

**Barry County Chamber of Commerce  
Government Issues Committee  
Member Survey**

The Government Issues Committee of the Barry County Chamber of Commerce is conducting a survey of all Chamber members to help drive the focus and activities of the committee to best meet the needs of the membership base. Please answer the questions below as openly as possible. All responses will be anonymous and kept confidential.

**The purpose of the Government Issues Committee:**

To serve as the lead advocate for business issues in Barry County; to promote pro-business activities through responsive government on the local, state and federal levels that support the overall best interests of our members; to establish governmental information programs to engage Chamber members; to monitor local and state issues affecting business and economic growth in Barry County; and to keep Chamber members informed on community-specific issues of importance.

**Questions**

1. In your opinion, which is the most important function for the Chamber's Government Issues Committee? Please rank in order 1 to 5 with 1 being most important.
  - To promote pro-business activities through responsible government on the local state and federal levels that support the overall best interests of our members
  - To establish governmental information programs to engage Chamber members
  - To monitor local and state issues affecting business and economic growth in Barry County
  - To keep Chamber members informed on community-specific issues of importance
  - Other: Please be specific:\_\_\_\_\_
  
2. What local ordinances present issues for your business? Please rank in order 1 to 5 with 1 being most important.
  - Sign ordinances
  - Planning and zoning (such as architectural standards, land use, etc.)
  - Codes and permits
  - Other: Please specify:\_\_\_\_\_
  
3. How would you like to see the Chamber's Government Issues Committee become involved with Economic Development? Please rank in order 1 to 5 with 1 being most important.

- Develop a business-friendly approach to policy development
- Business advocacy on behalf of members
- Legislation updates impacting business – communicate to membership
- Other: Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Where do you feel the Chamber should focus its efforts regarding Education? Please rank in order 1 to 5 with 1 being most important.

- Funding issues
- Vocational training
- Entrepreneurship education
- State graduation requirements
- Students prepared for workforce/college
- Post-secondary options and opportunities for students
- Other: Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

5. How would you like to see the Chamber's Government Issues Committee become involved with Health Care?

6. How would you like to see the Chamber's Government Issues Committee become involved with information about tax and tax revenue issues or policies?

7. List three other local/countywide issues that should be a focus for the Committee. Please be specific.

- a.
- b.
- c.

8. Where is your business located – with what business area do you most identify?

- City of Hastings

- Village of Freeport
- Village of Middleville
- Village of Nashville
- Village of Woodland
- Delton
- Gun Lake Area
- Assyria Township
- Baltimore Township
- Barry Township
- Carlton Township
- Castleton Township
- Hastings Charter Township
- Irving Township
- Johnstown Township
- Maple Grove Township
- Orangeville Township
- Prairieville Township
- Rutland Charter Township
- Thornapple Township
- Woodland Township
- Yankee Springs Township
- Other: Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

9. Please identify your type of business organization:

- Architecture and Engineering
- Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media
- Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance

- Business and Financial Operations
- Community and Social Services
- Computer and Mathematical
- Construction and Extraction
- Education, Training, and Library
- Farming, Fishing, and Forestry
- Food Preparation and Serving Related
- Healthcare Practitioners and Technical
- Healthcare Support
- Installation, Maintenance, and Repair
- Legal
- Life, Physical, and Social Science
- Management
- Military Specific
- Office and Administrative Support
- Personal Care and Service
- Production
- Protective Service
- Sales and Related
- Transportation and Material Moving

Thank you for responding to this survey. While we may not be able to accomplish all that is requested we will do our best to prioritize our activities based on the feedback provided and needs identified. Please call the Chamber of Commerce at 269/945-2454 to become involved with the Government Issues Committee.

***Please return completed survey via fax to 269/945-3839 prior to April 15, 2009.***