

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 10, 2009
MINUTES

Chairman Beale convened the work session at 9 a.m. at the SCC Conference Room as noticed. All Board Members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, County Attorney, members of the news media, Facilitators Vicki Greene and Ryan Sherby and interested citizens were present.

The County Manager and Finance Officer gave an update on the county's current financial status stating they anticipate at least a \$1.4 million shortfall this fiscal year due to a decrease in sales tax revenues, slowdown on construction related fees and income from investments. Potential cuts in various departments were suggested and the Manager recommended cutting optional out of county travel, not filling nonessential vacant positions, curbing capital and non-capital expenditures and to request department heads to identify other areas that could be cut with a report back to the Board at the end of March. Also discussed was renovation of the old library facility for a Senior Services Center and renovation of the current Senior Services building as an EMS base.

Warren Cabe was present to address expansion/renovations of the Emergency Management facilities. The Board agreed to continue with the proposed projects based on need and the fact that prudent budgeting in past years has resulted in the availability of a large portion of the funding needed for the project(s).

After discussion on the construction of the North Macon K-4 School the general consensus was a tax increase would be necessary and this was not the time to place an additional tax burden on citizens. However, since architectural plans and engineering have been done on the job the project should be "shovel ready" when funds become available. Various items were discussed including updating the county's website, members attending community meetings to receive input from citizens to bring back to the Board, continued work with the Planning Board and EDC, the Veteran's Memorial Park, Arthur Drake Road, water/sewer issues, daycare and a community garden. No formal action was taken during the meeting and a comprehensive fiscal update will be presented to the Board at the end of March or beginning of April.

ADJOURNMENT: The session was adjourned.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Ronnie Beale
Board Chairman