

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA  
FEBRUARY 17, 2009**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Peterson, Pulkrabek, Hegberg, Weik, and Kriesel. Absent none. Board Chair Peterson presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Director of Public Works; John Elholm, Parks Director; Sharon Price, Public Works Property Manager; Cory Slagle, Transportation Manager; Jacob Gave, Public Works Engineer I; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Richard Backman, Community Services Division Manager; Don Pelton, Community Services Supervisor; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Lowell Johnson, Public Health and Environment Director; Sue Hedlund, Public Health and Environment Deputy Director; Stephanie Lenartz, Associate Planner; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Pat Conley, Library Director; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Kay McAloney, Human Resources Director; Harley Will, Accounting and Finance Director; Melinda Kirk, Budget/Financial Analyst; Jane Harper, Principal Planner; and Dave Brierley, Public Information Coordinator.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

The Board Chair asked for comments from the public; none were heard.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Commissioner Pulkrabek moved, seconded by Commissioner Weik, to adopt the following Consent Calendar:

1. Approval of the February 3, 2009, Board meeting minutes as amended.
2. Approval to appoint Carol Banister, Lake Elmo to the Community Development Block Grant Citizen Advisory Committee to a first term expiring December 31, 2011.
3. Approval to appoint Jen Peterson, Cottage Grove, to the Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program Citizen Advisory Committee, representing District 4, to fill an unexpired term to June 30, 2010.
4. Approval to appoint Andy Joyce, Woodbury, to the Parks and Open Space Commission, representing District 5, to a first term expiring December 31, 2011.

February 17, 2009

5. Authorization to establish reserves and designations of fund balances for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.
6. Approval to amend County Fee Policy #1032 to change or add certain fees for service charged by the Washington County Library effective March 1, 2009, in order to anticipate some of the reduction in state aid to counties.
7. Approval to set the first meeting date and time for the 2009 County Board of Appeal and Equalization for Tuesday, June 16, 2009, at 5:00 p.m.
8. Approval of contract amendment to enter into agreement with the Stillwater Medical Group to provide medical services for jail inmates, and public health services for treatment of tuberculosis in Washington County residents.
9. Authorization for renewal of two-year agreements with the cities of Grant, Hugo, Lakeland, Marine on St. Croix, and St. Paul Park to provide individual sewage treatment system inspection services.
10. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2009-017** as follows:

Amendment to Agreement for Financial Audit Services with  
Olsen Thielen & CO. Ltd Related to the County Environmental Charge

WHEREAS, Washington County desires to continue to protect and ensure the health, safety, welfare and environment of the County's residents and businesses through sound management of solid waste generated in the County; and

WHEREAS, in May of 2002, the Washington County Board of Commissioners directed staff to pursue public/private partnerships and changes in solid waste financing that could result in progress toward environmental goals, as an alternative to public collection; and

WHEREAS, on November 19, 2002, the Washington County Board of Commissioners amended the solid waste Ordinance to implement a County Environmental Charge and to successfully implement the CEC, the County has conducted and plans to continue to conduct audits to assure compliance with the Solid Waste Management Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Washington and Ramsey counties jointly, through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, selected Olsen Thielen and Co., Ltd. to provide financial audit services for the County Environmental Charge; and

WHEREAS, Washington County seeks to continue to work jointly with Ramsey County to procure private audit services in order to provide efficient, cost effective audits; and

February 17, 2009

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2007 (Resolution No. 2007-151), the Washington County Board of Commissioners authorized the approval and execution of an agreement with Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd., for financial audit services, with a contract term of January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd., has performed over 180 audits of over 100 waste haulers and transfer stations, to date under past and current agreements with the County further strengthening its unique position as an ideal vendor to provide the County with financial audit services for the County Environmental Charge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes approval and execution of an amendment to the agreement for financial audit services with Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd., in a form to be approved by the County Attorney, for the period of January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009, and maximum expenditure for 2009 not to exceed \$50,000.

12. Approval of comments on the city of Mahtomedi and the city of Maplewood draft comprehensive plans.
13. Approval of the distribution of township road allotments for construction or reconstruction of township roads in the following amounts: Baytown Township \$9,386.87; Denmark Township \$11,276.26; Grey Cloud Island Township \$3,713.90; May Township \$15,166.03; Stillwater Township \$12,402.59; and, West Lakeland Township \$17,200.35.
14. Approval of contract with Lockridge Grindal Nauen, P.L.L.P. (LGN) for Federal Relations Services.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Richard Backman, Community Services Division Manager, introduced Ann Bebeau, Co-Chair of the Washington County Child Protection Citizen Review Panel who presented their 2008 Annual Report.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT**

Sue Hedlund, Deputy Public Health and Environment Director, presented the 2008 Community Health Assessment report. Contained in the report are analysis of health and environmental data which identifies 12 priority public health and environmental problems including: obesity; mental health problems; death and disabilities from chronic disease; groundwater and surface water quality; abilities of communities to respond and recover from emergencies; alcohol, tobacco and other drug use; unmet needs of the aging population;

February 17, 2009

abuse and neglect of children and vulnerable adults; improper waste management; access to health resources and care; inappropriate risk behaviors by adolescents and young adults; and limited access to transportation.

Commissioner Hegberg moved to accept the 2008 Community Health Assessment Report and authorize its submission to the Minnesota Department of Health. Commissioner Weik seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **CSAH 17 (Lake Elmo Avenue)/TH 36 Intersection Project**

Jacob Gave, Public Works Design Engineer, presented an update on the County State Aid Highway 17 (Lake Elmo Avenue) TH 36 intersection project in Grant and Lake Elmo. A Design Review Committee was created to assist with this project development. They are currently reviewing three interchange alternatives: tight diamond, estimated cost \$16 million, tight diamond with roundabouts, (which Public Works is recommending be removed because of cost issues) estimated cost \$19 to \$ 20 million; and button hooks estimated cost \$11 million. A tentative schedule for the design and construction of the project is: environmental documentation, July 2009 – July 2010; final design, September 2009 – September 2010; Right of Way acquisition, December 2009 – December 2010; and construction May 2011 – November 2011.

### **Urban Project of the Year Award and American Council of Engineering Companies Grand Award**

Don Theisen, Public Works Director, announced that in January 2009, the Radio Drive (CSAH 13) Safety and Mobility project was recognized with two awards: the Minnesota County Engineers Association Urban Project of the Year and the American Council of Engineering Companies Grand Award. This project included the construction of separated pedestrian/bicycle paths on each side of the roadway, installation of right and left turn lanes, and construction of a multi-lane roundabout at the intersection of Radio Drive and Bailey Road, and installation of landscaping.

## **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

### **Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment Funding Proposals**

John Elholm, Parks Director, and Jane Harper, Principal Planner, reviewed the constitutional amendment which was passed last November authorizing three-eighths of one percent to be collected on taxable sales to protect drinking water sources; protect, enhance, and restore wetlands, prairies, forest, and fish game and wildlife habitat; preserve the arts and cultural heritage, support parks and trails; and, to protect, enhance, and restore lakes, rivers, streams, and groundwater. This sales tax will begin on July 1 and will be collected for

February 17, 2009

25 years. The following proposed projects have been developed by Washington County: Prairie/Savanna Habitat Restoration, \$285,000; Washington County Forest Health Initiative, \$300,000; Washington County Wetland Restoration, \$332,000; St. Croix River, Ravine Stabilization & Restoration, \$275,000; and, Land and Water Legacy Program, \$2,000,000.

### **Legislative Update**

Jim Schug, County Administrator, presented a brief legislative update on the following items: projections for the State budget deficit will be in the area of \$6 to \$7 billion rather than the \$4.8 billion that has been planned on up to this point; current law requires the county to republish the entire delinquent tax list if there is any error and last week the County Board approved a motion requesting relief from that mandate and only publish those parcels in which the error occurred; the House Transportation Finance Committee authorized \$10 million in bonding authority for the St. Paul to Chicago high-speed rail corridor and another bill would provide \$500,000 for a feasibility study for the high-speed rail between Chicago and the Twin Cities through Rochester; in the Senate Transportation Budget division there were a number of high-speed and rail transit corridor bills considered including S.F. 102, \$2 million in bonding for the Red Rock Corridor; and S.F. 414 which would provide \$1 million for the Rush Line Corridor.

Mr. Schug noted that the Legislature will be holding a series of town meetings around the state to receive public input on the budget and other issues. The Minnesota Inter-County Association strongly encouraged member counties to attend those meetings and participate by providing brief testimony. The next meeting is being held in Woodbury on February 23, 6:00 p.m. at the Central Park Amphitheater. Commissioner Weik will be testifying at that meeting.

Commissioner Peterson requested that any comments made by Commissioners at the Town Hall meetings be written and distributed to the leadership of both parties in addition to the committee members participating in the listening sessions.

### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS**

Commissioner Kriesel reported he attended the deployment ceremony for the Red Bull 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division last Tuesday. He thanked all the communities who adopted resolutions of support. These resolutions were presented to the Generals and will become a part of the Red Bull Infantry history.

Commissioner Weik reported she toured the Oak Park Heights prison last Tuesday together with Representative Marsh Swails. It was a sobering experience. The warden indicated that there had never been any escape attempts and the facility is a national model. The prisoners are able to study for their GED and she was impressed with the focus on rehabilitation. The prisoners also publish a newsletter entitled “A New

February 17, 2009

Perspective". Items discussed in the newsletter include prison rehab, how to land jobs, and talking about success in their future lives. Many of the prisoners were using the library and she suggested the One County, One Book program, "Choosing Civility: The Twenty-five Rules of Considerate Conduct" which was discussed at last week's meeting be included in that library. Commissioner Weik did check out the book at the Stafford Library last Sunday and noted that the library was very busy as has been reported in the newspapers.

Commissioner Weik reported she attended the MICA meeting with Commissioners Hegberg and Peterson and indicated she would be interested in being the delegate to the committee and Commissioner Hegberg could step back into the alternate role. She reported that the Rice County Commissioners were there and have so far refused to pay the attorneys for CHIPS cases.

Commissioner Weik was at the State Capitol last Thursday and listened to Commissioner Peterson's testimony regarding the Red Rock Corridor Transitway, Hastings to Minneapolis for \$2 million.

Commissioner Weik will attend the Counties Transit Improvement Board. On February 19, there will be a Public Health and Preparedness Advisory Committee meeting. On Friday there will be a visitation for Judge Doyscher in Forest Lake and the funeral services will be on Saturday, February 21.

Commissioner Hegberg moved to appoint Commissioner Weik as a delegate to the Minnesota Inter-County Association replacing himself on that Board. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Hegberg reported on the Community Action Program for Ramsey and Washington Counties Committee and the various subcommittees that meet each week during the month. The Bremer Foundation gave \$100,000 to the organization to be used in many different ways.

Commissioner Hegberg reported that MICA discussed levy limits and that it is 3.9% or inflation which ever is less. He would like the legislature to realize that the inflation rate may be in the negative which would make it very difficult to fund mandates and other projects that are given to counties. Commissioner Weik stated that point is included in the draft testimony she will be presenting to the Legislators at the Town Meeting next week. The Commissioners will receive the draft for their review and input.

Commissioner Hegberg will attend his first Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging meeting later this week.

Commissioner Pulkrabek stated he was not too concerned about the levy limits Commissioner Hegberg mentioned earlier. He feels the legislature will put in so many exceptions so there is always a way of getting around it.

February 17, 2008

Commissioner Pulkrabek indicated that he will be attending the I-94 corridor group meeting on Friday at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Weik will also be attending that meeting. It will be held at the Woodbury City Hall.

Commissioner Peterson asked that an alternate be appointed to the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board. If one of the two Washington County Commissioners does not attend, they will only have one vote and she feels it is important to have two votes.

Commissioner Hegberg moved to appoint Commissioner Weik as an alternate to the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Peterson announced that the Legislative Committee Conference will be held April 29 and 30, at the Crowne Plaza and cities, counties, schools and townships will have a joint legislative meeting.

#### **ATTORNEY-CLIENT CLOSED SESSION WITH PUBLIC WORKS**

The County Board convened in Closed Session to discuss the final settlement of CSAH 15, the Crescent Development; the time being 11:18 a.m. Present for the closed session were Commissioners Kriesel, Hegberg, Pulkrabek, Peterson, and Weik. Also present were Jim Schug, Doug Johnson, Richard Hodsdon, Don Theisen, Wayne Sandberg, Sharon Price, and Deb McDonald.

The County Board reconvened at 11:25 a.m.

#### **CSAH 15 CRESCENT DEVELOPMENT**

Commissioner Hegberg moved to approve the settlement for the CSAH 15 Crescent Development on the Attorney's fees and appraisal fees in the amount of \$46,390.77. Commissioner Pulkrabek seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Kriesel and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

#### **BOARD WORKSHOP WITH THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

The Board met in workshop session with the Office of Administration to discuss the 2009 budget. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present were Commissioners Hegberg,

February 17, 2009

Pulkrabek, Peterson, Weik and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Melinda Kirk, Doug Johnson, Dan Papin, Tom Adkins, Harley Will, Kay McAloney, Sue Fennern, Myjke Nelson, Patricia Conley, Kevin Corbid, Lowell Johnson, Don Theisen, Sheriff Bill Hutton, Kevin Giles and Elizabeth Mohr.

Myra Peterson, Chair  
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug  
County Administrator