

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
JULY 20, 2010**

WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY CONVENES

The Washington County Regional Railroad Authority met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Kriesel, Pulkrabek, Peterson, and Weik. Commissioner Hegberg absent. RRA Chair Peterson presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Andy Gitzlaff, Associate Planner; Greg Wood, Building Services Manager; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Patrick Singel, Deputy Community Services Director; Robert Crawford, Workforce Center Division Manager; Richard Backman, Community Services Division Manager; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Judy Hunter, Senior Program Manager; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Jennifer Wagenius, Property Records and Taxpayer Services Division Manager; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Nancy Brase, Administrative Services Manager; and Yvonne Klinnert, Public Information Coordinator II. Official Proceedings of the Regional Railroad Authority are available in the Office of Administration.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONVENES

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:37 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Kriesel, Pulkrabek, Peterson, and Weik. Commissioner Hegberg absent. Board Chair Pulkrabek presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Andy Gitzlaff, Associate Planner; Greg Wood, Building Services Manager; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Patrick Singel, Deputy Community Services Director; Robert Crawford, Workforce Center Division Manager; Richard Backman, Community Services Division Manager; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Judy Hunter, Senior Program Manager; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Jennifer Wagenius, Property Records and Taxpayer Services Division Manager; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Nancy Brase, Administrative Services Manager; and Yvonne Klinnert, Public Information Coordinator II.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Approval to accept grant funds from the Department of Human Services to assist in operating the Washington County Child Protection Citizens Review Panel.
2. Approval of Amendment #2 to Contract #5421 with East Suburban Resources Inc. for the provision of Supported Work Services for Minnesota Family Investment Program customers.
3. Approval of amendment #2 to Contract #5635 with Human Services, Inc., for a mid-year budget reduction.
4. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2010-106** as follows:

Resolution Approving Repurchase of Tax
Forfeited Land by North Star Bank

WHEREAS, Minnesota statutes 282.241 allows for the repurchase of tax forfeited land by the previous owner or other parties with the appropriate legal interest in the property; and

WHEREAS, taxation parcel 28.030.20.14.0076 forfeited for the non-payment of property taxes on July 21, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the law allows for the repurchase of the property up to one year after the forfeiture of the property; and

WHEREAS, North Star Bank has submitted a request for repurchase under 282.241 and has an interest in the property that allows it to request the repurchase; and

WHEREAS, North Star Bank has submitted a check for \$17,003.48 to cover all back taxes, penalties, interests, fees, and costs as well as the first half taxes for 2010 including penalty; and

WHEREAS, the department and the City of Stillwater feel a repurchase is in the best interest of the public in that it allows North Star Bank to market this parcel along with two others it owns within the same city block to potential private owners.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the request for repurchase of the tax forfeited parcel 28.030.20.14.0076 by North Star Bank.

5. Approval of the Minnesota GreenCorps Host Site Grant Application to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to train and fund one GreenCorps member and authorize the execution of an Agreement with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, if the county is selected as a host site.
6. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2010-107** as follows:

Contracts for Engineering Design Consulting and
Construction Management Services for the Lake
Elmo Park Reserve Winter Recreation Area Project and
St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park Campground Shower Building

WHEREAS, Washington County needs to have architectural design, engineering and site planning for the Lake Elmo Park Reserve Winter Recreation Area Project and the St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park Campground Shower Building completed by a professional consultant; and

WHEREAS, Hagen, Christensen & McIlwain Architects is an experienced, qualified professional consulting firm capable of performing these duties; and

WHEREAS, Washington County needs to have construction management services for the Lake Elmo Park Reserve Winter Recreation Area Project and the St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park Campground Shower Building completed by a professional consultant; and

WHEREAS, Kraus Anderson Construction Company is an experienced, qualified professional consulting firm capable of performing these duties; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners approves entering into contracts with Hagen, Christensen & McIlwain Architects for architectural design, engineering and site planning for the Lake Elmo Park Reserve Winter Recreation Area Project and the St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park Campground Shower Building and authorizes the Board Chair and the County Administrator to execute the contracts on behalf of the county without further action conditioned upon approval as to form by the Washington County Attorney's office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners approves entering into contracts with Kraus Anderson Construction Company for construction management services for the Lake Elmo Park Reserve Winter Recreation Area Project and the St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park Campground Shower Building and authorizes the Board Chair and the County Administrator to execute the contracts on behalf of the county without further action conditioned upon approval as to form by the Washington County Attorney's office.

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7. Approval of contract with Clear Wireless LLC, a Nevada Limited Liability Company, to lease a portion of the Valley Creek radio tower for the purposes of placing, operating and maintaining Clear Wireless' telecommunications equipment on the tower and ground space.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted 4-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Kriesel, Peterson, Weik, and Pulkrabek; Nays, none; Commissioner Hegberg absent.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPERTY RECORDS AND TAXPAYER SERVICES

Consider Setting Fees for Services Provided by the County Examiner of Titles

The Board Chair provided a brief overview of today's public hearing to consider setting fees for services provided by the County Examiner of Titles.

Jennifer Wagenius, Division Manager, reviewed the proposed fees for services provided by the County Examiner of Titles. The proposed fees are: examiner approval \$100; examiner's directive \$150; and district court action \$300. Currently, there are only five counties in the State of Minnesota that are required to have a salaried Examiner of Titles. In all other counties the Registrar pays for the examiners fees on an hourly basis and the interested parties who have a transaction that needs approval by statute pay for those services directly to the examiner. Washington County spends about \$60,000 a year for part time examiner services and a large percentage of that would be recovered with this fee. However, there would still be some expense to the county for the advisory services. In addition to the counties where the individuals are required to pay the examiner directly, the Ramsey County Board has initiated a fee for services for the examiner. If Washington County were to pass this fee today, the only counties that would not have a fee are St. Louis, Hennepin, and Anoka.

Ms. Wagenius stated that this proposal has been reviewed with the county Examiner of Titles and he supports the fees. Administration and Property Records and Taxpayer Services met with the Washington County District Judges in June and they received unanimous support of the proposal. If the fees were to pass, her division would work closely with the attorney's and title companies to notify them of this change. They would also provide notification through the Minnesota Metro PREP (Property Records Education) group that has four statewide associations.

The Board Chair asked for comments from the public; none were heard. The Board Secretary noted that she had received all documentary evidence.

Commissioner Peterson moved to close the public hearing to consider setting fees for services provided by the County Examiner of Titles. Commissioner Weik seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Hegberg absent. The public hearing closed at 9:45 a.m.

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Commissioner Kriesel moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2010-108** as follows:

Resolution Adopting a Fee for Services Provided by the Examiner of Titles for Certain Property Ownership and Title Transactions.

WHEREAS, pursuant to M.S. 373.41 the county may charge fees for service provided by any county office, official, department, court, or employee.

WHEREAS, the benefit of the services of the Examiner of Titles as they relate to certain property ownership and title transactions accrue to the individuals requesting the service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Washington County Fee Schedule Policy #1032 is amended to contain the following:

ADMINISTRATION

Examiner of Titles

Approval	\$100
Directive	\$150
Services in district court action	\$300

Commissioner Weik seconded the motion and it was adopted 4-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Kriesel, Peterson, Weik, and Pulkrabek; Nays, none; Commissioner Hegberg absent.

Commissioner Peterson felt like she was boxed into a corner. With the financial situation as it is for the next couple of years, she had no choice but to vote for this. She is filled with a lot of angst because they've become such a fee based government. This fee is based on users, but it doesn't make her feel any better by passing it.

Commissioner Kriesel stated the entire Board has those concerns. But he feels these fees are different. The benefit of the service accrues to the individuals requesting the service. He thinks that is somewhat fairer than spreading it amongst all the taxpayers in the county who may never use this service.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Kriesel reported on a St. Croix River Crossing Coalition meeting last week. He felt it was a productive meeting. He attended the National Association of Counties (NACo) Conference this past weekend where Washington County received the NACo Achievement Award for its role in the Yellow Ribbon Network. Commissioner Kriesel mentioned that Lumberjack Days will take place this week.

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Commissioner Weik attended a one year anniversary memorial for Daniel Drevnick. Many members of the Red Bulls Unit also attended. She was there to help facilitate with the food, beverages and set up. She has been following with interest that Hennepin County is offering electronic downloads of books and they've expanded their library service to patrons. She wondered if there is reciprocity with that for Washington County users.

Commissioner Peterson stated that because Washington County is part of MELSA she believes that would also be available to Washington County library users.

Commissioner Weik noted that she would not be at next week's Board meeting. She will be attending the FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) emergency preparedness training.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Weik moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Peterson and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Hegberg absent. The Board meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Board met in workshop session with the Department of Community Services to discuss child protection investigation and family assessment. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Kriesel, Peterson and Weik. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Dan Papin, Rick Backman, Don Pelton, Sarah Amundson, Tony Zdroik, Doug Johnson, Yvonne Klinnert, Liz Mohr, Pioneer Press, Scott Wentz, Woodbury Bulletin, and Jim Anderson, Star Tribune.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Board met in workshop session with the Department of Public Works to review land ownership issues related to the Lomond Trail within the Big Marine Park Reserve. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Kriesel, Pulkrabek, Peterson and Weik. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Don Theisen, John Elholm, Wayne Sandberg, Brent Reibel, Kelly Reibel, Yvonne Klinnert, and Liz Mohr, Pioneer Press.

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Bill Pulkrabek, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator

