

COUNTY OFFICES — PARTISAN

County executive

Oakland was the first county in Michigan to adopt a county executive form of government. Under it, the executive prepares the annual budget for approval by the Board of Commissioners, appoints and supervises heads of county departments and has veto power over actions of the Board of Commissioners.

Term of office is four years.

Candidates were asked to summarize their biographies in 35 words or less and to answer these questions in 50 words or less:

1. Is it more feasible for Oakland County to operate its own transit system or to remain part of the regional system (SEMTA)?

2. Are there additional services county government should be providing or existing services which could be cut?

F. Thomas Lewand

Democrat, 34, of Royal Oak. Oakland County commissioner; partner, 30-attorney business law firm. Education: University of Detroit, liberal arts; Wayne State University Law School, magna cum laude. Qualifications: Public Services Committee, Health and Human Resources Committee, County Task Force on Elderly.

1. Oakland County must remain in SEMTA because: a) By law, only regional systems are eligible for state/federal money. We cannot afford to operate an independent system. b) A regional system is more efficient for travel between counties. c) Efficient transit is the only alternative to increasing costs and shrinking supplies of gasoline.

2. Oakland residents expect: Efficient

management; our share of state/federal funds to fight common problems including toxic waste cleanup, transportation, mental health; and leadership that can deliver. Existing services could be efficiently streamlined to save money. Combine Public Safety Division with Sheriff's Department, Department of Public Works with Drain office.

Daniel T. Murphy

Republican, incumbent, 56, of Sylvan Lake. County executive. Education: Wayne State University, 1946-50. Qualifications: eight years county clerk; 11 years chairman, County Board of Auditors; chairman, Transportation Steering Committee, National Association of Counties; executive committee of Transportation Research Board, National Academy of Sciences; delegate, SEMCOG.

1. My position is that Oakland County should remain within SEMTA so long as that regional authority provides adequate service levels and provided that the people express their willingness to pay for operating deficits at the ballot box. Existing statutes would require amendments to permit the operation of a county system.

2. Most county services are mandated by law. Existing non-mandated services are carefully reviewed for both overall effectiveness and desired levels of operation and budgeted accordingly. Constituent pressure in Oakland County continues to demand what this administration has produced—lower tax rates and balanced budgets with reasonable surplus, if possible.

Prosecuting attorney

The county prosecuting attorney represents the people of the state of Michigan in issuing criminal warrants and in subsequent court proceedings. Term is four years.

Candidates were asked to summarize their biographies in 35 words or less and to answer the following question in 50 words or less:

What are your law enforcement priorities for Oakland County?

Martin Krohner

Democrat, 35, of Farmington Hills. Assistant Wayne County prosecuting attorney. Education: BA, Michigan State University, 1966; JD, University of Detroit, 1970. Qualifications: Assistant prosecutor, 1973-present; family law attorney, Oakland County Legal Aid; clerk for Probate Judge Eugene Arthur Moore, 1969-71 (Oakland County).

Coordinated, cooperative law enforcement between the prosecutor and other law enforcement agencies. Reorganization of the Organized Crime Strike Force with participation from the Sheriff's Department and local police agencies countywide. Provide training to local police on legal implications of law enforcement. Try criminals in court, not in the press.

L. Brooks Patterson

Republican, incumbent, 41, of Clarkston. Prosecuting attorney of Oakland County. Education: U-D High School, 1957; Univer-

sity of Detroit, 1961; JD, U-D Law School, 1967; Burton scholar.

To aggressively but fairly enforce the criminal statutes within Oakland County. Toward that end, I have reduced plea bargaining while increasing trial output. I have sought to develop an excellent trial staff that skillfully prosecutes violent felons as well as white collar and organized crime cases.

Treasurer

page 10

Drain commissioner

Daniel W. Barry

Democrat, 57, of Union Lake. Consultant. Education: BA, Michigan State University, 1949. Qualifications: 16 years as Oakland county drain commissioner.

Definitely. We are familiar with urban sprawl. Extensions of sewerage facilities indiscriminately within our county should be restricted. Rural properties should be taxed at a different rate to prevent their forced sale to land development corporations.

The drain commissioner has jurisdiction over all established drains, including creeks, rivers, ditches, sanitary sewers and storm sewers.

The office has responsibility for new drain construction, maintenance of drains, and establishment of water management districts. Term is four years.

Candidates were asked to summarize their biographies in 35 words or less and to answer one question in 50 words or less: Should future planning be directed toward maintaining Oakland County's semi-rural/urban mix?

Sheriff

The sheriff is chief law enforcement officer of the county, operating primarily in unincorporated (township) areas. Term is four years.

The sheriff is responsible for county jail operations and the administration of a trusty camp, which provides education and occupational skills to aid prisoners after their release.

The sheriff's marine safety program enforces boating laws, inspects and registers boats, assists in drowning calls and boating accidents and offers a program of classes and lectures in schools.

Candidates were asked to summarize their biographies in 35 words or less and to answer this question in 50 words or less:

What law enforcement functions should the Oakland County sheriff have in a county which has many local police departments?

Johannes F. Spreen

Democrat, incumbent, 60, of Farmington. Oakland County sheriff. Education: BS, police administration; MA, public administration. Qualifications: 25 years New York Police Department; former Detroit police commissioner; former associate professor, John Jay College, New York;

director, Center for Administration of Justice, Mercy College.

The sheriff should be a service agent and coordinator, providing cost effective specialized and scientific and supportive services at a county level, being particularly concerned with multi-jurisdictional matters. If more support and assistance is needed, the sheriff should request assistance from state and federal authorities in behalf of local communities.

James Y. Stewart

Republican, 54, of Huntington Woods. Director, public safety, Huntington Woods. Education: High school; two years college; public safety training programs. Qualifications: 30 years Oakland County law enforcement experience; 18 years as director or chief; immediate past president, Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police.

Provide primary functions required by law. Maintain and operate the county jail. Provide the county road patrol and contract services to townships as provided by state law. Maintain position of leadership and cooperation within both the law enforcement community, all elements of the criminal justice system, and county and local officials.

Clerk-Register

The county clerk/register of deeds' duties include: maintaining public records and recording land ownership; publishing official actions of the County Commission and Circuit Court; acting as secretary to Road Commission; and administering elections. Term is four years.

Candidates were asked to summarize their biographies in 35 words and to answer the following question in 50 words: Would you advocate establishing a satellite clerk/treasurer's office in South Oakland County?

Albert A. Keenan

Democrat, 55, of Birmingham. Insurance executive. Education: Northwestern University. Qualifications: More than 25 years insurance experience, with particular strength in home office and agency management, administration systems and procedures.

Decentralization, "Yes." Duplication, "No." A satellite office sounds good in principle, but in reality, since there are existing facilities which could be utilized,

it would be an unnecessary expenditure of taxpayers' money. Many routine matters could be handled by phone and mail. Arrangements could be made for some services to be handled out of currently established satellite offices.

Lynn D. Allen

Republican incumbent, 54, of Drayton Plains. Clerk/register. Education: U of D, CMU, Northern Illinois College of Optometry, BS, doctor of optometry, post grad, MSU - U of M. Qualifications: Past president, Michigan Clerks Association; chairman, court section, National Clerks and Records; chairman, Register of Deeds section; IACREOT.

Very few services can be provided at satellite office that cannot be done by mail. Most information must come from main records. Until this is computerized or otherwise available, the office would serve as a distribution center. I cannot support the duplicate effort and duplicate cost to county taxpayers.

George W. Kuhn

Republican, incumbent, 55, of West Bloomfield. Drain commissioner. Education: BA, Central Michigan; graduate work, Harvard Business School. Qualifications: 20 years, product development staff, Ford Motor Co.; Berkley mayor-10 years; state senator, four years; chairman, Senate Corporations and Municipalities Committees; captain, Naval Reserves.

The drain commissioner implements the planning decisions of the cities and townships located within Oakland County. The final decision on the semi-rural-urban mix of land use within Oakland County rests with the local government in each city and township where these questions are addressed in the local planning process.