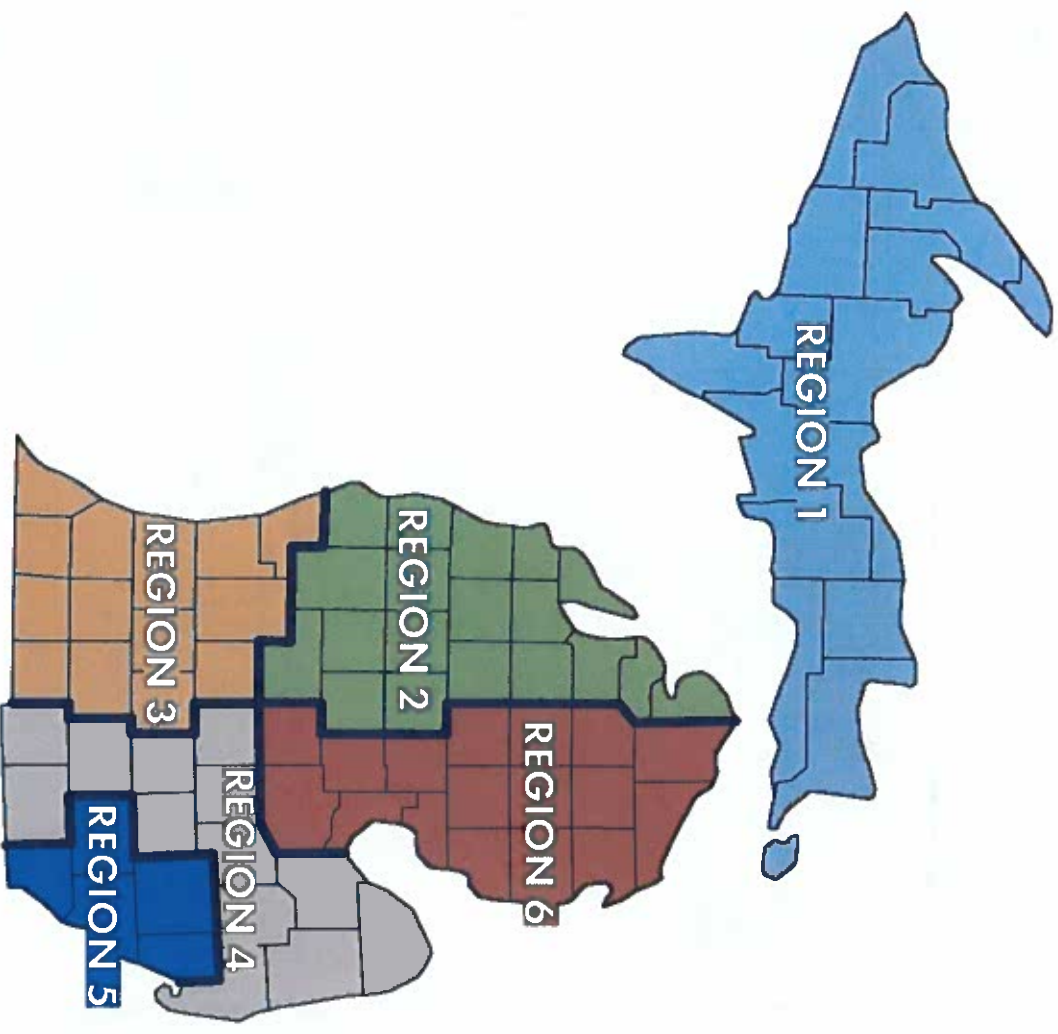




- Board of 16 members elected by commissioners
- Two seats from each of six regions ensure broad representation
- MAC Board meets four times a year: Legislative Conference, June, Annual Conference, November
- Elections held in August/September at Annual Conference

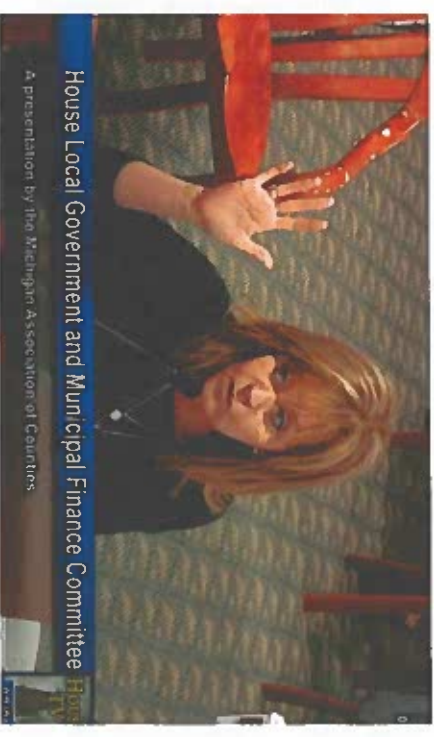
About MAC: Leadership





About MAC: Purpose

- **MAC's role:** Help our members ensure our residents are provided the services they need to promote the highest quality of life via excellence in public services from safety to health to infrastructure.
- **Advocacy:** To be the voice of Michigan counties at the state and federal level
- **Education:** To provide educational opportunities to county commissioners to ensure they can do their jobs to the best of their abilities

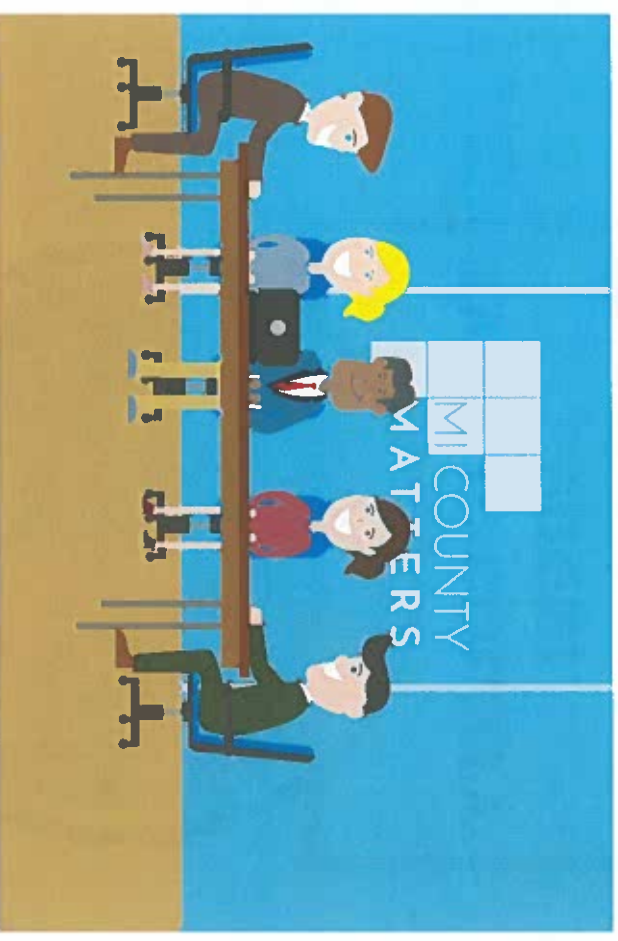




Counties 101: Boards

Central, but not all-powerful

- Legislative body with authority over “most aspects” of county
- Central policy-making body
- Can pass ordinances, though limits to actions related to “county affairs”
- Oversight of administrative functions
- **County boards hold approx. 2,100 regular public meetings per year**



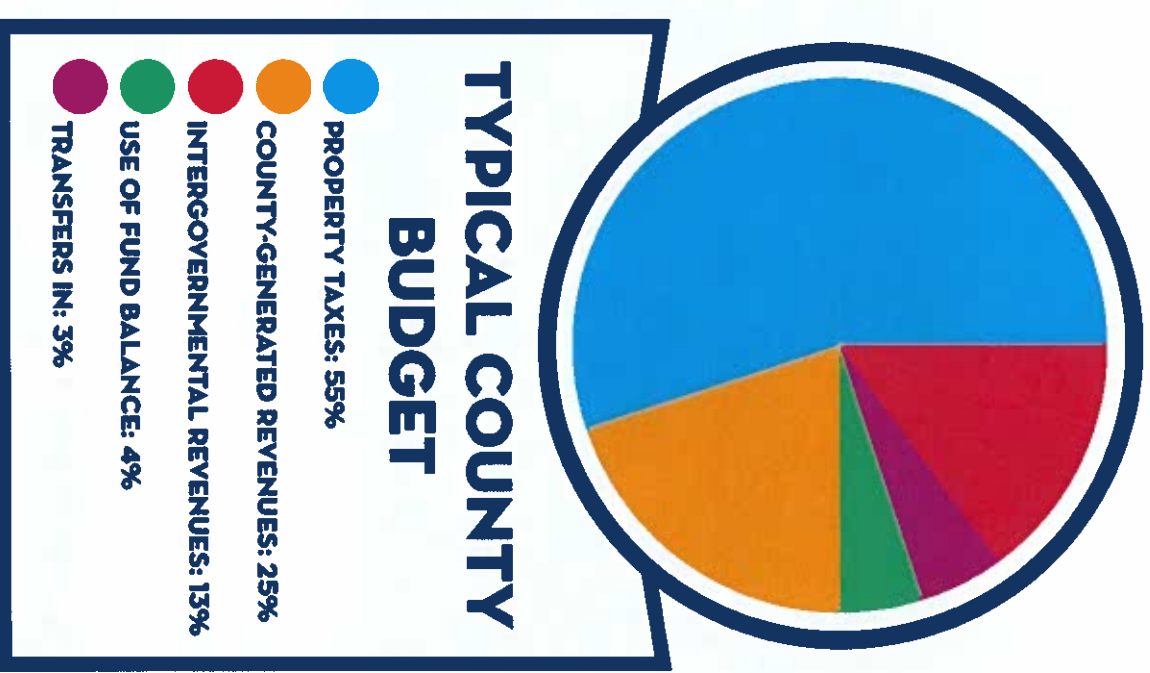


Counties 101: Budgets

County boards determine county budgets*

- \$12.5 BILLION in total revenue
- 42,000 employees
- \$2 billion in payroll
- **Uniform Budget and Accounting Act requires county to balance budget each year**
- Budget includes restricted and unrestricted funds

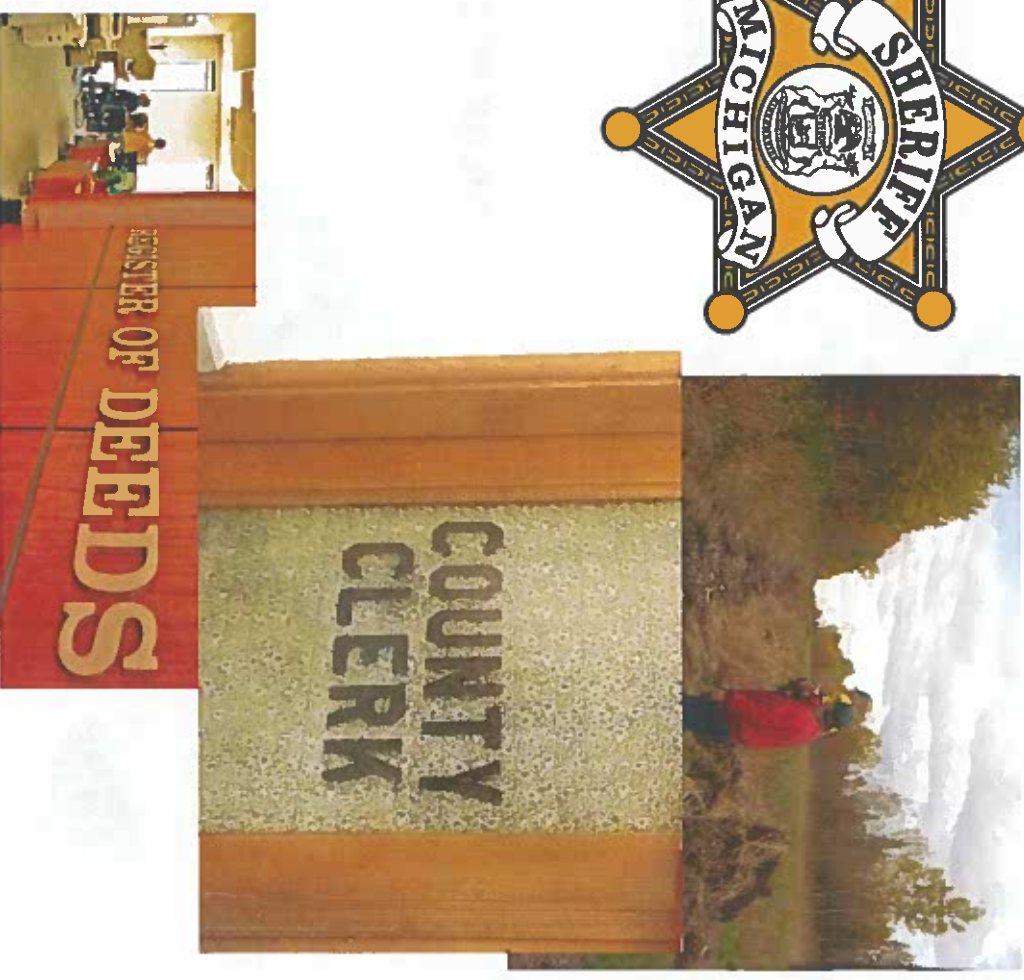
*FY20 data from F65 reports





Counties 101: Elected Officials

- Sheriff
- Prosecutor
- Treasurer
- Clerk
- Register of Deeds
- Drain Commissioner
- Executive*



*Four counties (Bay, Macomb, Oakland and Wayne) provide for direct election of a county executive



About MAC: Policy Development

Internal Committees

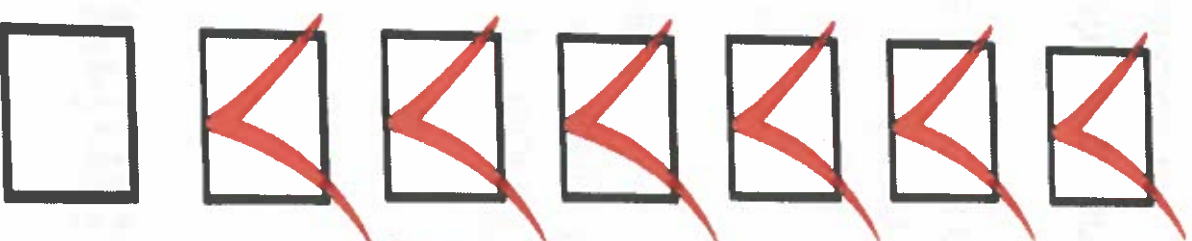
- Appointed by President
- Member participation from across state
- Areas of focus
 - Finance and General Government
 - Environmental and Regulatory Affairs
 - Judiciary and Public Safety
 - Health and Human Services
 - Transportation and Infrastructure
 - Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources





2023 County Priorities

- **Revising the Open Meetings Act to Meet the Demands of the 21st Century**
- **Creating a Fair Revenue Sharing System for Counties**
- **Enacting Reforms to Ensure Proper Funding of Local Courts**
- **Increasing Resources for Juvenile Justice Services**
- **Compensating Local Governments for Funds Diverted by the Veterans Property Tax Exemption**
- **Revamping the PPT Exemption to Provide Annual Reimbursement to Locals**





2023 Priorities

Revising the Open Meetings Act (OMA)

- Prior changes to OMA in 2020, members of a public body could attend, participate and vote remotely at county board sessions, so long as a quorum of the public body was physically present
- Statutory change to allow for full board meetings to be held remotely due to the pandemic expired Dec. 31, 2021, and impacted the pre-pandemic rules by now barring remote participants from voting, even if a quorum is physically present in the meeting room
- **MAC supports revisiting the OMA to allow for remote participation and, at minimum, to allow for pre-pandemic meeting options for county boards**



2023 Priorities

Creating a Fair Revenue Sharing System for Counties

- Revenue Sharing (RS) is most flexible form of state aid, which makes it the most effective method to fund generational investments
- Actual RS increases in the 21st century have fallen far behind inflation
 - FY01 - counties received \$229M
 - Adjusted for inflation, that would be \$390 million today
 - Actual FY23 - \$245M
- **MAC supports the creation of a Revenue Sharing Trust Fund (RSTF) through a statutory earmark of the state sales tax**



2023 Priorities

Creating a Fair Revenue Sharing System for Counties

- Trust Fund would get portion of sales tax to the fund, thereby providing greater certainty on planning:
 - Money in fund would stay in fund for distribution to locals – NO RAIDING
 - Fund would be split, with 50% to counties and 50% to CVTs
 - Carving out percentage of sales tax is what RS originally designed to do
- MAC survey found members would use additional RS to invest in:
 - Infrastructure repairs and improvements
 - Unfunded liabilities
 - Improved customer service for residents
 - Employee retention
 - Economic development and cybersecurity

2023 Priorities

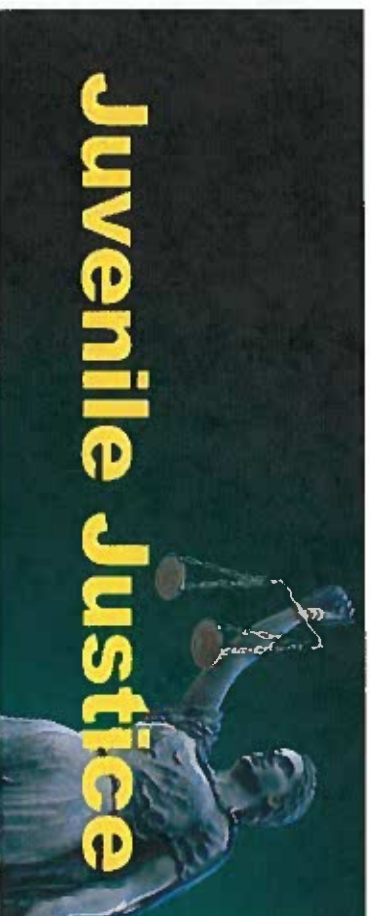


Enacting Funding Reforms for Local Courts

- Local court funding remains caught in a looming statutory sunset (May '24) and is subject of litigation before MI Supreme Court
- To ensure our local courts do not face a financial emergency, MAC supports the enactment of many of the Trial Court Funding Commission's recommendations
- **MAC supports the creation of the Trial Court Fund to distribute funding to trial courts based on operational requirements while maintaining local discretion over trial court operational decisions**
- **MAC supports establishment of uniform assessments and centralized collections for trial courts through State Court Administrator's Office**

Increasing Resources for Juvenile Justice

- A lack of staff, training and facilities has left a critical shortage of resources to house those in the juvenile justice system
- MAC supports an increase in funding for staff recruiting, retention and training, plus direct funding for additional facilities and an increase in the per diem rate for foster care parents



2023 Priorities



Compensation for Funds Diverted by Veterans Property Tax Exemption

- Since the enactment of the Disabled Veterans Property Tax exemption in 2013, counties have sought reimbursement from the state for the lost local revenues, a hit of tens of millions of dollars each year
- Loss of revenue to locals est. \$86 M - \$103 M each year
- Exemptions have grown 14% per year
- **MAC supports continuing the exemption — but with the state making up those local losses through a refundable income tax credit payable to local governments**



2023 Priorities



Revamping PPT Exemption for Annual Reimbursements

- As part of the economic development deal struck in 2021, Legislature and governor enacted an increase for the Personal Property Tax (PPT) exemption for small business, thereby reducing revenue to local governments by approximately \$75 million each year
- This exemption begins this year without a defined method for reimbursement for local governments that receive PPT fund
- **MAC supports a system to provide full reimbursements to locals each year that is outside the annual appropriations process**



About MAC: Advocacy



Deena Bosworth
Director of
Governmental Affairs
bosworth@micounties.org



Madeline Fata
Governmental Affairs
Associate
fata@micounties.org



Samantha Gibson
Governmental Affairs
Associate
gibson@micounties.org



MIAA

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

www.micounties.org

