BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR SESSION

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2013

FINAL AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Invocation by Commissioner Kathy Tocco
5. Adoption of Agenda
6. Approval of Minutes dated 9-18, 9-26 (special), 10-10 (special) and 10-22 (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. PRESENTATIONS:
   a) Proclamation to Ken Kish (Flynn and Miller)
   b) Proclamation to Sandy Jurek (Carabelli)
   c) Proclamation to Vanessa Chambe (Boyle)
9. Correspondence from Executive (none)

MACOMB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

David J. Flynn – Board Chair
District 4
Kathy Tocco – Vice Chair
District 11
Mike Boyle – Sergeant-At-Arms
District 10
Toni Moceri – District 1
Marvin Sauger – District 2
Veronica Klinefelt – District 3
Robert Mijac - District 5
James Carabelli – District 6
Don Brown – District 7
Kathy Vosburg – District 8
Fred Miller – District 9
Bob Smith – District 12
Joe Sabatini – District 13
10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

a) Health & Human Services, October 28 (no report)

b) Infrastructure, October 29 (no report)

c) Finance, October 29 (page 1) (attached)

11. Board Chair’s Report (page 10) (attached)

12. **RESOLUTIONS:**

a) Supporting the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2013 (S. 1562) (attached) to Reauthorize and Improve the Older Americans Act of 1965 and Modernize Provisions to Help Seniors Remain Independent in Their Homes and Communities (offered by Moceri and Tocco; recommended by Health & Human Services Committee on 10-28-13 (page 37)

b) Supporting the Workforce Investment Act of 2013 (S. 1356) to Reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and Modernize the Nation’s Workforce Development System (offered by Moceri; recommended by Health & Human Services Committee on 10-28-13) (page 39)

c) Resolution of Intent to Establish a Food Procurement Policy for Macomb County (attached) to Recommend Local Sourcing (offered by Moceri; recommended by Health & Human Services Committee on 10-28-13) (page 41)

d) In Support of Requesting the Michigan Public Service Commission to Reassess Opt-out Fees for Smart Meter or Advanced Metering Infrastructure Programs (offered by Carabelli; recommended by Infrastructure Committee on 10-29-13) (page 49)

13. **PROCLAMATIONS:**

a) In Support of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Macomb County (offered by Moceri and Tocco; recommended by Health & Human Services Committee on 10-28-13; previously provided at committee meeting)

b) Commending Stephen Cassin on Receiving the President’s Award from the Michigan Association of Planning (offered by Board; recommended by Finance Committee on 10-29-13; previously provided at committee meeting)

c) Commending Kirk Lightcap – Eagle Scout (offered by Brown; recommended by Finance Committee on 10-29-13; previously provided at committee meeting)

d) Commending Andrew Reid – Eagle Scout (offered by Brown; recommended by Finance Committee on 10-29-13; previously provided at committee meeting)

e) Honoring Joe and Dorothy Stabile – 50th Wedding Anniversary (offered by Vosburg) (page 50) (attached)
14. Review of Space Utilization Study by Gino Del Pup, Plante & Moran (page 51) (attached)

15. New Business

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

17. Roll Call

18. Adjournment
October 29, 2013

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FROM: FRED MILLER, CHAIR, FINANCE COMMITTEE
RE: RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF OCTOBER 29, 2013

At a meeting of the Finance Committee, held Tuesday, October 29, 2013, the following recommendations were made and are being forwarded to the October 30, 2013 Full Board meeting for approval:

1. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Moceri, supported by Flynn, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve a budget adjustment increase in the amount of $7,021 to the Community Services Agency’s Home Injury Control grant budget; 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.

2. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Moceri, supported by Flynn, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve a request to amend the previously approved Community Services Agency’s budget with an increase of $435,000 for Fiscal Year 2013/2014 (Supportive Services for Veterans and Families Grant); 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. (roll call vote: Yes-Boyle, Brown, Carabelli, Flynn, Klinefelt, Mijac, Miller, Moceri, Sabatini, Sauger, Tocco and Vosburg)
3. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION  (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Moceri, supported by Flynn, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve a contract amendment with Judson Center for home-based services for Community Services Agency’s Head Start 0-5; 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 SABATINI VOTING “NO.”**

4. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION  (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Carabelli, supported by Mijac, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve a lease with 123.Net for the installation and operation of an antenna and other radio communication devices on the roof of the County Building; Further, a copy of this Board of Commissioners’ action is directed to be delivered forthwith to the Office of the County Executive. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

5. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION  (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Klinefelt, supported by Vosburg, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve an amendment to the 2013-14 Department of Roads budget to include the addition of $17,078.12 (insurance claim reimbursement); 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 Vosburg, supported by Sauger, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve an amendment to the 2013-14 Department of Roads budget to include the addition of $34,938.35 from vehicle insurance reimbursement and the use of the fund balance for the purchase of a replacement vehicle for $220,000; Further, this budget action addresses budgetary issues only. It does not constitute the Commission’s approval of any County contract. If a contract requires Commission approval under the County’s Contracting Policy or the County’s Procurement Ordinance, such approval must be sought separately; Further, a copy of this Board of Commissioners’ action is directed to be delivered forthwith to the Office of the County Executive. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

7. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION  (SEE ATTACHED)

A motion was made by Brown, supported by Carabelli, to recommend that the Board of Commissioners approve a municipal maintenance contract between the Macomb County Department of Roads and Huron Clinton Metro Authority (HCMA) for weed and grass control services on Metropolitan Parkway between Jefferson to Schoenherr for Fiscal Year October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014; 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:
Approve the budget adjustment increase amount of $7,021 to the MCCSA Home Injury Control grant budget.

*SEE BELOW*

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

Additional Background Information (If Needed):
The Area Agency on Aging 1B (AAA1B) has granted MCCSA $17,701 to provide services to Seniors under the Home Injury Control (HIC) grant. This is an increase of $7,021 over the previously approved budget. The previously approved budget was based on the information known at that time. Since then, MCCSA has been made aware of a final grant allocation of $17,701.

This revenue increase will have an offsetting $7,021 increase in program supplies and contracted installation services, with $369 in In-Kind revenue increasing In-Kind expenses to the program.

With this increase, MCCSA Home Injury Control Program will have the ability to service more seniors by installing such safety devices as shower chairs, grab bars, and ramps.

*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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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
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<td>Health &amp; Human Services</td>
<td>10-28-13</td>
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<td>10-29-13</td>
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<td>Full Board</td>
<td>10-30-13</td>
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**Resolution**

Resolution to:

Approve a request to amend the previously approved MCCSA budget with an increase of $435,000 for the Fiscal Year 2013/2014

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

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

**Introduced By:**

Toni Moceri, Chair, Health & Human Services Committee

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

MCCSA has been awarded a Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) grant to assist Macomb County Veterans who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless. MCCSA requests an approval to amend the previously approved budget with an increase in the amount of $435,000 during the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 to assist Veterans with housing related issues.

There is no impact on the County's General Funds. The grant total is $435,000, consisting of Salaries-$119,182, Fringes-$96,056, and Operating-$219,762.

The grant is through the U.S. Veterans Administration. MCCSA is a sub-grantee through the Community Action Partnership.

MCCSA hopes to assist approximately 150 Macomb County Veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless with housing related assistance.

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<td>10-29-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Board</td>
<td>10-30-13</td>
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Resolution to:
Approve the contract amendment with Judson Center, for home-based services for MCCSA's Head Start 0-5.

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

Additional Background Information (If Needed):
The proposed revised amendment to the previously approved contract with Judson Center is necessary to provide services to MCCSA's Early Head Start center-based infants and toddlers. The proposed action is due to the Judson Center's inability to sign a five year agreement. The contract has been modified to show a one year period during Fiscal Year 2013/14.

There is no impact on the County's General Fund, as these are federal grant funds.

In 2009, Macomb County was awarded a federal expansion grant through MCCSA Head Start to provide services to ninety two (92) pregnant women and children, birth to age three. Sixty (60) slots were allocated to provide home-based care for infants and toddlers.

An Exempt Purchasing Status was awarded by the Purchasing Department on July 2, 2013.

There is no impact on services or projects. Judson Center is the current service provider.
Resolution to:
Approve a lease with 123.Net for the installation and operation of an antenna and other radio communication devices on the roof of the County Building.

Introduced By:
James Carabelli, Chair Infrastructure Committee

Additional Background Information (If Needed):
The IT Department and Emergency Management have negotiated a lease with 123.Net for the installation and maintenance of an antenna on the roof of the County Building.
MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Resolution Number:          Full Board Meeting Date:

RESOLUTION

Resolution to:
Amend the 2013-14 Department of Roads Budget to include the addition of $17,078.12.

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

FORWARD TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
*(This language was added by Health & Human Services Committee Chair Moceri.)*

Introduced By:
Jim Carabelli, Chair Robert Hoepfner, Director of Roads
Infrastructure Committee

Additional Background Information (If Needed):
On August 14, 2013, a Department of Roads truck caught fire and was subsequently determined to be totaled by the insurance company. The reimbursement being paid by Trident Insurance is $17,078.12. Approval is needed to amend the budget to include this addition.

Infrastructure Committee 10-29-13
Finance 10-29-13
Full Board 10-30-13
Resolution to:
Amend the 2013-14 Department of Roads Budget to include the addition of $34,938.35 from vehicle insurance reimbursement and the use of the fund balance for the purchase of a replacement vehicle for $220,000.

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 Infrastructure Committee Chair Carabelli.)*

Introduced By:
Jim Carabelli, Chair  Robert Hoepfner, Director of Roads
Infrastructure Committee

Additional Background Information (If Needed):
On June 24, 2013, a Department of Roads vehicle was involved in an accident and was subsequently determined to be totaled by the insurance company. The reimbursement being paid by Trident Insurance is $44,938.35 less our $10,000.00 deductible, for a total settlement amount of $34,938.35. Approval is needed to amend the budget to include this addition to the Department of Roads Budget. Approval is also required to include the purchase of a replacement vehicle in the Department of Roads Budget at a cost of $220,000, to be taken from the fund balance.
Resolution to:
Approve the Municipal Maintenance Contract between the Macomb County Department of Roads and Huron Clinton Metro Authority (HCMA) for weed and grass control services on Metropolitan Parkway between Jefferson to Schoenherr for the Fiscal Year of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014.

Introduced By:
Jim Carabelli, Chair
Robert Hoepfner, Director of Roads
Infrastructure Committee

Additional Background Information (If Needed):
HCMA has been providing grass and weed control on this corridor of Metro Parkway for many years. They have an opportunity to provide this service and keep the median better maintained for aesthetic purposes while freeing up Department of Roads maintenance crews for road maintenance work. This is budgeted in the current FY Budget.
RESOLUTION TO receive and file report from Board Chair for October 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 – Mark Deldin, Pete Provenzano
Gary Owen, GCSI
County-wide Electeds
Drain Board, Pension Board
Sandy Jurek (update on E-filing in Court and centralized IT issues)
Corporation Counsel
Rizzo – WMI
Jerry Moffitt
Several space utilization meetings with Gino Del Pup to provide BOC input

Office:
- Lisa Martino has left employment with the BOC to pursue an out-of-state opportunity. The Board presented her with a proclamation and appreciation gift. We wish her the best of luck in her new situation.
- The BOC is working with the HR-LR Department to refine the title and job description for the vacant position.

Board Activities:
The Board’s Green Schools Program Workshop was held at the MISD on October 8, 2013, from 9am to 11:30am. The workshop was open to anyone interested in learning more about participating in the Green Schools Program in Macomb County. There were 74 attendees to the Workshop. An Encore Workshop was held to accommodate those interested who were unable to attend the first; there were 21 attendees. Six additional, individual meetings were held with teachers and student groups at schools which requested them.

Nominations of charities wishing to be recipients of the Board’s Casual Day charitable donations collection are being accepted now for 2014. For information on how charities can apply, see Myra. Submissions are due by December 13, 2013.

Emerging Issues:
Corporation Counsel – RFI sent to OCE for status update on search for permanent Corp Counsel
Budget Publication, Appropriations Ordinance
Martha T. Berry Facility, SSB – entered into 90-day negotiating period with OCE.
Independent Counsel
DWSD – working to get informational sessions before BOC
The Michigan Supreme Court has re-appointed Judge Foster as Chief Judge of the Macomb Circuit and Probate Courts as well as the 42nd District Court for the next two year term beginning January 2014.

Region:
RTA Meetings – see SEMCOG website
Cobo Center Legislative Lunch, 10-21-13 – attended by D. Flynn, A. Kim
DIA Preview Event, 10-23-13 – attended by D. Flynn
Macomb Caucus, 10-28-13 – attended by D. Flynn, K. Vosburg, A. Kim

Media:
See attached articles.

BOC – Independent Counsel: Expenditures for Outside Counsel Professional Services

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COMMITTEE/MEETING DATE
Full Board 10-30-13
October 30, 2013

TO: Office of the County Executive
FROM: Dave Flynn, Board Chair
RE: RFI 10-30-13 BOC Status of Appt CC

Please provide a status update regarding where the search to fill the position of Corporation Counsel currently stands. Please also include a projected timeline for filling the vacancy on a permanent basis.

Your attention to this matter and quick response is appreciated.
MACOMB COUNTY

September 18, 2013

Executive Office flustered by cuts in county board’s budget

By Jeremy Selveski
C & G Staff Writer

MACOMB COUNTY — The Macomb County Board of Commissioners made numerous changes to the $631 million budget proposed by the office of Executive Mark Hackel, but it was the unexpected cuts to the executive branch that prompted outrage from Hackel and his associates.

The 13-member board unanimously approved Macomb County’s 2014 budget on Sept. 12, adding a series of 18 amendments to the document that was originally submitted by Hackel’s office and Finance Director Pete Provenzano on July 1. These changes resulted in an overall savings of nearly $50,000 from Hackel’s proposed budget, but it also included a $150,000 reduction to salaries and benefits within the Executive Office and a $50,000 decrease in the office’s funding for contract services.

Deputy Executive Mark Deldin was unsure of exactly how these cuts would affect his department going forward but said that they would likely require layoffs. However, he believes that the commissioners intentionally targeted the Executive Office because of the frequent disagreements between Hackel and the board over the past two and a half years.

“This was nothing more than political retaliation, plain and simple,” Deldin said. “What happened today was not about good government; it was about the board rewarding those who they like and punishing those who they don’t like. They didn’t even think to ask how these cuts would affect the operations of our office. But obviously, this is not enough funding to operate the Executive Office at its current staffing level.”

Deldin pointed to statements made by Board Chair Dave Flynn, D-Sterling Heights, about the board using these reductions to “send a strong message” to the executive branch about the need to, in Deldin’s words, “fall in line with whatever the board wants.” But Flynn countered that Hackel’s office has expanded greatly since it was first established in January 2011, growing from five employees to nine and increasing its annual budget from $600,000 to $1.4 million.

“It seems that there’s some animosity from the Executive Office about the board doing exactly what was set forth in the (Macomb County) charter, which is approving the most fiscally responsible budget that we possibly can,” Flynn said. “It’s unfortunate, and untrue, that they feel like these decisions were political on our part. The cuts that the board made represent one-tenth of 1 percent of the overall budget. I think that most people would be satisfied if they received 99.9 percent of what they asked for.”

Commissioner Fred Miller, D-Mount Clemens, chair of the board’s Finance Committee, added that the board was trying to “trim some of the fat” from Macomb County’s budget.
“What we don’t want is a top-heavy county government,” he said, “so it made sense to us to reallocate some funds from central administration to the programs and services that need them more.”

Other amendments that the board made to Hackel’s proposed budget include providing about $222,000 in extra funding for additional staff at the Macomb County Clerk’s Office, allocating $250,000 in supplementary revenue to the Macomb County Prosecutor’s Office for the same reason, restoring about $168,000 in funds lost by the federal sequestration cuts to the Macomb County Community Services Agency’s senior nutrition program, channeling about $65,000 from a voter-approved millage to directly serve military veterans via Macomb County Veterans’ Services, providing $60,000 in professional staff assistance for the county’s Ethics Board, and allocating $66,000 to the Board of Commissioners to fund independent audits of county funds.

Flynn noted that by the end of 2014, the county budget will feature a fund balance of $80 million, which amounts to about 42 percent of its total general fund expenditures of $191 million. This number is well above the commonly recommended benchmark of 15 to 20 percent.

Miller pointed out that this year marked the first time that the Board of Commissioners adopted a combined budget by Sept. 30. In previous years, the board had always passed its special revenue and enterprise funds in September and its general fund in December.

The commissioner was glad that the board managed to make changes to Hackel’s budget without adding any expenditures.

"An important goal for the board was to remain at least revenue-neutral with the budget that they presented to us,” Miller said. “We were able to do that through a handful of smart cuts that will enhance the county’s ability to provide services to the public, while at the same time adding capacity to the Prosecutor’s Office and the Clerk’s Office.”

Flynn agreed. He explained that the extra funding for the Clerk’s Office will result in shorter lines for residents, as the additional staff can implement electronic filing services and address a backlog in processing court matters. Meanwhile, the Prosecutor’s Office is currently even more short-staffed and operating at its lowest staffing level in 20 years. The office handled roughly 5,000 cases per year in 1985, while it now handles about 22,000.

“The Clerk’s Office and Prosecutor’s Office were hit the hardest when the county experienced major cuts in 2006 and 2007,” Flynn said. “Overall, I think the board was able to enhance the budget that we were given by addressing some needs that weren’t being met over there.”

But Deldin took issue with the way that the two departments were able to secure additional funding. He noted that officials from the Clerk’s and Prosecutor’s offices reached out to the board on their own, giving presentations about why extra revenue was needed.
"We asked those offices to hold the line on creating new positions for one more year," Deldin said, "but they chose to work around us. The charter is very clear that the Executive Office prepares the budget for all departments in the county. So, we're very disappointed that they went about things this way, but obviously it worked out well for them."

Deldin further stated that by focusing so heavily on the Clerk's and Prosecutor's offices, the Board of Commissioners neglected to consider the needs of other county departments. However, Flynn offered some suggestions to the Executive Office if it's seeking to receive more funds and make the most of the funds that it already has.

"They didn't come to us and make a business proposal the way that the Clerk's and Prosecutor's offices did, but they certainly could have," he said. "They should also start thinking about their internal operations a little more. The Executive Office's salaries are inflated compared to other departments, so they could avoid layoffs if they would just get their salaries in line with their counterparts in other branches of Macomb County government."

You can reach C & G Staff Writer Jeremy Selweski at jselweski@candgnews.com or at (586)218-5004.
$2.2 million computer system for dispatchers approved

Chad Selweski

Thursday, September 19, 2013

Dismissing the warnings from police departments in Ohio and Arizona, county officials on Wednesday granted unanimous approval for a new $2.2 million computer system for police/fire dispatching that was offered by a Troy-based company.

The proposal from New World Systems was strongly endorsed by county Sheriff Anthony Wickersham, who will oversee the software transition that will allow dispatchers from the Sheriff’s Department and the Sterling Heights and Clinton Township police departments to work in concert, on the same computer platform, at the new Macomb County Operations Center.

“This is the best product for us. This is the best solution for us. This is the best price for us,” Wickersham told the Board of Commissioners, who added that the county has been consulting with the Troy company for nine months.

Documents obtained by The Macomb Daily show that an Ohio county serving 20 police/fire departments signed on with New World in 2008 and the system is still not free of problems. The Yuma, Ariz., Police Department reported that they were waiting more than three years for their computerized dispatch system provided by New World to “go live.”

But New World officials said a few unhappy customers out of more than 1,000 is inevitable. County Commissioner Kathy Vosburg, chair of the Justice and Public Safety Committee that granted tentative contract approval last week, said the documents are a “non-issue.”

In addition, Sterling Heights Police Chief Mike Reese also supports New World as the best choice for the county’s upcoming high-tech communications center, which will provide police/fire dispatching services for 400,000 county residents.

Sterling Heights recently switched to New World; Clinton Township and the county are on a regional system known as CLEMIS that shares information among five counties. Sterling Heights officials insisted that the New World software become the universal platform for the new computer system.

Greg Wandrei, vice president of strategic sales for New World, said the computer conversion process is expected to be completed in 12 to 15 months. But he declined to offer the commissioners any guarantees. The 10-year contract requires the county to pay a $215,000 annual maintenance fee to New World. Other Macomb communities that want to move their police/fire dispatchers to the Operations Center will have to convert to New World.

Though the company is offering a 50 percent discount for those who join, county Commissioner Don Brown said
he was concerned that the company was awarded a lucrative deal.

"New World is getting a good deal because anyone that comes into the system must convert, and that means the company is guaranteed customers," said the Washington Township Republican.

Democratic Commissioner Bob Smith, a former Clinton Township Fire Commissioner, said New World’s costs for his township — a $207,000 buy-in fee and $68,000 a year for maintenance — is less than the Clinton Fire Department alone has paid in the past.

The cooperative agreements with Clinton Township and Sterling Heights represent the first step toward County Executive Mark Hackel’s goal of consolidating several municipal services at the county level.

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URL: http://www.macombdaily.com/government-and-politics/20130919/22-million-computer-system-for dispatchers-approved

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Macomb County board, facing jail repair request, may look into building new one
By Christina Hall Detroit Free Press Staff Writer Filed Under Local News Macomb County Mt. Clemens
Sep. 23

Macomb County commissioners, who next month will be asked to spend $800,000 for mechanical repairs to the jail annex, soon may begin exploring whether to build a new county jail or renovate the current one.

Sheriff Anthony Wickersham said officials need to be aware of the jail’s problems and look at the long-term needs of the 1,238-bed lockup, where earlier this month he declared a state of emergency because of seven straight days of overcrowding.

Deputy County Executive Mark Deldin estimated the cost of a new jail at $150 million to $200 million, while renovations to buildings on the campus might run $40 million to $50 million.

A jail project is a delicate subject because of its cost, especially as Wayne County’s jail project costs ballooned to more than $91 million over budget and prompted a criminal investigation.

Macomb County officials say Band-Aid fixes to the current facility may run $4 million to $5 million.

On Oct. 10, county commissioners are expected to discuss a contract for more than $800,000 in mechanical repairs to the minimum-security annex so it can house inmates from other areas of the jail when similar improvements are made to the top four floors of the 11-story jail tower.

“Even if today, everyone agreed on some plan that would get us additional beds, it would probably be three to five years before it’s up and running, so we’ve got to do something in that interim time,” Wickersham said. “That’s why we’re doing those repairs.”

The repairs include heating, cooling and ventilation.

The 200-bed annex closed in 2009 to save money. Wickersham said he will look into reopening the annex, which could cost more than $1 million for operations and personnel.

Wickersham said he’s also meeting in small groups with county officials to discuss the future of the lockup. He plans to have a large group meeting at the beginning of October.

That’s around the same time that county officials may unveil a space utilization study of buildings on its downtown Mt. Clemens campus — a study that doesn’t include the jail. The study is due Sept. 30, Deldin said.

Deldin said the second phase of the study, possibly to be conducted next year, will include the jail and other buildings at the Dunham Road campus in Mt. Clemens.
Hackel vetoes may mark turning point

By CHAD SELWESKI
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Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel issued another veto on Wednesday, rejecting cuts to his office approved by the Board of Commissioners, but this rebuke may have led to a breakthrough in the stormy relationship between the executive and the board.

"This should be a pivot point in our relationship with the Office of County Executive," said board Chairman Dave Flynn, a Sterling Heights Democrat. "Maybe it's time to push the reset button.

The 13-member board will have the opportunity to override Hackel's vetoes when they meet tonight, but it's unclear if the required two-thirds majority could be mustered. In addition, Flynn may recommend against a veto override.

Flynn's optimism about ending the political power struggle is based on Hackel's reaction to the $631 million 2014 county budget that the commissioners sent him. The board adopted 11 amendments to the spending plan the executive had proposed in July, but he only vetoed the two amendments that would cut his office budget by $189,000. Those cuts would require reducing staff.

In his veto message, Hackel, a Macomb Township Democrat, said the executive's office cannot function without its three-person support staff any more than the board could keep pace without its six-person support staff.

"If imposed, the reductions made by the (board) to funds for the executive office would cause the layoff of all three support staff, in the executive office, leaving no one to perform any of the office administration functions," Hackel wrote.

"These functions range from handling routine phone calls, greeting office visitors and scheduling appointments, to more complex duties."

The cuts pushed by Flynn were viewed as punitive by some commissioners who feared sparking a "budget war" between the executive and legislative branches of government. But behind-the-scenes talks between Flynn and Hackel deputies reaped a "good deal for both sides," according to the board chairman.

While early indications suggested the executive might veto numerous items in the budget, Hackel left intact several major amendments approved by the commissioners: increases in manpower at the short-handed clerk's office and prosecutor's office; restoration of five-days-a-week meals for low-income seniors; and funding to beef up the powers of the county Ethics Board.

The changes to Hackel's recommended budget -- a mix of spending increases and cuts -- managed to increase 2014 savings by a small amount.

Since he took office in January 2011 as Macomb's first county executive, Hackel has vetoed numerous items approved by the board. In every case, the commissioners overrode his veto. In some instances Hackel has boldly refused to comply with the overrides. On one issue -- board approval for government contracts -- the commissioners took Hackel to court and won.

Michigan closes with..."
Macomb County board, executive reach agreement on budget cuts

Thu, Sep 26
detroitnews.com

Detroit — Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel’s vetoes of roughly $200,000 in budget cuts by the Board of Commissioners for staffing and other services will stand.

Commissioner Toni Moceri said the board decided not to override the veto because Hackel’s office agreed to most of its budget amendments.

“I think the fact that the executive honored our desire to protect seniors and veteran services was real progress,” she said. “It preserves county services for our citizens.”

The board had voted for $222,226 in additional funding to the county Clerk’s Office and $250,000 to the Prosecutor’s Office to cover salaries, wages and benefits.

Each office may get three new staffers. It also approved $168,307 to the Community Services Agency to restore senior nutrition services lost by the federal sequestration cuts. The money would return meal delivery to five days a week, which means 20,000 meals will return to the tables of eligible seniors.

Deputy County Executive Mark Deldin said, “our office is satisfied with the outcome” Thursday night’s meeting.

The board’s “inaction tells me they see added value by leaving the executive’s staffing levels the same as they’ve been since 2011,” he added.

The board passed the $631 million 2014 fiscal year spending plan earlier this month. The cuts, Hackel told The Detroit News’ Editorial Board earlier Thursday, would hinder his staff from performing their duties.

He warned that three workers in his office could face layoff if the cuts were not restored. Commissioners had trimmed $150,000 in salaries and benefits and $50,000 for contract services.

“I think that some of them are very sensible and have come to the realization that what they did was too aggressive,” Hackel told The News.

Hackel and Peter Provenzano, the county’s finance director, touted Macomb’s balanced budget, AAA bond rating with Standard and Poor’s and improved revenue.
In 2011, the county faced a $13.5 million deficit. Now, the county has added $30 million to its fund balance reserves, which is back to 2003 levels, Provenzano said. That was partly accomplished by cutting 450 positions and $60 million in annual spending.

With a balanced budget, the focus is now on handling retiree health care and pensions. One change would be to move new hires into a defined contribution plan such as a 401(k).

“We have a very healthy pension fund about 92 percent vested,” Provenzano said.

- **Body parts found in Sterling Heights sewer line**

Police are investigating the discovery of human remains crews found Wednesday while upgrading a sewer line in Sterling Heights.

- **Suspect charged in knifepoint robbery of painkillers in Washington Twp.**
Commissioners approve $631 million budget

by CHRIS GRAY
Observer Staff Writer

County commissioners have approved a balanced $631 million budget that includes increases in wages for some but cuts in salaries for others.

The 2014 Macomb County budget was approved by the Board of Commissioners on Sept. 12 with a surplus of nearly $56 million, but with changes in wages for county offices.

The budget differs from the document proposed by County Executive Mark Hackel in July. A total of $81,079 was reduced from the general fund by commissioners, mainly in salaries and benefits. Of that, $350,234 was slashed in the county health department while $150,000 was cut from Hackel's office.

Commissioners made an additional cut of $50,000 to the contract services for the executive's office as well, bringing the total to $200,000.

Al Lorenzo, assistant county executive, said the reduction seemed to be a politically motivated action rather than budgetary. He said the executive's office budget of $1.4 million has remained relatively unchanged in the past couple of years, so the cut would have an impact.

"It's not enough money to run the executive's office for a full year, and at some point we're going to have to find additional funding," he said.

Hackel can veto the budget changes or seek budget adjustments. Lorenzo said the executive's office would have a better idea of what action to take in the coming weeks.

Board of Commissioners Chair David Flynn said the changes made by the board only affected a tenth of 1 percent of the budget, and were the result of 16 meetings and 25 hours of examining the budget.

"With the $150,000 for staffing reduction, if their systems aligned with the clerk, treasurer and countywide officials they wouldn't have to lay one person off," he said. "They just decided to pay their employees more than any other county department."

District 7 County Commissioner Don Brown voted against the cut, saying it was made due to "hard feelings" between the branches of government ever since the county executive's office was established.

"We need to be working collectively together, and I don't think that is going to help the process along," he said. "I thought it was kind of punitive."

Veterans services saw a cut of $65,815. However, the change results in more funds channeled directly to serving veterans as opposed to paying internal county costs.

Commissioners added $76,523 to the general fund. The largest was to the prosecutor's office at $250,000 for salaries and benefits, followed by $222,026 in salary and benefits to the clerk's office.

County officials justified the increase to the prosecutor's office due to the office running at its lowest level in 20 years. Officials said the clerk's office increase will result in shorter lines due to additional staff implementations and improvements to E-filing.

"The Board of Commissioners addressed some essential needs in county government such as the clerk's or prosecutor's office,"
Flynn said. "Obviously this isn't a fix to the problem, but it does help stop the bleeding."

Commissioners also approved of increasing its funding by $66,000 for independent audits of county funds.

Lorenzo said in three years the county has gone from being nearly out of cash to having a balanced budget that doesn't use fund balance, has a surplus and gives the county a AAA bond rating.

"It's a county that is in one of the most enviable of financial situations of any local government in the state," Lorenzo said.

The fund balance will end at 42 percent, much higher than the 15 to 20 percent benchmark.

This is the first year the budget was reviewed as a consolidated document including year-end budgets for the special revenue and enterprise funds. The special revenue and enterprise funds were not changed from Hackel's proposed budget.
Hackel, board reach budget deal

Chad Selweski

Friday, September 27, 2013

Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel and the Board of Commissioners have reached a budget agreement, signaling a possible breakthrough that could end the ongoing power struggle between the executive and legislative branches of the new county government. The board has let Hackel’s vetoes of three budget items stand while praising his decision not to veto additional funding for key services that have suffered cutbacks.

The decision on Thursday not to attempt a veto override vote could be a “pivot point” in the strained relationship between Hackel and the commissioners, according to board chairman Dave Flynn.

The executive had vetoed three items that would have slashed his office budget by $200,000 and likely would have required layoffs for all three of his clerical “support staff” workers. Some commissioners called those cuts retaliation for past Hackel vetoes.

The $631 million budget granted final approval by the board is balanced, will require no tax increases, and will not touch the county’s hefty $81 million “rainy day fund.”

The alterations to Hackel’s proposed budget will add $816,000 in reductions and $766,000 in additions. Perhaps the two most significant amendments will add three employees each to the Clerk’s Office and the Prosecutor’s Office, two agencies that have been short-staffed for several years.

Due to less manpower and shortened hours, the Clerk’s Office has suffered from long lines on a daily basis, with people seeking to do business with the Circuit Court, obtain a concealed-weapon permit, or acquire a birth certificate or marriage license. The board added $222,000 to Clerk Carmella Sabaugh’s budget.

The Prosecutor’s Office staffing stands at a 20-year low, back to a time when the criminal caseload in Macomb County was a fraction of its current level. The board boosted Prosecutor Eric Smith’s budget by $250,000.

Since introducing its proposed budget on July 1, the Hackel administration had vowed not to increase manpower in 2014 in any department.

While early indications suggested the executive might veto numerous items in the budget, Hackel left intact other major amendments approved by the commissioners such as restoration of five-days-a-week meals for low-income seniors, and funding to beef up the powers of the county Ethics Board.
Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel vetoed $200,000 in cuts for his office in the 2014 budget.

—he only vetoes he has made pertaining to changes in the budget made by county commissioners.

Commissioners will decide Thursday whether to override his vetoes, essentially keeping the cuts. If they don’t override his vetoes, $50,000 for contract services and $150,000 for salary, wages and fringe benefits will be put back into his budget.

Assistant Executive Mark Deldin said the cuts would require laying off three support staff — positions needed to run the office efficiently and effectively.

In his veto letter, Hackel said the cuts would leave his office no one to handle calls,

greet visitors, schedule appointments or manage or prepare documents and materials for board agendas. He added, “Surely, the commission would argue that it could not function if funding for its support staff were eliminated.”

Hackel did not veto any other changes, such as $66,000 the board added to its budget to conduct independent audits of county funds and $60,000 for staff for the ethics board.

“I’m optimistic that the board will see the value in this message that we’ve delivered,” Deldin said. “It addresses their needs in the Board of Commissioners’ office and it addresses other needs they felt were important in 2014.”

Board Chairman David Flynn said he was “encouraged that the executive’s office chose not to veto some of the commission’s main priorities in the budget,” such as adding more than $472,000 for salaries and benefits to hire staff in the prosecutor and clerk offices. He also was glad Hackel did not veto money

to keep the senior nutrition program at five days a week, preserving more than 20,000 meals for residents.

Flynn said it would be premature to comment on how the board will respond to the vetoes, but said it was a “significant move” for Hackel not to veto some of the board’s budgetary priorities.

Earlier this month, the board approved more than a dozen changes to Hackel’s proposed budget. Hackel had 10 days to make line-item vetoes in the $191-million general fund budget.

Flynn previously said Hackel would put the county into a deficit if he vetoed any of the $816,079 in cuts the board approved.
Deldin said today that restoring the $200,000 would not create a deficit because the county has a 40% fund balance.
Macomb County medical examiner Daniel Spitz tells board his services are cost-effective

By Christina Hall Detroit Free Press Staff Writer Filed Under Local News Macomb County David Widlak St. Clair County

Sep. 30

Macomb County Medical Examiner Daniel Spitz said today that he is performing under the number of autopsies in Macomb County recommended by a national group; doing more duties for less pay, and keeping the medical examiner’s office at or under budget.

"Macomb County is receiving the highest level of professionalism for the most cost-effective service," he told county commissioners, who peppered him with questions at a two-hour meeting to discuss the medical examiner’s office budget, operations and workload and the county’s $377,000 contract with Spitz Pathology.

The contract, which includes a second forensic pathologist hired in 2012 to help the office become accredited, expires at the end of the year.

Board Chairman David Flynn said he would like the county to bid out the contract for the medical examiner’s office — a decision that lies with County Executive Mark Hackel.

Assistant County Executive Al Lorenzo said the executive’s office “hasn’t decided” whether the contract will be bid out. He said the executive’s office has three options: Renew the deal with Spitz, bid out the contract or hire a full-time employee for the job.

“We ... haven’t yet decided what is the best approach given all the factors that have to come into consideration, not the least of which is cost,” Lorenzo said.

He said a decision on how to proceed could come at the end of the month or the beginning of October. The board would have to approve any contracts. Lorenzo said the recommendation would keep in mind who is best positioned to aid law enforcement in investigations and get successful prosecutions.

The board subpoenaed Spitz, who did not appear last month amid concerns that questions might hurt ongoing investigations. Well-known criminal defense attorney Stephen Rabaut appeared in his stead. The next day, Spitz said he would talk with the board.

During the meeting, Spitz said his salary is $200,000, while the second forensic pathologist earns $150,000 annually. The remainder of the contract is for the cost of having an employee.

Commissioners have been concerned about whether Spitz is overextending himself. His caseload first became an issue nearly three years ago when he last appeared before the board to answer questions about missing a bullet wound while conducting an autopsy on prominent local banker David Widlak. The bullet wound was discovered during a second, independent autopsy by the Oakland County medical examiner.

Spitz also is the medical examiner in St. Clair County, where he said he is considered a part-
time employee with a contract of about $96,000. Spitz said he also does private autopsies or consultations — possibly two to four a month at funeral homes — and an occasional college lecture.

Spitz said he and the other forensic pathologist divide the Macomb office’s work, including autopsies.

Spitz said that of the 572 forensic examinations in Macomb last year, 465 were autopsies. The rest were other types of exams.

Macomb’s autopsy totals were 480 in 2011 and 368 in 2010, Spitz said. The office did not have a second forensic pathologist those years. Spitz said the Macomb office is on target to perform 470 to 490 autopsies this year.

The National Association of Medical Examiners recommends a forensic pathologist perform fewer than 250 autopsies annually. More than 325 per year would preclude accreditation by the group, its president, Dr. Gregory Schmunk, previously told the Free Press.

The accreditation process is voluntary. Spitz said he hopes the Macomb office can submit for a site visit in the early months of 2014 and become accredited.
The Regional Transit Authority board voted Wednesday to approve John C. Hertel as its first CEO.

Hertel's three-year contract will pay him $160,000 a year. It will expire March 31, 2017.

Hertel told the board and audience that nothing more important was needed in southeast Michigan than creating jobs and "improving mass transit." The former general manager of the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) said he would work tirelessly to improve those goals.

"We are in a primitive state," Hertel said, referring to transportation in the region. "We have a very long way to go to catch up."

Hertel said he has been interviewing potential staff members in anticipation of his formal hiring.

Paul Hillengonds, the chairman of the RTA board, said he's excited for Hertel to take the helm and get started helping to transform transit in southeast Michigan.

"He has a passion," he said. "I think he really with the rest of us want to leave a legacy for the region. We truly believe that for the region to grow in the future economically, we need to enhance transit. We need to take the steps to get there."

Hertel is a former three-term state senator who has served as the chairman of the Macomb and Wayne county boards of commissioners. He was also the general manager of the Michigan State Fair.

The task for the newly-created agency will be to convince the public to support either a property tax increase or a vehicle registration fee to pay for operations.

The RTA, which is to coordinate mass transit projects in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw counties, is expected to push for a bus rapid transit system on major roads, including Woodward.

Also today, the board increased the size of the citizens advisory committee to 50 members, 10 from each county the authority serves and 10 from Detroit, to address concerns about the lack of fairness and representation.
The original 30-member advisory committee had only three members from Macomb County, setting off complaints that the board was favoring Detroit over the suburbs. The board had appointed 15 members from Wayne County — with 10 coming from Detroit — eight from Oakland and four from Washtenaw.

- Farid Fata will remain behind bars after a federal judge today revoked his $9 million bond and instead ordered the oncologist jailed until the start of his trial in early February.

- Reward increased for information about dog skinned in Sept.
The Macomb Daily (http://www.macombdaily.com)

$2 million contracts OK'd for inmates, juveniles

By Chad Selweski, The Macomb Daily

Thursday, October 10, 2013

County officials on Thursday approved $2 million worth of contracts for jail renovations and health care, plus counseling and medical treatment for the neighboring Juvenile Justice Center. The most contentious contract awarded by the Board of Commissioners was a 3-year, $739,000 agreement with Sound Counseling of Fraser to continue providing three therapists and counselors at the JJC for troubled teens.

Sound Counseling has worked with the county for six years but its bid was 49 percent higher than Nova Psychological Services from Troy — $739,000 vs. $495,000. The bids were presented to the board by the new JJC Director Rhonda Westphal but the process was handled by former director Chuck Seidelman, who retired this past summer.

After a number of questions were raised by commissioners last week at a committee meeting, they were told that Seidelman and Juvenile Division Director Nicole Faulds interviewed the two companies and determined that Sound Counseling was a better choice, based on quality and past experiences. In addition, Sound Counseling is a Macomb County company.

The county board agreed to sign an agreement with Sound Counseling though it was not the lowest bidder.

The largest contract awarded by the county board was an $813,000 deal with Bernco Inc. of St. Clair Shores for numerous upgrades and improvements at the annex section of the jail, which was built in 1999. Officials said the repairs — for heating and cooling equipment on the rooftop, plumbing, basic structure and lighting — were not unusual for a 14-year-old structure.

“Most of this project is mechanical, such as improving the ventilation in that section of the jail,” said Facilities and Operations Director Lynn Arnott-Bryks. “This kind of roof equipment has a lifespan.”

The annex was initially constructed to house work-release inmates convicted of nonviolent crimes. The structure is now used on a 24/7 basis, consisting of a dorm-style incarceration area.

The commissioners also approved a jail contract extension for one year, with an increase of 3.3 percent, or $19,337, for inmates’ health care. The total cost for the next 12 months will be $605,000.

Correct Care Solutions of Nashville, Tenn., has been offering health care at the jail for the past two years, providing 27 doctors and nurses on a three-shift work schedule.

Correct Care received a $429,000 contract from the commissioners to provide health care at the JJC. That pact is a 1-year extension, with a 1.7 percent increase. The company offers the JJC seven-days-a-week care with three employees.

URL: http://www.macombdaily.com/government-and-politics/20131010/2-million-contracts-okd-for-inmates-juveniles
Landfill opponents seek support from Macomb County communities

Friday, October 11, 2013
By Katelyn Larese, Staff Writer

A local group that opposes a new landfill in Lenox Township is making its way around Macomb County in an effort to garner support for the community, whose leaders formally rejected the idea of opening a second landfill in their community last month.

Debra Hill, vice president of Citizens for a Better Macomb County, urged Armada Township Board members Oct. 9 to take a stance against the proposed landfill in support of Lenox’s decision. On Sept. 3, Lenox Township officials approved a resolution that expresses their disapproval of opening a new landfill in town.

Two weeks ago, Memphis officials did not formally support the group with a motion; however, they did say they were opposed to the landfill. Also, in Macomb Township the board tabled a request to adopt a resolution in opposition to a new landfill. Part of the reason for the delay was due to the fact that the board received a replacement resolution at the last minute for the originally submitted resolution, according to Macomb Township Clerk Michael Koehs.

The organization recently sent packets to county municipalities containing two sample resolutions: A “oppose landfill” resolution, which states various reasons why a landfill would be undesirable, and a “support Lenox” resolution, which group president Daniel VanDeKerkhove said offers communities a “less adversarial” way to oppose it without voicing opposition toward Rizzo Environmental Services, who proposed the landfill.

On Oct. 9, the Armada Township Board of Trustees unanimously approved the “oppose landfill” resolution. The two-page document urges county leaders to reject any actions that would allow for a new landfill to be placed in Macomb County. The motion was made by Clerk Mary Swiacki and seconded by Supervisor John Paterk.

“We quite honestly understand your position,” Paterk said in reference to a 2007 battle against the opening of a composting facility in the township.

“The board received correspondence from the county executive explaining that the county has no current plans to amend its solid waste plan and also wanted to know that if anybody had enough room for it we could raise our hands,” Paterk continued, “and I didn’t see it on our community planning project list for some reason, so I’m not sure that rose to the occasion.”

After the meeting Swiacki said, “I opposed the landfill as I have a rental home in Lenox Township currently and uphold the consensus of those residents.”

VanDeKerkhove made his case to Richmond City Council members at their meeting at City Hall on Oct. 7.
"You’re going to have a one-square mile landfill being put into a community who’s not zoned for it, who has no appetite for it, who passed a two-page resolution stating that they want nothing to do with it," he told council members.

Richmond Mayor Tim Rix said council planned to discuss the proposed landfill in depth at their quarterly roundtable meeting that was set for Oct. 15. Council may take action on the matter at their next regular meeting on Oct. 21, he added.

"But I think we’re all in general agreement," Rix said at the meeting last week. "We’re not real happy with the idea of more. We weren’t happy with what we have to smell here in Richmond and we see no benefit whatsoever. So you’re kind of talking to the choir."

At the Armada meeting, Hill said there are currently about 10 out of 25 communities on board with rejecting a new landfill in Macomb County.

"We’re almost half way there," she said. "I’m hoping those other communities will step forward and also say no to another landfill."

The scene was initially set for a Type II solid waste landfill to be built south of 28 Mile Road along Gratiot Avenue, adjacent to the Pine Tree Acres landfill, when the village of New Haven entered into an agreement with Rizzo this past summer. Village officials later rescinded their support.

Last month Rizzo proposed an agreement with Macomb County that would allow it to receive up to $3 million a year in shared landfill revenues, the Macomb Daily reported.

But in order to follow through with the landfill, county officials would have to amend Macomb’s solid waste management plan to include Rizzo’s facility. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality will not approve a landfill permit if the facility is not included in the county plan.

Officials are currently in the process of determining if a 14-member solid waste planning committee should be formed to modify the solid waste plan, according to a Sept. 13 press release from County Executive Mark Hackel’s office. There is no legal obligation for the county to amend its plan, the release states.

If an amendment to the plan is drafted, it must be approved by the planning committee, the county Board of Commissioners and at least 67 percent of Macomb County municipalities before it can take effect, according to an Aug. 12 memo submitted to the county by the Macomb Corporation Counsel.

"Two-thirds of the communities’ votes would be necessary in order to place it there against the will of the township," VanDeKerkhove said at the Richmond City Council meeting, "That’s why I’m coming here to you guys ... to hopefully convince you to offer your support to Lenox Township in this matter."

Rizzo spokesperson Joseph Munem said last the company’s application to amend the Macomb County solid waste plan asked for three things: a landfill, an addition of up to two transfer stations and to amend restrictive export quotas.

The amount of trash that Macomb County haulers can take out of the county for disposal is restricted by the state and the county’s solid waste plan, Munem noted.

Also, Munem said that the current solid waste plan is 15 years out of date, and that city Warren wants to be in compliance because they transfer to much waste elsewhere.

"Warren is exporting more waste to Wayne County than the plan allows, so they have asked for an amendment to the plan that would allow the export quotas to be changed, which is actually one of our requests as well," Munem said. "So
the majority of the objections here are based solely on the landfill request, which is just one part of our requests. We are also requesting the ability to site transfer stations and amendments to the export.”

Counties that are able to import trash from Macomb are limited, as well. For instance, Macomb County haulers are not permitted to dispose of trash in St. Clair or Genesee county landfills.

“The majority of the waste in this county has to go to Pine Tree Acres because what you’re allowed to take out of the county is limited by this plan,” he said of the current solid waste plan. “That is why we want to amend that limit so we can go out to other counties and actually have competition.”

About one-third of the total waste disposed in Michigan landfills from Macomb County last year was allowed to be exported to Wayne and Oakland counties, leaving about 600,000 tons of trash “that are most likely going to Pine Tree Acres,” Munem said.

“You could take (trash) to Washtenaw County, Lenawee or Shiawassee County, except that’s really far away and the fuel cost eats up any benefit of going there,” he added.

“In order for us to remain competitive, we need to have some sort of reasonable competitive alternative to the current disposal options that we have,” Munem continued. “Our primary business is that of a hauler. (Our competitors) haul so they can provide garbage for their landfills, and, frankly, if they gave us competitive rates we wouldn’t necessarily be looking to have a landfill.”

The opposition group argues that a new landfill would result in declining property values and a decreased quality of life for area residents.

“It’s prime real estate; it could be used for many other things than it’s already currently zoned for,” the group’s president said. “You’d lose a large opportunity to get development.”

Munem said he thinks the current county plan needs another look, as it has not been modified in more than a decade.

“To say that it doesn’t need to be amended makes sense only if you’re Waste Management,” he noted. “It makes sense for every community to say that, ‘Hey, we’re going to take a look at our solid waste needs 15 years later. The state says you should do it every five years.’

Citizens for a Better Macomb County, a grassroots non-profit organization established Sept. 8, is composed of everyday citizens; the group seeks to preserve and promote environmental quality within local communities and to provide a better quality of life for Macomb County residents. Although currently focused on the proposed landfill, the group also pushes for various green initiatives including wind power and the expansion of bike routes throughout the county.

“We saw a void at the county level, of any non-governmental agency really pushing for any green initiatives, with any driving force,” VanDeKerkhove said of the group’s formation.

-Nicole Tuttle contributed to this report.

Contact Katelyn Larese at (586) 716-8100, ext. 300 or katelyn.larese@voicenews.com. She can be followed on Twitter @katelynlarese.

Republican, Democrat appointed to election board

By Chad Selweski, The Macomb Daily

Tuesday, October 15, 2013

County officials have reappointed a Republican and a Democrat to the Board of Canvassers, which oversees the vote-counting process and recounts in all local elections. Republican Joanne Paraventi of Shelby Township and Democrat Michelle DeBeaussaert of Clinton Township were reappointed last week to 4-year terms by the county Board of Commissioners. State law requires that the four-member Board of Canvassers must be bipartisan. Typically, the commissioners reach consensus on a pick for their respective party and nearly all follow suit on the two choices.

With each of the 13 commissioners casting two votes, DeBeaussaert was a unanimous choice to remain in the Democratic seat over Caitlin Connor of St. Clair Shores and Kyle Pollet of Warren. Paraventi retained her GOP spot on the Board of Canvassers with 11 votes. Leo Garry of Macomb Township and Silla Tomasi of Shelby Township each received one vote.

The three nominees from each party were presented for consideration by the Macomb County Republican and Democratic committees, as required by state law. The Board of Canvassers, which falls under the purview of the County Clerk’s Office, certifies election results for the county, cities, townships, villages and school districts.


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COUNTY: Six Macomb County schools receive mini-grants

Friday, October 25, 2013

Six mini grants totaling up to $500 each have been awarded to six Macomb County schools participating in the Michigan Green Schools program this school year.

The grants will provide assistance by funding projects that encourage students to participate in activities that are environmentally sensible, while teaching the importance of preserving the earth's natural resources and strengthening the community.

Of the 19 schools that applied, six were chosen to be awarded.

The criteria used to judge these projects was based on several categories: the type of project, the level of detail, length of time the project would occur, how many students the project would involve, and how well it applied to other subject areas.

The following schools have not only met the necessary criteria, but exceeded expectations:

* Schuchard Elementary School - Sterling Heights: "Reusing to Restore the Bumblebee Population"

* Bozymowski Center - Sterling Heights: "Bozymowski Environuts Recycling Program"

* Marjorie Carlson Elementary School - Warren: "Decomposers Worm Farm"

* Richards Middle School - Fraser: "Composting Comes to Richards Middle School"


* Huron Elementary School - Macomb Township: "Indoor Greenhouse"

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October 28, 2013

Resolution Supporting The Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2013 (S. 1562) To Reauthorize And Improve the Older Americans Act of 1965 And Modernize Provisions To Help Seniors Remain Independent In Their Homes And Communities

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

WHEREAS, by 2030, 1 in 4 of Macomb County residents will be 65 years of age and older. In contrast, as the number of elderly continue to grow, the number of residents age 0-64 will decrease from 86% in 2005 to 75% in 2030 indicating that Macomb County will age faster than the nation, state, and surrounding regions; and

WHEREAS, the Older Americans Act (OAA) was passed in 1965 in response to concern about a lack of community social services for older persons and established authority for grants to States for community planning and social services, research and development projects, and personnel training in the field of aging; and

WHEREAS, OAA provided services include access services which facilitate access to existing services in the community including transportation, outreach, information and referral; in-home services which enable older persons to maintain their dignity and remain in their own homes for as long as possible; in-home services include homemaking, home health aides, meals on wheels, chore maintenance, congregate nutrition programs, disease prevention and hearing and vision assistance; legal and ombudsmen services help older adults secure their rights, benefits and entitlements; caregiver support is offered including information and assistance out-of-home respite, adult day care programs, public education, volunteer respite and in-home services; other services include employment and job training and vulnerable elder rights protection activities; and

WHEREAS, between 2008 and 2011 the Office of Services to the Aging programs were cut approximately 28% ($9.3 Million), despite the fact that Michigan’s senior population grew by over 20% from the 2000-2010 U.S. Census; and

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes a wide array of service programs through a national network of 629 area agencies on aging, one of which is the Area Agency on Aging 1-B (AAA 1-B) established in 1974 under a federal mandate of the OAA to serve the needs Macomb County senior residents; and

WHEREAS, the 127,000 Macomb County senior residents have been the benefactors of the over $20 million in federal OAA and state funds to support a range of social, nutritional, access and long-term care services distributed by the AAA 1-B; and
WHEREAS, the OAA expired in 2011, and reauthorization is a crucial opportunity for Congress to modernize and improve services by supporting efficiencies and innovations, reassessing the Act’s successes and limitations, and addressing its ability to effectively serve older Americans in need and empower older adults to retain or improve their health and economic independence so they can remain in their own homes and communities; and

WHEREAS, the reauthorization bill provides funding for a variety of home and community-based services and allows for local determination of the services provided under the Act that are responsive to the unique needs of older Macomb County residents; and

WHEREAS, the reauthorization bill will strengthen the OAA through 2018 reflecting an increase of $279 million or 12% from FY 2010 levels and update need to include veterans, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals, Holocaust survivors and those with Alzheimer’s Disease; and

WHEREAS, the reauthorization bill would also instruct the Bureau of Labor Statistics to improve how it calculates inflation for the elderly to more accurately reflect out-of-pocket expenses to more accurately reflect out-of-pocket expenses for health care and prescription drugs and make more accurate adjustments to Social Security benefits; and

WHEREAS, one of Macomb County Community Service Agency’s Senior Nutrition Program, a major senior services program, which provides people over age 60 with two options to assist them in meeting social and nutritional needs through Meals on Wheels and Dining Senior Style (congregation dining) is funded by the OAA; and

WHEREAS, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of the Senior Nutrition Program, which prompted them to appropriate an additional $168,307 during the 2014 budget cycle to alleviate cuts from the sequestration; and

WHEREAS, the reauthorization measure would also streamline and strengthen the meals program, authorizing a 50 percent boost in funding.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Macomb County Board of Commissioners supports the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2013 (S.1562) to reauthorize and improve the Older Americans Act of 1965.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that hard 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; and soft copies of this resolution be provided to Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel, Macomb County Community Services Agency Director Mary Solomon, Macomb County Office of Senior Services Director Katherine Benford, AAA 1-B Board of Directors Chair Amin Irving, and AAA 1-B CEO Tina Marzolf.
Resolution Supporting the Workforce Investment Act of 2013 (S. 1356) To Reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 And Modernize the Nation’s Workforce Development System

Commissioners Toni Moceri and David J. Flynn, On Behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Offer the Following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners strongly recognizes that the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 promotes innovation and flexibility at the state and local level, is responsive to local emerging economic realities and business needs, and ensures U.S. workers and businesses have the skills and training needed to compete in the 21st century economy; and

WHEREAS, the WIA is long overdue for reauthorization and is essential for preservation of critical workforce development funding, and a most important investment in our nation’s economic future; and

WHEREAS, the United States continues to face high unemployment in the wake of the recent recession, federally funded workforce programs play a critical role in bridging gaps between the skills present in the workforce and the skills needed for available jobs; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, nearly 8.5 million individuals received training and other employment services funded under WIA Title I – about a 250 percent increase since the start of the recession in 2008 – while many millions more received services or supports through the Wagner-Peyser Employment Services, Adult Education and Family Literacy, and Vocational Rehabilitation programs; and

WHEREAS, the WIA of 1998 envisioned a strong role for counties, cities and towns have the potential to be the engines of full national economic recovery in the administration of workforce development activities, and local workforce development areas are best suited to adequately determine services and programs that effectively respond to local emerging realities and business needs and have the potential to be the engines of full national economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, local workforce areas should be given the authority, and the flexibility to develop programs that meet the needs of employers and employees alike. This should include the flexibility to develop sector-based, incumbent worker, and other specialized training services that respond to local economic development policies and business needs; and

WHEREAS, local elected officials play a pivotal role in the administration of WIA. The leadership role of elected officials is essential to maximizing WIA’s impact in state and local jurisdictions through collaboration with state and local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs), and setting policy for the workforce system; and

WHEREAS, the Macomb-St. Clair Workforce Development Board was established as a provision of WIA of 1998 Title I with a mission to integrate those youth and adults facing barriers to employment into the labor force by providing customer driven job training and other
employability support services that will result in increased levels of employment opportunities, wage earnings, and enhanced educational and occupational skills, thereby improving the quality of the workforce and enhancing the productivity and competitiveness of Macomb and St. Clair county employers and the employer base in southeast Michigan; and

WHEREAS, in 2011 Macomb-St. Clair Workforce Development Board programs served a total 67,520 participants of which 6,906 (Adults – 62,845; Dislocated Workers – 2,908; Youth – 1,767) were enrolled where 93% of adults, 95.7% of dislocated workers, and 98.1% of older youths entered employment; and

WHEREAS, in 2011 the State of Michigan received $33.7 million for Adult programs, $31.7 million for dislocated worker programs, and $36.2 million for youth programs from the WIA appropriation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Macomb County Board of Commissioners supports the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) during the 113th Congress. Specifically, we support legislation that promotes innovation and flexibility at the local level, is responsive to local emerging economic realities and business needs, and will ensure that U.S. workers and businesses have the skills training they need to compete in the 21st century economy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Macomb County Board of Commissioners supports S.1356 (The Workforce Investment Act of 2013) which reauthorizes the WIA of 1998 which maintain local workforce development systems and local elected officials’ role in the administration of WIA; empower local workforce agencies to tailor their WIA programs to the specific needs of their communities; maintain the business majority on workforce boards while reducing the overall size of state and local boards; and apply one set of common performance measures to each workforce program supported by WIA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Macomb County Board of Commissioners opposes the U.S. House of Representatives passed WIA reauthorization bill (H.R. 803) because it would undermine the important role of local stakeholders in the administration of workforce development activities and also would reduce access to education and training for our nation’s most vulnerable workers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that hard copies of this resolution be provided to U.S. Senator Carl Levin, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Representative Candice Miller, U.S. Representative Sander Levin; and soft copies of this resolution be provided to Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel, Macomb – St. Clair Workforce Development Board Chairperson Peter Keating, Macomb – St. Clair Workforce Development Board Executive Director John Bierbusse, and Macomb County Planning and Economic Development Director Steve Cassin.
Resolution Of Intent To Establish a Food Procurement Policy For Macomb County To Recommend Local Sourcing

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

WHEREAS, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners adopted Ordinance 2012-1 (“Procurement Ordinance”) to establish comprehensive policies and procedures governing the awarding of Macomb County contracts for the procurement of services, supplies, materials and equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners adopted Proclamation 2013-40 to proclaim October 24, 2013 as “Food Day” in Macomb County; and

WHEREAS, locally sourced foods tend to be fresher and contain less preservatives due to a shorter time to market and consumer, reduces environmental impact of shipping and refrigeration, preserves open space and increases food security in Macomb County by keeping a greater percentage of the food dollar within the local and regional economies; and

WHEREAS, eating seasonally means enjoying the ripest and freshest food at the height of its natural harvest time, which in turn means supporting local farmers who transport their goods the shortest distance to your plate; and

WHEREAS, purchasing local products will reduce Macomb County’s carbon footprint by reducing the distance that goods travel from factories and farms to the city, thereby decreasing the amount of harmful emissions; and

WHEREAS, Michigan farms grow more diverse produce than most states in America, with more than 300 commodity foods reported in the last agriculture census; and

WHEREAS, food vendors that have locally sourced menu options is a simple strategy to differentiate their menu from other competitor and serve as a true benefit to help increase one’s profits and customer base; and

WHEREAS, the National Restaurant Association conducted a survey showing the top 20 trends in 2013 and locally sourced foods topped the list; and

WHEREAS, there exists Michigan-based initiatives for local food sourcing such as the Michigan Good Food Charter, which is committed in part to a mandate of: (1) Ensuring Michigan institutions source 20% of their food products from Michigan growers, producers and processors; and (2) Michigan farmers will profitably supply 20% of all Michigan institutional, retailer and consumer food purchases and be able to pay fair wages to their workers; and
WHEREAS, large purchasers of goods and materials such as Macomb County can strengthen the regional economy by procuring a greater percentage of their purchases from local farms and businesses; and

WHEREAS, establishing a county level policy will serve as a model to local municipalities to implement similar policies that supports local producers and local-food purchasers; and

WHEREAS, large purchasers of goods and materials such as Macomb County can strengthen the regional economy by procuring a greater percentage of their purchases from local farms and businesses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, by adoption of this Resolution, formally states its intention to establish a food procurement policy to recommend local sourcing for the reasons set forth in this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the food procurement policy will recommend the following for all Macomb County Departments:

1. Recommend sourcing food grown in Macomb County and/or near Macomb County for all sponsored events.
2. Recommend sourcing from farmers that participate in sustainable practices and/or that have Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) Certification or Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certification
3. Request food vendors to purchase from local farmers and to provide information on where the food is sourced at all sponsored events.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the food procurement policy will establish incentives when given a choice between vendors that meet the food procurement recommendations versus vendors that do not.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the food procurement policy will recommend the Macomb County Purchasing Department to create and maintain a list that contains the name and contact information of each local food vendor and/or local food producer and collaborate with the Macomb Food Collaborative to refine the vendor list.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that soft copies of this resolution be provided to all Macomb County Elected Officials, State of Michigan Food Policy Council, Macomb Food Collaborative, Macomb County Farm Bureau President Ken DeCock, MSU Extension Educator Kathe Hale, Macomb County Food Coordinator Linda Azar, and Macomb County Purchasing Department Director Polly Helzer.
Cultivate a safe, healthy, accessible food supply and build Michigan’s economy

More investment in local food sector infrastructure will build capacity and help grow jobs

Farmers market sector is key to healthier people and economic growth

More accessible and nutritious food supply can positively impact serious health issues

Food sector has tremendous potential to create new jobs, continue to provide a safe food supply

www.michigan.gov/mfpc
The demand for locally produced food has increased each year and the food sector has tremendous potential to create new jobs and stable employment in economically disadvantaged urban and rural communities. At the same time, a more accessible and nutritious food supply can positively impact serious health issues, such as Michigan’s high obesity rate and the incidence of diet-related chronic disease.

As the state’s second largest industry, the agri-food sector already employs more than one million residents, but more jobs can be created as sectors of the industry grow. The aggregate economic impact generated by many small farms operating in an area is significant.

Michigan can spur livable communities and new business growth in rural and urban communities by developing and expanding viable healthy food retailers that anchor economic and community improvement.

MFPC Recommendations

1. Build capacity of Michigan’s farmer market sector to increase access to healthy foods.
2. Help small-scale farms achieve food safety certification to increase their sales to the retail food industry, institutional buyers and consumers.
3. Support a state Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) to provide access to financial capital for job creation in the local food system.

Established in June 2005, the Michigan Food Policy Council recommends programs and policies that enhance economic growth through the state’s diverse agriculture industry, while cultivating a safe, healthy and available food supply for all Michigan residents. MFPC plays a unique role in bringing state government to the table to support our food system and economy. This publication is a summary of a full report available for download at www.michigan.gov/mfpc.
Better food access promotes equity, sustainability in underserved areas

Michigan can create new opportunities for agricultural producers by expanding access into underserved consumer markets and stimulating greater overall demand for healthy food.

- Close to one million people in Michigan live in underserved communities – urban neighborhoods and rural towns without ready access to fresh and healthy food.*
- One in ten people in Michigan need to use a food bank each year because of food emergencies (can’t afford to buy or lacks access to food).
- Michigan is the 2nd most agriculturally diverse state, after California, yet 80 percent of Michigan youth do not consume adequate servings (five or more) of fruits and vegetables per day.

Access to healthy food helps reduce chronic disease, obesity

Poor access to healthy food is associated with obesity and other diet-related chronic diseases. Michigan has the 10th highest obesity rate in the US. Obesity is 52 percent higher in neighborhoods that lack supermarkets, grocery stores or farmers markets.

In 2018, Michigan is expected to spend $12.5 billion on obesity related health care costs, if rates continue to increase at current levels. If the 2008 obesity rate just remains constant, however, Michigan is estimated to save $867 per adult in health care costs by 2018, a savings of almost $6.9 billion.*
Shift to local food adds economic benefits

If Michigan residents and institutions shifted just 20 percent of food purchasing to local sources, the supply shift would create jobs, revitalize communities and boost the economy. It’s a model for food system redesign that also enhances ecological sustainability, better health and more civic engagement.

Just a 20 percent shift to local food would:
- Create new jobs (New food businesses, new supply chain spending, new spending by employees)
- Put unemployed Michigan residents back to work
- Generate additional state and local annual tax revenues

Emerging food businesses need capital to grow

Access to nutritious food is essential to better health outcomes, yet access is hindered along the food supply chain. Food businesses need capital to add equipment, secure land, upgrade facilities and market to buyers.

A Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) is a viable alternative to securing loans from traditional lenders. HFFI encompasses a wide variety of financing efforts designed to encourage the development and preservation of healthy food sales in underserved communities. Many are partnerships involving philanthropic, state and local government agencies, food access groups and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI). Millions of dollars in federal funds for HFFIs are available. Stakeholders in Michigan are working to generate matching funds needed to accept a federal HFFI grant.

Large food purchasers need more local food sources

Retail and institutional buyers are looking for local food sources. Business policies often require third party food safety certification. Of the estimated 6,500 Michigan fruit and vegetable producers that market directly to consumers, less than five percent participated in a formal USDA Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) audit in 2010. GAP certification is often a barrier and requires a documented food safety plan.
Farmers markets provide a boost to local communities

Farmers markets are important community assets. They bring access to fresh and healthy food and contribute to the unique “sense of place” in local communities. Clearly, the sector provides a social and economic benefit. In 2012, SNAP (formally the food stamp program) recipients spent $1.5 million in federal benefits at Michigan farmers markets, making our state the leader in SNAP sales at markets in the Midwest, despite only one-third of markets participating. The Governor’s Health and Wellness Dashboard identifies SNAP sales at farmers markets as a key performance measure of healthy communities.

Training and technical assistance would increase access and sales. In 2012, 103 of the 300 Michigan farmers markets were authorized to accept SNAP in 38 counties. SNAP is administered via EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer), and not all farmers markets have the capacity to utilize EBT. The other 65 percent of farmers markets that don’t yet accept SNAP need training, technical assistance and support to join the program and expand access to healthy food. EBT would enable more people to buy food at farmers markets, especially those using SNAP.

An investment in the infrastructure of Michigan’s farmers market sector is a strategy for building the capacity of community-based farmers markets and increasing access in underserved communities.

GAP audits are financial, logistical challenge for very small farms

Demand for locally grown food is greater than ever but in order to meet the demand and sell into larger markets, farmers often face financial hurdles as they try to achieve GAP certification. Cost and scale of GAP is often unrealistic for a small-scale farm with small acreage, a wide variety of crops and a small labor force.

Although not a regulatory requirement for any farm, GAP certification is usually required by retail, wholesale and institutional buyers who look for adherence to GAP and traceability when making purchases. Regardless of the size of the farm, a safe food supply is paramount for the food industry. Help with GAP compliance for food safety certification would allow more farms to scale up and sell their food to a broader market.

Michigan’s small scale farmers are business entrepreneurs and need scale-specific technical, financial and business support such as with industry wide food safety certification.
MFPC Recommendations

1. Build capacity of Michigan’s farmer market sector to increase access to healthy foods.
2. Help small-scale farms achieve food safety certification to increase their sales to the retail food industry, institutional buyers and consumers.
3. Support a state Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) to provide access to financial capital for job creation in the local food system.

Long term goal is healthier, more available food supply
- Increase access to healthy food
- Increase farmers’ food production capacity
- Expand local food sources for retailers and institutions
- Improve food sector sustainability and job creation

*For references, please see full report at www.michigan.gov/mfpc.

“I believe that Michigan is in a strong position to create a Healthy Food Financing Initiative. We have a clear need for improved access to healthy food; however, we also have the leadership and financing opportunities to solve many of the nutrition, health and economic problems we face.”

– US Senator Debbie Stabenow, Michigan
Resolution In Support Of Requesting the Michigan Public Service Commission To Reassess Opt-out Fees for Smart Meter Or Advanced Metering Infrastructure Programs

Commissioner Jim Carabelli on Behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Offer the Following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution 2012-6 in support of requesting the Michigan Public Service Commission to investigate the safety and effectiveness of Smart Meters; and

WHEREAS, since the adoption of Resolution 2012-6, Macomb County residents have voiced health concerns regarding Smart Meters and its opt-out fees; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Public Service Commission has approved the implementation of smart meters or AMI devices in Michigan and the associated fees for customers who choose to opt-out of the installation of a smart meter in the form of a one-time fee that is either pre-installation or post-installation, in conjunction with a monthly charge for outing-out in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Public Service Commission, when establishing the opt-out fees, provided no provision for low income customers who want to opt out of the smart meter installation but who cannot afford the additional fees.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Macomb County Board of Commissioners hereby expresses its concern relative to the current opt-out fees approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission for Advanced Metering Infrastructure in Michigan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Macomb County Board of Commissioners requests that the Michigan Public Services Commission reassess the fees associated with opting-out and the ability for consumers to keep their current analog meters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that hard copies of this resolution be provided to Governor Rick Snyder, the Macomb County delegation to the Michigan Legislature, the Michigan Association of Counties, Attorney General Bill Schuette, the Michigan Public Services Commission; Detroit Edison; and soft copies of this resolution be provided to County Executive Mark Hackel.
Official Proclamation
Of the Board of Commissioners
Macomb County, Michigan

A Proclamation Honoring Joe and Dorothy Stabile
On the Momentous Occasion of Their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Commissioner Kathy D. Vosburg, on Behalf of the Board of Commissioners,
Offers the Following Proclamation:

Whereas, November 9, 2013, marks the 50th wedding anniversary of Joe and Dorothy Stabile; and

Whereas, when Joe Stabile and Dorothy Waldroup met at a drive-in restaurant it was the beginning of a long and loving relationship. As Joe and Dorothy reminisce about their 50 years of marriage, they warmly remember pledging their love and devotion to one another on November 9, 1963, at Saint Rose of Lima Church in Detroit and settling down in Detroit to begin their life together. Joe worked in automotive manufacturing and Dorothy was in the optical field. They relocated to Chesterfield, Michigan in 1976; and

Whereas, Dorothy was born in Fondly Mountain, Kentucky, the daughter of a coal miner, who moved his family to Michigan when Dorothy was ten years old; Joe was born and raised in Detroit. Joe and Dorothy’s strong belief in family and commitment to God and each other over the past 50 eventful years led them to be blessed with two wonderful daughters of whom they are so proud, Tracy Elaine Stewart and Jeanne Marie Bade; they have two precious and delightful grandchildren, Kathryn Ann Bade and Emily Marie Bade; and

Whereas, Joe and Dorothy are exemplary and active members of their community, they are the owners of Stahl’s Bakery in New Baltimore, Michigan; they were the co-founders of The Voice Newspapers. Dorothy is a member of the Chesterfield Township Library Board, Macomb County Art Institute Authority, the Anchor Bay Artist Club and the New Baltimore DDA; Joe is a founding member of the Anchor Bay Community Foundation and helped organize the Anchor Bay Chamber of Commerce, he is a member of the Anchor Bay Rotary and Chesterfield Township Planning Commission; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that this loving and loyal union between Joe and Dorothy Stabile, which has spanned a half century and grows stronger as each day passes, should be recognized.

Now Therefore, Be It Proclaimed By The Board Of Commissioners, Speaking For And On Behalf Of All County Citizens As Follows:

I

That By These Presents, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners does hereby extend its best wishes and congratulations to Joe and Dorothy Stabile on their 50th wedding anniversary.

II

Be It Further Proclaimed that a suitable copy of this Proclamation be presented to Joe and Dorothy Stabile in respectful commemoration of their 50th anniversary.
MACOMB COUNTY CENTRAL CAMPUS
LONG TERM SPACE PROGRAM/FACILITY ASSESSMENT
REPORT SUMMARY
OCTOBER 30, 2013

plante moran CRESA
REAL ESTATE CONSULTANTS

PMCRESA.COM
REPORT OVERVIEW

PROJECT ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

Macomb County ("County") is a mature suburban community of Detroit. Macomb County borders Wayne County to its south, Oakland County to its west, St. Clair and Lapeer Counties to its north, and St. Clair County to its east. According to the 2010 census, Macomb County is the third most populous county in Michigan with total population of 840,978 residents. The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments ("SEMCOG") reported the County’s population at 851,915 in July 2013; and projected for the County population to reach 905,390 by year 2040. This expected population growth in the County will place further demands for county services and require increased burdens within the already stretched county office facilities.

Population increases, technology changes, new and enhanced county services has necessitated in the way that the County departments function very differently today than in years past. Currently, many of the County’s departments are not efficiently located and/or sized. Furthermore, the recent fire in the Old County Building has displaced several departments, exacerbating the need for updated, efficient, and stable County department locations.

In June 2013, Macomb County engaged Plante Moran Cresa ("PMC") to lead and facilitate development of a conceptual long-term county offices space program and to conduct a “high level” assessment of several existing County facilities. The purpose is to provide Macomb County preliminary data to begin making strategic decisions regarding the future of its departments’ office spaces and locations.

Specifically, PMC’s engagement was limited to:

- Develop a conceptual office space program
- Develop a conceptual stacking plan
- Develop a conceptual parking accommodation plan
- Develop a conceptual project budget
- Develop a conceptual project schedule

LIMITED PROJECT SCOPE

Macomb County has limited the following departments/offices to be included:

- Board of Commissioners
- Clerk
- Corporate Counsel
- Court, Facilities
- Finance
- Health and Community Services
- Human Resources
- Planning
- Prosecutor’s Office
- Register of Deeds, and
- Treasurer.
Existing county buildings included are:

- Administration Building
- Old County Building
- 16th Circuit Court Building
- Clemens Center, and
- Talmer Bank Building (Central Campus).

Section A, pages 10-14, provides general descriptions of each building and the departments occupying them.

Plante Moran Cresa’s engagement did not include in-depth research or exhaustive evaluation of the County’s facilities. Plante Moran Cresa’s engagement included a limited review, at a high level, of the operations of the County’s departments/offices included above for anticipated staffing levels and future office space requirements.

PROJECT APPROACH
Plante Moran Cresa, together with the County explored appropriate space programming methodologies. It was determined that departmental surveys would be sent to the named department directors to gather initial inputs, followed-up by in-person interviews and tours of existing spaces. Information obtained through this process was then used as a basis to compile a conceptual space program, related adjacency requirements, and stacking plans of the proposed department locations.

The procedures employed are generally determined based on the conditions observed, interviews, and circumstances under consideration and can be influenced by timing, materiality, and sensitivity. The sufficiency of the procedures Plante Moran Cresa is engaged to perform is solely the responsibility of the management of the County. Consequently, Plante Moran Cresa makes no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures, either for the purpose for which this report was requested, or for any other purpose.

1. PROJECT KICK-OFF
During this engagement, the County formed a Project Committee (“Committee”). The Committee consisted of the Office of County Executive, Facility Director, Finance Director, and the County’s Architect-of-Record, Wakely Associates. On June 10, 2013, PMC led and facilitated a kick-off meeting with the Committee to review the conceptual programming process. Subsequent to the kick-off meeting, a communication was sent to all department heads informing them of the engagement and process.

On June 17, 2013, PMC led a workshop with the Committee to discuss and determine space standards, common area needs, and to review the departmental surveys.

2. DATA COLLECTION
With the Committee’s concurrence, PMC employed a departmental survey to gather organizational structures, interdepartmental and public interactions, work flow, common space...
needs, and equipment requirements, and vision on how the public can be better served. The data collected included the following:

- Staffing Requirements
- Departmental Adjacencies
- Work Flow
- Storage Requirements
- Equipment Needs
- Conference/Meeting Space Requirements, and
- Public Interaction

3. PROGRAM CONFIRMATION

From the data collected from the departmental surveys, PMC prepared a draft space program. PMC conducted follow-up meetings with the Committee and department heads to clarify some of the data collected and allow additional program refinements and changes.

4. DEPARTMENT LOCATIONS

PMC prepared separate stacking plans of each proposed department location based on the area each department head had requested, inter-department interactions (adjacencies), interactions with the public, and location to accessible parking. PMC reviewed the stacking plan with each department head, the Committee, and members of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners. Based on input collected from those groups, additional refinements were made to the program and stacking plans. The final stacking plans were then presented to each department head for comment and sign-off.

5. STORAGE REVIEW

At a high level, PMC reviewed storage requirements of each department. In the conceptual program, PMC allocated certain square footage area for small item storage. Currently, the departments find space within their own department to store files/items that require somewhat immediate (weekly) access, and use the 5th and 6th floor of the Administration Building to store larger files/items that requires moderate (monthly) retrieval. The County did not engage PMC to perform an in-depth storage requirement analysis.

To better utilize the 5th and 6th floor in the Administration building, and to lessen the dependency on “premium” office space within the departments, PMC recommends that the County studies the potential to implement a department-wide electronic document/record storage, retrieval and management program. An electronic document/record storage, retrieval and management program cost can be considerable; and is often based upon the amount (quantity) of files that needs to be stored and the immediacy of which they need to be accessed. Please consider to engage a technology consultant to help determine the appropriate type of storage required and a reasonable budget.
6. PARKING ACCOMMODATION REVIEW

PMC has reviewed the current parking accommodations within the Central Campus. There is insufficient public parking in close proximity to the County buildings. The current 100% dedicated employee parking strategy implemented by the County makes it difficult for the general public to find parking near the departments they need to visit. PMC suggests that the County re-visit the current employee parking strategy, and if appropriate, consider implementing an 80% / 20% employee parking strategy. Such will free up additional public parking spaces without the need to modify the current parking layout. Parking accommodation strategy is discussed in further detail under Section D of this report.

PMC has also reviewed the large parking structure adjacent to the Court building. The current parking structure was built in 1977, and can accommodate about 600 vehicles. Currently, the County spends up to $300,000 annually to maintain the 35 year old parking structure. If a new replacement parking structure is needed, the cost could range between $22,000,000 and $25,000,000.

7. PROJECT BUDGET

From data collected and synthesized from the department interviews, stacking plans, and using some very broadly defined assumptions, PMC has developed a conceptual project budget for a proposed department location and/or relocation plan. The total project budget for the department relocation is estimated to be between $30,600,000 and $35,300,000, inclusive of all “hard costs”, except cost of technology equipment. The estimated budget does not include “soft costs” such as financing, capitalized interest, legal, accounting, moving, and if applicable, developer/development fees. This conceptual budget assumes a fit and finish consistent with the interior of the current Administration Building. However, without a detailed set of design documents, this budget is only an estimate and may vary considerably based on the final design selections by Macomb County. A more detailed budget for each building is presented in Section F of the report.

8. PROJECT SCHEDULE

Based on the approved stacking plans, PMC has developed a preliminary project schedule with the assumption that this project would be a phased undertaking. The total anticipated project duration is 30 months from start to finish. (See Section E for conceptual schedule)
SPACE PROGRAM CONSIDERATIONS

Based on the information above, the recommended department locations per building are as follows:
(Please refer to Section C for a graphical representation of each building)

1. **ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Floor</th>
<th>Current Function</th>
<th>Proposed Function</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Public Lobby</td>
<td>Public Lobby</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Treasury Department</td>
<td>Treasury Department</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Prosecutor’s Office</td>
<td>Prosecutor’s Office</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Prosecutor’s Office</td>
<td>Prosecutor’s Office</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Storage Area</td>
<td>Prosecutor’s Office&lt;br&gt;Health and Community Services&lt;br&gt;County Training Room</td>
<td>Due to an anticipated increase in staff, the Prosecutor’s office and HCS are in need of additional space. The leftover space on the 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; floor will be converted to a County wide training room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Storage Area</td>
<td>Finance Department</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Planning Department</td>
<td>Human Resources / Equalization</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Office of County Executive / Corporation Counsel / Health and Comm. Services</td>
<td>Office of County Executive / Corporation Counsel</td>
<td>HCS is anticipating growth, so they will be relocated. HCS’s current offices will be used as future Corporation Counsel offices or for storage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Board of Commissioners</td>
<td>Board of Commissioners</td>
<td>For greater efficiencies, renovation of the 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; floor for this function is suggested</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2. **OLD COUNTY BUILDING**

Judge Foster wishes to consolidate and therefore to locate all court functions within the Central Campus area. Due to its proximity to the Court Building and its smaller floor plates, it is recommended that the Old County Building house both the Friend of the Court and Juvenile Courts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Floor</th>
<th>Function (prior to fire)</th>
<th>Proposed Function</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Sheriff’s Civil Division / Paternity DNA Testing</td>
<td>Probate (non-judicial function) Sheriff’s Civil Division</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Register of Deeds</td>
<td>Friend of Court (administration/reception)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Equalization</td>
<td>Friend of Court</td>
<td>2 hearing rooms w/ support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Court Rooms</td>
<td>Friend of Court</td>
<td>2 hearing rooms w/ support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Jury Commission / Court Administration</td>
<td>Friend of Court</td>
<td>2 hearing rooms w/ support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td>Friend of Court</td>
<td>2 hearing rooms w/ support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>I.T. Department</td>
<td>Juvenile Court</td>
<td>2 hearing rooms w/ support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>I.T. Department</td>
<td>Juvenile Court</td>
<td>2 hearing rooms w/ support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>General Storage</td>
<td>Juvenile Court / Future hearing room</td>
<td>1 hearing room w/ the capacity for 1 additional future hearing room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Ethics Board / I.T. storage</td>
<td>Juvenile Court (administration / reception)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Finance Storage</td>
<td>Unassigned (future growth)</td>
<td>11th floor is allocated for future growth of Juvenile or FOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Finance Department</td>
<td>Unassigned (future growth)</td>
<td>12th floor is allocated for future growth of Juvenile or FOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Facilities Department</td>
<td>Court Administration (overflow) Law Library</td>
<td>A portion of the 13th floor will be dedicated to Court Administration functions with the remainder being allocated to the Law Library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Facilities Department will remain at their current location on Hall Rd.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 3. 16TH CIRCUIT COURT BUILDING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Floor</th>
<th>Current Function</th>
<th>Proposed Function</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Clerk / Court Storage</td>
<td>Clerk (court functions) / Jury Services</td>
<td>Based on the need for additional space, it is recommended that the Clerk split its court and non-court functions. The court-functions of the Clerk will remain on the 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; floor allowing the necessary space for staff and public. Joining the Clerk on the 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; floor will be Jury functions (jury check-in, jury room, conference rooms, etc.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Court Rooms</td>
<td>Court Rooms</td>
<td>4 Court Rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Court Rooms</td>
<td>Court Rooms</td>
<td>4 Court Rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Court Rooms</td>
<td>Court Rooms</td>
<td>4 Court Rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Jury Commission / Court Administration</td>
<td>Court Rooms / Future Court Rooms</td>
<td>Based on the projected growth, it is recommended that the 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; floor contain 2 courtrooms and their support areas with the ability to add an additional 2 courtrooms in the future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Friend of Court</td>
<td>Court Administration / Future Court Rooms</td>
<td>Based on the projected future growth, it is recommended that the 6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; floor contain space for 2 future courtrooms and the relocation of the Court Administration functions from the 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; floor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. **TALMER BUILDING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Floor</th>
<th>Function (post fire)</th>
<th>Proposed Function</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td>Clerk (non-court functions) / Register of Deeds</td>
<td>Based on the program, similar department needs and the need for easy public access, it is recommended that the Register of Deeds / Clerk (non-court functions) relocate from the Court Building and share the main floor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Finance Department</td>
<td>Planning Department</td>
<td>Based on the need for easier public access and the need for dedicated space for investors/developers looking into Macomb County it is recommended that the Planning Department relocate from the Administration Building.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. **CLEMENS CENTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Function (post fire)</th>
<th>Proposed Function</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern Portion</td>
<td>Register of Deeds</td>
<td>Secured Off-site County Storage</td>
<td>With Finance and HR moving into the Administration Building and displacing the storage floors, there will be a need for easily accessible storage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Portion</td>
<td>Probation / current leases</td>
<td>Probation / current leases</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Portion</td>
<td>MCCSA</td>
<td>MCCSA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Macomb County
### Central Campus Study
#### Conceptual Project Cost Estimate - Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Sqft</th>
<th>Hard Costs</th>
<th>SqFt Price</th>
<th>Soft Costs</th>
<th>SqFt Price</th>
<th>Total Costs</th>
<th>SqFt Price</th>
<th>Acceptable Range (Low)</th>
<th>Acceptable Range (High)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration Building</td>
<td>68,700</td>
<td>$4,499,850</td>
<td>$66</td>
<td>$2,310,145</td>
<td>$34</td>
<td>$6,809,995</td>
<td>$99</td>
<td>$6,000,000</td>
<td>$7,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old County Building</td>
<td>95,000</td>
<td>$10,877,500</td>
<td>$115</td>
<td>$4,518,289</td>
<td>$48</td>
<td>$15,395,789</td>
<td>$162</td>
<td>$14,500,000</td>
<td>$16,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Circuit Court Building</td>
<td>73,000</td>
<td>$6,067,500</td>
<td>$83</td>
<td>$2,820,445</td>
<td>$39</td>
<td>$8,887,945</td>
<td>$122</td>
<td>$8,000,000</td>
<td>$9,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talmer Building</td>
<td>22,600</td>
<td>$1,423,800</td>
<td>$63</td>
<td>$721,949</td>
<td>$32</td>
<td>$2,145,749</td>
<td>$95</td>
<td>$1,500,000</td>
<td>$2,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clemens Center Building</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>$546,000</td>
<td>$46</td>
<td>$180,569</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$726,569</td>
<td>$61</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
<td>$800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BUILDINGS TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>271,300</td>
<td>$23,414,650</td>
<td>$86</td>
<td>$10,551,397</td>
<td>$39</td>
<td>$33,966,047</td>
<td>$125</td>
<td>$30,600,000</td>
<td>$35,300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking Deck</td>
<td>700 spaces</td>
<td>$18,500,000</td>
<td>$4,880,763</td>
<td>$23,807,63</td>
<td>$22,000,000</td>
<td>$25,000,000</td>
<td>$22,000,000</td>
<td>$25,000,000</td>
<td>$25,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Buildings + Parking Deck** $52,600,000 - $60,300,000
- **Talmer Building Purchase** $900,000 - $1,000,000
- **Old County Building Insurance Claim** forthcoming - forthcoming
- **Technology Costs (equipment/upgraded systems/security cameras/swipe cards, etc)** TBD by County - TBD by County

**Total Project Cost** $53,500,000 - $61,300,000

Notes:

- **Hard Costs** are direct costs incurred in construction such as: labor, materials, equipment, building, etc.
- **Soft Costs** are indirect costs incurred in construction such as: contractor fees, permits, testing, furniture, professional fees, etc.
- The acceptable price swings vary depending on difficulty/complexity of project, unknown building conditions and anticipated construction phasing.
- Please refer to the following pages for a detailed budget breakout of each project.

10/28/2013
PRELIMINARY PROJECT COST SUMMARY
ASSUMPTIONS

The following assumptions were incorporated into the conceptual cost estimates.

- Estimate budget assumes work in 4th quarter of 2013. No escalation factor has been added.
- Architectural/Engineering design fees are estimated at 7% of construction cost.
- Contractor’s General Conditions, Support Services and Fees are estimated at 9% of construction cost.
- Owner’s Representative/Project Management fees are based on 1.5% of project cost.
- Technology equipment costs vary significantly, therefore the field is left blank. Final number shall be provided by the County based on assessment and determination of [future] need.
- Standard technology wiring/cabling, is included in the project construction budget.
- Furniture costs are based upon a ‘worst case’ scenario of requiring 100% replacement of existing furniture for departments being renovated as an in-depth furniture assessment has not been performed. There are opportunities to significantly reduce final furniture costs. It will be based on the condition and abilities to appropriately adaptive reuse of existing furniture.
- Moving costs are not included in the budget as a final phasing/move schedule has yet to be determined.
- Construction cost estimate is based on Macomb County prevailing wage labor.
- An eight percent (8%) construction contingency was determined to be reasonable for the total project cost.
- Estimated budget assumes existing facilities contain no environmental conditions which would require abatement.
- Estimated budget assumes the existing facilities are structurally adequate and sound, including floor/roof systems and foundations.
- PMC’s engagement did not include a compliance assessment study of applicable building codes of existing facilities. Therefore, conceptual budget estimate is based on only limited code-related upgrades/changes.
- The firm engaged for design will be diligent in balancing space program needs, design image and available budget. The design should include generic specifications with limited single source components.
- The total budget estimate is based on employing a project delivery method managed by a qualified independent professional firm, and utilizing a stipulated sum or not-to-exceed cost procurement process, which includes competitive bidding for construction and equipment.
- Purchase price for the Talmer Bank Building is an estimate based on current market rate.
- Estimated budget does not include yearly maintenance costs, ranging between $100,000 and $300,000, for the existing parking structure.
- All other cost estimates are based on professional judgment, and industry benchmarks.