Campaign costs

3 primary candidates file reports

By Casey Hans
staff writer

In three contested Oakland County Commission primary races in two districts, half the candidates filed campaign spending statements with the county.

Two Republican candidates from District 15 spent more than $4,500 in their primary campaigns, legally requiring them to file spending statements. Those spending more than $1,000 are required to file.

According to records from the Oakland County Clerk's Election Division, the following candidates filed reports:

- District 15 primary winner and Republican incumbent David Moffitt of Birmingham, his Republican primary challenger Mary Lu Bennethum of Bloomfield Township and District 21 Democratic incumbent Alexander Perinoff of Southfield. The reports were due Sept. 4.

Perinoff's challenger Lew Barnett of Southfield did not file a statement.

IN THE Nov. 4 general election Moffitt will face Democrat Albert Zolton of Farmington Hills, who ran unopposed in the primary.

Perinoff faces Republican Douglas Sokolowski of Southfield who beat Farmington Hills resident Richard Lytwynluk in the primary. Neither Sokolowski or Lytwynluk filed statements in their contested race, according to county information.

In the Moffitt/Bennethum primary race, both candidates spent almost the same, with Bennethum reporting $4,559 in campaign expenses and Moffitt $4,507. Bennethum reported total revenues of $5,032 and Moffitt $1,335 in total contributions.

Both candidates contributed heavily to their individual campaigns. Moffitt's next largest contributor was the GOP Commissioners Committee, which gave $755. Bennethum's next largest contributor was Salim Bohoora of Birmingham, who gave $200.

MOFFITT BEAT out Bennethum in the primary by a vote of 2,443 to 1,367. His treasurer is listed as Ottis B. Moffitt of Birmingham.

The Committee to Elect Bennethum filed a late post-primary campaign spending statement on Sept. 8, and was expected to file another amendment Thursday, Sept. 11, according to a spokeswoman from the clerk's office. A $40 late filing fee was noted on Bennethum's file — $10 for each late day. Treasurer for Bennethum was Farmington Hills resident Lisa Tinder.

Twenty-two year county commission incumbent Perinoff spent only $786, more than he has spent in past races, according to his elections file.

Besides personal money, Perinoff's largest contribution, $200, came from Robert June of Livonia. Three other contributions of $100 were made to his primary campaign. As in past years, Perinoff acted as his own treasurer in the campaign effort.

Oakland County has a 27-member Board of Commissioners who each serve two-year terms. The board acts on executive proposals, can override an executive veto by a two-thirds vote, passes the county budget and makes appointments to county board and commissions.

DISTRICT 15 includes the northeast portion of Farmington Hills, the southeast corner of West Bloomfield Township, the southwest corner of Bloomfield Township, a portion of Southfield Township and the village of Franklin.

District 21 includes the southern portion of the city of Southfield and the southeast corner of Farmington Hills.

The remainder of Farmington Hills and the city of Farmington is included in District 27.

Vying for this seat in the general election will be incumbent Republican John McDonald and challenging Democrat Johannes Spreen, both of Farmington Hills. McDonald and Spreen ran unopposed in the August primary.

Cable plans are reality

The Clarenceville School District has big plans for the small screen.

Clarenceville has been considering how to use cable television for four years, said Patricia Vickery, administrative assistant for instruction. Now some ideas on the subject are starting to turn into action.

The district, which includes parts of Livonia, Redford and Farmington Hills, has hired Sharon McDonald, producer of the Farmington cable show, "Community Upbeat," as a part-time cable television teacher for this year. The position may become full time in the future, Vickery said.

"I'm very excited about (McDonald)," she said. "She is really an enthusiastic person. I'm really quite excited about having her. I think she's going to be very good for the community in terms of information."

McDonald has four responsibilities, Vickery said. These are:

- To develop the curriculum for cable television classes. The classes will present both an overview of the components of cable TV as well as more-specialized areas, such as lighting, scripting and production, Vickery said. They are expected to start in the next school year and may be offered to grades 10-12, she said.

New parking complete for FAAC

New parking facilities have been added to the Farmington Area Advisory Council.

The improvements were made possible by combined funding from Farmington and Farthe Skillman Foundation and community donations. This culminates a two-year expansion project needed to accommodate the growth of FAAC's substance abuse education and outpatient treatment programs.

Primary housing for FAAC operations is contributed by the Farmington Public Schools. Additional group meeting room space was installed last year with grant assistance from the Sage Foundation and the Lula C. Wilson Trust.

The organization has been active in the community since 1970. Over 12,000 hours of service were received by its program participants last year.

FAAC provides a three-phase adult chemical dependency program, an adolescent recovery program with components for parents, monthly alcohol and drug educations series and programs tailored to meet the special needs of schools, courts and community groups.

FAAC facility is at 23450 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. For program information, call 477-6767.

The Farmington Area Advisory Council is a non-profit organization supported by the local cities, the Oakland County and State of Michigan Offices of Substance Abuse Services, grants, contributions. This support enables the program to provide counseling services based on client ability to pay.

During 1986, FAAC also became a Torch Drive agency, with money from the United Foundation directed toward substance abuse prevention.

FAAC is licensed by the State of Michigan, accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals and approved as a substance abuse service provider for Blue Cross and other commercial health insurance carriers.

RICK SMITH/staff photographer

Farmington Hills inspector John Eckler oversees construction of a new parking lot at the Farmington Area Advisory Council on Middlebelt.

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