-assaultive felony charges and who remain in jail after their arraignment are screened, with the Pre-trial Services staff meeting with defendants to gather information about housing, employment, substance use, health concerns, and other pending legal matters in order to determine what type of bond and what degree of supervision in the community is necessary, according to Verville. Pretrial Services staff also monitor the compliance of defendants who, under court order, are entered into community-based programs while on bond. Offenders are monitored for compliance and the courts are notified of their violations accordingly.

“There is a growing consensus in favor of reducing the use of pre-trial detention and, whenever possible, encouraging the use of alternative measures, such as release on bond with appropriate conditions,” Verville explained. “The views on pre-trial detention are based on the presumption of innocence until proven guilty afforded to persons accused of committing a crime.

“Macomb County Community Corrections Pre-trial Services conducts interviews with incarcerated individuals and makes recommendations for bond type and other bond conditions. Recommendations for bond and bond conditions are made utilizing the newly developed Michigan Pre-trial Risk Assessment. This statistically valid tool takes into account risk factors that could prevent the defendant from appearing for future court dates or if he/she could pose a safety risk to the community.”


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What's in a name? Macomb County board wants say-so on county buildings
By Christina Hall Detroit Free Press Staff Writer Filed Under Local News Macomb County Mark Hackel Mt. Clemens Jun. 19

Macomb County board approval of contracts providing for naming rights of any county facility is among a handful of changes the commissioners are expected to approve in the county's contracting ordinance.

The board won the right to review and approve contracts for more than $35,000, or $100,000 for construction

contracts, during a legal battle last year with County Executive Mark Hackel about who had the authority over county contracts.

Commissioner Fred Miller, who chairs the board's finance

committee, said the naming rights amendment wasn't sparked by anything specific, but is to be "proactive."

Other amendments approved by the finance committee today would allow the board to access the county's competitive bid library to see bid documents as they are put up, would require board approval for goods costing more than $35,000 from any single vendor during a fiscal year, and give the board a self-imposed deadline of 45 days instead of 21 days to approve or reject a contract.

Also, it would require project labor agreements to assure labor harmony on county projects over $50,000. Officials said that has been the county's policy for more than a decade and the language simply was being added to the contracting ordinance.

Miller said the board recently learned from building trades

unions that existing policy wasn't adhered to in the contract for the new state-of-the-art operations and communications center under construction at the road department building in Mt. Clemens. Union and non-union workers are doing work on that project, he said, which is estimated to cost $13.5 million. The center is to open in December.

Assistant County Attorney Jill Smith said since some of the project funding is coming from federal funding, it did require prevailing wages.

Miller said he didn't think there was a "conspiracy" regarding the policy not being adhered to. While there is a variety of funding sources for the center and a pending legal challenge about state law and labor harmony agreements, Miller said the policy wasn't followed.

The board approved the contracts for the center earlier this year. Miller said the board was led to believe the policy would be applied.
The full board is to vote on the amendments at its meeting Thursday.
Macomb getting more than $400M under new defense bill

By CHAD SELWESKI
chad.selweski@maccobdy.com
@cbssnewsmen

Macomb County will receive hundreds of millions of dollars in Defense Department dollars, including funds to keep the tank program running, under the Pentagon budget bill approved by the Senate.

Sen. Carl Levin, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said the authorization bill allows the military to tap into Michigan's manufacturing and research strengths.

"Our bill once again calls upon Michigan's industrial might, skilled workforce and remarkable research, development and engineering assets to protect our nation and give our men and women in uniform the support they need to carry out their difficult and dangerous missions," Levin said. "It builds upon already strong links between our military and the world's premier region for vehicle development and manufacturing, and continues important military vehicle and shipbuilding programs that are not just important to the Michigan economy, but vital to national security."

The bill approved on a bipartisan basis by Levin's committee includes $495.6 million for Army research on combat vehicles and new automotive technologies through the Army Tank and Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) in Warren.

The bill also includes millions of dollars to fund programs at the Army's TARDEC Life Cycle Management Command in Warren. That program, like TARDEC, is at the Army's headquarters for the Tank Automotive Command, or TACOM, but quantifying the dollar amounts that will flow into Macomb County is difficult because TACOM manages approximately 3,000 weapons and vehicle procurement programs.

Among the other items in the new bill that will benefit Macomb County are:

- $384.6 million for the Army's Stryker armored vehicle, General Dynamics Land Systems of Sterling Heights is the prime contractor for the Stryker, but many Michigan companies serve as suppliers for this program.
- $178.1 million for the Abrams main battle tank program, including $81 million above the Pentagon's budget request to sustain the production line, if needed. General Dynamics Land Systems is the lead contractor for the tank program and more than 200 Michigan companies serve as suppliers.
- $21.7 million for the STARBASE program, a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education program run by the Department of Defense for elementary school students. The STARBASE program, which was initially launched at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Harrison Township in 1991, currently operates at 76 locations in 40 states. The Michigan allocation will be shared with the STARBASE programs at Selfridge, Kellogg Air National Guard Base.

PLEASE SEE DEFENSE/A-4

use of pri triggers s

By NORB FRANZ
norb.franz@maccobdy.com
@norbfanz

State elections officials are reviewing whether a Warren-based political action committee violated campaign finance laws after it hired a private investigator.

A spokesman for the Secretary of State confirmed that it received a complaint against Macomb Business United and its treasurer, Gus Ghanam, and that the Bureau of Elections will determine whether a full investigation is necessary to determine if the PAC failed to report any expense or "in-kind" contribution.

"They'll make a decision by the end of the week," spokesman Fred Woodhams told The Macomb Daily.

The complaint was filed by Henry Krzywoszczak, 82, a longtime local political watchdog and former appointee of Warren Mayor James Fouts.

According to documents obtained by the newspaper, Macomb Business United treasurer Gus Ghanam met with ASAP Backgrounds and Inves in November requested checks of "that his concerns are.

In addition to assessing the case, the Bureau of Elections may seek a judge's order to compel documents and testimony.

The bureau's investigation typically includes a review of the complaint's allegations and a request for documents from the PAC and its treasurer.

The bureau will then make a determination on whether to conduct a full investigation or close the case.

The bureau has the authority to file criminal charges if it determines that a violation of campaign finance laws has occurred.

PLEASE SEE HOFFA/A-4

Weather

Today's high 74, low 50; forecast on A-2

Sunrise: 5:56 a.m.
Sunset: 9:14 p.m.

Advice...Classified
Comics...Deaths
Horoscope...Lottery
Opinion...Sports
Stocks...
PAPAERT, GERTRUDE
Gertrude Paupert, age 89, of Center Line died June 17, 2013. Dear wife of the late Joseph. Father of Joseph, Jr. (Dianne) Bernadette (Louis) Caloia, Maria (Daniel) Prevost and late Martin (Audrey). Also survived by 15 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Predeceased by two sisters. Visitation Today 1-9 p.m. with 6:30 p.m. Rosary at Rudy Funeral Home, 25650 Van Dyke, Center Line. Instate Thursday 9:30 a.m. with 10 a.m. at St. Mary, Our Lady of the Angels, Hall of Families Parish, 25320 Van Dyke, Eastpointe. Burial St. Clement Cemetery.

OTHER DEATHS
Kenneth E. Blankenship, 63, of Clinton Township, Kaul Funeral Home, Roseville.
Jacquelin Drogoch, 73, of Chesterfield Township, W. Schwarzkoz Funeral Home, Mount Clemens.

CLAPP, SR., RONALD J.
Ronald J. Clapp, Sr., age 70, passed away June 18, 2013 at home surrounded by his loving family. Mr. Clapp is survived by his children Ronald J. (Margaret) Clapp, Jr., Tina (Jonathan) Alles and Donna Marie (Brian) Hudson; grandchildren, Michael and Nicholas Clapp, Brian Hudson, Jr. and Amaranta Hudson. Mr. Clapp was predeceased by his wife Marilyn J. Clapp and his brother Kendall "Kelly" Clapp. Visitation Thursday from 4-9 p.m. at Kaul Funeral Home, 27830 Gratiot Ave., Roseville (with a prayer service at 7 p.m.) and on Friday from 9 a.m. until time of Mass 10 a.m. at Holy Innocents Catholic Church. Please share a memory with the family at: kaulfuneralhome.com

DEFENSE
in Battle Creek, and the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center in Alpena. TARDEC is the Department of Defense's leading laboratory for research and development of advanced military vehicle technologies, including efforts to protect Army vehicles against rocket propelled grenades, improvised explosive devices and explosive projectiles. According to Levin's office, TARDEC also works on advanced materials for tactical vehicle armor, more efficient engines, fuel-cell and hybrid electric vehicles, unmanned ground vehicles, computer simulations for vehicle design and training of Army personnel, and technology partnerships with the automotive industry.

TACOM's Life Cycle Management Command serves as the Army's lead organization for the development and acquisition of combat ground vehicles, automotive technologies and numerous weapons systems. The LCMC-managed systems include the Abrams tank, Bradley Fighting Vehicle, Stryker Armored Vehicle, Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle, and all Army tactical vehicles. In neighboring Troy, Meritor, a major defense contractor, will pay a part in the $332.5 million allocation for modifications to the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle, or MRAP, Spartan Chassis of Charlotte, Demmer Corporation of Lansing and many other Michigan companies are involved in this program.

Meritor also will have a role in the $233.9 million allocation for the Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles, or FMTV, along with AAR Mobility of Cadillac and numerous Michigan suppliers.

The Senate version of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 was approved by the Armed Services Committee last week and it now goes to the full Senate for consideration. A House version will emerge and the two congressional chambers will have to achieve reconciliation to put forward a final bill for President Obama to sign.

was taken to the area in Oakland Township and buried alive.

The manuscript says that, after Hoffa's disappearance, three local men told him that what was then an old house and barn on the Buell Road property.

The manuscript states, "As soon as they pulled near the barn, Hoffa was dragged out of the car, bound and gagged. A shallow hole was already dug in the barn floor. . . . One of the men picked up a shovel and cracked Hoffa over the head with it." Zertl writes that Hoffa UAW memb. Hoffa did go hourly work. It's a nig. said, expressed f. the labor is what would be it. However, Tuesday aft. that inv. widened the location. FBI office as a dozen i with hard b. It be seen near some work some the distance ent landa.

REVIEW
FROM PAGE A-1
rough and tumble politics, Pasternak said he would not have been surprised if someone had dug into his past earlier that year, when he was a candidate for the City Council in District 5. Pasternak acknowledged that he and the other two men had been very critical of city officials on some issues.

"I think we were outspoken a little bit, but nothing that warranted being looked into," he added.

Bania said he, too, cannot pinpoint why a PAC would hire a private investigator. But he's troubled by the possibilities.

"I'm deeply disturbed that someone would go to such lengths to look into my private life," he said.

"Where does it end?"

Bania, a student at Eastern Michigan University, has submitted numerous requests under the Michigan Freedom of Information Act for information about the city. He wonders if his knowledge of state laws and the operation of Warren government fueled the hiring of a private eye.

Bania was a frequent commenter on an online public forum about news and events in the city during 2011, and he frequently criticized c. City Council year.

However, it "highly p the investi around the female emp may's p personal pr against him did not spec sons in reg PPO, and N Circuit Jud Caretti in for the imme an LC An attor women said lowed and t together at he made so essary requ visits to the at City Hall. Collers dro because Be comin a 2011 elect But Bani pointed out are public c ject to scu his commen forums was protected b Constitutio He and P mitted doc: Warren Pol asking that tigate what about the b ten by Fout vits of can 2003.

Kryetow
County commissioners tighten scrutiny over Hackel

"We need time frames. Twenty-one days is not enough time when we're trying to understand a complex contract. Our ... goal should be not just quick government but smart, efficient government."
DAVID FLYNN
Macomb County board chairman

In their continuing tussle with Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel over government contracts and spending practices, the Board of Commissioners on Wednesday voted to establish expanded rules that require commissioners' approval for naming rights on county buildings, prevailing wages for construction projects, and purchases from a single company that add up to $35,000 or more in a year.

Four policy changes would amend the contracting ordinance and purchasing policy that was adopted by the board in 2012 and vetoed by Hackel, which led to a lengthy court fight that the commissioners won.

The naming rights restrictions would prevent the county executive's office from naming a county building or property after a corporate sponsor or donor without board approval. For example, if ABC Company gave funds to the county in exchange for the renaming of Freedom Hill County Park as ABC Company Park, the commissioners could block the move.

"I don't foresee any problems along these lines. This ... sounds like politics more than anything else," said Commissioner Jim Carabelli, a Shelby Township Republican, referring to the ongoing power struggle between the board and Hackel.

Supporters said the naming rights rule is a pre-emptive measure that would provide a public arena to debate any corporate sponsorship proposals that might surface in the future.

The labor harmony requirement would continue the county's policy that requires the payment of prevailing union wages at county government construction sites.

The current procedure requires all contractors and subcontractors to provide their workers with pay, benefits and certified skills that allow them to work in harmony with the Greater Detroit Building Trades Council, an AFLCIO-affiliated union that provides carpenters, plumbers, electricians and other skilled-trades workers.

The issue arose after commissioners realized the contractor overseeing the construction of a $13 million emergency operations and communications center for the county inadvertently began his search for subcontractors without alerting all involved that the county requires a so-called "Project Labor Agreement."

The ordinance amendment approved on Wednesday would require that the board review contracts above $50,000 to ensure that a PLA is in place and prevailing wages are being paid to all workers.

The entire matter might be steered in a new direction by the federal Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati, which is expected to rule in the coming months on legislation approved by the Michigan Legislature that would outlaw PLA requirements.

The purchasing policy mandates board approval for all purchases of $35,000 or more, but the adopted amendment forces board scrutiny of a series of purchases from a single vendor within one fiscal year that total at least $35,000.

The commissioners also passed amendments that would give them easy access to the online databank where information on contract bids and awards are stored. And they voted to extend the self-imposed time limit of 21 days for the board to approve a contract to 45 days.

"This is a month and a half ..." said Carabelli, manager of a local business. "We're slowing down again. We should want government to work quick."

County board Chairman David Flynn said the 21-day rule, in retrospect, has proved to be too short in instances when the board asks for detailed explanations about a proposed pact from the executive's office.
"We need time frames. Twenty-one days is not enough time when we're trying to understand a complex contract," said Flynn, a Sterling Heights Democrat. "Our ... goal should be not just quick government but smart, efficient government."

Many provisions approved by the board were opposed by the four Republican commissioners — Carabelli, Kathy Vosburg of Chesterfield Township, Joe Sabatini of Macomb Township and Don Brown of Washington Township.

The ordinance amendments face final approval from the board on tonight.
Group homes exempted from ‘living wage’ requirement

An alliance of 29 group homes for the developmentally disabled and mentally ill were granted a waiver by county officials on Wednesday from paying their employees the so-called “living wage.”

Under the county’s living wage ordinance, adopted more than a decade ago, all county contractors must pay their employees an hourly wage of at least $11.51, or $14.39 if the workers do not receive health care benefits. The first figure represents the pay rate needed to earn an income at 100 percent of the federal poverty level. The second figure refers to 125 percent of the poverty level.

The Macomb County Provider Alliance, a collection of nonprofit facilities that provide services under contract with the county Community Mental Health Department, made the case to the board’s Finance Committee that they cannot afford to pay substantially higher salaries when most of their funding is derived from the federal government.

In fact, the alliance provided data that indicated the cost for their members would reach a combined $8.4 million a year in extra wages and a ripple effect on the expense of fringe benefits.

Finance Committee Chairman Fred Miller, who has opposed living wage exemptions in the past, hinted that he believes some type of supplemental compensation should be paid from county coffers to contract employees who earn as little as $8 an hour.

“We do have an obligation to these employees. We should, in the budget process, look at other ways to support them,” said Miller, a Mount Clemens Democrat.

In a May 14 memo to commissioners, the alliance said:

“Wages and benefits count for more than 80 percent of our operations. A large increase in wages, coupled with the extra costs of implementing the (federal) Affordable Care Act, the ever-increasing fuel costs, food and utilities would force our members to make difficult business decisions. In addition, we are not expecting any rate increases for fiscal year 2013-14 in federal funds from the county or MORC (Macomb-Oakland Regional Center).”

The alliance members employ 1,248 full-time workers and the average lowest wage rate at the 29 sites is $8.69 an hour, which is significantly below the poverty level. All of the facilities provide health insurance benefits, many offer dental insurance and paid vacations and sick time. About half provide disability coverage and life insurance.

Ironically, the Board of Commissioners’ voted to grant the living wage waiver in the same session in which they voted to require the county executive’s office to honor the county’s “labor harmony” policy that requires contractors on county construction projects to pay the prevailing wage paid by union contractors.

The commissioners unanimously approved a 2-year extension of the alliance’s existing waiver from living wage mandates and, as a formality, it faces final approval from the full board today.
RESOLUTION NO. _______________  FULL BOARD MEETING DATE:__________________

AGENDA ITEM:______________________________

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO recommend that the Board adopt a resolution to oppose the $20 billion in cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in H.R. 1947 Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act (FARRM) of 2013

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

COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
HHS  6-17-13
Full Board  6-20-13
June 17, 2013

A Resolution To Oppose the $20 Billion in cuts to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in H.R. 1947 Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act (FARRM) of 2013

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

WHEREAS, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a national anti-hunger initiative used to reduce food insecurity throughout America; and

WHEREAS, More than 47 million Americans that receive SNAP benefits work every day, raise their kids and live productive lives, and yet are still financially unable to provide food for an entire month; and

WHEREAS, Economists have found that SNAP is one of the most effective forms of economic stimulus, especially in a weak economy; and

WHEREAS, According to Moody’s Analytics, every dollar increase in SNAP benefits generates $1.72 in economic activity; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 1947, The Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act (FARRM) Bill of 2013 approved by the House Agriculture Committee in May calls for approximately $20 billion in cuts to SNAP; and

WHEREAS, The 2013 FARRM Bill would end SNAP assistance for nearly 2 million people, with the greatest impact-falling mainly on low-income seniors and working families with kids; and

WHEREAS, In addition, according to data obtained from Feeding America, under the 2013 FARRM Bill, an estimated 210,000 children would lose access to free school lunches and breakfasts; and

WHEREAS, Overall, the number of people with food insecurity in Macomb County is 129,200 (15.4%), and the number of children with food insecurity in Macomb County is 39,680 (20.4%), and 54% of Macomb County children are part of families with incomes at or below 185%; and

WHEREAS, Overall, the number of people with food insecurity in the State of Michigan is 1,872,780 (19.0%), and the number of children with food insecurity in the State of Michigan is 568,890 (24.8%), and 69% of Michigan children are part of families with incomes at or below 185%;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Macomb County Board of Commissioners strongly urges the Michigan Federal Legislation Delegation to oppose the
$20 Billion in cuts to SNAP in H.R. 1947 Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act (FARRM) of 2013.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be provided to U.S. Senator Carl Levin, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Representative Candice Miller, and U.S. Representative Sander Levin.
RESOLUTION TO recommend that the Board adopt a resolution opposing the construction of an underground nuclear waste repository in Ontario, Canada, nor any other underground repository be constructed in the Great Lakes Basin, in Canada, the United States or any First Nation property.

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

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN
June 17, 2013

Resolution Opposing The Construction Of An Underground Nuclear Waste Repository In Ontario, Canada, Nor Any Other Underground Repository Be Constructed In the Great Lakes Basin, in Canada, The United States or Any First Nation Property

Commissioner Toni Moceri, And Supported by Commissioner Michael Boyle, Commissioner Veronica Klinefelt, and Commissioner Kathy Vosburg on Behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Offers the Following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners passed a similar resolution in 2008, resolution number 42, to oppose the proposed nuclear waste repository near Kincardine, Ontario by Commissioner Chair William A. Crouchman; and

WHEREAS, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners still strongly values the water quality of Lake St. Clair and the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes are an irreplaceable resource containing 22% of the world’s and 95% of North America’s fresh water vital to human and environmental health; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes are vital to the economic and agricultural well-being of the area and the Nation; and

WHEREAS, Lake Huron and the connecting waters, including Lake St. Clair, are the source of drinking water for millions of people downstream in the United States, Canada and First Nation; and

WHEREAS, Michigan Act 204 of 1987, the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Authority Act, MCL 333.26201 – 333.26226, set forth siting criteria for the disposal of low-level radioactive waste. Such criteria excludes any site “located within 10 miles of Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, St. Mary’s River, Detroit River, St. Clair River or Lake St. Clair;” and

WHEREAS, to protect water quality, other siting criteria of Act 204 excludes sites (1) located within a 500 year floodplain; (2) located over a sole source aquifer or (3) located where the hydrogeology beneath the site discharges groundwater to the land surface within 3,000 feet of the boundaries of the site; and

WHEREAS, no Michigan site was likely to meet all statutory siting criteria and similar siting criteria should be used in Canada and other locations in the Great Lakes Basin; and

WHEREAS, Ontario Power Generation is proposing to construct an underground long-term burial facility for all of Ontario’s low and intermediate level radioactive waste at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station, some of which is highly radioactive and much of which will remain toxic for over 100,000 years. This site, less than a mile inland from the shore of Lake Huron and about 440 yards below the lake level, is approximately 120 miles upstream from the main drinking water intakes for southeast Michigan; and
WHEREAS, placing a permanent nuclear waste burial facility so close to the Great Lakes is ill-advised. The potential damage to the Great Lakes from any leak or breach of radioactivity far outweighs any benefits that could be derived from burying radioactive waste at this site. The ecology of the Lakes, which is valuable beyond measure to the health and economic well-being of this entire region, should not be placed at risk by storing radioactive waste so close to the shoreline;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, in order to protect the Great Lakes and its tributaries, urges that neither this proposed nuclear waste repository at the Bruce Nuclear Generating Station nor any other underground repository be constructed in the Great Lakes Basin, in Canada, the United States or any First Nation property.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Macomb County Board of Commissioners urge Canadian officials to find alternatives to Ontario Power Generation's proposal to bury nuclear waste in the Great Lakes basin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be provided to Governor Rick Snyder, all Macomb County state legislative delegation, U.S. Senator Carl Levin, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Representative Candice Miller, U.S. Representative Sander Levin, Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, and Michael Binder, President and CEO of Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC).
MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO ___adopt a resolution amending Resolution 2012-1 to add provisions to the Comprehensive County Contracting Policy (add Section II.A.3)

INTRODUCED BY: __Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

*At the 6-19 meeting, Commissioners Brown, Carabelli, Sabatini and Vosburg voted “No.”

COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
Finance 6-19-13
Full Board 6-20-13
Commissioner ____________, supported by Commissioner ____________, moved adoption of the following resolution.

Resolution No. 13-___

A Resolution Amending Resolution 2012-1 to Add Provisions to the Comprehensive County Contracting Policy

Whereas, on January 26, 2012, the Commission adopted Resolution 2012-1 to provide comprehensive policies and procedures governing the awarding of contracts; and

Whereas, the Commission wishes to include provisions in the Contracting Policy ensuring that skilled tradesperson and laborers constructing, altering, repairing, and improving County-owned facilities work in harmony with all contractors working on a given project.

Now therefore it is resolved that:

1. Section II.A.3 is added to read as follows:

   To the extent not prohibited by law, all contract bid specifications involving the construction, alteration, repair, and improvement of County-owned buildings and facilities in which the cost is anticipated to exceed $50,000, not including work done pursuant to any Collective Bargaining Agreement between the County and its employees, shall include such terms as will promote harmonious relations among all skilled tradespersons and laborers employed on the project. These terms shall include, when appropriate, a requirement that the successful bidder shall certify that he or she is able to furnish skilled tradespersons and laborers who are able to work in harmony with all other contractors who are employed upon the project and that the successful bidder shall enter into a project labor agreement with respect to prevailing wage rates and certified skills, with the Greater Detroit Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, and its affiliated unions for the development and construction of the project.

2. All other provisions of the Contracting Policy not amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions are, to the extent of any conflict with this resolution, hereby rescinded.

__________________________  ____________________________
David Flynn, Chair          Carmella Sabaugh
Macomb County Board of Commissioners  Macomb County Clerk
RESOLUTION TO adopt a resolution amending Resolution 2012-1 to add provisions to the Comprehensive County Contracting Policy (Section II.B.1.c)

INTRODUCED BY: Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

*At the 6-19 Finance Committee meeting, Commissioner Carabelli voted “No.”
Commissioner ____________, supported by Commissioner ____________, moved adoption of the following resolution.

Resolution No. 13-___

A Resolution Amending Resolution 2012-1 to Add Provisions to the Comprehensive County Contracting Policy to Allow the Commission 45 Days to Review and Approve Contracts

Whereas, on January 26, 2012, the Commission adopted Resolution 2012-1 to provide comprehensive policies and procedures governing the awarding of contracts; and

Whereas, the Commission finds that it may need more than 21 days in which to review and approve contracts, particularly when questions arise concerning the contract or they are submitted to the Commission during a period when appropriate regular committee or Commission meetings are not well-timed for such a short approval period; and

Whereas, the Commission otherwise wishes to ensure it acts reasonably promptly on contracts submitted for approval in accordance with the Contracting Policy.

Now therefore it is resolved that:

1. Section II.B.1.c is amended to read as follows:

   Except as provided in subsection B.1.d, if the Commission does not approve or reject a proposed contract that has been submitted to the Commission by the Executive pursuant to subsection B within 45 calendar days of the Commission’s receipt, the Executive may approve the contract.

2. All other provisions of the Contracting Policy not amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions are, to the extent of any conflict with this resolution, hereby rescinded.

______________________________________________________________
David Flynn, Chair                                        Carmella Sabaugh
Macomb County Board of Commissioners            Macomb County Clerk

Adopted: ______________, 2013
MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO adopt a resolution amending Resolution 2012-1 to add provisions to the Comprehensive County Contracting Policy (Section II.B.3.f)

INTRODUCED BY: Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

*At the 6-19 Finance Committee meeting, Commissioner Carabelli voted “No.”

COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
Finance 6-19-13
Full Board 6-20-13
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Commissioner __________, supported by Commissioner ____________, moved adoption of the following resolution.

Resolution No. 13-___

A Resolution Amending Resolution 2012-1 to Add Provisions to the Comprehensive County Contracting Policy

Whereas, on January 26, 2012, the Commission adopted Resolution 2012-1 to provide comprehensive policies and procedures governing the awarding of contracts; and

Whereas, the Commission wishes to clarify its contract approval authority for multiple purchases in a fiscal year from a single vendor that exceed the dollar amount set in the Contracting Policy.

Now therefore it is resolved that:

1. Section II.B.3.f is amended to read as follows:

   Contracts involving the procurement of tangible goods in an amount of $35,000 or more, either at one time or from any single vendor during one fiscal year, including for example and not limitation, the use of automatically renewing purchase orders that result in expenditures of $35,000 or more during one fiscal year.

2. All other provisions of the Contracting Policy not amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions are, to the extent of any conflict with this resolution, hereby rescinded.

___________________________    _________________________
David Flynn, Chair               Carmella Sabaugh
Macomb County Board of Commissioners  Macomb County Clerk

Adopted: _______________________, 2013
RESOLUTION NO. _____________  FULL BOARD MEETING DATE:__________________
AGENDA ITEM:______________________________

MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO adopt a resolution amending Resolution 2012-1 to add provisions to the Comprehensive County Contracting Policy (add Section II.B.3.o)

INTRODUCED BY:      Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

*At the 6-19 Finance Committee meeting, Commissioners Carabelli and Smith voted “No.”

COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
Finance  6-19-13
Full Board  6-20-13
Resolution No. 13-___

A Resolution Amending Resolution 2012-1 to Add Provisions to the Comprehensive County Contracting Policy

Whereas, on January 26, 2012, the Commission adopted Resolution 2012-1 to provide comprehensive policies and procedures governing the awarding of contracts; and

Whereas, County buildings, facilities, and other property are public assets owned and operated for the benefit of the County and its residents and the naming of that property should be a deliberative process open to the public.

Now therefore it is resolved that:

1. Section II.B.3.o is added to read as follows:

   Contracts that provide for any naming rights on County buildings, facilities, or other County owned property.

2. All other provisions of the Contracting Policy not amended herein shall remain in full force and effect.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions are, to the extent of any conflict with this resolution, hereby rescinded.

________________________________________  ________________________________
David Flynn, Chair                                Carmella Sabaugh
Macomb County Board of Commissioners             Macomb County Clerk

Adopted: _________________________, 2013
RESOLUTION TO adopt a resolution amending Resolution 2012-1 to add provisions to the Comprehensive County Contracting Policy (add Section II.D.4)

INTRODUCED BY: Fred Miller, Chair, Finance Committee

*At the 6-19 Finance Committee meeting, a change was made to the resolution:

Insert the word "to" as follows: 1. The Commission reserves the right to access the County bid library to review all open and/or closed requests for proposals or requests for qualifications.

Also, Commissioner Carabelli voted “No.”
Resolution No. 13-___

A Resolution Amending Resolution 2012-1 to Add Provisions to the
Comprehensive County Contracting Policy

Whereas, on January 26, 2012, the Commission adopted Resolution 2012-1 to provide
comprehensive policies and procedures governing the awarding of contracts; and

Whereas, the Commission finds its access to the County’s bid library could help to improve
transparency and institutional accountability for County contracts by enabling the Commission
to better understand what projects are being bid, what qualifications are being sought, and
what contractors are bidding on particular projects.

Now therefore it is resolved that:

1. Section II.D.4 is added to read as follows:

   The Commission reserves the right to access the County bid library to review all
   open and/or closed requests for proposals or requests for qualifications.

2. All other provisions of the Contracting Policy not amended herein shall remain in full
   force and effect.

3. All resolutions and parts of resolutions are, to the extent of any conflict with this
   resolution, hereby rescinded.

David Flynn, Chair
Carmella Sabaugh
Macomb County Board of Commissioners  Macomb County Clerk

Adopted: _____________________________, 2013
MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION TO recommend that the Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution authorizing the publication of the Notice of Intent to issue revenue bonds for the Macomb County Wastewater Disposal District and Notice of Right of Referendum on the issuance of bonds

INTRODUCED BY: James Carabelli, Chair, Infrastructure Committee

Revenue Bonds will be issued to finance the acquisition, construction, installation and equipping of improvements to the Macomb County Wastewater Disposal District consisting of three-cell Biofilter facility to be located at 16510 15 Mile Road in Fraser, Michigan for treatment of corrosion and odors throughout the 15 Mile Road Interceptor, Garfield Arm and Romeo Arm of the District.

*This item was waived to Finance by Infrastructure Committee Chair.

COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
Finance 6-19-13*
Full Board 6-20-13
RESOLUTION OF THE MACOMB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AUTHORIZING THE PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE OF INTENT
TO ISSUE REVENUE BONDS FOR THE MACOMB COUNTY WASTEWATER DISPOSAL
DISTRICT AND NOTICE OF RIGHT OF REFERENDUM
ON THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS

WHEREAS, on February 14, 1966, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners by
Resolution 850 established the Macomb County Wastewater Disposal District (the “District”)
pursuant to Public Act 342 of 1939, MCL 46.171 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the District requires certain improvements,
consisting of a three-cell biofilter facility to be located at 16510 15 Mile Road in Fraser,
Michigan for treatment of corrosion and odors throughout the 15 Mile Road Interceptor, Garfield
Arm, and Romeo Arm of the District, including the construction of an underground concrete
utility vault to house equipment, an asphalt service driveway, site utilities, and related
mechanical and electrical instrumentation equipment; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the improvements, including engineering, other professional and
administrative services, and the costs of issuance of bonds, will be financed by Macomb County
through the issuance of revenue bonds pursuant to the Revenue Bond Act of 1933, as amended,
Public Act 94 of 1933, MCL 141.101 et seq. (“Act 94”) in an amount not to exceed $2.250
million (the “Bonds”); and

WHEREAS, the primary source of revenues to pay the principal of and interest on the
Bonds will be rates and charges assessed against users of the District; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the Bonds will be secondarily secured by a limited tax
full faith and credit of Macomb County as may be authorized pursuant to a separate resolution of
this Commission; and

WHEREAS, Act 94 requires the publication of a “Notice of Intent” which would provide
the electors of the Macomb County a 45 day referendum period with respect to the issuance of
the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution would authorize the publication of the Notice of Intent.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by this Commission on this 20th day of June, 2013 as
follows:

1. The publication of the Notice of Intent, generally in the form attached hereto as
Attachment A, in a newspaper which has general circulation in Macomb County is hereby
authorized with such insubstantial modifications as recommended by the law firm of Bodman
PLC.

2. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.
ATTACHMENT A

NOTICE TO THE ELECTORS, TAXPAYERS AND OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS OF MACOMB COUNTY AND TO USERS OF THE MACOMB COUNTY WASTEWATER DISPOSAL DISTRICT OF THE INTENT OF MACOMB COUNTY TO ISSUE MACOMB COUNTY WASTEWATER DISPOSAL DISTRICT REVENUE BONDS PAYABLE FROM THE RATES AND CHARGES FOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL SERVICES ASSESSED BY MACOMB COUNTY AGAINST THE USERS OF THE MACOMB COUNTY WASTEWATER DISPOSAL DISTRICT AND THE RIGHT OF REFERENDUM RELATING THERETO

Please Take Notice that Macomb County, Michigan, intends to issue and sell its Macomb County Wastewater Disposal District Revenue Bonds, pursuant to Act No. 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed $2.250 million (the "Revenue Bonds"). The Revenue Bonds will be issued to finance the acquisition, construction, installation and equipping of improvements to the Macomb County Wastewater Disposal District (the "District") consisting of a three-cell biofilter facility to be located at 16510 15 Mile Road in Fraser, Michigan for treatment of corrosion and odors throughout the 15 Mile Road Interceptor, Garfield Arm, and Romeo Arm of the District, including the construction of an underground concrete utility vault to house equipment, an asphalt service driveway, site utilities, and related mechanical and electrical instrumentation equipment (the "Project"), and related engineering, other professional and administrative services, and issuance costs for the Revenue Bonds.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF REVENUE BONDS

The principal of and interest on the Revenue Bonds shall be primarily payable from the rates and charges for sewage disposal services assessed against the users of the Macomb County Wastewater Disposal District. It is anticipated that the Revenue Bonds will be secondarily secured by the limited tax full faith and credit pledge of Macomb County, as may be authorized pursuant to a resolution of the County Commission.

BOND DETAILS

The Revenue Bonds will be payable in principal installments as determined by the Finance Director of Macomb County, with the final installment due not more than 30 years after the original date of the Revenue Bonds. The Revenue Bonds will bear interest at the rate or rates to be determined upon the sale thereof, but in no event to exceed 5% per annum or such higher maximum rates permitted by law.
RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF MACOMB COUNTY HAVE THE RIGHT TO FILE A PETITION FOR REFERENDUM UPON THE QUESTION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE REVENUE BONDS DESCRIBED IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF THIS NOTICE. THE REVENUE BONDS WILL BE ISSUED WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS UNLESS A PETITION REQUESTING SUCH VOTE SIGNED BY NOT LESS THAN 10% OR 15,000 OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF MACOMB COUNTY, WHICHEVER IS LESS, IS FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK WITHIN 45 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. If such a petition is filed, the Revenue Bonds cannot be issued without an approving vote by a majority of qualified electors of Macomb County voting on the question.

Additional Information with respect to the above described Revenue Bonds, the Macomb County Wastewater Disposal District, the rates and charges to be assessed against the users of the District, the Project, the financing thereof, and any other matters relating to the foregoing may be obtained from William Misterovich, Chief Deputy Macomb County Public Works Commissioner, 21777 Dunham Road, Clinton Township, MI 48036.

This Notice is given pursuant to the requirements of Section 33 of Act No. 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended.

By: Peter M. Provenzano
Finance Director
Macomb County, Michigan

Dated: _____________, 2013