

Washington County, Minnesota

Board of Commissioners - Actions

Actions at the Tuesday, October 25, 2011 Board Meeting

This page is a brief view of the actions taken by the Washington County Board of Commissioners. For further information, please telephone 651-430-6001.

Washington County's mission is to provide quality public services in a cost-effective manner through innovation, leadership, and the cooperation of dedicated people.

Washington County receives Distinguished Budget Presentation award

Washington County has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 2011 from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and the plaque was presented to the Board of Commissioners Oct. 25.

Last March, the Office of Administration submitted the Washington County 2011 budget document to the Government Finance Officers Association for consideration in the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award program. In late August, the county was notified that it had received this award. It is the 14th consecutive year that the county has participated in the award program and has received the award.

GFOA is a nonprofit professional association representing 17,000 government finance professionals throughout North America. It is the only national awards program in government budgeting.

The award reflects the commitment of elected officials and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. To receive the award, a governmental unit must meet nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. The guidelines are designed to assess how well a government's budget serves as a policy document setting out long- and short-term goals, objectives and priorities; as an operation guide that describes functions and structure, as well as performance measures; as a financial plan with fund structures and a financial overview; and as a communication device to explain budget issues and the planning process.

The budget document must be rated "proficient" in those four categories, and meet each of 14 mandatory criteria. GFOA's last annual report shows that 28 governments in Minnesota received this award, and Washington County was one of seven counties. Three percent of governments in the United States and Canada qualify for the award.



The Washington County received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 2011 from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), and the County Board was presented with the plaque noting the award Oct. 25. At the presentation was Commissioner Dennis Hegberg, District 1, Jim Schug, county administrator, Melinda Kirk, budget/financial analyst, Molly O'Rourke, deputy administrator, Commissioner Gary Kriesel, District 3, Commissioner Lisa Weik, District 5, Commissioner Autumn Lehrke, District 4, Commissioner Bill Pulkrabek, District 2, and Stephanie Kammerud, administrative assistant.

County receives grant from Target for programs for juveniles

The Washington County Board of Commissioners accepted a \$1,000 grant from Target Corporation Oct. 25, to pay for programs for juveniles in the county.

Todd Bruehl, chair of the county's Community Corrections Advisory Board, is a store manager for Target Corporation. Over the past seven years, with the support of Bruehl, the Target Corporation has donated money to assist the county with domestic abuse education in the community, chemical health services to adolescents, and arts and science enrichment in the juvenile programs. This year, Target Corporation has donated \$1,000 to continue the arts and science enrichment for juveniles.

Planning for realignment of Keats, Military, 70th Street begins

Planning is beginning for the realignment of the roadway that includes the intersections of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 19 (Keats Avenue South), CSAH 20 (Military Road) and CSAH 22 (70th Street South) in Cottage Grove. The Washington County Board of Commissioners agreed Oct. 25 to work with the South Washington County Watershed District to prepare plans for drainage in the area.

The roadways are closely spaced and operate under all-way stop conditions. County and city comprehensive plans show the need for roadway realignment in this area to better serve future expected traffic patterns, growth and land use. The South Washington Watershed District (SWWD) is preparing plans for installing a regional underground drainage facility in the project area and roadway designs. The SWWD has hired an engineering consultant to provide the plans, and will collaborate with Washington County to combine the projects for construction cost savings and efficiencies. The cooperative agreement provides for the reimbursement of SWWD for the county's share of design services not to exceed \$363,169. The project is scheduled to begin construction in 2013.

Bids accepted for Lake Elmo Park Reserve winter recreation facility

Bids for a winter recreation facility in the Lake Elmo Park Reserve were reviewed and accepted by the Washington County Board of Commissioners Oct. 25.

The county will use money from the Parks and Trails fund of the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment grants to build a ski trailhead building near the primitive campground parking lot to open in fall 2012. The building will provide basic amenities to skiers such as restroom and changing

rooms, a warming area, and vending machines next to lighted ski trails available to park visitors this winter. The bids the board received were for general construction from Jorgenson Construction, Inc., for \$599,000; for plumbing, heating and air conditioning from Parkos Construction Company, Inc., for \$83,700; and for the electrical work from Sterling Electric Corporation for \$71,150.

No bids were received to do the septic work at the site, and bids for that work will be requested at a later date. The recommended bid awards are within the project budget.

The project is 100 percent funded by a combination of state bonds and voter approved Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment grants from the Parks and Trails fund.
