



QUARTERLY NEWS & UPDATES

FROM YOUR OAKLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Spring, 2011

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2011 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS



The 2011 Board of Commissioners features a new Chair and new Vice Chair, and eight new members – almost one-third of the board. Michael Gingell, the former Vice Chair, was unanimously elected Chair, taking over from Bill Bullard Jr., who is now the Oakland County Clerk. The new Vice Chairman is attorney Jeff Matis, an accomplished pilot. Other new members are businessman and farmer Bob Hoffman; Bill Dwyer, a retired police chief; Kathy Crawford, a published author; attorney Mike Bosnic; Beth Nuccio, the director of career services at Baker College and a FIRST Lego Robotics coach; Craig Covey, a former Mayor; Nancy Quarles, a former state representative; and attorney Philip Weipert, who is very active in Southwest Oakland County government and civic organizations.



JEFF MATIS

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Dear Neighbors,
Oakland County is a great place to live, work and play.

This newsletter shares just a few of the great services that your county government provides.

As your commissioner, I value your input on how to make the county better.

Please contact me with any of your suggestions.

Best Wishes,

Jeff Matis
Board Vice Chairman

KEEPING SCORE OF THE COUNTY'S BUDGET

For residents who want to see how Oakland County is managing its budget and government operations, go to

www.oakgov.com/info_pub/fiscal_scorecard.html

This webpage gives insight on the County's Budget Gap, Reserves, Pension Obligations and Debt Levels. It is very informative for those who are interested in viewing "Oakland County's Fiscal Scorecard" and will have the opportunity to compare the county's performance to other governments across Michigan.

The scorecard follows the Business Leaders for Michigan format that was devised when this organization created the "Michigan Fiscal Scorecard" report. To see how Oakland County is measuring up, how tax dollars are being used, and how the county maintains its AAA Bond Rating, view the webpage.

Board of Commissioners Seeks Citizens to Serve

Oakland County residents interested in serving the community on various boards, committees and commissions should apply by submitting an application online. Go to www.oakgov.com, click on the Board of Commissioners and the Boards, Commissions and Committees links. Call 248-858-0103 for more information. These vacancies will be filled through Board appointments.

The 2011 Vacancies:

Friend of the Court
Citizens Advisory Committee
Library Board
Oakland County Department of Human Services Agency

Application Deadlines:

Thursday, May 12th
Friday, July 22nd
Friday, September 23rd

Some vacancies may require specific qualifications

New Revenue-Generating Programs Supported by the Board

In an effort to produce more revenue without raising taxes, Oakland County has instituted new programs that will benefit not only the county, but citizens and local governments as well.

One new program allows for Video Jail Visits. It's a program that will allow families with broadband connections to the internet, a computer, and a webcam to visit online with an inmate in the jail for a fee of about \$6.50, of which \$4.00 would go directly into the county's general fund. With 1,700 inmates and a projected visit of one day a week for each inmate, the county estimates that video jail visits could generate \$1.5 million new dollars annually.

In another revenue generating program, called Cloud Computing, Oakland County will make its Internet Technology applications available in cyber space to local cities, villages and townships on an as-needed basis. This will save the local governments a great deal of money they otherwise would have to spend on purchasing similar software and the servers necessary to host it. With Cloud Computing, local governments simply pay Oakland County a nominal user fee. The first available applications will be Oakland County's nationally recognized eHealth software.

Oakland County Commissioner Jeff Matis serves District #12 representing the cities of Rochester and Rochester Hills.