

Move to oust Murphy political, philosophical

By TIM RICHARD

On paper, it looks like a court challenge to abolish the position of Oakland County executive and out Daniel T. Murphy, who presently holds the job.

Beyond the legal pleadings, however, are far different philosophies of what government should be like in an urban county.

Three conservative Republican politicians and one bipartisan group, the county road commission, are asking Circuit Judge Steven Andrews to eliminate Murphy's job. Their request:

"That this court enter a declaratory judgment ordering that the office of Oakland County Executive is unconstitutional and unlawful; order that defendant, Murphy, be ousted from office and commanding the defendant Murphy to cease exercising any of the functions of said office."

THE SUIT would move, however, to eliminate Murphy's office. It would change the thrust of government in Oakland County and southeast Michigan.

If successful, it would allow Oakland

Kissinger to boost Broomfield

The topic is expected to be Israeli-Egyptian relations. The speaker will be former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Kissinger, the Nobel Prize-winning master of shuttle diplomacy for Presidents Nixon and Ford, will speak at a \$50 a plate fundraiser kicking off Congressman William Broomfield's reelection campaign. It will begin Sept. 14 at noon at Southfield's Raleigh House.

Broomfield, the ranking Republican on the House Committee on International Relations, is seeking reelection in the 19th Congressional District, which includes Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, West Bloomfield and the Lakes area.

According to George Halter, chairman of the fundraiser, tickets are going fast. Remaining tickets may be reserved at Oakland County's Republican Headquarters at 245 S. Woodward in Birmingham.

HOOT'S COMPLAINT is that Murphy vetoed a board of commissioners resolution withdrawing Oakland County from SEMTA. The vote was 10-8.

Actually, Oakland politicians were using the withdrawal as a plot to draw SEMTA's attention to their problems. Few were serious about actually quitting SEMTA. Hoot was in the latter group.

Withdrawing a county of one million population from an agency which serves about three million would effectively wreck SEMTA. Any rapid transit funding from Washington for metropolitan Detroit would likely fall through.

Hoot indicated his feelings about regionalism when he was a fill-in delegate to the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments. He voted with a hard-core minority from Washtenaw County to give SEMODG virtually no role in water quality management.

Murphy, on the other hand, has taken a conciliatory attitude toward the City of Detroit and a willingness to deal with SEMTA.

THREE DIFFERENT agencies have some public works authority within Oakland—the drain commission, under the independently elected Kuhn; the department of public works, under Murphy; and the road commission, whose members are appointed by the county board of commissioners, but whose funding is almost entirely from the state.

In 1976 a Democratic-controlled board of commissioners voted to take the DPW away from the executive and give it to Kuhn, who would become a public works commissioner. Murphy vetoed the resolution.

Murphy also vetoed establishment of four project engineer manager posts in Kuhn's office.

The road commission has sought money from the county general fund. It approached—with some success—several commissioners with a plan for a five-year package. The road commission offered to work with the board of commissioners on selection of project

in return for the general fund money.

Murphy put a halt to it. He argued the county can't predict what financial circumstances might face the county five years from now.

A friend of Murphy's pointed out that the road commission's complaint failed to charge Murphy with any wrongdoing. Rather, it asks the court to restrain Murphy from vetoing any future actions of the board of commissioners relating to the road commission.

WHAT IS UNSAID in the suit is that Murphy is seeking state laws to abolish the road commission.

The plan of the "unified county government" people, one of whom is Murphy, is to unify all operations under one executive and all policy-making under the elected board of commissioners.

But if there were no county executive, as the lawsuit plaintiffs seek, there would be a separate public works commissioner and a separate road commissioner, each free to lobby and deal with the board of commissioners without interference from an overall chief like Murphy.

PATTERSON'S argument is a little different.

The prosecutor promoted 27 of his 40 assistants and granted them substantial pay raises. When the paper went to the personnel department, under Murphy's control, the executive blocked the changes as being out of line with general county policies.

Patterson is asking the court to order Murphy to approve the list of promotions.

A Murphy aide refers to Patterson's budgeting idea as the "block appropriation" theory. Put simply, a department seeks a single sum of money and asks freedom to allocate it any way he wants.

analysis

Withdrawing a county of one million population from an agency which serves about three million would effectively wreck SEMTA. Any rapid transit funding from Washington for metropolitan Detroit would likely fall through.

Hoot indicated his feelings about regionalism when he was a fill-in delegate to the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments. He voted with a hard-core minority from Washtenaw County to give SEMODG virtually no role in water quality management.

Murphy, on the other hand, has taken a conciliatory attitude toward the City of Detroit and a willingness to deal with SEMTA.

THREE DIFFERENT agencies have some public works authority within Oakland—the drain commission, under the independently elected Kuhn; the department of public works, under Murphy; and the road commission, whose members are appointed by the county board of commissioners, but whose funding is almost entirely from the state.

In 1976 a Democratic-controlled board of commissioners voted to take the DPW away from the executive and give it to Kuhn, who would become a public works commissioner. Murphy vetoed the resolution.

Murphy also vetoed establishment of four project engineer manager posts in Kuhn's office.

The road commission has sought money from the county general fund. It approached—with some success—several commissioners with a plan for a five-year package. The road commission offered to work with the board of commissioners on selection of project

in return for the general fund money.

Murphy put a halt to it. He argued the county can't predict what financial circumstances might face the county five years from now.

A friend of Murphy's pointed out that the road commission's complaint failed to charge Murphy with any wrongdoing. Rather, it asks the court to restrain Murphy from vetoing any future actions of the board of commissioners relating to the road commission.

WHAT IS UNSAID in the suit is that Murphy is seeking state laws to abolish the road commission.

The plan of the "unified county government" people, one of whom is Murphy, is to unify all operations under one executive and all policy-making under the elected board of commissioners.

But if there were no county executive, as the lawsuit plaintiffs seek, there would be a separate public works commissioner and a separate road commissioner, each free to lobby and deal with the board of commissioners without interference from an overall chief like Murphy.

PATTERSON'S argument is a little different.

The prosecutor promoted 27 of his 40 assistants and granted them substantial pay raises. When the paper went to the personnel department, under Murphy's control, the executive blocked the changes as being out of line with general county policies.

Patterson is asking the court to order Murphy to approve the list of promotions.

A Murphy aide refers to Patterson's budgeting idea as the "block appropriation" theory. Put simply, a department seeks a single sum of money and asks freedom to allocate it any way he wants.

THE BOARDROOM

For the most interesting ways to keep up appearances.

Somerset Mall • Fairlane Towne Center
Inside Hughes & Hatcher

WHEN YOU NEED A LAWYER

Divorce Real Estate
Bankruptcy Corporate
Wills Accident Cases

Law offices of
LOUIS LAN
569-7446

AVAILABLE EVENINGS & SATURDAYS

Custom-made draperies for just \$249.⁰⁰ installed.

Custom draperies of beautiful unique fabric, created to the highest standards in our own workshops. We cover any window 72 inches wide by 88 inches long, in your choice of 22 magnificent colors. And the price includes a flowing battenshaver, tie-backs, all hardware, custom made-incomplete installation. All for a truly remarkable \$249.00!

LIVONIA 477-6500
1971 Mack Center
(One block North of 7 Mile)
SOUTHGATE 285-6500
16646 Eureka Road
(Between Dix and Allen Rd.)
Daily 9-8
Sunday 12-5

alan lori Design Center

STORE YOUR five foot ladder nicely behind a closet door. A contract hanger installed near the top of the door will keep ladder in place. Also, add a strip of scrap wood at the bottom for the ladder to rest on. Get extra spending money with an Observer & Eccentric Classified Ad.

SAVE 20% FOR 20 DAYS

On Joanna Style-Rite Stock Shutters

- From September 11th through 30th, save 20% in honor of the 20th anniversary of our Kew-Forest Company, division of Joanna Western.
- These shutters are popular with the growing "do-it-yourself" market.
- Available in trimmable lengths and widths to fit almost any window.
- Movable or fixed louvers offer ability to control light, create mood.
- There's also Fabric Frame, a combination of shutter convenience and total-look custom decorating.
- Sanded Western pine surface is ready to finish with any paint or stain.

the SHUTTER SHOP INC.

call: WEST: 16220 Middlebelt 525-4420
NORTH: 1705 S. Woodward, Birmingham 445-4541
EAST: 24400 Harper, St. Clair Shores 775-6128

Get same number of identical PIZZAS FREE Little Caesars Pizza

PICK-UP ONLY Expires 9/24/78 One coupon per customer at participating stores listed in this week's Detroit News and Free Press T.V. Books.

McDEVITT 478-0707

EASTLAND MALL 8 Mile at Kelly Rd. 12 Mile at Oakridge 7-FARMINGTON CENTER 13 Mile at Woodward 7 Mile at Farmington Rd.

Smiley Brothers

"A TRUSTED NAME IN MUSIC"

Baldwin Hammond Allen

Birmingham • Detroit • Dearborn

GREAT FILMS, DIRECTORS, STARS!

THE SCREENING ROOM
A TELEVISION COURSE
WXYZ-TV, Channel 7
6:00-6:30 am, Mon, Wed, Fri

WTVS, Channel 56 (repeated)
12 Midnight-12:30 am, Mon, Wed, Fri
presented by

The College of Lifelong Learning
WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
For information, telephone 577-4682

ALADDIN "GENIE" Sales & Service
Serving Tri-County Areas

WESTLAND PARTS & SERVICE 722-0610
PONTIAC 335-9079

Pre-Season INSULATION Special

\$279 per 1000 sq. ft. ceiling 6" blown fiberglass FREE ESTIMATES

Roll Insulation Available for Do-It-Yourselfers
478-6046 • 227-4839
Jones Insulation Supplies

FENTON 1978 "CHRISTMAS MORN"

First of an annual Limited Edition Collector's Series of very special hand-painted, artist signed, art glass originals. Each piece is signed on the back, gift boxed and tagged with a descriptive mini-booklet. A new scene will be presented each year of the series and will be in keeping with the theme - Christmas Classics.

\$2500
Only 1000 sets available at \$25.

McDEVITT 478-0707

EASTLAND MALL 8 Mile at Kelly Rd. 12 Mile at Oakridge 7-FARMINGTON CENTER 13 Mile at Woodward 7 Mile at Farmington Rd.

FREE! Pizzas

Buy 1 to 10 Medium at the regular price

Get same number of identical PIZZAS FREE Little Caesars Pizza

PICK-UP ONLY Expires 9/24/78 One coupon per customer at participating stores listed in this week's Detroit News and Free Press T.V. Books.

Oakland's circuit judges, for example, have asked for such a block appropriation, but the board and Murphy have refused to go along.

A Murphy aide said another result of the suit, if successful, would be poorer control of county spending and less than uniform policies.

"Outside the county executive," he said, "department heads would be able to lobby the board to do their bidding. With an executive, they have to lobby in two places."

PROFESSIONAL Carpet Cleaning

SHAMPOO ANY LIVING ROOM & HALL
Regardless of Size
STEAM CLEANING ALSO AVAILABLE (At reduced Rates)

REID

CARPET, UPHOLSTERY, DRAPERY CLEANERS
533-0665

ADDITIONAL ROOM SHAMPOOED \$1095
UPHOLSTERY CLEANING SPECIALS
COUCH \$30.00
LOVE SEAT \$20.00
CHAIR \$15.00

OPEN HOUSE

Join us for Cider, Donuts, Music, Guided Tours

FRANKLIN CLUB APARTMENTS

an adult community

28301 Franklin Road, Southfield, Michigan

Franklin Club is a pleasant, comfortable, secure place to live. Each resident has the complete privacy of a one or two bedroom apartment.

AND fine meals in Franklin Club's restaurant. Organized activities are available. There is swimming in the lounge. Transportation and maid and linen service is furnished. A limited number of apartments now available for early occupancy.

Please call 353-2810 to obtain information or arrange an interview.

FROM \$600.

Before you move.

We can help. We'll give you a free copy of the Mayflower Moving Kit. It's as complete a guidebook as you'll find on the subject.

Did you know moving is tax-deductible? Know how to inventory your household goods? Never mind. The Moving Kit includes all that and more. Even change-of-address cards.

Let us help you before moving day. For your Kit, just call your nearest Mayflower agent.

In Detroit call 564-5210. In Livonia call 522-9270. In Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti call 459-1990.

Mayflower means moving

ICC# MC-2934