

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2006**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 5:15 p.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Peterson, Kriesel, Pulkrabek, Stafford, and Hegberg. Absent none. Board Chair Pulkrabek presided. Also present were Jim Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Patricia Conley, Library Director; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Rick Backman, Community Services Division Manager; Kay McAloney, Human Resources Director; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Sue Hedlund, Public Health and Environment Deputy Director; Pat Morreim, Minnesota Extension Services; Steve Pott, County Sheriff; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Harley Will, Financial Services Director; Don Theisen, Director of Transportation and Physical Development; Chris Volkers, Court Administrator; Melinda Kirk, Budget/Financial Analyst; and Steve Nelson, Public Information Coordinator II.

Commissioner Peterson noted that Emery Wesson was attending this evening's Board meeting for a class he is taking on county government.

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

1. Information only on child foster care daily basic maintenance, initial clothing allowance and difficulty of care (DOC) rate for 2007.
2. Approval to amend Personnel Rules and Regulations Section 16, Leaves of Absence.
3. Approval to amend Human Resources Policy #5030 Telework.
4. Approval to amend Human Resources Policy #5025 Employee Wellness Program.

September 12, 2006

5. Approval and authorization for the County Board Chair and Administrator to enter into an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, to receive funding through the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously.

### **COUNTY LIBRARY**

Commissioner Peterson moved to approve the implementation of a donations and memorial giving program for the Washington County Library and authorize the development of a Capital Campaign for the Forest Lake Library. Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

### **Overview of Proposed 2007 Budget**

The Board Chair advised the viewing audience that an Open House on the 2007 proposed budget was held prior to the County Board meeting.

Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator, presented a brief overview of the proposed 2007 Washington County budget. She noted that Mr. and Mrs. Bouchie who reside on Beach Road submitted a comment regarding the increase of their taxes and in particular they indicated they had no children of school age and questioned why they should be paying for someone else's children to be educated and cared for.

The Board Chair asked for comments on the proposed budget; none were heard.

### **Certifying the Proposed Property Tax levy for Payable 2007**

Commissioner Peterson moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2006-127** as follows:

#### Resolution Certifying Proposed Property Tax Levies For Washington County Payable 2007

The Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to the Washington County Auditor-Treasurer the following proposed tax levies for payable 2007:

Washington County	\$75,895,000
Includes Washington County Proposed Special Levy for the Housing & Redevelopment Authority for Landfall of \$200,000	
Regional Rail Authority	\$ 245,300

Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.



September 12, 2006

Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

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

Commissioner Hegberg reported that he met with the City of Forest Lake last evening to discuss moving up the construction project on County Road 2 and Highway 61. The state will be overlaying Highway 61 and it makes sense to do those two things at the same time. Staff will be bringing this item up for discussion at the next meeting.

Commissioner Hegberg also heard about a project on the corner of Highway 61 and County Road 97, but the state has dropped that project due to inadequate funds. He hopes that the county can put pressure on the state to revisit that decision because most of the highway projects that were done in the last two years seemed to go to the west of the Twin Cities. He feels this is a dangerous corner and improvements are needed.

Commissioner Hegberg stated he has PERA meetings on Thursday and will not be able to attend the AMC meetings.

The Board extended their condolences to Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator, whose father passed away last week; and, to Don Fixmer, Valley Access Channels, whose father also passed away last week.

Commissioner Stafford left the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Commissioner Peterson reported that she will be attending the AMC Policy Committee meetings in Wilmer on Thursday and Friday. Commissioner Peterson suggested that she and Commissioner Hegberg meet to discuss the County Road 97 construction and felt that a discussion with Congressman Oberstar about getting federal funds may be helpful. She also reported that Steele County Commissioner Jerry Peterson passed away a week ago last Friday.

Commissioner Kriesel stated tomorrow he will participate in a cable program with Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McGlothlin discussing the wind energy initiative with the Metro County Energy Task Force and the Rural Minnesota Energy Board.

Commissioner Pulkrabek reminded the audience to vote this evening. The polls are open to 8:00 p.m.

### **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

September 12, 2006

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Peterson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Kriesel and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Stafford absent. The Board meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Bill Pulkrabek, Chair  
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug  
County Administrator

