

Lynn Jondahl, Executive Director, Michigan Prospect



Lynn Jondahl currently serves as Executive Director of the Michigan Prospect for Renewed Citizenship. In December of 1994 Lynn ended 22 years of service as a Michigan State Representative from the East Lansing, Meridian Township area. For 12 years he chaired the House Taxation Committee and played a key role in many taxation issues, especially those focused on education finance reform. As a legislator, he sponsored and led successful efforts to enact major environmental and consumer protection legislation, including Michigan's Mandatory Deposit Act ("Bottle Bill"), the Sand Dune Protection Act, the Generic Drug Act, the Handicapper Civil Rights Act. In 1994 he gave up his House seat to run for the Democratic nomination for Governor. From 1995 through July of 2002 Jondahl served as Co-Director of the Michigan Political Leadership Program at Michigan State University. From November of 2002 through January of 2003 he served as director of transition for the new administration of Governor Jennifer Granholm and Lt. Governor John Cherry. Lynn's legislative experience followed work as a campus pastor (he was ordained a minister in the United Church of Christ upon graduation from Yale University Divinity School). Lynn is a member of the Michigan Budget and Tax Policy Project Advisory Board and he chairs the State of Michigan Board of Ethics.

Lynn has participated in a number of international projects designed as local/regional government seminars and training programs. In 1995 he participated in a local leadership training program in Siberia administered by Michigan State University and in a Parliamentary Development Project in Ukraine administered jointly by Indiana University and the U.S.–Ukraine Foundation. In 1999 he participated in a local government seminar on economic development with Moscow city business people and city administrators, administered by Ferris State University. In 1999 and 2000 he was a member of the training team that conducted a Ukraine/Michigan Exchange Program on "Integrating Ethics into Democratic Governance," administered by Michigan State University and Project Harmony. In 2000 he was a symposium speaker at an International Seminar in Seoul, Korea on "The Role of Local Government in the New Millennium." His paper was "The Characteristics of Devolution: Impact on Local Government in the United States." In 2002 and 2003 he participated in an exchange program with local government officials from Malawi and Ghana, "Strengthening Local Governance: A Partnership among Ghana, Malawi and the U.S." His seminar presentation was on Public Finance.

Robert W. Swanson, Deputy Director, Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth



Robert W. Swanson was appointed by Director David C. Hollister to the position of Deputy Director of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (DLEG) in February of 2003. Prior to that time, Mr. Swanson served for more than eight years as Director of Finance for the City of Lansing.

In his current role, Mr. Swanson will coordinate and direct various agencies within DLEG including MIOSHA, the Office of Financial and Insurance Services, the Public Service Commission, Tax Tribunal, Career Development, the Bureau of Commercial Services, and various administrative programs. He is also involved with the development of the State's urban policy agenda, the Land Use Leadership Council, workforce development and economic development initiatives.

Mr. Swanson has also spent over 22 years in various financial management positions with Michigan State Government. He has served as Director of Research and Statistics for the Michigan Department of Treasury, as Director of the Office of Planning, Budget, and Evaluation and as Director of the Budget and Legal Services Administration for the Michigan Department of Social Services, and as Staff Director for the Committee on Taxation of the Michigan House of Representatives. In his work with the Taxation Committee, Mr. Swanson played a major role in drafting and implementing legislation for Proposal A (school finance reform) in 1993 and 1994.

As Lansing's Finance Director from 1995 to 2003, Mr. Swanson was responsible for the city budget, tax collection, property tax assessment, income tax administration, purchasing, accounting, payroll, risk management, investment of funds, retirement systems, and city borrowings. He led the team that put together the financing for Lansing's Oldsmobile Park, was an active participant in the Retain GM effort that resulted in two new automobile assembly plants in Lansing, and played a major role in negotiating regional economic development agreements under Public Act 425.

Mr. Swanson has a BA and MA degree from Michigan State University.

Roger Martin, APR, President, Rossman Martin & Associates



A nationally accredited public relations (APR) counselor, Roger is president of Rossman Martin & Associates (RM&A), a Lansing-based public relations firm. RM&A specializes in issues management, government relations, community relations, media relations, and crisis communications. Before joining Rossman Martin in May 1991, Roger spent about a decade as a political and investigative reporter with The Detroit News. At The News, he won a number of awards for writing and reporting — including being named Michigan's Best Reporter in 1986 by a Detroit magazine, and three times being nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. He also co-authored "The Journey of John Engler," a 1990 book about then state Sen. John Engler's upset of heavily favored incumbent Gov. James J. Blanchard. In 1996, Rossman Martin won two Silver Anvil Awards, the nation's top award for public relations excellence. Roger was the lead researcher and strategist for one of the winning campaigns. In 1998, Roger was again a finalist for a Silver Anvil for his work on behalf of Greektown Casino in Detroit. Roger's major clients include Greektown Casino; Motorola Inc.; the Michigan Health & Hospital Association; the Outdoor Advertising Association of Michigan; the Telecommunications Association of Michigan; and more.

Roger has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Michigan State University, where he has completed most of his master's degree requirements and where he taught journalism undergraduate and graduate courses for a decade. He lives in Mason with his wife, Lynne, and their three daughters.

Dave Waymire, Executive Vice President, Marketing Resource Group, Lansing, Michigan



David Waymire is executive vice president of public relations at Marketing Resource Group. He has managed numerous award-winning campaigns, including the 2002 Proposal 4 ballot question committee that was judged the best public relations campaign in the nation by the Public Relations Society of America. David's other successful public affairs campaigns involved electric and telecommunications reform, tort reform, Michigan's public universities, transportation issues, business tax relief, and Native American affairs. His numerous contacts in the business, education and labor communities have allowed him to build many successful coalitions.

David joined MRG in 1990, lending his media expertise to improving relations between MRG clients and the news media covering the state Capitol. In addition, David served on Governor John Engler's transition team, and has served on the staff of state commissions dealing with government efficiency and pension reform.

Before joining MRG, David distinguished himself as a journalist, writing for newspapers in Flint, Mich., and Belleville, Ill. Later, David served as the director of the Capitol staff for Booth Newspapers, where, in 1986, he was awarded the Morgan O'Leary Award, Michigan's highest honor for political reporting. David is a graduate of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.