

Commissioner runs at OCC

By Tim Richard
staff writer

A Democratic county commissioner plans to run for the Oakland Community College board of trustees and says he can hold the two offices simultaneously.

"The attorney general says there is no conflict of interest between the County Commission and the OCC board," said Commissioner James Doyon of Madison Heights.

Doyon announced he will not seek an eighth term on the county board in the Aug. 2 primary.

He plans to run instead for the non-partisan OCC board June 13. If elected, he would start serving on the OCC board July 1 and not leave the county board until Dec. 31. The terms would overlap by six months.

"There is no direct business between the county and the college," he said. "There is no funding mechanism (by which one aids the other). A

person can be a member of a school board and a city council."

DOYON, 41, TOLD county colleagues he is working toward a master's degree with teaching certificate at Oakland University.

He currently holds a bachelor of arts in political science and is doing substitute teaching nearly every day at Madison Heights Lamphere High.

Doyon's 10th county board district includes southeastern Troy, Madison Heights and northeastern Royal Oak.

Oakland County commissioners are paid about \$17,000 a year. They typically have a half-day meeting twice a month and several committee meetings each month, which also can run into a half-day.

OCC trustees are unpaid but are reimbursed for some expenses. They hold one evening meeting per month but sometimes have a second meeting and ceremonial functions to at-

tend.

THE CONFLICT of interest question between general government posts and OCC posts hasn't arisen in recent years.

Three OCC trustees used the posts as stepping-stones to administrative jobs in other colleges, but all have moved from the OCC district and resigned.

In neighboring Schoolcraft College, the question has arisen several times. In the early '70s trustee Mary Dumas had to resign when she was elected to the Wayne County Board of Commissioners. Trustee R. Robert Geake resigned when he was elected in 1972 to the state House of Representatives. Last fall, trustee Laura Toy resigned when she was elected to the Livonia City Council.

Two seats will be filled on the OCC board. Trustee David Hackett of Rochester Hills will seek re-election,



James Doyon
two jobs for six months?

but trustee Edward Pappas of Bloomfield Hills announced he will not.

Senate adopts presidential plan

All area senators supported the 1992 presidential primary bill when it sailed through the Michigan Senate 32-5 last week.

It set the third Tuesday in March to restore the primary. The bill goes now to the House.

A companion measure passed last month asks Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin and Minnesota to designate the same date in order to hold a Great Lakes "super Tuesday." Illinois already has chosen that date.

It would be a "closed" primary, so voters would have to register their party preference at least 30 days before the voting. That preference would hold for future years unless the voter decided to switch parties, according to Sen. R. Robert Geake, R-Norville.

That would be a major change for Michigan, which always has had "open" primaries.

THE SENATE turned down, six in favor and 31 against, an amendment to allow an open primary, in which a voter wouldn't have to declare for a party.

"In that case, only Republicans would be voting," said Geake, because an open primary would violate national Democratic rules restricting the process to declared Democrats. The primary would cost an estimated \$5.1 million.

An open primary would force Democrats to set up their own caucus system, Democrats have been concerned with preventing "crossover" voting by Republicans ever since 1972 when Alabama Gov. George Wallace won 51 percent of the vote in Michigan's presidential primary.

A second amendment, rejected 7 to 25, would have allowed "same day" registration — also unacceptable to the Democratic Party nationally, Geake said.

A 30-day gap between when one declares for a party and the presidential primary would allow the campaigns to target likely voters by direct mail, senators said.

A FINAL amendment was adopted to satisfy both parties over the question of state law vs. national rules, Geake said.

It says that national party rules can supersede the delegate selection process in the state law — which satisfies Democrats.

Since Republican National Committee say the state party is to follow state law, the GOP also is satisfied.

To declare a party preference, a voter would go to the city or township clerk — the same as for registering to vote.

OU's business school accredited

Oakland University's School of Business Administration has been accredited by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

Both the undergraduate and the master of business administration programs have been accredited, said Ronald M. Horwitz, dean of the OU school, one of six public universities in Michigan with accredited programs.

Schools must meet standards of quality of students, curricula, quality of faculty and support services for

students.

"ACCREDITATION will broaden opportunities for students, faculty members and alumni," said Horwitz. Examples:

- Students will find their degrees more valuable after graduation.

- Faculty will have better access to grants and awards. Faculty recruitment will be enhanced.

- OU's business school will be eligible to apply for chapter status in

Beta Gamma Sigma and Beta Alpha Psi, national honorary business and accounting societies respectively.

OU'S BUSINESS school grew from seven students in 1968 to 1,000 in 1989, when it was known as the School of Economics and Management.

Today it has 2,000 undergraduate students and 300 in the MBA program.

Majors within the bachelor's degree curriculum are accounting, economics, finance, general management, human resources management, management information systems and marketing.

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