

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**  
**JULY 14, 2009**

The Washington County Regional Railroad Authority met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Hegberg, Peterson, Weik, and Kriesel. Commissioner Pulkrabek absent. RRA Chair Peterson presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Ted Schoenecker, Transportation Manager; Ann Pung-Terwedo, Senior Planner; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Richard Backman, Community Services Division Manager; Harley Will, Accounting and Finance Director; Kathy Trombly-Ferrin, Accounting and Finance Supervisor; Tom Westling, Principal Accountant; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Kay McAloney, Human Services Director; Sandy Hahn, Community Corrections Deputy Director; and Yvonne, Klinnert, Public Information Coordinator II.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**RRA MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 9, 2009**

Commissioner Hegberg moved to adopt the Regional Railroad Authority Minutes from June 9, 2009. Commissioner Weik seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Pulkrabek absent.

**EASEMENTS AT HARDWOOD CREEK REGIONAL TRAIL IN THE CITY OF HUGO FOR TH 61 EXPANSION**

Commissioner Hegberg moved to adopt **Resolution No. RRA-2009-005** as follows:

July 14, 2009

Authorization to Grant a Permanent and Temporary Easement to the  
City of Hugo for Roadway Purposes Along State Trunk Highway 61  
in the City of Hugo

WHEREAS, the Washington County Regional Rail Corridor is a 100 foot corridor that extends from 145<sup>th</sup> Street in the City of Hugo to the Chisago County line; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Regional Railroad Authority (WCRRA) purchased the railroad right-of-way from Burlington Northern Railway in 1994 for rail/recreational uses; and

WHEREAS, the corridor is currently improved for trail purposes and is known as the Hardwood Creek Regional Trail; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Regional Railroad Authority (WCRRA) prepared a Property Management Plan in 2002 in order to properly manage the corridor; and

WHEREAS, in June 2008, Washington County Regional Rail Authority (WCRRA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) developed jointly by the City of Hugo, MnDOT, the WCRRA and Washington County to define access locations along TH 61 in the City of Hugo and guide development along the highway corridor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hugo has developed a TH 61 road improvement project that requires permanent and temporary easement for the current roadway expansion; and

WHEREAS, the plans are consistent with the 2008 MOU; and

WHEREAS, in lieu of direct payment thereof, the city commits to identifying and assisting in acquiring additional right-of-way along the corridor to meet the multi-model needs of the corridor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Regional Railroad Authority hereby grants permanent and temporary easements to the City of Hugo for roadway purposes along State Trunk Highway 61 in the City of Hugo as described on the attached Exhibits A-D.

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

July 14, 2009

Commissioner Peterson stated she wants to be sure that by granting this permanent easement that the county will have enough room left to accommodate the trail as well as a future rail line.

Ted Schoenecker, Transportation Planner, indicated that in working with the City of Hugo and the Minnesota Department of Transportation, they drew out cross sections looking at options for running two concurrent rail lines in that corridor with the required separation between them and the addition of a trail. In 60 feet they should be able to accommodate both the rail and whatever transit mode goes in that corridor and a trail.

Commissioner Peterson just wanted it recorded in print so there is no question that future boards or future city council people could say that future planning had not been addressed. She wants it understood that this Board is allowing enough room for a future rail trail and transit corridor.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Regional Railroad Authority, Commissioner Weik moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Kriesel and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Pulkrabek absent. The RRA meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Myra Peterson, Chair  
Regional Rail Authority

Attest:

James R. Schug  
County Administrator

