

News

Macomb County Board of Commissioners



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Board of Commissioners Passes Ethics Ordinance; Leads Region in Setting a Standard for Public Servants

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich. — The Macomb County Board of Commissioners last week adopted an ordinance establishing a standard of ethics for all public servants in the county at its full board meeting Thursday. This makes Macomb the largest county in Michigan to have such a code of conduct, and the only county in the tri-county area.

The item was approved with a 12 to 1 vote. A “no” vote was cast by Commissioner Roland Frascchetti.

The ordinance, required under the new county charter which took effect January 1, defines a public servant as “an employee, county-wide elected official, commissioner, or appointee.” According to Commissioner Fred Miller, who chaired the Ethics Ordinance Ad Hoc Committee, the 10-page document cracks down on issues such as nepotism, gifts and gratuities, and the inappropriate use of county time and property, while setting tough guidelines for disclosure to prevent conflicts of interest within the county.

“I’ve been proud to play a role in writing Macomb County’s first ethics ordinance,” Miller said. “I believe it will help establish a culture of accountability and transparency that the people of Macomb County deserve.”

Commissioners Ray Gralewski, Kathy Tocco, Toni Mocerri, Bob Smith and Board Chair Kathy D. Vosburg also served on the committee, which met over several months to refine the document and consider similar ordinances and models from the State Attorney General’s office, the Michigan Municipal League, and guidelines set in the Macomb County charter.

“Not only have we fulfilled our obligation under the charter with this ordinance, but it also reflects the integrity and code of conduct which the public expects from its officials,” Board Chair Kathy D. Vosburg said.

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