

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
APRIL 8, 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, Hegberg, Stafford, and Kriesel, Commissioner Pulkrabek absent. Board Chair Hegberg presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Sue Harris, First Assistant County Attorney; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Kay McAloney, Human Resources Director; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Ann Pung-Terwedo, Sr. Planner; Joe Lux, Sr. Planner; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Harley Will, Financial Services Director; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; and David Brierley, Public Information Coordinator.

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

1. Approval to reappoint Jack Lavold, Cottage Grove, to the South Washington Watershed District Board of Managers, to a term expiring May 1, 2011.
2. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-047** as follows:

Proclaim April 7-13, 2008 as Public Health Week in Washington County

WHEREAS, promoting, protecting and preserving health and quality of life for people in Washington County is a major goal of our county; and

WHEREAS, climate change may cause extreme weather events and changes in environmental conditions; and

WHEREAS, local, state and federal governments public health and environment agencies, along with numerous other organizations, now have the opportunity to increase their efforts to educate Americans and the public health workforce about actions to mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change; and

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WHEREAS, Washington County, like all communities, must plan in advance to ensure their public health agencies and residents are prepared for and can respond to the health consequences of climate change; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Washington County recognize the essential role public health and environment plays in the planning process and in their every day lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim April 7-13, 2008 as Public Health Week in Washington County, and commend this observation to all our citizens.

3. Approval of comments on the Marine on St. Croix Comprehensive Plan.
4. Approval of Mining Permit for the Washington County gravel pit in May Township.
5. Approval of Cooperative Agreement between Washington County and the City of Woodbury for construction of Radio Drive, CSAH 13, Interstate 94 Ramps, I-94 Frontage Road cost reimbursement and maintenance.
6. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-048** as follows:

Resolution for Agency Agreement for the Advance
Construction of CSAH 18

SP 82-618-14, County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 18 from 300 feet north of 7th Street South to 700 feet north of Upper 5th Street in the cities of Lakeland and Lakeland Shores, Minnesota

WHEREAS, CSAH 18 is under the jurisdiction of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, Washington County will use federal aid funds for a portion of the cost to reconstruction CSAH 18 as a two-lane urban highway with center left turn lanes and three roundabouts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sec. 161.36, the Commissioner of Transportation be appointed as Agent of the Washington County to accept as its agent, federal aid funds which may be made available for eligible transportation related projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Director of Public Works to execute and enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Transportation prescribing the terms and conditions of said federal aid participation as set forth and contained in "Minnesota Department of Transportation Agency Agreement No. 91034", a copy of which said agreement was before the County Board and which is made a part hereof by reference.

7. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-049** as follows:

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Resolution Recognizing the Public Safety Operators and Dispatchers
in Washington County in Honor of National Public Safety
Telecommunications Week

WHEREAS, the dedicated 911 operators and dispatchers daily serve the citizens of Washington County by answering their phone calls for police, fire and emergency medical services and dispatching the appropriate assistance as quickly as possible; and

WHEREAS, professional operators and dispatchers work to improve the emergency response capability in the county through their dedication, leadership, training programs and other activities; and

WHEREAS, the critical functions performed by professional operators and dispatchers impact all aspects of public safety and many other operations performed by state, county, and local government agencies; and

WHEREAS, 911 operators and dispatchers are the link between our citizens who call for help and the agencies which provide the help; and

WHEREAS, the week of April 14-18, 2008 has been set aside to recognize 911 operators and dispatchers and the crucial role they play in the protection of life and property for citizens of Washington County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims the week beginning April 14, 2008-April 18, 2008 as Public Safety Telecommunications Week in Washington County and extends its appreciation and thanks to the dedicated Public Safety Telecommunications Personnel for the vital contribution they make to the safety and well being of our citizens and public safety providers.

8. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-050** as follows:

Washington County 2008 Farm Family of the Year

WHEREAS, agriculture remains an important part of our national, state and local economy; and

WHEREAS, Washington County has a strong tradition of agriculture, agribusiness and appreciation of the family farm; and

WHEREAS, the Farm Family Award has been presented annually since 1979 to recognize excellence in agriculture and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, these families are not only great farmers, they are people of great character that contribute to our community in many ways; and

WHEREAS, since 1946 the Cahanes family has worked their family farm and raised 6 girls and 2 boys; and

WHEREAS, Jerry and Doug continue on the farm milking 50 cows, raising heifers and steers, growing alfalfa, corn and oats; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, April 4 at the Hugo American Legion, the Louis and Alice Cahanes family and their two sons Doug and Jerry, were named the Farm Family of the Year for 2008.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby commend and congratulate Louis, Alice, Doug and Jerry Cahanes as the Washington County 2008 Farm Family of the Year.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Pulkrabek absent.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

National County Government Week

Commissioner Peterson moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2008-051** as follows:

Resolution of Appreciation Washington County Employees
National County Government Week
April 6 – 12, 2008

WHEREAS, county government employees are instrumental to providing services for citizens across the nation; and

WHEREAS, there are 3,066 counties in the United States of America that serve over 303 million citizens as an essential component of local government; and

WHEREAS, Washington County provides services and programs for more than 228,000 citizens, including approximately 60,000 children age 18 and younger; and

WHEREAS, Washington County values its employees who plan, administer, and deliver county services that address the essential needs of the children, families, and adults who reside in Washington County; and

WHEREAS, the National County Government Week theme for 2008 is “Protecting Our Children” to recognize county employees and services that help safeguard children in many ways.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners recognize and congratulate all county employees who provide quality public services in a cost-effective manner through innovation, leadership, and the cooperation of dedicated people;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims the week of April 6 – 12, 2008, as “National County Government Week in Washington County.”

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Pulkrabek absent.

Legislative Update

Jim Schug, County Administrator, presented a brief legislative update. The Governor line-item vetoed several items in the bonding bill including the I-94 transitway study for \$750,000. The board will meet with

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Ramsey County this afternoon to talk about issues of mutual interest and concern. That meeting is scheduled for noon at the Oak Marsh Golf Club in Oakdale. Part of that discussion will include the fact that the bonding money for the Central Corridor light rail line was also eliminated as was the \$2 million for the rehabilitation/restoration of the Union Depot. The county has done well in that no county program aid has been scheduled for reduction in either the Governor's bill or either the Senate or House of Representatives. The House bill does include an additional \$40 million in county program aid starting in 2009 and then indexing that aid starting in 2010.

Commissioner Appointments to the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB)

Commissioner Stafford moved to appoint Commissioner Peterson and Commissioner Hegberg to the Counties Transit Improvement Board. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Pulkrabek absent.

Commissioner Appointment to the Grant Evaluation and Ranking System (GEARS) Committee

Commissioner Peterson move to appoint Commissioner Stafford to the Grant Evaluation and Ranking System (GEARS) Committee. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Pulkrabek absent.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Peterson noted that Pope County has a new justice center, the Northwest Regional Corrections Center. She indicated it was a nice building and facility. It leaves the counties open to take more short-term offenders as we build these new facilities. She complimented the staff on the Highway 8 at Interstate 35, Regional Significance brochure. She thinks it is outstanding. She asked that this brochure be brought to the joint meeting with Ramsey County. She thought it would be good to share with Chisago and Anoka Counties also.

Commissioner Kriesel stated he attended the May Township meeting where they discussed the 7, 8 and 9 county road projects. He attended the Farm Family of the Year awards last Friday. The Cahanes family was honored. Yesterday he met with Stillwater Mayor Ken Harycki and Representative Julie Bunn, Representative Matt Dean, and Senator Saltzman to discuss the Stillwater Bridge and transportation funding. He will be meeting with Afton Mayor Welter and meeting their new interim Administrator and a citizen resident to discuss Afton's main street initiative.

Commissioner Stafford reported that he and Commissioner Peterson will be video taping the Insight program to discuss the P.L.A.C.E. Program and the number of foreclosures in Washington County.

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Commissioner Peterson reported that she will be attending the Association of Minnesota Counties Joint meeting on Wednesday, April 9 with the school board association, the township association and the League of Minnesota Cities.

Commissioner Hegberg asked the Public Works Director to review the CSAH 8 and I-35 issue in Forest Lake. While they were in Washington D.C. last week, they asked for \$2 million for design funds.

Don Theisen, Public Works Director, presented a brief overview of CSAH 8 and I-35. The biggest concern they have in this area is safety. Seventy-five thousand cars travel this section of the roadway a day and it is projected to go to over 100,000 in ten years. It is in the Minnesota Department of Transportation's top 5% of crashes of all of their roads. Cars traveling at 70 miles an hour only have seven seconds to transverse maybe three lanes. That's about 1/3 the distance that is needed. There are also connectivity issues. There is no way to go north off of CSAH 8 and no way to go east off of I-35. Broadway Avenue is the only road that crosses I-35 in the Forest Lake area. If that bridge goes down for whatever reason there is no way for people to navigate that area without circuitous routes.

Commissioner Hegberg reported that the other issues discussed in Washington D.C. were requests for \$2 million in Red Rock Corridor for park and rides and bus transit, park and rides in the Rush Line Corridor, the I-94 corridor, and \$8 million for high speed rail. They also asked for money for the Stillwater Bridge. He stated that next time they go to Washington D.C. they need to bring a fact sheet on the increase in cost for delaying the construction.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

ATTORNEY-CLIENT CLOSED SESSION WITH THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Commissioner Peterson moved to go into Executive (Closed) Session to discuss property acquisition in Afton for the 800 MHz radio tower site for property located at 15326 Afton Hills Court South, and potential lease of property at 15252 Afton Hills Drive South in the City of Afton. Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Pulkrabek absent; the time being 9:47 a.m. Present for the Executive Session were Commissioners Peterson, Hegberg, Stafford, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson, Commander Steve Pott; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Rick Hodsdon, Assistant County Attorney; and Patricia Raddatz, County Board Secretary.

The Board reconvened at 10:18 a.m.

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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; Commissioner Pulkrabek absent. The Board meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Board met in workshop session with the Department of Public Works to discuss the Washington County Household Hazardous Waste and Public Works South Shop Site Master Plan. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Peterson, Hegberg, Stafford, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Don Theisen, Lowell Johnson, Keith Potter, Jeffrey Oertel, Oertel Architects, Nancy Yang, Pioneer Press, and Yvonne Klinnert, Stillwater Courier.

Dennis C. Hegberg, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator

