



County of Ottawa

Administrator's Office

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2011 WAGES

The Board of Commissioners briefly discussed the wage determinations of the Officers Compensation Commission at Tuesday's Board meeting and decided to discuss the determinations more fully at an upcoming work session. We have had many questions this week regarding comments made at the meeting and how those were interpreted by employees. **To clarify: we are not planning wage reductions as the basis of the 2011 Budget. However, we are planning a 0% - flat line approach to wages as the basis of the 2011 Budget.**

The Officers Compensation Commission (OCC) exists to determine the wages for the upcoming two years for the County Commissioners including separate categories of Chair and Vice-Chair. The OCC also sets the wages of the Countywide Elected Officials including the Sheriff, Prosecutor, Treasurer, Drain Commissioner, Register of Deeds and Clerk. The Officers Compensation Commission meets only in even numbered years and it has a limit of 45 days to complete its work and make a determination from the date of its first meeting. The Board of Commissioners is not required to do anything with the OCC determinations. If the Board does nothing, the determinations go into effect on the following January 1st, in this case, January 1, 2011. Our Board of Commissioners has chosen to not allow determinations to be made by their inaction but to put the recommendations on the agenda and vote to accept or reject them. Per State law, the Board can either accept or reject the determinations in whole or in part. Rejection of the recommendations requires a 2/3 "super-majority" vote of the Board of Commissioners.

The 2010 OCC recommended no increase in either 2011 or 2012 for the Countywide Elected Officials and recommended a 10% pay **decrease** for the Board of Commissioners for 2011 and no increase in 2011.

The 2011 Budget will be a challenging process to complete. County General Fund Expenditures are down over \$8.2 million from the 2010 Budget. We are anticipating over \$5 million in additional cuts to make the 2011 Budget.

MAKE NO MISTAKE IN THE LAKE

A group opposing the Scandia Offshore Wind Farm Proposal will be holding a public informational meeting at the new Ferrysburg City Hall, (old Ferrysburg Elementary School) this Saturday, June 26th, at 9:30 AM until 11 Am. Ferrysburg Mayor Jeff Stille will moderate the session.