

County exec pushes for solid waste bonds

By Pat Murphy
Staff writer

Oakland County commissioners seem ready to face the wrath of tax foe Richard Headlee — if necessary — to go ahead with bonding for the proposed solid waste program.

"We're hoping to meet with Headlee to see if we can reach a compromise," county board chairman Roy Rewold said Friday. "But even if that doesn't work, I think we should be ready to go ahead."

Rewold said the board's legal counsel, William Hampton, hopes to meet with Headlee this week to discuss the threatened suit.

Rewold, a Rochester Republican,

and other commissioners were encouraged to "exercise some leadership" and proceed with the \$470 million solid waste program less than 24 hours after an evening meeting of the county board.

In an impassioned 20-minute speech, County Executive Daniel T. Murphy reminded commissioners they have been informed on the solid waste program and its components — an incinerator, recycling facilities and private landfills — for several years.

COMMISSIONERS KNOW the planning and research that went into the solid waste plan and they've had three separate opinions from law-

yers affirming they could fund the program by selling bonds that would be paid off with tipping fees.

"You can't back off just because somebody threatens a lawsuit," Murphy said. He was referring to a threat from tax-foe Headlee who says he will sue if county officials proceed with plans to sell almost \$600 million bonds without first getting a vote of the people.

Officials were scheduled to begin selling bonds this summer to finance the waste program, an \$80 million extension to the courthouse and a \$10 million computer center.

Plans were put on hold — and officials "all shook up" as one Commissioner G. William Caddell, R-Walled Lake, put it — when Headlee, chairman of the watchdog group called Taxpayers United, threatened his suit.

The best example of how the threatened suit disrupted county de-

liberations occurred April 12 when the board's finance committee refused to act on a contract for the Materials Recovery Facility scheduled in Auburn Hills.

SOLID WASTE planners were surprised by the move because they expected prompt approval of the MRF — which was to be operational late next year or in early 1993.

One of those voting to table the contract, commissioner Marilyn E. Gosling, R-Bloomfield Hills, said the solid waste plan was moving too fast and she wanted additional information in view of the possible law suit from Headlee.

"That was a very favorable contract," Murphy said in his speech. It came in at nearly half the (anticipated) price and "did everything we wanted it to do."

Yet commissioners took no action, Murphy said.

The \$30 million MRF is the least controversial component of the solid waste program because people want more recycling, Murphy noted. "We've got to move ahead."

Murphy's address drew a standing ovation from some commissioners. "I thought it was excellent," said commissioner Nancy McConnell, R-Bloomfield Hills.

But it drew sharp criticism from Headlee colleague William McMasters as well as about 30 opponents of the solid waste program.

"I'm mad as hell," McMasters said. "Selling bonds without a vote of the people is clearly a violation of the state constitution as amended in 1978 by the Headlee Amendment."

That amendment said government could not raise taxes without a vote of the people, he said, and bonding is a way around getting voter approval.

It's time commissioners obeyed

the law they swore to uphold, McMasters said.

AMONG THOSE who spoke against the solid waste plan was Maggie Tyson of Bloomfield Township who urged commissioners to "take a long hard look" at the solid waste program, especially the proposed incinerator scheduled to be built in Auburn Hills.

"It shouldn't be shoved down our throats by any politician," Tyson said, "including Mr. Murphy."

Debra McConnell, a member of RAIL (Residents Against Incinerators and Landfills) read a poem critical of the solid waste program and the officials who approved it.

The final line advised officials who support the plan to expect to feel voter wrath and "... dump your political careers in the county garbage can."

... Officials asked to go on record

Taxpayers United is demanding individual Oakland County commissioners go on record about selling bonds for three projects — including the controversial solid waste program — without first getting a vote of the people.

William D. McMaster, spokesman for Taxpayers United, last Friday sent letters to county commissioners asking them to express their views by this Friday.

The May 4 date is significant, said McMaster, because it leaves Taxpayers United enough time to recruit candidates to run against commis-

sioners who don't agree.

The deadline for filing to run in the August primary elections for county commissioner is May 15, McMaster said.

"We fully intend to run candidates against commissioners who chose not to enforce the constitution they were sworn to uphold," he said.

Taxpayers United, founded by tax foe Richard Headlee, contends commissioners and County Executive Daniel T. Murphy are violating the Michigan Constitution by not getting a vote of the people before selling

bonds to finance three projects — the \$470 million solid waste program, the \$80 million addition to the courthouse and the \$10 million computer center.

THE ORGANIZATION threatened to sue the county if officials go ahead with plans to begin selling bonds this summer.

When his organization threatened to sue last month, Headlee said his organization isn't necessarily opposed to the projects. But Taxpayers United objects to selling bonds with-

out a prior vote, Headlee said.

McMasters said getting commissioners on the record is necessary because they do not have another meeting until May 24, almost 10 days beyond the filing deadline.

The May 10 meeting has been canceled, something McMaster charged is no accident.

"We are conducting this survey of all 27 commissioners in order to better inform taxpayers of your position on this issue of great importance," Taxpayers United said in its letter.

UGLY KITCHEN CABINETS?

DON'T REPLACE... **'REFACE'** MODERN & EUROPEAN STYLES

FORMICA Solid Colors and Woodgrain SOLID WOODS Oak, Cherry and Birch

SERVING WAYNE, OAKLAND & MACOMB

• FACTORY SHOWROOM • FREE ESTIMATES

1642 E. 11 Mile Rd., Madison Hgts. Since 1969
1 Block W. of Dequindre Daily 9-5, Sun. 10-4

Cabinet Clad... 541-5252

REWARD

\$5 for locking up your Fur and cleaning it at Dittrichs

Present this ad, have your Furs cleaned by our experts and locked up in our Temperature and Humidity controlled vaults. and save \$5

After a Michigan winter your furs deserve pampering and no one pampers furs like Dittrichs. A new lining or a new look. We do all fur repairs or remodels on our own premises.

For A Worry Free Summer Call Now For A Free Pick-Up 873-8300 or 642-3003

DETROIT 873-8300 7373 Third Ave. BLOOMFIELD HILLS 642-3000 1515 N. Woodward Ave.

Dittrichs Since 1950

CORRECTION

On Page 14B of our May 2 Mailer, the illustration of the #4964 TV is incorrect. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

SEARS

EVERY RUG REDUCED TO OUR CRAZIEST, LOWEST PRICES EVER!

SAVINGS FROM 40% TO 70% OFF ON EVERY ORIENTAL DESIGN, EVERY FLORAL, EVERY TRADITIONAL, EVERY CONTEMPORARY, EVERY BERBER, EVERY COUNTRY PATTERN!

RUG-A-mania SALE

SAVE UP TO 70% ON KARASTAN RUGS!
One of the finest Oriental reproductions of 100% wool pile.

KARASTAN 300 SERIES*

Size	Regular	Sale
5'6" x 8'6"	\$ 749	\$219
8'2" x 10'10"	\$ 999	\$299
8'3" x 11'9"	\$1199	\$359

KARASTAN 500 SERIES*

Size	Regular	Sale
5'6" x 8'6"	\$ 999	\$299
8'2" x 10'10"	\$1329	\$389
8'3" x 11'6"	\$1499	\$449

(33 units available)

KARASTAN 700 SERIES

Size	Regular	Sale
2'2" x 4'	\$ 329	\$ 179
4'3" x 6'	\$ 829	\$ 439
5'9" x 9'	\$1579	\$ 829
8'8" x 10'5"	\$2399	\$1299
8'8" x 12'	\$2499	\$1359

SAVE UP TO 45% ON COURISTAN RUGS!
EL DORADO...a textured berber loop in 3 designs, pure wool pile.

Size	Regular	Sale
2'3" x 4'6"	\$125	\$ 69
4' x 5'8"	\$249	\$149
5'6" x 8'	\$425	\$279
8' x 11'	\$775	\$479
2'3" x 8'	\$195	\$129

SAVE UP TO 44% ON WHITNEY RUGS!
CABBAGE PATCH...a floral design in 100% wool pile.

Size	Regular	Sale
4' x 5'3"	\$ 375	\$219
5'7" x 7'10"	\$ 750	\$429
8'3" x 11'	\$1100	\$659
2'3" x 7'10"	\$ 350	\$199

SAVE UP TO 42% ON PROVIDENCE RUGS!
ARVICA...a contemporary pattern in 2 designs. 100% wool pile.

Size	Regular	Sale
4' x 8'	\$ 325	\$189
5'3" x 8'	\$ 599	\$349
7'11" x 11'3"	\$1200	\$699

HUGE SELECTION SPECIAL GROUP OF CLEARANCE RUGS AT THEIR LOWEST PRICE EVER

Prices effective through May 3, 1990

Our Diamond and Emerald Anniversary Ring Save \$750

***\$2750 value ONLY \$2000**

Brilliant diamonds and emeralds all set in 18k gold. An excellent value available only during May. Take advantage of our interest-free financing for 10 months with only 20% down.

Now through May 31st.

CHARLES W. WARREN

JEWELERS SINCE 1963

ROCHESTER HILLS, (313) 649-3411
BAYVIEW - FAIRLAWN

Beckwith Evans

AT THE TROY WAREHOUSE SHOWROOM ONLY
190 E. MAPLE RD. / (313) 585-7000
TROY, MICHIGAN

BETWEEN LIVERMORE AND ROCHESTER ROADS

FOR CREDIT FINANCING, CALL OUR CREDIT DEPT. ... 585-7000

STORE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 10 am to 8 pm... SATURDAY 10 am to 6 pm... SUNDAY 10 am to 5 pm

BUYING CARPETS has never been easier!

We have PLEAS to be SHOWN in our Showroom