

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
AUGUST 26, 2008

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, Stafford, and Kriesel. Absent none. Board Chair Hegberg presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Carol Peterson, Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Keith Potter, Facilities Manager; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Harley Will, Director of Accounting and Finance; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Barbara Fritsche, Information Technology Supervisor; and Maggi Aitkens, Public Information Coordinator II.

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 Pulkrabek to adopt the following Consent Calendar:

1. Approval of the August 12, 2008 Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval of the following reappointments to the Workforce Investment Board to terms expiring June 30, 2010: Stacy Kennedy, Large Business; Lou Ella Johnson, Large Business; Brenda Carlson, Small Business; and Jim Finley, Job Services/Veterans.
3. Approval to reappoint John T. Lynch to the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District Board of Managers to a three-year term expiring September 22, 2011.
4. Approval of an agreement with TSG Server and Storage for iSeries hardware and software maintenance and support.
5. Approval of comments to the City of Oak Park Heights regarding their Local Water Management Plan and approve comment letter drafted on behalf of the Commissioners to be signed by the Board Chair.

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6. Approval to award contract to Encompass, Inc. to provide professional engineering services relative to exterior envelope commissioning for the Environmental Center Project and authorize execution of the contract through the signatures of the Chair of the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the Washington County Administrator without further action from the County Board.
7. Approval to award contract to Alliant Engineering, Inc. for traffic signal optimization services for CSAH 16 (Valley Creek Road) in Woodbury and authorize execution of the contract through the signatures of the Chair of the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the Washington County Administrator without further action from the County Board.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously.

PROPERTY RECORDS AND TAXPAYER SERVICES

Commissioner Kriesel moved to appoint Commissioners Pulkrabek and Peterson to the 2008 County Canvass Board for the Primary and General Elections. Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to award a contract to Kimley-Horn and Associates for preliminary design Services for the County State Aid Highway 17 (Lake Elmo Avenue) improvement project in Grant and Lake Elmo and authorize execution of the contract through the signatures of the Chair of the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the Washington County Administrator without further action of the County Board. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Jim Schug, County Administrator, noted that a couple of weeks ago the County Board agreed to sponsor a legislative candidate forum for the Minnesota Inter-Counties Association (MICA). Possible dates for this forum are Wednesday evening on September 17, September 24, or October 8. He asked the Commissioners to check their calendars and let him know of any conflicts with these dates. Keith Carlson, MICA Executive Director, serves as moderator and asks the different candidates a series of questions relating to county government and legislative initiatives that counties bring forward. The forums usually begin at 5:30 p.m. and run for an hour and one-half to two hours.

Mr. Schug stated that during the last legislative session, a work group was appointed to look at controlled substance laws. They have a variety of representatives from the County Attorney's Association, the Board of Public Defense, three representatives of State Law Enforcement, representatives of the Judicial Council,

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experts in the field of drug treatment and controlled substance, and others. He reported that Community Corrections Director Tom Adkins was asked to be the representative from Community Corrections.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Peterson reported on the 2030 Transportation Plan by Metropolitan Council. The issue she is concerned about is that Washington County respond with a fairly strident letter to the Met Council talking about what is not in the plan. There is nothing in the plan that talks about how this region connects to other regions, such as high-speed rail to Chicago. She feels that is an important issue that should be in this plan. The other thing is the I-94 corridor—it has 84% of the freight traffic coming into the Metropolitan area which far exceeds I-35. The freight traffic accounts for only 10% of the average daily trips on I-94 and yet there is nothing to indicate that we should look at or develop an I-94 corridor. The three park and rides in Woodbury are almost at 100%, if not at 100% of capacity, the new park and ride in Oakdale is well over 50% capacity and it has just opened. It doesn't take into consideration the park and ride in Cottage Grove and it is close to 87%. The new park and ride in Forest Lake has exceeded all expectations. In the 2030 plan there are no new transit routes. She feels Washington County has been a team player with the Council, the county's development has conformed with the MUSA lines, and she thinks the county is not being rewarded for being a team player. Washington County will be putting dollars into the Counties Transit Improvement Board, but development is going on in Sherburne, Wright, and Isanti and they are outside of the Urban Service Area, and yet the preponderance of transportation expansion is in the West Metro. She asked why should the East Metro sales tax subsidize the expansion of the West Metro. I-394 is pretty much the same traffic count as I-94 and 61; the St. Croix River crossing is pretty much the same as I-94 at Rogers; and I-35 at Wyoming is comparable to I-94 in Albertville. There are traffic volumes on I-94 and it is projected to increase by 60,000 more people. At the Transportation Advisory Board meeting last week she did receive agreement from the TAB to include high-speed rail to Chicago as an important item for our region.

The County Board discussed the Counties Transit Improvement Board meeting that was held last week.

Commissioner Stafford reported that at the Woodbury Day Parade this past weekend, the Grand Marshall's were the Orth family.

Commissioner Hegberg reported on the Library Board meeting he attended last week. They are looking at hours because of the increase in demands and also security issues.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Peterson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Stafford and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The Board met in workshop session with the Departments of Community Services and Public Health and Environment to review their proposed 2009 budgets. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Peterson, Pulkrabek, Hegberg, Stafford, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Melinda Kirk, Dan Papin, Lowell Johnson, Harley Will, Tom Adkins, Sheriff Bill Hutton, Kevin Corbid, Sue Hedlund, Jeff Travis, Amanda Strommer, Cindy Rupp, Michelle Kemper, Connie Waldera, Jean Streetar, Maureen Trost, Jessica Quaderer, Twyla Pennel, Judy Hunter, Nancy Hegland, Myron Tank, Ann Church, Dave Moen, Patricia Morreim and numerous 4H youth participants.

Dennis C. Hegberg, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator