

DRAFT – Agenda
Tuscola County Board of Commissioners
Committee of the Whole – Thursday, April 28, 2011
HH Purdy Building – Following Board of Commissioners Meeting
125 W. Lincoln
Caro, MI

Finance

Committee Leaders-Commissioner Peterson and Bardwell

Primary Finance Items

1. **Circuit Court Collections Plan – Circuit/Family Court Administrator**
2. **Purchase of Purdy Building (See A)**
3. **Proposed State Budget Cuts Impacting Counties (See B)**
4. **Proposed Government Reform Information**
5. **Thumb Regional Renewable Energy Collaborative – Update**
6. **County Bond Rating of A+ Retained**

Secondary/On-Going Finance Items

1. Treasurer Bank Statement
2. County Treasurer Investment Report
3. Development of User Friendly County Financial Information
4. Emergency Financial Manager Law
5. Cellular Telephones
6. Road Commission Contracting with Sheriff Department for Weigh Master Functions
7. Economic Development Alternatives

Personnel

Committee Leader-Commissioners Peterson

Primary Personnel Items

1. **Stepping Out Employee Recognition Information**

Secondary/On-Going Personnel Items

1. Circuit/Family Court Personnel Policies
2. MERS Bridged Benefits Valuation
3. Labor Negotiations
4. New Hire Wage/Fringe Benefits
5. Medical Marijuana

Building and Grounds

Committee Leader-Commissioners Kern and Petzold

Primary Building and Grounds Items

- 1. Office Space Planning – Next Steps**
- 2. Lawn/Snow Maintenance for State Police Post in Caro**
- 3. Airport Zoning Board of Appeals**

Secondary/On-Going Building and Grounds Items

Correspondence/Other Business as Necessary

- 1. County Work Program Update (See C)**
- 2. Medical Marijuana**
- 3. NACo Legislative Conference**

Public Comment Period

Closed Session – If Necessary

Other Business as Necessary

Statutory Finance Committee

1. Claims Review and Approval

Notes:

Except for the Statutory Finance Committee, committee meetings of the whole are advisory only. Any decision made at an advisory committee is only a recommendation and must be approved by a formal meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

If you need accommodations to attend this meeting please notify the Tuscola County Controller/Administrator's Office (989-672-3700) two days in advance of the meeting.

This is a draft agenda and subject to change. Items may be added the day of the meeting or covered under other business at the meeting.



77 KERCHEVAL
GROSSE POINTE FARMS, MI 48236
PH 313-344-7280
FX 313-344-7275

April 14, 2011

Mr. Michael Hoagland
Controller/Administrator
County of Tuscola
125 W. Lincoln Street, Suite 500
Caro, Michigan 48723

Re: Installment Purchase Agreement for 125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro, Michigan

Dear Mr. Hoagland:

This letter and the enclosed report will confirm our telephone conversation of Tuesday, April 12th. When we spoke you ask me to prepare a report that demonstrated the difference in the dollar cost of continuing to make the payments required under the Installment Purchase Agreement (the "IPA") for the above captioned property and the assumed payments on a General Obligation Limited Tax bond issue sold by the County. The report is enclosed. You will note the report shows the assumed bond payments for a twenty-year bond issue; the payments under the IPA with the effects of some annual increases in the U.S. Consumer Price Index ("CPI") and lastly, the payments under the IPA with no effect by the CPI.

To calculate the size of the bond issue, we assumed that the County would purchase the building in June 2011, paying the purchase price as calculated under the terms of the IPA. In my letter of March 23, 2011, I explained how the purchase price is determined and gave an example of what the price would be in June 2011. Specifically I said: *"...the Purchase Option Price is equal to the original principal (\$975,000) minus a monthly credit of \$2,916.67 and minus the \$100 per month the County should be paying to maintain the Purchase Option. By example: if the County purchases the property on June 1, 2011, its Purchase Option Price would be \$956,900 (\$975,000 minus (\$2,916.67 x 6) and minus (\$100.00 x 6))."* In addition to the Purchase Option Price, in the bond issue we included sufficient funds to cover the cost of issuing the bonds. The resulting bond size is \$1,035,000.

As you are aware the IPA has language providing for adjustments in the County's payment to reflect changes in the U.S. Consumer Price Index. As of late there have not been very noticeable increases in the CPI, however it cannot be assumed that this current period of low CPI increases will continue for the life of the IPA. Therefore we have assumed some modest growth in the CPI (see footnote 1 on enclosed report) between now and 2036. We also show the annual payments under the IPA without any increase from the changes in the CPI and compare that to the same assumed bond payments. When we assume some increases in the CPI, and their effect on the annual payments, the total of the IPA payments amount to \$3,092,573. The total of all IPA payments, without any changes in the CPI, amounts to \$2,524,080. We have assumed that a twenty-year issue of Capital Improvement Bonds would carry about a 4.55% interest rate and the total principal and interest payments would amount to \$1,567,176. The difference between the total bond payments and the IPA payments, at a

Mr. Michael Hoagland
April 14, 2011
Page Two

minimum, assuming no inflation is **\$956,903** less in total bond payments. If some inflation is assumed then the difference to the County is **\$1,525,396**.

To reiterate the point I made in my letter of March 23, 2011, if the space is suitable for the County's purposes, the County should consider buying the property because of the onerous interest rate of 8.986% and the Purchase Option Price (assuming the County is paying the \$100 monthly price for this option) is lower than the Principal Balance owing on the IPA.

As we discussed, if you wish me to come to Caro and explain all of this in person, please let me know and we can work out a date. If you have any questions about the reports or this letter please call anytime.

Very truly yours,
Leonard & Company


Thomas M. Enright
Managing Director
Leonard Capital Markets
313.344.7280

Enclosure
cc/with enclosure:
John R. Axe, Esq.

**COUNTY OF TUSCOLA
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
SCHEDULE OF ANNUAL LEASE PAYMENTS VS ASSUMED BOND DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS**

Fiscal Year Ended	Assumes Inflation in the IPA Payments			Assumes no Inflation in the IPA Payments		
	IPA Annual Payments (1)	Annual Bond Payments (4)	Annual Differential in Payments	IPA Annual Payments (3)	Annual Bond Payments (4)	Annual Differential in Payments
2011 (2)	\$97,080	\$17,316	(\$79,764)	\$97,080	\$17,316	(\$79,764)
2012	98,051	76,210	(21,841)	97,080	76,210	(20,870)
2013	99,031	75,433	(23,598)	97,080	75,433	(21,647)
2014	100,022	79,572	(20,450)	97,080	79,572	(17,508)
2015	101,022	78,522	(22,500)	97,080	78,522	(18,558)
2016	102,537	77,372	(25,165)	97,080	77,372	(19,708)
2017	104,075	76,122	(27,953)	97,080	76,122	(20,958)
2018	105,636	79,685	(25,951)	97,080	79,685	(17,395)
2019	107,221	78,053	(29,168)	97,080	78,053	(19,027)
2020	108,829	76,310	(32,519)	97,080	76,310	(20,770)
2021	111,006	79,347	(31,659)	97,080	79,347	(17,733)
2022	113,226	77,197	(36,029)	97,080	77,197	(19,883)
2023	115,490	79,886	(35,604)	97,080	79,886	(17,194)
2024	117,800	77,425	(40,375)	97,080	77,425	(19,655)
2025	120,156	74,950	(45,206)	97,080	74,950	(22,130)
2026	122,559	77,347	(45,212)	97,080	77,347	(19,733)
2027	125,011	79,503	(45,508)	97,080	79,503	(17,577)
2028	127,511	76,530	(50,981)	97,080	76,530	(20,550)
2029	130,061	78,425	(51,636)	97,080	78,425	(18,655)
2030	132,662	75,180	(57,482)	97,080	75,180	(21,900)
2031	135,315	76,792	(58,523)	97,080	76,792	(20,288)
2032	138,022	0	(138,022)	97,080	0	(97,080)
2033	140,782	0	(140,782)	97,080	0	(97,080)
2034	143,598	0	(143,598)	97,080	0	(97,080)
2035	146,470	0	(146,470)	97,080	0	(97,080)
2036	149,399	0	(149,399)	97,080	0	(97,080)
	<u>\$3,092,573</u>	<u>\$1,567,177</u>	<u>(\$1,525,396)</u>	<u>\$2,524,080</u>	<u>\$1,567,177</u>	<u>(\$956,903)</u>

- (1) Annual payments assume: 1.0% CPI increase 2012 to 2015; 1.5% increase in 2016 to 2020 and 2.0% each year thereafter.
(2) Assumes lease payments begin on January 1, 2011.
(3) Assumes no increase in inflation.
(4) Debt service is based on an assumed interest rate of 4.55%.

SOURCE: County of Tuscola and Leonard Capital Markets

County of Tuscola, Michigan

Capital Improvement Bonds, Series 2011

Sources & Uses

Dated 07/01/2011 | Delivered 07/01/2011

Sources Of Funds

Par Amount of Bonds	\$1,035,000.00
---------------------	----------------

Total Sources	\$1,035,000.00
----------------------	-----------------------

Uses Of Funds

Deposit to Project Construction Fund	956,900.00
--------------------------------------	------------

Costs of Issuance	60,000.00
-------------------	-----------

Total Underwriter's Discount (1.500%)	15,525.00
---------------------------------------	-----------

Rounding Amount	2,575.00
-----------------	----------

Total Uses	\$1,035,000.00
-------------------	-----------------------

County of Tuscola, Michigan

Capital Improvement Bonds, Series 2011

Debt Service Schedule

Part 1 of 2

Date	Principal	Coupon	Interest	Total P+I	Fiscal Total
07/01/2011	-	-	-	-	-
12/01/2011	-	-	17,316.67	17,316.67	-
12/31/2011	-	-	-	-	17,316.67
06/01/2012	35,000.00	2.000%	20,780.00	55,780.00	-
12/01/2012	-	-	20,430.00	20,430.00	-
12/31/2012	-	-	-	-	76,210.00
06/01/2013	35,000.00	2.250%	20,430.00	55,430.00	-
12/01/2013	-	-	20,036.25	20,036.25	-
12/31/2013	-	-	-	-	75,466.25
06/01/2014	40,000.00	2.500%	20,036.25	60,036.25	-
12/01/2014	-	-	19,536.25	19,536.25	-
12/31/2014	-	-	-	-	79,572.50
06/01/2015	40,000.00	2.750%	19,536.25	59,536.25	-
12/01/2015	-	-	18,986.25	18,986.25	-
12/31/2015	-	-	-	-	78,522.50
06/01/2016	40,000.00	3.000%	18,986.25	58,986.25	-
12/01/2016	-	-	18,386.25	18,386.25	-
12/31/2016	-	-	-	-	77,372.50
06/01/2017	40,000.00	3.250%	18,386.25	58,386.25	-
12/01/2017	-	-	17,736.25	17,736.25	-
12/31/2017	-	-	-	-	76,122.50
06/01/2018	45,000.00	3.500%	17,736.25	62,736.25	-
12/01/2018	-	-	16,948.75	16,948.75	-
12/31/2018	-	-	-	-	79,685.00
06/01/2019	45,000.00	3.750%	16,948.75	61,948.75	-
12/01/2019	-	-	16,105.00	16,105.00	-
12/31/2019	-	-	-	-	78,053.75
06/01/2020	45,000.00	4.000%	16,105.00	61,105.00	-
12/01/2020	-	-	15,205.00	15,205.00	-
12/31/2020	-	-	-	-	76,310.00
06/01/2021	50,000.00	4.250%	15,205.00	65,205.00	-
12/01/2021	-	-	14,142.50	14,142.50	-
12/31/2021	-	-	-	-	79,347.50
06/01/2022	50,000.00	4.350%	14,142.50	64,142.50	-
12/01/2022	-	-	13,055.00	13,055.00	-
12/31/2022	-	-	-	-	77,197.50
06/01/2023	55,000.00	4.450%	13,055.00	68,055.00	-
12/01/2023	-	-	11,831.25	11,831.25	-
12/31/2023	-	-	-	-	79,886.25
06/01/2024	55,000.00	4.500%	11,831.25	66,831.25	-
12/01/2024	-	-	10,593.75	10,593.75	-
12/31/2024	-	-	-	-	77,425.00
06/01/2025	55,000.00	4.500%	10,593.75	65,593.75	-

County of Tuscola, Michigan

Capital Improvement Bonds, Series 2011

Debt Service Schedule

Part 2 of 2

Date	Principal	Coupon	Interest	Total P+i	Fiscal Total
12/01/2025	-	-	9,356.25	9,356.25	-
12/31/2025	-	-	-	-	74,950.00
06/01/2026	60,000.00	4.550%	9,356.25	69,356.25	-
12/01/2026	-	-	7,991.25	7,991.25	-
12/31/2026	-	-	-	-	77,347.50
06/01/2027	65,000.00	4.550%	7,991.25	72,991.25	-
12/01/2027	-	-	6,512.50	6,512.50	-
12/31/2027	-	-	-	-	79,503.75
06/01/2028	65,000.00	4.600%	6,512.50	71,512.50	-
12/01/2028	-	-	5,017.50	5,017.50	-
12/31/2028	-	-	-	-	76,530.00
06/01/2029	70,000.00	4.600%	5,017.50	75,017.50	-
12/01/2029	-	-	3,407.50	3,407.50	-
12/31/2029	-	-	-	-	78,425.00
06/01/2030	70,000.00	4.700%	3,407.50	73,407.50	-
12/01/2030	-	-	1,762.50	1,762.50	-
12/31/2030	-	-	-	-	75,170.00
06/01/2031	75,000.00	4.700%	1,762.50	76,762.50	-
12/31/2031	-	-	-	-	76,762.50
Total	\$1,035,000.00	-	\$532,176.67	\$1,567,176.67	-

Yield Statistics

Bond Year Dollars	\$12,148.75
Average Life	11.738 Years
Average Coupon	4.3805056%
Net Interest Cost (NIC)	4.5082965%
True Interest Cost (TIC)	4.5128843%
Bond Yield for Arbitrage Purposes	4.3399283%
All Inclusive Cost (AIC)	5.2193867%

IRS Form 8038

Net Interest Cost	4.3805056%
Weighted Average Maturity	11.738 Years

County of Tuscola, Michigan

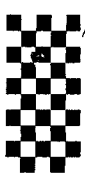
Capital Improvement Bonds, Series 2011

Pricing Summary

Maturity	Type of Bond	Coupon	Yield	Maturity Value	Price	Dollar Price
06/01/2012	Serial Coupon	2.000%	2.000%	35,000.00	100.000%	35,000.00
06/01/2013	Serial Coupon	2.250%	2.250%	35,000.00	100.000%	35,000.00
06/01/2014	Serial Coupon	2.500%	2.500%	40,000.00	100.000%	40,000.00
06/01/2015	Serial Coupon	2.750%	2.750%	40,000.00	100.000%	40,000.00
06/01/2016	Serial Coupon	3.000%	3.000%	40,000.00	100.000%	40,000.00
06/01/2017	Serial Coupon	3.250%	3.250%	40,000.00	100.000%	40,000.00
06/01/2018	Serial Coupon	3.500%	3.500%	45,000.00	100.000%	45,000.00
06/01/2019	Serial Coupon	3.750%	3.750%	45,000.00	100.000%	45,000.00
06/01/2020	Serial Coupon	4.000%	4.000%	45,000.00	100.000%	45,000.00
06/01/2021	Serial Coupon	4.250%	4.250%	50,000.00	100.000%	50,000.00
06/01/2022	Serial Coupon	4.350%	4.350%	50,000.00	100.000%	50,000.00
06/01/2023	Serial Coupon	4.450%	4.450%	55,000.00	100.000%	55,000.00
06/01/2024	Serial Coupon	4.500%	4.500%	55,000.00	100.000%	55,000.00
06/01/2025	Serial Coupon	4.500%	4.500%	55,000.00	100.000%	55,000.00
06/01/2026	Serial Coupon	4.550%	4.550%	60,000.00	100.000%	60,000.00
06/01/2027	Serial Coupon	4.550%	4.550%	65,000.00	100.000%	65,000.00
06/01/2028	Serial Coupon	4.600%	4.600%	65,000.00	100.000%	65,000.00
06/01/2029	Serial Coupon	4.600%	4.600%	70,000.00	100.000%	70,000.00
06/01/2030	Serial Coupon	4.700%	4.700%	70,000.00	100.000%	70,000.00
06/01/2031	Serial Coupon	4.700%	4.700%	75,000.00	100.000%	75,000.00
Total	-	-	-	\$1,035,000.00	-	\$1,035,000.00

Bid Information

Par Amount of Bonds	\$1,035,000.00
Gross Production	\$1,035,000.00
Total Underwriter's Discount (1.500%)	\$(15,525.00)
Bid (98.500%)	1,019,475.00
Total Purchase Price	\$1,019,475.00
Bond Year Dollars	\$12,148.75
Average Life	11.738 Years
Average Coupon	4.3805056%
Net Interest Cost (NIC)	4.5082965%
True Interest Cost (TIC)	4.5128843%



MAC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

April 22, 2011

In this week's update:

- **80/20 BILL SET TO MOVE IN SENATE NEXT WEEK**
- **SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE PASSES OUT GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET, SENATE FULL APPROPRIATIONS PASSES ALL BUDGETS**
- **DETAILS EMERGE ON REVENUE DEAL**
- **GOVERNOR SNYDER APPOINTS JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFF AS DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**
- **MACSC SEMINAR CANCELED**
- **MAC, MTA, AND MML INVITE YOU TO ATTEND "IMPLEMENTING PARTNERSHIPS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE"**
- **STRONGER ECONOMIES TOGETHER**
- **GREAT LAKES WATER SAFETY CONFERENCE**

80/20 BILL SET TO MOVE IN SENATE NEXT WEEK

Last week, SB 7 and SJR C, both sponsored by Sen. Mark Jansen (R-Kent County), moved from Sen. Jansen's Reforms and Restructuring Committee to the Senate Floor. They are expected to be taken up on the floor by the full Senate next week. The bills allow the legislature into local bargaining by setting a limit on what counties and other local units can pay for health benefits at 80%. While this legislation sounds like a good way to save money, it isn't. It would, for the first time, allow the state's hands into local bargaining. Depending on the whims or political winds blowing through the legislature, it could begin fiddling with local bargaining in the future, moving the limit up or down. Such movement would be very difficult to plan for, could be very expensive, and reduces both the responsibility and the agility of the county in negotiations. Sen. Jansen has allowed for an opt-out provision for local units of government, but only at a super-majority vote by the governing board. MAC supports a simple majority opt-out. **Please contact your Senators and ask them to provide a simple majority opt-out under SB 7.** In addition to the reasons given about why the bills are unhelpful, in small counties with 5 member boards a super-majority would be 4 out of 5, creating a situation where a great deal of power would be in the hands of a very small minority.

SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE PASSES OUT GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET, SENATE FULL APPROPRIATIONS PASSES ALL BUDGETS

The Senate Subcommittee on General Government, Chaired by Sen. John Pappageorge (R-Oakland County), passed out the budget on Tuesday. The budget recommendation followed the Governor's recommendation for a 34% reduction (\$50 million) to county revenue sharing and a 15% (\$2.4 million) reduction to PILT.

Subcommittee Chairman Pappageorge did make a statement when the full Appropriations Committee took the budget up on Thursday that counties are taking unfair cuts in this recommendation, and that his number one priority for any new money at the end of the process is that it go into county revenue sharing. He further indicated that those statements constitute a request for money for counties. MAC thanks Senator Pappageorge for those strong statements. Please continue to talk to your legislators about the importance of revenue sharing and remind them that counties need to be treated equally. Please refer to the attached MAC revenue sharing talking points for guidance on how to support Senator Pappageorge's efforts.

The Senate Appropriations Committee took up subcommittee recommendations this week, and has moved them to the Senate floor for consideration. Not much changed, but changes important to counties are noted and should be considered changes to the Senate subcommittee recommendations as MAC reported last week. While the Senate begins moving budgets on the floor next week, the House is expected to move their budgets through the Appropriations Committee. The process seems to be on track for the self-imposed May 31 deadline.

During Senate Appropriations deliberations, Chaired by Sen. Roger Kahn (R-Saginaw County), the Chair did indicate that he thinks another \$500 million will be available at the end of the process.

Senate Appropriations Committee Changes:

Human Services:

The DHS budget was amended to allow the clothing allowance for children to be spent at retailers as well as thrift stores. There was some consternation after the subcommittee limited the spending to thrift stores only. In addition, the full committee amended the budget to fall in line with the Governor's recommendation on child welfare, which annualized the shift of state wards to private agencies (this shift does not cost counties additional money). MAC's boilerplate on insuring there aren't additional county costs was retained.

Community Health:

The DCH budget was amended to allow community mental health to pay for services they provide in county jails. The boilerplate is in the current year budget and in the House budget for next year, and is very important for counties as they struggle to pay for healthcare costs in the county jails. **MAC thanks Senator Tonya Schuitmaker (R-VanBurenCounty) for her amendment.** An amendment to restore money to the Healthy Michigan Fund was defeated.

DETAILS EMERGE ON REVENUE DEAL

Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley explained some of the detail of the revenue deal that was cut last week between the Governor and the Republicans in the House and Senate. The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) would still be eliminated, but for those who would have qualified, a \$25 per child credit would be available.

The deal on pension taxes is to tier them. For those older than 67 the current exemptions would remain in place. Those between 60 and 66 would have a \$40,000 exemption for joint filers/\$20,000 exemption for single filers that would remain in place even after they turn 67. Those under the age of 60 would be given the \$40,000/\$20,000 exemption at the age of 67.

Changes to the Homestead Property Tax Credit are also part of the deal, and would target it more toward low-income individuals. The credit would be 100% for those who make less than \$20,000 (currently it is 60%), it would be 60% for those who make less than \$30,000, and phased out for those who make over \$50,000. Finally, the deal halts the scheduled rollback of the income tax from 4.35% to 4.25% until January of 2013. Lt. Governor Calley also indicated that the Governor's office is working on an alternative to elimination of the Brownfield Credits.

GOVERNOR SNYDER APPOINTS JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFF AS DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Governor Snyder announced this week that Jackson County Sheriff Daniel Heyns will take over as the Director of the Department of Corrections (DOC), replacing interim Director Dick McKeon. Heyns has served as sheriff in Jackson County since 2003 and oversees a variety of operations including a 450-bed jail, 911 central dispatch center, marine patrol, narcotics, traffic, and Special Response Team. Heyns is expected to take over on June 1st as Dick McKeon transitions into an advisory role to the new Director. Heyns brings a variety of skills to the position; he currently serves as chairman of the Michigan Sheriff's Coordinating and Training Council, is

treasurer to the Michigan Sheriff's board of directors and serves as chairman of the Jackson Narcotics Enforcement Team. MAC offers congratulations to Sheriff Heyns, and looks forward to working with him on corrections and jail issues.

MACSC SEMINAR CANCELED

The MAC Service Corporation seminar scheduled for **Tuesday, April 26, 2011** in Mount Pleasant has been **canceled**. For more information regarding the seminar, it's topics, or the Service Corporation, please call 800-258-1152.

MAC, MTA, AND MML INVITE YOU TO ATTEND "IMPLEMENTING PARTNERSHIPS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE"

National Council for Public Private Partnerships and Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC present Implementing Partnerships for Infrastructure on May 11, 2011. You are invited to attend this workshop on public-private partnerships and how local governments can work together. The public-private partnerships model has been used for decades to successfully build:

- State and local government buildings including courthouses, offices and jails
- Schools and libraries
- Fire stations and public safety centers
- Department of public works buildings
- Water and waste water treatment systems with operations
- Recycling centers
- Roads, bridges and public transit

Attendees will learn how these types of projects were conceived, developed and became a reality with private capital and non-traditional financing alternatives. Local and national expert speakers will focus on what makes a successful project, strategies for identifying available money, and how to position a project to serve as a catalyst for economic development and job creation. This workshop will be held at:

James B. Henry Center for Executive Development
Michigan State University
3535 Forest Road
Lansing, MI 48910

Need Lodging? Candlewood Suites (adjacent to the Henry Center) on the MSU campus will host NCPPP workshop attendees. Reservation Line: (517) 351-8181. Make your reservation before March 26th and mention you will be attending the NCPPP workshop in order to receive the special group rate of \$91 per night.

STRONGER ECONOMIES TOGETHER

In many counties - especially counties with smaller populations -- finding ways to create, attract, and retain jobs is a challenging process. Pursuing economic development as a single rural county in isolation from other nearby counties is oftentimes unproductive. In today's global marketplace, economic development progress is more likely to be realized when rural and metro counties work together as a multi-county region to assess, design, and implement plans that build on their assets and comparative economic strengths. That's what the Stronger Economies Together (SET) project is all about.

The Greening Institute with Michigan State University Extension invites you to apply for this project. Please contact Angela Minicuci at minicuci@micounties.org for an application and more information.

GREAT LAKES WATER SAFETY CONFERENCE

Please join the Michigan Sea Grant Extension office for their one day conference on beach and water safety responders, managers, emergency management offices, parks and recreation offices, officials, safety managers, and more. The conference will be on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Gaylord, Michigan. Please see the attached registration form for more information on times, speakers, and topics.

Contact: **Ben Bodkin, Director of Legislative Affairs**
800-258-1152, bodkin@micounties.org
Deena Bosworth, Legislative Coordinator
800-258-1152, bosworth@micounties.org
MoReno Taylor II, Legislative Coordinator
800-258-1152, taylor@micounties.org
Angela Minicuci, Communications Coordinator
800-258-1152, minicuci@micounties.org
Shasta Mantyla-Pohl, Executive Assistant
800-258-1152, pohl@micounties.org

COUNTY STATUTORY REVENUE SHARING

With the current proposal to cut revenue sharing to Michigan counties in the Fiscal Year 2012, the Michigan Association of Counties would like to offer some insight as to why such a cut would be devastating to this vital, effective unit of local government:

- Cuts to revenue sharing combined with the recent reductions in property values and increased mandated state service delivery has stretched counties to their limit.
- With the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2012, counties would receive a cut of about \$50 million; a total of 34 percent or a reduction from \$150 million to \$100 million.
- Counties have worked diligently for the past decade by leading the effort to reform, consolidate, and right size government in an effort to increase efficiency and adjust to declining revenues.
- Counties do not receive constitutional protection for revenue sharing. Taking that into consideration, this cut would be disproportionate for counties at 34 percent.
- Revenue sharing was created to replace local taxing authority with sales tax to improve business climate by eliminating a patchwork of local taxes.
- In 2004, counties agreed to forgo revenue sharing for a period of time, in order to assist Michigan in balancing the budget and were promised a return of that funding once reserves were depleted.
- The state has pledged to keep promises to businesses for current tax credits, and needs to keep this promise to the state's partner and service arm, counties, by restoring revenue sharing.
- Revenue sharing is critical to helping counties, the state's service arm, partially alleviate the cost of unfunded state mandated service delivery.
- The current model of mandating counties to deliver services on behalf of state government without paying for them is unsustainable.

In summary, counties have saved the state **more than a billion dollars since 2005** when they temporarily gave up revenue sharing to help the state with its budget problem. Counties will continue to help the state budget until the final county exhausts its reserve account well past the year 2020. But to further penalize counties for their sacrifice is unfair.

MAC is committed to being a positive voice and is willing to work with the state to find solutions that work for both parties. Counties believe that their prior sacrifice on the state's behalf, coupled with their leadership in reforming local government, sharing services, and reducing the size and scope of government, are a testament to their efficiency in providing state mandated services for little or no cost. This dedication and willingness to partner with the State should be part of this discussion.

MAC urges the Legislature and the Governor to live up to their end of this important promise which benefits the state by continuing revenue sharing payments to the new slate of counties in fiscal years 2012 and 2013.



Registration Form
Great Lakes Water Safety Conference

A conference for beach & water safety responders, managers, emergency management offices, parks & recreation offices, officials, safety managers, etc.

Wednesday, April 27, 2011
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Jimmy Juke Box – Rental Hall (formerly Jets Pizza)
610 South Wisconsin, Gaylord, Michigan
(just south of Big Buck Brewery)

Registration Fee: \$10.00 per person, due by Thursday, April 21st, 2011.
Includes refreshments and lunch. (Please let us know of any special dietary needs)

Please mail or fax completed registration form with *payment to:

Payable to: **Mackinac County MSUE**
Attn: Candy DeKeyser
749 Hombach Street
St Ignace, MI 49781

Phone: 906-643-7307
fax: 906-643-0353
Email: dekeyse4@anr.msu.edu
*Payment can be made at the door also, but registration is *required ahead of time.*

Full Name: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Contact Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Cannot attend at this time, but would like more information regarding Great Lakes Water Safety.

AGENDA

Great Lakes Water Safety Conference

610 South Wisconsin, Jimmy Juke Box Rental Hall, Gaylord, MI 49735

April 27, 2011

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m. – 9:05 a.m.	Welcome	<i>The Family of Travis Brown</i>
	Session Moderator MSU Sea Grant & Mackinac County Water Safety Team	<i>Ron Kinnunen</i>
9:05 - 9:30 a.m.	Great Lakes Rip Currents; Past, Present and Future University of Michigan National Weather Service	<i>Guy Meadows</i> <i>Dave Guenther, Retired</i>
9:30 - 10:00 a.m.	Every Second Counts – The Response Impact US Coast Guard Michigan State Police/Dive Team	<i>Petty Officer, Matt Reisinger</i> <i>Officer, Craig Dorenbecker</i>
10:00 – 10:30 a.m.	The Role Of The National Weather Service In Water Safety National Weather Service	<i>Megan Babich</i>
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Break	
10:45 – 11:15 a.m.	State Parks Shorelines Silver Lake State Park	<i>Charlotte Kiefer</i> <i>Tim Schreiner</i>
11:15 – 11:45 a.m.	Marquette Area Marquette Water Safety Team	<i>Eric Smith</i>
11:45 – 12:15 p.m.	Multi-Agency Collaboration In Water Safety Initiatives & Examples Of Education Outreach Great Lakes Beach & Pier Safety Task Force	<i>Vince Deur</i>
12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch	
1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Why We Began & What We Have Done Mackinac County Water Safety Review Team	<i>Bryce Tracy</i>
1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Facilitated Discussion on Great Lakes Water Safety Needs & Actions MSU Sea Grant	<i>Mark Breederland</i>



DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION

2011 Major Work Tasks

Financial/Personnel

1. Purchased Purdy building – bond to borrow funds – TO BE DISCUSSED 4/28/11
2. 2012 County budget development – prepare alternative methods of expenditure reduction – PROCESS TO START AFTER THE 2011/2012 STATE BUDGET IS ADOPTED
3. Wages/benefit changes for new hires – union and non-union – STATE IS ESTABLISHING LEVELS OF FUNDING PERMITTED
4. Medical Care Facility – review potential cost savings through bond refinancing – COMPLETED
5. State Police building – review potential cost savings through bond refinancing – COMPLETED, BOND ATTORNEY INDICATED NOT ADVANTAGEOUS
6. Complete 2010 audit (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) with new auditing firm – NEARLY COMPLETED, REPORT TO BE ISSUED IN MID-JUNE
7. Monitor changes in taxable value and property tax revenue – equalization report – ON-GOING RECENTLY UPDATED
8. Monitor county financial position and make adjustments as necessary – ON-GOING
9. Monitor state financial changes and impacts on county – ON-GOING
10. Review drain-at-large costs for 2012 and future years – COMPLETED, DRAIN COMMISSIONER HAS PROVIDED ESTIMATES
11. Review additional methods of intergovernmental service delivery with other Counties and local units of government in Tuscola County
12. Complete labor negotiations – 4 UNITS COMPLETED OTHER 2 GOING TO ACT 312
13. Evaluate 2012 millage levies for various county funds – TO BE COMPLETED LATER IN YEAR
14. Monitor health insurance and retirement system cost changes – ON-GOING, COSTS ARE INCREASING

Other

1. Complete office space reorganization at Annex, Courthouse and Friend of the Court buildings – SOME COMPLETED SOME TO BE COMPLETED LATER IN THE YEAR

2. District 1 Commissioner – appoint and conduct special election – COMPLETED
3. Medical marijuana – county regulations – ordinance development – NEED STATE INVOLVEMENT IN CLARIFYING THE LAW
4. Airport zoning ordinance – zoning board of appeals – other implementation steps – ORDINANCE IS ADOPTED, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TO BE APPOINTED
5. Wind energy issues – Thumb Regional Renewable Energy Authority – ITC transmission line – taxing structure – ON-GOING
6. Implementation of ACS hardware/software changes in Register of Deeds – UNDERWAY
7. Implementation of Dispatch equipment changes for new radio frequency – UNDERWAY
8. Energy grant completion – evaluate applying for a second round grant – TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF JUNE
9. Domestic Violence grant two year implementation – ON-GOING
10. Monitor state legislation impacts on the county – ON-GOING
11. Monitor the county lawsuit claim against BC/BS – ON-GOING
12. Monitor broadband development in the county – ON-GOING
13. Monitor the status of the first year of Mosquito Abatement with the Co-Director arrangement – ON-GOING
14. Fiber Optic connection to the Purdy building
15. Apportionment process – County Board of Commissioners – UNDERWAY
16. 2010 United States Census completion – review of impacts on the county – ON-GOING
17. Possible NACo Rural Action Caucus meeting in the Thumb – UNDERWAY
18. Review funding potential through the Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
19. Work with MAC and County EDC to identify and obtain grant funds for revolving loan funds, economic development and other county needs