

Oakland Wants Revision In Road Formula

By JACKIE KLEIN

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners has gone on record as opposing any increases in gas and weight tax unless there's a revision in the formula for distribution.

Last year, the public works committee recommended a

lawsuit against the State Highway Dept. for alleged inequities in the state gas and weight tax rebate formula. County road commissioners were doubtful of prospects for a successful suit but agreed the action might avert the public.

AS AND weight taxes are distributed according to a formula devised by the State Legislature. The former chairman of the public works committee, Harry Horton (D-Royal Oak), claimed that \$4 million a year collected in Oakland County is going to outstate counties.

He said Oakland needs millions of dollars of road improvements, but under present laws and the distribution formula, funds from gas and weight taxes take care of only a fraction of the needs. Horton said he wants to revise the formula but has been thwarted by outstate legislators. Some outstate counties, he said, are receiving as much as \$2.70 for each \$1 in gas and weight taxes collected, while Oakland County gets only a 40 cent return on each dollar.

A revised primary road formula has been submitted by a special ad hoc road committee, the public works committee and the legislative committee and will be discussed with legislators and other commission.

ACCORDING TO the formula, the increase for county primary roads should be \$1.248 million a year.

Because of changes in the census, the Legislature will reapportion the amounts received from gas and weight taxes. "The 1970 census, will probably help considerably to make up some of the losses

to cities and villages of the county, if formula changes are made," says Paul Van Roekel, Oakland County Road Commission highway engineer.

Nearly all road commission income for maintenance and construction on the 2,475 mile county road system is the share of state-collected gas and weight tax.

According to a highway study, Oakland County road needs are more demanding than those of other counties. The study indicated that \$175 million must be spent in the next 10 years for county road improvement.

A PROPOSED property tax to finance additional road work was defeated by Oakland County voters in 1968.

Commissioners agreed their suggested road formula was not inflexible and they would be open to other amendments. But they agreed that sending more money out and not getting it back was "insufferable."

C'ville Bandsmen Get Top Ratings

Clarenceville Senior High bandsmen entered 23 numbers in the Southeastern Michigan Solo and Ensemble Music Festival held recently at Scheraga College. Clarenceville emerged with 17 Division I (superior) ratings and six Division II (excellent) ratings.

Those who earned Division I ratings are: Tony Bango, cornet solo; Tom Sydor, cornet solo; Pam Strachan and Renee Landuit, flute duo; Jim Estep and Lori Prisk, horn duo; Sue Wilson, flute solo; Jack Waterstone and Doug Pozniak, saxophone duo; Jack Waterstone, Dan Waterstone, Howard Diamond and Doug Pozniak, saxophone quartet; Margie Prisk, marimba solo; Tom Taaffe, snare drum solo; Murray Rifkin, snare drum solo.

Harold Onckel, Tim Wheeler, Ken Sydor, Mark Rogers and Dennis Jeffreys, brass quintet; Larry Kopelman, Phyllis Feder, Dan Beerbohm and Allan Bornstein, clarinet quartet; Jim Wilson, cornet solo; Jim Wilson,

Doug Jhtunen, Jeff Diskin and Leonard Siresburger, brass quartet; Tony Bango, Doug Juntunen, Brian Rippon, Tom Sydor and Jim Estep, brass quintet; Jim Estep and Lori Prisk, French horn duo; and Dan Beerbohm, clarinet solo.

Second Division ratings went to Hannah Bitterman, flute solo; Renee Landuit, flute solo; Sue Case, Aliza Wechsler and Gay Rysinski, flute trio; Diane LaVoi, flute solo; Cheryl Lansing, Sandy Gurian and Steve Laghley, clarinet trio; and Andrea Wilson and Karen Moller, flute duo.

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C'ville Senior Is Finalist

Chris Nicholson, Clarenceville High School senior, has been notified that she has advanced to finalist standing in the 1970-71 National Merit Scholarship program. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Nicholson, 19942 Maplewood, Livonia.

Approximately 3,000 winners of scholarships will be selected from the 14,750 finalists. Winners will be notified between mid-March and mid-May. In a letter sent to Miss Nicholson, the president of the National Merit Scholarship Corp. informed her that as a finalist she is representative of about one-half of one per cent of the graduating secondary school seniors in the nation.

'Music Man' Rehearsed At C'ville

Director Robert Gregory has termed rehearsals for the Clarenceville High School production of Meredith Willson's "The Music Man" as "very successful." The play will be presented April 2-4 in the Louis E. Schmidt Auditorium in Clarenceville High School.

Acting as assistant directors are students Linda Lee and Vicki Billington. Faculty members working with Gregory, who is speech and English instructor at Clarenceville, are Miss Sheryl Holey, choreography; Miss Carol L. Hornung, music director; Mrs. Jane Pew, costumes; and Mrs. Carolyn Collins, finances.

Those who wish to purchase tickets in advance of the performance may call the high school. Tickets sold in advance are priced at \$1.25, while those sold at the door will be \$1.75.

'Helping Hand' Is Coming To Edgewood

The "Helping Hand" program, conducted in many surrounding school districts, is being extended to Clarenceville's Edgewood Elementary School area.

The program is designed to offer assistance from adults to children should they be in need of it. Families participating in the program place a blue "Helping Hand" sign in a window in their homes.

The program at Edgewood was begun by Mrs. Harold House, Mrs. Thomas Fredericks, Mrs. Tony Alcola, Mrs. Eugene Roszko and Mrs. John Wolgamott.

Early Dismissal At C'ville

All Clarenceville High School students will be dismissed at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 18, in order to permit the North Central Association evaluating team to meet with the faculty in general and in departmental sessions.

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