Well, as always, change is inevitable and constant in the Clerk world. So here I am writing the president newsletter article as your MAMC President for the 2019-2020 year. Though I wasn’t sworn in as the president at conference and my place was supposed to be for the 2020-2021 year, things change.

Most of you should have seen by now that we had some unexpected resignations on the executive board for MAMC Board of Directors. Hopefully everyone had a chance to read the news that Robert Crawford (2nd VP) has been appointed to the Office of Supervisor of Fort Gratiot Township and Jennifer Venema (President) has accepted the position of Risk Control Representative for Tokio Marine HCC, which is the administrator of the Michigan Township Participating Plan. I want to congratulate both Rob and Jennifer on their new positions and thank them for their years of service to MAMC.

Due to these resignations, we had to do some shuffling on the Board of Directors. According to MAMC bylaws the board utilized succession and appointment to fill the vacant spots on the executive board. That then opened two vacant positions for Director spots on the board. After the application period and careful consideration, the board has appointed Jacqueline Beaudry, Ann Arbor City Clerk and Rachelle Enbody, Pere Marquette Charter Township Clerk to fill the vacant seats. Both will be excellent additions to the board. I would like to thank them, as well as the other applicants who applied, for their willingness to give their time to MAMC.

The current MAMC Board of Directors and roles are as follows:

Jeremy Howard – President
Chris Swope – 1st Vice President (CEO)
Mary Clark – 2nd Vice President (Legislative)

Pam Smith – 3rd Vice President (Website/Social Media/Newsletter)
Dan Kasunic – Immediate Past President
Holly Thompson – Conference Chair
Adam Wit – Conference Vice Chair
Melanie Ryska – Education Chair
JoAnne Kean – Education Vice Chair
Jackie Beaudry – Membership/CMMC
Rachelle Enbody – Secretary
Lanie McManus – Treasurer
Stephanie McMillen – Ways & Means/COTY/Media

As we head into a busy 2020 Presidential year, I wish you all the very best. I look forward to working hard for you as your President as well as representing MAMC both in Lansing and beyond. Please always feel free to contact me with any issues, comments, concerns, or just good things happening in the Clerking world in your area.

All the best,
Jeremy Howard, CMMC/CMC
MAMC President
2019 Clerk of the Year Winners

2019 City Clerk of the Year
Jacqueline Beaudry, MMC
City of Ann Arbor

Jackie has 19 years of municipal experience, and has served as City Clerk for the City of Ann Arbor since 2005.

Jackie’s municipal government experience began in township government, while serving as Deputy Township Clerk for Superior Charter Township in 1999. In her role as City Clerk, she serves on the management team for the entire city – representing the viewpoint of professional clerks and influencing citywide initiatives and decisions, through the professional lens of a municipal clerk.

Jackie was recently appointed by Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson to serve on a relatively small team of national and local election experts and officials to help design the implementation of election-related changes to Michigan’s constitution approved by the voters in 2018. Jackie’s appointment to this team also includes the responsibility of making a variety of recommendations to the Secretary of State, Bureau of Elections, and Michigan Legislature regarding overall election process and rules on behalf of all clerks.

Jackie was just recently appointed to the Bipartisan Policy Center’s National Task Force on voter registration – working on national policy affecting voter registration, while representing Michigan clerks. Jackie also regularly represents clerks through her participation in various Bureau of Elections Committees, including her recent participation on the Forms Review Committee. She has also served on various MAMC committees, including her current service on the Legislative Committee.

Jackie is an advocate for clerks and the voting public, routinely stepping forward to help in any way that she can. She recently partnered with the University of Michigan’s Turn-up Turnout Initiative, which resulted in a new college student election inspector program that allowed students to work in voting precincts on campus and still attend classes throughout the day.

Jackie helped launch Ann Arbor’s First Citizens Academy, which showcases all aspects of municipal work to the public, highlighting what goes into the day-to-day operations of running a local government, hopefully sparking community members to get involved in the future of their communities.

Jackie has also represented the United States on four international election observation missions in Europe and Asia. Despite all of her professional contributions and involvement, she makes time for her family, which is very important to her. Jackie has been described as a “shining star for clerks” and as being “exceptionally-humble, universally well-respected, demonstrating the significance of the vital work clerks perform in service to their communities.”

2019 Township Clerk of the Year
Nancy J.C. Hedberg
Township of Scio

Nancy was nominated for the recognition of Township Clerk of the Year by M. Jack Knowles, Township Supervisor. Mr. Knowles writes, “We are pleased to nominate our friend and colleague Nancy J.C. Hedberg as MAMC’s Township Clerk of the Year.”

Nancy has served the Scio community as their Clerk since 2008.

Nancy’s service to her community began long before she was elected to the position of Clerk. She served as a member of the Scio Township DDA from 1986-2008, their Planning Commission from 1992-2006 and their Board of Review from 1998-2006.

Her community involvement does not end there. Since becoming the Township Clerk, she has continued to stay involved by serving as the President of the Washtenaw County Municipal and Township Clerks Association, a member of the Forms Committee convened by the Bureau of Elections, as the Secretary of the Loch Alpine Sanitary Authority, and a member of the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study Policy Committee.

During her tenure as Clerk, Nancy has streamlined the election processes in Scio Township. She was one of the first to jump in and utilize e-poll books and developed a number of checklists for election administration that future clerks can rely upon. In conjunction with the checklists, she developed an additional color-coded checklist of essential elements for the Receiving Board and the Chairs in the precincts. She worked to consolidate and redraw precinct lines after the 2010 Census redistricting to reduce the number of ballots styles from 23 to 10. A change that increased efficiency at the precincts and resulted in a cost savings in printing.

Elaine Brock, Scio Township Election Precinct Chairperson, says this about Nancy “Nancy is the perfect Clerk. She is so organized and efficient that she makes my job as precinct co-chair a breeze. I have never asked a question or raised a point that Nancy was not already on top of. (As an attorney I can be pretty detail oriented) To add to that she is caring, approachable, energetic, and just plain enjoyable to be around. Nancy knows everyone and makes a sincere effort to be inclusive and positive about all her duties. Nancy is a township treasure that deserves to be recognized, rewarded and emulated.”

Ms. Hedberg writes, “A Township Clerk must be both a generalist and a specialist with institutional knowledge of an endless list of responsibilities. We clerks have the opportunity to interact with the public more often than most governments officials, and in carrying out day-to-day obligations, it has been my privilege to serve as a problem-solver, a teacher, a mentor, a resource, and sometimes a referee. It has been such great fun for me!”
**Village Clerk of the Year**

**Tina K. Martin, MMC**  
**Village of Baroda**

In 2012, Tina Martin was appointed Village Clerk for the Village of Baroda. Beyond her statutory duties, Tina handles all public relations and community events for the Village. A big job on their own! As other village clerks in small communities can appreciate, Tina has taken on many roles including being the “face of Baroda.” Since there is no Village Manager, Tina represents the Village in many capacities developing relationships with fellow local leaders in the business and municipal communities.

As part of her outreach, she is a member of MEDA, MAMC, is a member of the Berrien County Clerks Association, and a former Trustee and President of the Baroda Area Business Association.

In 2018 Tina was promoted and became “Clerk/Treasurer” by adding payroll, taxes, retirement plans, property tax collection, and settlement and reporting to her “to-do” list. Tina continues her municipal education by gaining Planning and Zoning knowledge by completing the Citizen Planner program and is currently working on her Master Citizen Planner certificate.

A major achievement comes in the arena of Economic Development. Baroda has a 14-acre industrial park that had been vacant for decades. Within the last few years, Tina has worked with developers to sell of four parcels with another two committed for sale this year. A big driver behind these sales, and potential redevelopment, comes from Tina’s involvement with the MEDA. Through the MEDA she was able to track down funding with the USDA-Rural Development division. Tina is working with them to guarantee funding to bring infrastructure to this formerly abandoned industrial park. Work is scheduled to begin summer 2019.

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**Education Update**

The 2019 Conference was a huge success! We want to thank everyone who attended and provided valuable feedback on the classes offered. We also received positive feedback from the 2019 Institute and Master Academy.

2020 is going to be a very BUSY year with at least three Elections! It is important to plan for educational opportunities now, so you don’t miss out. In response to increased demand of new clerks desiring to attend Institute and obtain their CMMC, the MAMC Board has made some changes to the educational offerings.

First, Institute will be offered twice in March 2020. Both sessions will have the same curriculum, so you get to choose which week works best for you. Second, already implemented in 2019, Clerking 101 2-Day Bootcamp, an extended version of the one-day that takes a deeper dive into the “how to” of clerking, will continue to be offered in 2020. Third, Master Academy will be offered the first week of December 2020, when the Presidential Election is over and you have a moment to breathe.

We are already gearing up for 2020! As you begin to plan, please take note of important dates to remember:

- March 15-20, 2020 – Institute – Mt. Pleasant
- March 22-27, 2020 – Institute (repeat curriculum) – Mt. Pleasant
- June 8-12, 2020 – Conference – Mackinac Island
  - June 8-9, 2020 – Clerking 101 2-Day Bootcamp (pre-conference)
  - June 9, 2020 – Master Class (pre-conference)
- September 10, 2020 – Free Education Day (tentative) – Mt. Pleasant
- December 1-3, 2020 – Master Academy – Mt. Pleasant

Lastly, do not forget about the MAMC Scholarship program! MAMC is committed to ensuring clerks have the opportunity to benefit from the great education it has to offer. Each MAMC Member who is a Clerk or full-time Deputy Clerk is allowed to receive one education scholarship and one conference scholarship in a lifetime. The education scholarship can be used for Institute, Master Academy or Clerking 101. The scholarship application can be found on michiganclerks.org. Remember only fully completed application packets will be considered.

If you have any ideas or suggestions on classes or topics, please email mryska@sterling-heights.net or clerk@vevaytownship.org. Looking forward to a fantastic 2020!
A big thank you to all attendees of the 2019 “It’s 5 O’Clock Somewhere” Conference held at the Kalamazoo Radisson! I hope everyone had a wonderful time at the Growlers tailgate and game, 5k walk/run, Vendor Showcase, and President/Clerk of the Year Dinner, not to mention all the great classes offered by our Education Committee. We had a record number of attendees this year with 280 registrants and all 30 vendor spaces full! We hope to keep that momentum going in the upcoming years.

I hope you also enjoyed the conference mobile app. We had over 331 users on the app between attendees, speakers, and vendors! Be sure to go back and check out all of those photos posted from Conference as well as download any handouts you may have missed. To access the app information from your computer, the URL is: https://event.crowdcompass.com/mamc2019.

Planning is already getting started for the 2020 MAMC Conference at the Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island from June 8th through June 12th. Ideas are already brewing in our minds to make it another fun and educational experience. Make sure you save the date!

The Silent Auction Thanks You!

You were not silent! A BIG thank you to all who participated in the PAC Silent Auction Fund Raiser at Summer Conference. From donors to bidders… you all are the BEST! With 20 donors, and 34 gifts we raised $2,405 in funds to help support new legislation. Well done! And, until next year… remember, don’t stay silent!

JoAnne Kean, CMMC
MAMC Director & Silent Auction Coordinator
I am happy to be serving as your new Website and Social Media Director. Please utilize the website to access information on Board or membership activities including conferences, training dates, legislative activity and more! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 248.871-2420 or psmith@fhgov.com
CMMC PROGRAM CHANGES COMING SOON!

Due to upcoming changes in the CMMC Program that were announced at the 2019 summer conference, the MAMC Board is requesting members NOT submit recertification applications for review.

Members who graduated from the Michigan Municipal Clerks Institute in March, 2019 or otherwise qualify to obtain their CMMC for the first time, may still make application by using the forms on the MAMC website at www.michiganclerks.org.

Program changes will include the elimination of the recertification process but will still encourage continued education by offering different levels of certification without worry of your current CMMC expiring. Members are asked to maintain and continue to save their certificates of attendance for all classes/trainings as you will still be required to submit proof of training under the new program.

The Board is hoping to roll out the new program by the end of the year or early next year.

Any questions can be directed to Pam Smith, 3rd Vice President at 248.871.2420 or psmith@fhgov.com

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

Michael Dolan, Hamburg Township
Debra A. Ceo, Dexter Township
Lisa Wright, Spencer Township
Denise Westfall, City of St. Joseph
Nicole Hunter, City of Garden City
Lyn Sebestyen, Pittsfield Charter Township
Tina M. Rekau, Charter Township of Redford

Updates to the MAMC Standing Rules

The following amendment to the Standing Rules has recently been approved by the Board and the full language can be found in the updated Standing Rules on the MAMC website.

SR-32 Records Retention (NEW) – In summary, the Retention Schedule establishes the minimum amount of time that the records must be kept to satisfy administrative, legal, fiscal and historical needs. Records may be retained in a paper or digital format. The digital format of choice must ensure the continued accessibility and usability of those records that are digitized. The schedule will be in effect as of September 1, 2019.
Senate Committee Acts on MOVE Expansion
The Senate Elections and Government Reform Committee moved bills amending the Michigan Election Law to allow for active duty military voters stationed overseas to return their marked ballots electronically to the local clerk. Senate Bills 117 and 297 were introduced by Senators Ruth Johnson (R-Holly) and Paul Wojno (D-Warren), respectively. Under the bills that were reported, returning a marked ballot to the local clerk electronically is limited to members of the military who are on active duty overseas. Additionally, the marked ballots must be returned to the local clerk using the United States Department of Defense Common Access Card system and a federally issued email address. The bills were reported from Committee on a 4-0-1 vote. Sen. Ed McBroom (R-Vulcan) passed on both bills. The Senate is expected to vote on the bills this fall.

Bill to Allow More Jurisdictions to Train Reintroduced
Legislation lowering the population threshold for local clerks to conduct their own election inspector training has been reintroduced by Rep. Jeff Yaroch (R-Richmond). Current law limits which local clerks can conduct their own election inspector training to those jurisdictions with a population greater than 10,000. The bill proposed to lower the population threshold to those jurisdictions with a population greater than 1,000. The bill was referred to the House Elections & Ethics Committee where no action has occurred at this time.

FOIA Changes on the Move
A requestor of public records would be able to stipulate how an initial response from a public body should be transmitted to the requester under legislation introduced by Rep. Steven Johnson (R-Kent County). Specifically, House Bill 4468 permits a person making a request of public records to stipulate that the initial response, such as a denial, an extension or request for additional information, shall be transmitted to the requestor. The person could request a response first-class mail, facsimile or electronic mail, assuming the public body has the technological capabilities to transmit the initial response in the method requested. Under current law, a requester can already stipulate how the records are to be transmitted, but not how the initial response is delivered. The bill was reported from the House Oversight Committee and is awaiting action before the House Ways & Means Committee.

Financial Report
Lanie McManus, CMMC
Garfield Charter Township
MAMC Treasurer

Financial Report for June 30, 2019

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Upcoming Events

March 15-20, 2020
MAMC Institute
Soaring Eagle, Mt. Pleasant

March 22-27, 2020
MAMC Institute (repeat curriculum)
Soaring Eagle, Mt. Pleasant

June 8-9, 2020
MAMC Pre-Conference Clerking 101 2-Day Bootcamp
Mission Point Resort, Mackinac Island

June 9, 2020
MAMC Pre-Conference Master Class
Mission Point Resort, Mackinac Island

June 8-12, 2020
MAMC Annual Conference
Mission Point Resort, Mackinac Island

September 10, 2020
MAMC Free Education Day (tentative)
Soaring Eagle, Mt. Pleasant

December 1-3, 2020
MAMC Master Academy
Soaring Eagle, Mt. Pleasant