News

Macomb County
Board of Commissioners

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Feb. 16, 2010

Media Contact: Lisa Martino
(586) 469-5713
Lisa.Martino@macombcountymi.gov

Commissioner Workgroup to Review County Purchasing Policies

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich. — In order to strengthen the county's responsible spending practices, Macomb County Commissioners are taking part in an ongoing and informal workgroup to review and streamline the county's purchasing policies.

The workgroup is co-chaired by Commissioners Fred Miller and Jim Carabelli, and also includes Commissioner Ray Gralewski and Commissioner David Flynn.

The focus of the group is to create more efficient and current spending policies where needed, and to be more supportive of local businesses, said Commissioner Fred Miller. The available 2011 budget to purchase goods and services is $31 million.

"We need to make sure we are not only acting as good stewards of taxpayer dollars, but that we are also supporting local businesses whenever possible while operating in a professional manner," Miller said. "As part of this, we will review our purchasing guidelines and research best practices, ordinances, and procedures used by local counties to refine our own operations."

According to Commissioner Jim Carabelli, the county's challenging financial climate not only demands more sound bidding and procurement practices, but also that local businesses and workers benefit.

"Times dictate that we increasingly 'do more with less,' and reviewing our strategy will help keep us on track," he said. "If we can do this by spending our dollars locally, that's even better for Macomb County's businesses, and for job creation and retention."

The workgroup's findings and recommendations will be reported to the Finance Committee for further consideration.

Board Chair Kathy D. Vosburg said she supports the group's pro-active role in the issue.

"It's vital that we continuously review and adjust our policies to be certain they reflect our goals for the county's future," Vosburg said.

# # #