I hope you enjoyed a safe and joyous New Year!

2018 brings a few changes on the MAMC Board of Directors.

In December, Anna Perales submitted her resignation, leaving an opening for a City/Village Director. We wish Anna well and thank her for her service to our association. Pam Smith has been re-assigned to take over the duties of Ways and Means Director. The Board voted to appoint Melanie D. Ryska, City of Sterling Heights, to fill the City/Village Director vacancy with a term ending June 21, 2018. Melanie has been assigned the duties of Director Secretary.

Thank you ladies for your willingness to serve!

Please mark your calendars now to take part in all the educational opportunities MAMC provides and save the date to join us in June at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spas in beautiful Acme Township in Grand Traverse County where “There’s no place like Home!”

Sincerely,

Susanne M. Courtade CMMC/MMC
MAMC President 2017-18
scourtade@eastbaytwp.org
Hopefully everyone is excited to attend the 2018 MAMC Conference at the beautiful Grand Traverse Resort & Spa in Acme, Michigan June 20th-22nd with Clerking 101 and a Master class on June 19th. Our work is starting to ramp up on the planning and details for the Conference and we have some great ideas in store for our attendees. As always, networking is such a huge goal of our MAMC events, and this Conference will be no exception. The mobile app will again be used to keep all the attendees in touch, informed, and help with networking with your peers, vendors, speakers, and the MAMC Board of Directors.

The Grand Traverse Resort is sure to be a great venue with a convenient layout, on site spa, shops and restaurants inside the hotel, and plush accommodations. The proximity of the hotel to beautiful and vibrant Traverse City will keep guests plenty entertained throughout the week. Keep watching the MAMC website (www.michiganclerks.org) and your email for more information and upcoming registration dates!

As always you can email questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns to us at cityclerk@williamston-mi.us and awit@harrison-township.org.
Meet New MAMC Board Member, Melanie Ryska!

Melanie's career in municipal government began in 2002 as an Election Assistant for the City of Hamtramck. Always willing to tackle a challenge, Melanie accepted the appointment of City Clerk in 2005. Although she left for a position as Deputy City Clerk in Grosse Pointe Woods, Melanie maintains her ties to Hamtramck as a Lieutenant with their police reserve unit. Melanie later joined Wayne County as the Assistant Director of Elections, broadening her knowledge of the law and strengthening her professional network. The City of Sterling Heights recently appointed Melanie to serve as their City Clerk.

Along the way, Melanie continued to enhance her professional background through certifications and accreditations. She received her CMC in 2009 and her initial CMMC in 2014. She is a member of IIMC, MAMC, serves as the Secretary of the Macomb County Clerks Association, and is the Former President of the Association of Wayne County Clerks. Melanie earned a psychology degree from the school that cannot beat MSU or win a second-class bowl game even though Harbaugh has 140 million reasons to do it; however, her saving grace is that she primarily attended the Dearborn campus. She expects to complete her Master’s Degree in 2020.

Melanie is dedicated to public service and appreciates the support and encouragement of her professional mentors, her colleagues, her staff, and especially, her family which includes her husband, Jason, and three children, Landon (11), MaKenzie (9), and Reid (6). She is grateful for the opportunity to serve the members of MAMC.

Call for Nominations!

Sarah Bydalek, CMMC/MMC
City of Walker
MAMC Past-President

Looking for a fun and rewarding way to serve the MAMC? This is it!

The MAMC Nominating Committee is taking applications for the following Board of Director positions; these will be on the 2018 Ballot at the Annual Conference:

- **President – City/Village - 1 Year Term**
  Dan Kasunic, City of Kentwood, Kent County

- **1st Vice President – Township - 1 Year Term**
  Jennifer Venema, Caledonia Charter Township, Kent County

- **2nd Vice President – City/Village – 1 Year Term**
  Jeremy Howard, City of Mt. Pleasant, Isabella County

- **3rd Vice President – Township/County – 1 Year Term**
  Robert Crawford - Fort Gratiot Charter Twp., St. Clair County

- **Director – City/Village – 2 Year term (Vote for Two)**
  Lisa Hathaway (Incumbent)
  Pam Smith (Incumbent)

- **Director – City/Village – 1 Year term (Vote for One)**
  Melanie Ryska (Incumbent)

- **Director – Township – 2 Year Term (Vote for Two)**
  Mary Clark (Incumbent)
  Open Seat

Applications are due by April 11, 2018. Please see the MAMC website for the Board Application.

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Financial Report

Lanie McManus, CMMC
Garfield Charter Township
MAMC Treasurer

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Financial Report for December 31, 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank Statement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beginning Balance</td>
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<td>Deposits/Credits</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
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<td>Withdrawals</td>
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<td>Ending Checking Balance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ending Savings Balance</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL FUNDS</td>
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</tbody>
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Reminder – MAMC memberships expired on 12/31/17. Members receive HUGE savings on all education and are welcome to attend Free Education Day; save more than the $60 membership fee.

The Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks understands our Clerks’ professional obligations to serve, abide by federal and state laws, and enforce compliance with municipal charter and codes. Membership provides the tools and resources that offer the ability to achieve the knowledge and skills to perform at maximum capacity in which to offer the highest level of service to your community and to lead your staff.

There are a lot of exciting plans in store for MAMC members in 2018. Let’s see . . . there is Free Education Day at Soaring Eagle, conference in Traverse City; and, Institute, Masters, and Clerking 101 in Mount Pleasant. Legislatively we continue to work with our lobbyist, State of Michigan Bureau of Elections, Council of Election Officials, and Legislative Committee keeping abreast of, and testifying on those that impacted us, bills imperative to administering elections and assisting our voters. We also continue to reward and certify members with their Certified Michigan Municipal Clerks (CMMC) certification who recognize the value in education and have completed the necessary requirements. If financial assistance is needed to attend one of our venues, scholarship applications are available at www.michiganclerks.org.

Lifetime Memberships Awarded

Article III – Membership. Section 4. Life Members. Life Membership may be bestowed on past-presidents of Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks. Past Presidents with Life Membership shall enjoy all privileges of Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks (CMMC) certification who recognize the value in education and have completed the necessary requirements. If financial assistance is needed to attend one of our venues, scholarship applications are available at www.michiganclerks.org.

Following review, it was found that all of our Past Presidents had not received the prestigious Lifetime Membership. Therefore, at the December 2017 meeting, the Board voted to immediately issue Lifetime Memberships to all MAMC Past Presidents. Future Past Presidents will be receive their Lifetime designation at the June conference.

Dear Past Presidents,

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, thank you for all of your time and dedication over the many years working for the betterment of our organization.

With sincere gratitude ~ MAMC

Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks
Past Presidents

2000-2001 Colleen Schwartz, Milford Township (Oakland)
2001-2002 Robert Slone, City of Ypsilanti (Washtenaw)
2002-2003 Sandra Abrams, Commerce Twp (Oakland)
2003-2004 Tony Bartholomew, City of Troy (Oakland)
2004-2005 Terri Kowal, Shelby Township (Macomb)
2005-2006 Gail Kunding, City of Muskegon (Muskegon)
2006-2007 Janet Santos, Bangor Township (Bay)
2007-2008 Dana Muscott, City of Bay City (Bay)
2008-2009 Ann Ulrich, Hartland Township (Livingston)
2009-2010 Todd Blake, City of Fremont (Newaygo)
2010-2011 Evan Hope, Delhi Township (Ingham)
2011-2012 Joel Hordorp, Byron Township (Kent)
2012-2013 Dan Kasunic, City of Kentwood (Kent)
2013-2014 Carolyn Boersma, Spring Lake Twp (Ottawa)
2014-2015 Chris Swope, City of Lansing (Ingham)
2015-2016 Joe Bridgman, Huron Charter Twp (Wayne)
2016-2017 Sarah Bydalek, City of Walker (Kent)

County Associations Award Members Scholarships

Macomb and Wayne County Clerk's Associations understand the value of quality education and reliable resources that MAMC provides Michigan Clerks. They have put their faith
(and money) where the education is – via scholarships. For many years now, these county associations have supported MAMC education and certification, and MAMC says . . . Thank You Very Much!

A few lucky members are able to attend various 2018 MAMC educational sessions thanks to the Macomb and Wayne County Clerks Associations. Clerks interested in attaining education, which is fully applicable toward CMMC re-certification, submitted their names in their County’s drawing to win a paid registration. Congratulations to the winners!

Macomb County awarded registration scholarships to three winners at their drawing held January 18, 2018:
- Institute: Lori Lascoe, Ray Township
- Master’s Academy: Kim Irvine, Clinton Township
- Conference: Kim Meltzer, Clinton Township

Wayne County awarded registration scholarships to three winners at their drawing held January 10, 2018:
- Masters: Cindy Bower, City of Taylor
- Conference: August Gitschlag, Hamtramck; and George Darany, City of Dearborn

Additional scholarships are available. Check with your County Clerk’s Association and MAMC for scholarship opportunities and deadlines. Be sure to let us know if your Association sponsors scholarships, we’d love to hear about it!

CMMC

Proudly, we are now in our fifth year administering the CMMC program. For those of you who have certified and re-certified, thank you for focusing on education and rewarding yourself with the CMMC credentials.

For those not yet certified, you too can become a credentialed Certified Michigan Municipal Clerk (CMMC). All third year graduates of the Michigan Clerks Institute are qualified to apply! In January, the Board voted to approve all graduates of Institute, regardless of the year completing the full three years, for CMMC certification. In February, the Board will be evaluating the CMMC program including its successes as well as means in which it may be improved upon.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please provide your input on the CMMC program by emailing lhathaway@gpwmi.us. Whether you are certified, re-certified, not certified, or planning to certify in the future, please take a moment to share your thoughts as soon as possible:

1. Identify whether you are currently certified, re-certified, or plan to certify in the near future;
2. Value of the program;
3. Ability to certify/re-certify;
4. Cost;
5. If you were a CMMC and did not re-certify, the reason not re-certified;

Receipt of your comments are greatly appreciated by February 16th. The greater the response, the better the program. Hope to hear from you very soon.

The following Clerk’s have recently been awarded the prestigious designation of Certified Michigan Municipal Clerk. Congratulations to all!

Susan Ullery - City of Lowell
Adam Wit - Charter Twp. of Harrison
Teresa Ives - City of Three Rivers
Cheryl Goss - Whitewater Township
Pamela Holmes - City of Zeeland
Angela Adkison - Eureka Charter Township
Kimberly Borgman - City of Coopersville

Join your peers as a Certified Michigan Municipal Clerk (CMMC)

The importance of attaining a CMMC is that the “CMMC” identifies recipients as having knowledge and experience in subjects specifically required of a Michigan Clerk. Sustaining certification also acknowledges an understanding of the value of continuous education. You may obtain an application, informational brochure, and guidelines at www.michiganclerks.org.
House Committee Hears Testimony on Millage Limitations

In late January, the House Elections and Ethics Committee heard testimony on legislation that would limit most millage elections to the even- or odd-year August or November election dates. The main bill, House Bill 4814, was introduced by Rep. Thomas Albert (R-Lowell). Companion bills are House Bill 4815, introduced by Rep. Jim Lilly (R-Grand Haven) and House Bill 5242, introduced by Rep. Mike Webber (R-Rochester). Collectively, the bills would limit a local taxing unit submitting a proposal on a question of imposing a new millage or increasing or renewing an existing millage to the August or November general election dates. However, this limitation would not apply to questions imposing or increasing non-homestead school operating millages. These elections would not be limited to certain election dates and could remain on the May date.

During the course of testimony, Rep. Albert noted his motivations are two-fold. First, the cost of running stand-alone elections is high. He noted that Kent County ISD held a May county-wide at a cost of $180,000. Secondly, he noted that he wants to limit these millage questions to election dates that have the greater possibility of voter participation, noting the low turnout on the Kent ISD election mentioned previously was six percent.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, speaking on behalf of the MAMC, opposed the legislation. Mr. Swope spoke to letting locals determine which date works best for their needs noting that many seek the May date so that the change could be implemented prior to the summer tax bills. Mr. Swope was joined in his opposition by the Michigan Townships Association, Michigan Municipal League and a host of public school organizations. The only groups to support the bills were the Mackinac Center, Americans for Prosperity and the Freedom Fund, all known as anti-tax groups.

Bill to Require Semi-closed Primaries Introduced

Legislation to establish semi-closed primaries whereby voters would be required to indicate which party's ballot they choose to vote was introduced late last year. House Bill 5207, introduced by Rep. Gary Howell (R-Lapeer), would require the same process for the August primaries that has been required of the last several presidential primaries. Voters would be required to indicate which partisan ballot they intend to vote. To this end, separate ballots would be required for all qualified parties and another ballot for any non-partisan or local ballot questions. The bill was referred to the House Elections and Ethics Committee where no hearing has been scheduled.

Bill Introductions of Interest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SB 656 of 2017</td>
<td>Elections; voting procedures; provisions in the Michigan election law regarding individuals in the address confidentiality program; provide for.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5199 of 2017</td>
<td>Elections; canvassing; expedited canvass of returns for electors of President and Vice President of the United States; require under certain circumstances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5207 of 2017</td>
<td>Elections; primary; elector to indicate which political party ballot he or she wishes to vote at primary elections; require.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5262 of 2017</td>
<td>Elections; registration; electronic submission of voter registration application on secretary of state's website; allow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5263 of 2017</td>
<td>Elections; registration; electronic submission of voter registration application on secretary of state's website; allow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5264 of 2017</td>
<td>Elections; registration; electronic submission of voter registration application on secretary of state's website; allow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5265 of 2017</td>
<td>Elections; registration; deadline for registering to vote; revise to 10 days before date of election.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5266 of 2017</td>
<td>Housing; landlord and tenants; requirement for landlords to provide new tenants with a Michigan voter registration information packet; provide for.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5267 of 2017</td>
<td>Elections; absent voters; absent voter ballot; allow first-time voters to utilize.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5268 of 2017</td>
<td>Elections; registration; automatic voter registration when receiving driver license or identification card; provide for.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5269 of 2017</td>
<td>State; identification cards; declaration of United States citizenship on personal identification card application; require for automatic voter registration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5270 of 2017</td>
<td>Traffic control; driver license; declaration of United States citizenship on operator's or chauffeur's license application; require for automatic voter registration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 5449 of 2018</td>
<td>Elections; absent voters; electronic return of absentee ballots by military voters who are serving and absent from their place of residence; allow, and expand to include spouses of military voters.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Here are the potential State wide proposals and their standings as of December:

- Keep our Lakes Great - Petition Approved
- Coalition to Regulate Marijuana like Alcohol - Petition Filed
- Protecting Michigan Taxpayers - Petition Filed
- Raise Michigan - Petition Approved
- Clean Michigan - Petition Form Filed and Amended
- MI Time to Care - Petition Approved
- Abrogate Prohibition Michigan - Petition Approved
- Voters Not Politicians - Petition Filed
- Michigan One Fair Wage - Petition Approved
- Protect Michigan Jobs - Petition Form Filed

Not all of the potential proposals will move forward in time to be on the ballot. We just wanted everyone to be aware of the proposals that may make it to the November ballot. (Thanks to Joel Hondorp for sharing his research!)

The nominations are in for the Clerk of the Year (COTY) and the COTY Committee members will be selecting a maximum of 5 Clerk of the Year nominees to appear on the ballot in their respective category – City, Township and Village Clerk of the Year. The Board authorized electronic voting for COTY starting in 2018. Watch for more information on the forum and Facebook page coming in early March regarding the nominees selected and instructions for electronic voting. Information will also be available at the MAMC Institute, Master Classes and Free Education Day in April. Voting will close May 11, 2018 with the winners being announced at the June, 2018 Summer Conference!

The following amendments to Standing Rules have recently been approved by the Board and full language can be found in the updated Standing Rules on the MAMC website:

**SR31 – Michigan Municipal Clerks Institute (MMCI) Scholarship**

The SR was amended to include language that the MMCI satisfies educational requirements not only for the IIMC Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) certification but also for the MAMC Certified Michigan Municipal Clerk (CMMC) certification.

**SR33 – Clerk of the Year (COTY)**

The SR was amended to update language to allow for electronic voting for COTY candidates and eliminate paper ballot voting.

**SR41 – Honorary and Life Membership**

The SR was amended to grant outgoing Presidents automatic Life Membership upon completion of their term and eliminates the need for those requesting Honorary Membership to provide proof of “significant contribution” to the organization. Requesting to be an Honorary Member is showing interest in keeping up with the organization and Honorary Members have no voting rights.
Upcoming Events

March 11-16
MAMC Institute
Comfort Inn - Mt. Pleasant

March 20-22
MAMC Master Academy
Comfort Inn - Mt. Pleasant

April 10
MAMC Free Education Day
Soaring Eagle Casino - Mt. Pleasant

June 19
Grand Traverse Resort - Acme
MAMC Master Academy

June 20-22
Grand Traverse Resort - Acme
MAMC Master Academy