

Legislature OK's Boundary Commission

Gov. Romney is expected to sign a bill creating a State Boundary Commission to handle new city incorporation and consolidation questions.

The bill, passed long ago by the House, sailed through the Senate 31-1 last week. The lone negative vote was cast by Sen. N. Lorraine Beebe, R-Dearborn Heights, whose district includes Redford Township.

The other senators who represent Observerland -- Republican George Kuhn of west Bloomfield and Democrat William Faust of Westland-voted in favor.

SPONSORED BY SEN. MURTON Zaagman, R-Grand Rapids, the Boundary Commission bill covers only incorporation of new cities and consolidation of smaller cities, villages and townships into new cities. It does not cover issues of city annexation.

Purpose of the Boundary Commission would be to decide what issues to place on the ballot. The Boundary Commission itself would have no power to effect incorporations or consolidations.

The bill is especially important to the entire Farmington and Plymouth communities, where city-township consolidations are being discussed.

IN INCORPORATION questions, the commission would have authority to hold a public hearing and review the logic of an incorporation proposal. The power is of significance to Farmington Township, where twice in recent years there have been ballot questions on the incorporation of all or part of the township as a city.

Previously, the question had to be ordered on the ballot by a county board of supervisors, which judged only the accuracy of the legal description and the sufficiency of petition signatures.

The Boundary Commission is seen, in this regard, as a method of halting "defensive" incorporations of townships or piecemeal incorporations of townships as new cities.

After a public hearing and review, the boundary commission then could either (1) place the question before the voters, (2) revise the boundaries of the proposed new city and then place it before the voters, or (3) deny the request entirely.

IN CONSOLIDATION cases--where two or more cities, villages or townships are proposed to form a new city--the Boundary Commission's powers would be more limited.

It would have to place the question on the ballot unless (1) the same municipalities have been considered in a consolidation proposal within the last two years or (2) an annexation petition is pending in any of the municipalities proposed for consolidation.

Proposals to annex territory to a city would continue to be presented to county supervisors, who would then decide whether to place the issue on the ballot.

THE BOUNDARY Commission itself would have five members.

Three state members would be appointed by the governor, with the Senate concurring. Two local members would be appointed by the presiding probate judge in the county where the boundary matter is being considered.

Passage of the bill is widely considered to be a victory, though only a partial one--for cities and a defeat for those township officials who have traditionally fought every effort by cities to expand their boundaries.

Schoolcraft Board Sights Tuition Hike

Schoolcraft College trustees after heated discussion last week gave tentative approval to a tuition increase of \$2 per credit hour for residents and \$4 per credit hour for non-residents.

The tuition hike resulted from the Board's adoption of the tentative budget for 1968-69. A public hearing on adoption of the final budget will be held July 24.

W.K. Linder, Vice President of Business Affairs, included in the proposed budget a tuition increase of \$2 per credit hour for both residents and non-

residents. This was raised to \$4 for non-residents with an amendment introduced by Trustee Paul Munkit. The amendment passed 5-3 with Trustees James Boswell, George Martin and Jane Moehle voting against it.

If the tuition hike receives final passage July 24, the new fees will be \$10 per credit hour for residents and \$18 for non-residents.

The amended tentative budget was approved by a 5-3 vote with Trustees Boswell, Martin and Moehle casting negative votes.

TRUSTEE MOEHLE argued at length against the tuition hike voicing her belief that students shouldn't have to bear the brunt of expense for increased salaries. Instead, she argued, the administration should limp along until a millage increase can be gained.

An alternative suggested by Mrs. Moehle was to trim down on the hiring of new employees and double up the teaching load carried by some instructors. She also urged if the tuition hike passes that the 50-cent student activities fee be eliminated.

Martin also argued against hiring additional instructors because some instructors were not teaching full loads now and some classes being offered were not filled to the recommended level. Martin suggested that part-time instructors assume additional duties so fewer new teachers would have to be hired.

LINDER countered that elimination of the tuition hike would leave a hole in the budget of \$194,811 (\$2 hike x 97,000 credit hours). Of this amount, Linder said, 73 per

cent is allocated for salaries which could not possibly be gained by increasing the work load of the present staff. "What you are after with \$194,000 cut is salary," said Linder. "You won't get it by trimming individual line items."

Linder argued against dropping the student activities fee and transferring accumulated student activities funds, stating the funds were necessary to replace and maintain equipment in the Student Center.

If the tuition increase is not approved, and a millage hike not requested, the new Liberal Arts Building would have to be

closed and plans to construct P.E. and Fine Arts plants would have to be scrapped, according to Linder.

THE PROPOSED \$3,478,108 budget represents an increase of \$708,015 in expenses. Eighty-five per cent of the increase goes towards additional salaries including \$116,656 for regular increments.

The remaining \$490,811 of the salary increase is attributed to the addition of 41 new employees to the staff. The bulk of additional employees, including 21 faculty members and five custodians, is necessitated by the opening next fall of a 32-room Liberal Arts classroom building.

Part of the additional salary costs will be paid for from the \$194,811 received from the proposed tuition increase.

Since the fiscal year ends June 30, the administration will operate under the tentative budget approved by the Board until the final budget is adopted July 24.

This means the administration may hire any or all of the 41 added employees between now and July 24. The tuition increase, approved as part of the tentative budget, should not affect students until fall since summer enrollments are already filled.

THE BUDGET calls for a

tax levy of 1.77 mills expected to bring in \$1,512,288. Of this amount \$2 per cent will be used for operation and 40 per cent for debt retirement.

The budget provides for 68 new students and a total of 97,000 credit hours. It will service the June 12 bond issue of \$3.7 million with an approximate expenditure of \$185,000, depending upon the interest rate set by the Municipal Finance League.

The original projected contingency was \$44,591; however, this was raised to \$108,000 by the Board action increasing non-resident tuition \$4 instead of the recommended \$2 per credit hour, bringing in an additional \$64,000. Thus, the total additional income from the tuition increase will be \$248,000 with \$194,811 being used for salary increases.

Answer Due On Elections

Township clerks may know by the end of this week whether or not more than two trustees of township boards face reelection this fall.

Bernard Apol, State Director of Elections, told Redford Township Clerk Mrs. Dawn Rice he hopes to have a definite answer soon.

She had requested official directions after an Oakland County Circuit Judge ruled the 1964 state law extending terms of the supervisor, clerk, treasurer and other trustees unconstitutional in a Waterford case.

Will that ruling affect terms of office statewide? That is the question.

Came The Rains--Then The Floods



THIS DRIVER couldn't believe the parkway was flooded -- even though a sign said so.



HINES DRIVE was anything but a drive Monday. The barricade at Merriman Road warns drivers that the parkway is flooded, but they didn't need a warning -- they could see for themselves as this picture shows.

College Head To Serve On Conference Panel

Dr. Eric J. Bradner, president of Schoolcraft College, has been invited to participate as

a consultant for the National Conference of the Program With Developing Institutions to be held June 13-16 at Airline House, Warrington, Va.

workshops organized on a regional basis. Dr. Bradner will serve as a workshop consultant.

Name Bradner To Serve On NCA Team

The North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools has invited Dr. Eric J. Bradner, president of Schoolcraft College, to participate in its Council-Examiner Associate Program for the 1968-69 academic year.

The four-day conference, sponsored by the American Association of Junior Colleges, will bring together officials from the U.S. Office of Education and community college presidents and governing board members from throughout the country for concentrated discussions and workshops on the implications of federal legislation to the two-year college.

The schedule for the conference includes a series of general sessions, panel programs and specialized subject matter



Credit Unions Honor Pair

John Elkins, 36050 Vargo, Livonia, was named chapter chairman and Lawrence Wilhelm, 325 Roe St., Plymouth, director in the Michigan Credit Union League by fellow officials following elections held at the annual meeting of the Edward A. Filene Chapter of Credit Unions.

O'Neil Asks Support Of Colleges

James F. O'Neil, a member of the State Board of Education, has urged all citizens to support the establishment of the Wayne County Community College by electing the best qualified trustees on June 10.

O'Neil calls the Community College programs the greatest innovation in education today meeting the greatest needs of youth and adults seeking post high school education and training.

The State Board of Education member stated that the Community College will close the major educational gap in Wayne County's educational programs today by:

1. Opening the doors of educational opportunity to everyone -- regardless of past grades or educational level of achievement.
2. Providing remedial assistance to those in need.
3. Offering comprehensive technical training, as well as academic training, which meets one of the greatest needs in our society today, and
4. Providing retraining for the unemployed and those seeking better jobs.

OBSERVER

Second Front Page

PLYMOUTH MAN FINDS WONDERLAND'S BURIED TREASURE

LUCKY WINNER OF THE \$1,000,000 is ALLAN KAMINSKI of Plymouth

SEE NEXT WEEK'S OBSERVER FOR EXPLANATION OF CONTEST CLUES

WONDERLAND CENTER PLYMOUTH RD. AT MIDDLEBELT