

# Reickel won't run for exec

R. Eric Reickel has taken his name out of consideration as a Democratic candidate for Oakland County executive.

"It was worth considering, but unrealistic," said Reickel, who directs Wayne County's parks system and headed Oakland County's parks until 1984.

"I'd have loved to do it, but I just couldn't afford to do it," said Reickel, who would have had to move his family back into Oakland County without a job for six months.

"The candidacy part didn't scare me," he added.

DARLENE BERENT, the Oakland Democratic Party's executive director, said the party is "back to square one" in recruiting a candidate.

"We thought we had Eric Reickel in place. But he would have had to move and find a job. It was just too difficult."

She declined to reveal names of other candidates being recruited for clerk-registrar, sheriff, drain commissioner and treasurer.

Michael Alan Schwartz, administrator for the State Bar's Attorney Grievance Commission, was scheduled to announce his candidacy for prosecutor Monday but postponed the announcement, she said.

COUNTY OFFICERS are elected for four-year terms. All county offices are currently held by Republicans, although both parties say Oakland as a whole is "marginally" Republican — 50-55 percent.

County executive Daniel T. Murphy is raising funds for a re-election bid. He has been Oakland's only executive since voters created the office in 1974.

Clerk-registrar Lynn D. Allen and treasurer C. Hugh Dohoney have been in office more than 20 years. Drain commissioner George Kuhn has been in office since 1972.

# County seeks child care cash

By Tim Richard  
staff writer

Oakland County commissioners have hired attorney William P. Hampton to take "whatever legal action is necessary" to pry more child-care money out of state government.

The county says that over six years the state has fallen short of its obligation to provide 60 percent of child-care costs. Oakland places the cumulative shortage at \$800,000.

The board of commissioners vote Thursday was 22-1. Commissioner Dennis Aaron, D-Oak Park, dissented, saying "outside counsel is a waste of money. It can be done in-house" by the corporation counsel.

But the board's general government committee, chaired by Richard Skarritt, R-Milford, said the state "capped" its contributions, leaving counties to pick up the rest.

Child care in Oakland's budget has risen from \$8 million a year in 1981 to \$2.4 million in 1986.

IN TWO 1986 resolutions, the

board asked the state Legislature to appropriate the state's 50 percent share, as required by a 1979 law, and authorized the executive to file claims with the Local Government Review Board, which was set up to hear local claims of Headlee amendment violations.

Neither was successful. Hampton, a former circuit judge, could either try the review board again to go to court.

At this point, Oakland is proceeding alone because leaders of the Michigan Association of Counties are reluctant to fight.

IN OTHER action Thursday, the county board:

• Awarded Minoru Yamasaki Associates of Troy a \$218,000 contract to prepare a comprehensive space-needs master plan for more court space and a parking ramp. County commissioners are balking at executive and court suggestions of an entirely new court tower. Yamasaki is expected to produce alternate plans for a new facility and an addition.

• Asked Congress to extend the Mortgage Revenue Bond program through 1992, saying it helps low- and middle-income people who can't obtain private financing. Under the act, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority and other agencies issue tax-exempt mortgage revenue bonds to provide home loans.

Volunteers are needed

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For information on other opportunities, or if your organization is in need of volunteers, call the Center for Volunteerism, United Community Services of Metropolitan Detroit, 226-9429 weekdays, or write 1212 Griswold, Detroit, Mich. 48226-1859.

proposed new agency an unnecessary level of bureaucracy that would supplant "a well-organized, well-practiced Department of Corrections jail inspection operation."

The Senate bills are SB 586, sponsored by Republican Sens. Jack Welborn of Kalamazoo, Rudy Nichols of Waterford and Doug Carl of Utica; and SB 587, sponsored by Chris Dingell, D-Trenton, Welborn and Carl.

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