OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
NOVEMBER 14, 2006

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, Kriesel, Pulkrabek, Stafford, and Hegberg. Absent none. 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; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Robert Crawford, Workforce Center Division Manager; Deb Tulloch, Community Services Supervisor; Pat Conley, Library Director; Don Theisen, Transportation and Physical Development Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Transportation and Physical Development Director; Jeff Travis, Program Manager; Kevin Corbid, Property Records and Taxpayer Services Director; Sheriff Steve Pott; Kay McAloney, Human Resources Director; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Harley Will, Financial Services Director; and Steve Nelson, Public Information Coordinator II.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Paul Toren, 640 North Main, Stillwater, thanked the Board for its efforts regarding the Open Space Referendum, which passed at last Tuesday's election. He believed one of the reasons it passed was because of the way the ballot language was crafted. The next step is establishing the advisory committee. He asked that a charge be developed before the committee is formed. He advised the Board that he and many of the other citizens who participated in this campaign are willing to continue their efforts in this regard.

Cordelia Pierson, Trust for Public Land, expressed her congratulations on the Open Space Referendum. The results were excellent and higher than they could have anticipated. The County Board and staff provided information when it was asked for and educational opportunities were provided by staff. They have already gotten calls from landowners interested in seeing their land conserved and they are eager in helping the county establish a citizen advisory process.

Eugene Huerstel, 10234 204th Street North, Forest Lake, and Stev Stegner, Mayor-Elect of Forest Lake voiced their opposition to the planned roundabouts in Forest Lake. They asked the Board to reconsider these plans and review the options. They feel that a majority of the people do not understand the roundabouts and are concerned about them.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

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1. Approval to set December 19, 2006 for a public hearing to approve the final 2007-2011 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan.

2. Approval of a second round of projects recommended by the County Administrator for funding through the 2005 and prior Countywide Mission Directed Budget Savings program in the amount of $998,600 as follows: Electronic Imaging/E-Doc System, $150,000; Application Server (w/System Mgr Software $15,000; Help Desk Server, $11,500; Microsoft Office Professional Enterprise, $85,000; Disk Storage (Sheriff/Attorney servers), $60,000; Memory (main/Sheriff/Attorney servers), $27,000; Blackberry Project (2006 costs), $33,400; Training room PC's and monitors, $17,500; Fiber Optic cabling, $230,000; Uninterruptible Power Supply Units, $35,000; 2025 Data Center Consultant, $225,000; Staffing for eligibility services, $56,000, Diversity training plan, $20,000; Wellness Incentive Program, $13,200; and, Diesel Exhaust Control Devices, $20,000.

3. Approval of Washington County Library contract for service with Bayport Public Library for 2007.

4. Approval of site license agreement with Xcel Energy for the use of space on the stack and at the King Plant facility.

5. Approval of cooperative agreement with the City of Forest Lake for the final design services for the reconstruction of CSAH 2 and TH 61 in Forest Lake.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously.

COMMISSIONER SERVICE AWARDS

Commissioner Dick Stafford presented Commissioner Service Awards to two outstanding citizens of District 5:

Dave Olson – Provided leadership and effectiveness in raising funds for cancer research and awareness about cancer within the City of Woodbury. He was one of the co-organizers of the Relay for Life event held last June which raised $185,000.

Lucille Kargel – Was recognized for her many years of active participation as a volunteer in the City of Woodbury and for establishing the Kargel Award to honor citizens of the City of Woodbury for their work in the area of public safety.

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COMMUNITY SERVICES

Medicare Part D

Beth Woods, Minnesota Senior Linkage Line, provided the Board with information regarding the optional Medicare Part D component covering prescription drugs for seniors and disabled populations. She also presented other options for prescription drug coverage and new changes for Medicare Part D being implemented for 2007.

The Commissioners noted how confusing this program is. The cost for prescription drugs needs to be looked at and they hoped that this program would be revisited.

Workforce Investment Board

Jeanine Swanson, Chair of the Workforce Investment Board, updated the County Board on its activities over the past year. They focused on three areas: Understand business needs and develop a qualified labor pool; Communicate with strategic stakeholders; and engage education with business priorities. Robert Crawford presented a short video on the Robotics Academy initiated at the Stillwater Area Schools which won a Minnesota Workforce Council Association, Best Practice Partnership Award this past August.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Jim Schug, County Administrator, announced that last week's election went smoothly and there was a healthy turnout. The Canvass Board met yesterday and certified the results of the election.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Peterson reported that the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board Executive Committee met and have defined the process that will be used to select a new executive director. They hope to have a new director by February or March of next year.

Commissioner Hegberg reported that he toured Tiller Mining Corporation yesterday and stated that the industry has changed quite a bit since he worked for North Star Concrete 30 years ago.

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 Hegberg and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The Board met in workshop session with the Office of Administration to discuss the proposed 2007 Washington County Legislative positions. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Peterson, Kriesel, Pulkrabek, Stafford, and Hegberg. Also present were Jim Schug, Tom Adkins, Lowell Johnson, Dan Papin, John Kaul, Don Theisen, Harley Will, Kevin Corbid, and Yvonne Klinnert, Stillwater Courier.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH HUMAN RESOURCES

The Board met in workshop session with the Human Resources Department to discuss full social security participation to elected officials. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Peterson, Kriesel, Stafford, and Hegberg. Also present were Jim Schug, Kay McAloney, Vicki DeFord, and Yvonne Klinnert, Stillwater Courier.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

The Board met in workshop session with the Department of Public Health and Environment to discuss the Metro Alliance for Healthy Families initiative. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Peterson, Kriesel, Stafford, and Hegberg. Also present were Jim Schug, Lowell Johnson, Dan Papin, Karen Monsen, Tammy Kincaid, and Yvonne, Klinnert, Stillwater Courier.

Bill Pulkrabek, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator