

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
MARCH 10, 2009**

WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY CONVENES

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 Peterson, Weik, and Kriesel. Commissioners Hegberg and 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; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Sue Hedlund, Deputy Director of Public Health and Environment; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Ted Schoenecker, Transportation Manager; Keith Potter, Facilities Manager; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Harley Will, Director of Accounting and Finance; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; and David Brierley, Public Information Coordinator. Official Proceedings of the Regional Railroad Authority are available in the Office of Administration.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONVENES

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:20 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Peterson, Weik, and Kriesel. Commissioners Hegberg and Pulkrabek absent. Board Chair Peterson presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Sue Hedlund, Deputy Director of Public Health and Environment; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Ted Schoenecker, Transportation Manager; Keith Potter, Facilities Manager; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Harley Will, Director of Accounting and Finance; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; and David Brierley, Public Information Coordinator.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mike Clemens, 8490 180 Street North, Forest Lake – Mr. Clemens stated he has been a resident of Washington County for 45 years and was employed with Washington County for 25 years. He feels it would be a shame if Washington County were not represented at the Minnesota State Fair. He hopes that the current County Board will continue the vision of past Boards to continue the County Fair and the 4-H program.

March 10, 2009

Julie Finch, 2190 Sargent Avenue, St. Paul – Ms. Finch stated she is a parent of a Washington County 4-H member and is a volunteer for the Washington County 4-H program. She, like many families, lives outside of Washington County and participates in the Washington County 4-H program. She stated that agricultural production and processing is the second largest industry in Minnesota, but there are fewer and fewer places young people can learn about agriculture if the children live in cities and are not exposed to farming or ranching. 4-H gives urban youth a chance to be exposed to the state's second largest industry. There are thousands of volunteer hours and financial contributions made by individuals to individual clubs. 4-H does not solely rely on public funds. She stated that Washington County 4-H draws in families from the larger metro to support the local business community by purchasing gas, groceries and household goods from local businesses. These dollars will be spent in Dakota and Anoka Counties if Washington County does not support 4-H. She feels that 4-H is a good investment and not just a good organization.

Denny Seefeldt, 13809 Scandia Trail North, Scandia – Mr. Seefeldt stated he is currently the Mayor of Scandia. He was the County Ag Agent for Washington County from 1968 to 1977 and one of the things that was started with other County Extension agents was the Master Gardener program. That program has now spread across the State of Minnesota and the country, but was cut in Washington County where it started. 4-H is celebrating its 100th Anniversary. Leadership skills were developed in 4-H and many members became county board members, school board members, town board members, and they formed co-ops. His focus and the organization's focus was to help young people grow up to be mature, responsible adults and community leaders. 16,000 volunteers hours were spent on collecting for food shelves, picking up trash on county roads and parks, sewing quilts for children's hospital, care packages for GI's, collecting money for Salvation Army, visiting nursing homes and veterans homes, and after school programs for underserved youth. He asked the County Board to not cut this program, but look at creative ways to reduce funding in other areas.

Chelsea Dietsche, 9673 Harrow Court South, Cottage Grove – Ms. Dietsche is a 4-H alumni and is currently a sophomore at Bethany Lutheran College. During her senior year of high school she was the Federation Vice President and the county Ambassador Leader. She has heard from 10 former Washington County 4-Hers and all shared how 4-H has permanently led their life paths in a positive direction; from full scholarship offers to high paying jobs all before they were 30. On behalf of the alumni, she thanked the County Commissioners for making their scholarships, internships, study abroad, and job opportunities possible by funding 4-H when they were younger.

Commissioner Kriesel commented that he is encouraged by Mayor Seefeldt's support of 4-H. The Board also received a resolution from the City of Hugo, and Baytown has called him in support of 4-H. He believes there is an opportunity for these communities that value 4-H to participate in the funding. He eagerly awaits the opportunity to meet with those officials to work out a business model that these communities can step up and help support 4-H.

March 10, 2009

CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Weik moved, seconded by Commissioner Kriesel to adopt the following Consent Calendar:

1. Approval to appoint Adam Stone, Woodbury, to the Planning Advisory Commission to a first term expiring December 31, 2011.
2. Approval of revisions to Policy #2803, Fund Descriptions.
3. Approval of revisions to Policy #2901 Revenue and Expenditures Object Codes and Definitions.
4. Approval of Network Consulting amendment with Midwave Corporation.
5. Approval of agreement for Assessment Services between the City of Oakdale and Washington County.
6. Approval to renewal on sale and Sunday 3.2 malt liquor license for the Disabled Veteran's Rest Camp Association, Inc. for the period of April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010.
7. Approval of contract with SRF Consulting Group for final design services for the Broadway Avenue improvement project in Forest Lake.
8. Approval of Change Order #7 to contract with Century Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$16,291.
9. Approval of Change Order #7 to contract with Gresser Companies, Inc. in the amount of \$25,665.79.
10. Approval of change Order #10 to contract with People's Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$45,239.
11. Approval of Change Order #11 to contract with People's Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$62,183.
12. Approval of Change Order #6 to contract with Commercial Drywall, Inc. in the amount of \$12,232.79.
13. Approval of Change Order #11 to contract with Sowles Company in the amount of \$58,549.99.
14. Approval of Change Order #6 to contract with General Sheet Metal Company, Inc. in the amount of \$60,145 and Change Order #7 in the amount of \$25,933.

March 10, 2009

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously; Commissioners Hegberg and Pulkrabek absent.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Traci Thompson, Community Services Supervisor, advised the Board that the King of Kings Lutheran Church in Woodbury has donated \$940 in gas cards to Washington County. These cards will be given to Adult Mental Health clients with limited incomes to use in attending medical appointments, moving expenses, transportation for grocery shopping, transportation to attend groups, transportation to attend vocational and/or educational opportunities.

Commissioner Weik moved to accept \$940 in gas cards donated by the King of Kings Lutheran Church in Woodbury to be used by Community Services Adult Mental Health Unit clients. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioners Hegberg and Pulkrabek absent.

PUBLIC WORKS

Don Theisen, Public Works Director, reviewed Change Order #12 to contract with People's Electric, Inc. He indicated that these changes were anticipated during the design phase and needed to be made during construction in order to attain true visual and spatial representation of how the security system would fit with the layout and flow of the building. This allowed staff to determine the best locations for cameras based on actual sight angles. It also allows a design that could be integrated with the current camera system and provide digital recording and storage of activities.

Commissioner Kriesel moved to approve Change Order #12 to contract with People's Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$241,418. Commissioner Weik seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioners Hegberg and Pulkrabek absent.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Jim Schug, County Administrator, presented a brief legislative update on the following items: new Federal funds may be available that may have an impact on the State budget and that is being studied at this time; the Governor will have his revised supplemental budget out the week of March 22 and the respective houses of the legislature have indicated they will have budget bills to the divisions by April 22; two bills of interest to Washington County will be heard on Wednesday, one is the bill proposing funding for the I-94 Corridor study which will be held in the Senate Transportation Committee, and the other is the data practices request that would allow Washington County to share private data with the attorneys who represent the county on claims through the Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust and that will be heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee, both of those bills are sponsored by Senator Saltzman; discussion on short-term offenders has gone behind closed doors and out of public discussion at this point; in Health and Human Services some

March 10, 2009

additional Federal funding might be coming for case load increases, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, and also funding for immunization/wellness programs.

Mr. Schug noted that the Pioneer Press had a nice article on Washington County's Wellness Program.

Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services, updated the Board on the recommended amendments to last year's Green Acres legislation. Mr. Corbid stated there has been discussion in both the House and Senate about Green Acres and also the possibility of adding a new program he believes is called the Conservation Property Tax Law Program. He feels a good position for the county to take is if the legislators are going to pass something now, just pass the first section where they make amendments to the 2008 Green Acres law because that gives the administrators direction. He suggested they wait to add the new program until later so more discussion can be had to see how it will be administered.

Mr. Schug stated he will communicate the county's position on the Green Acres amendments and that further discussion take place on adding any new programs to that bill to the Minnesota Inter-County Association and the county's legislative representative.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Kriesel reported on the Yellow Ribbon meeting that was held at the Oak-Land Jr. High School last evening. Many city and county officials, judicial and law enforcement, clergy, educators, and State legislators are involved in this initiative. He thanked Commissioner Weik for attending and volunteering to participate in this group.

Commissioner Kriesel attended the Metropolitan Energy Policy Coalition where they had a presentation on a new business venture where they will turn garbage into diesel fuel. For that process it would require 720,000 tons of garbage.

Commissioner Weik reported she attended the breakout session of the Yellow Ribbon Initiative. The City of Farmington is a Yellow Ribbon City, which would be a successful model for Washington County to use their strategies or plans based on their program.

Commissioner Weik attended a book club event at the Woodbury Library to discuss "Choosing Civility – The Twenty-Five Rules of Conduct". Prior to that she attended the Lions Club meeting and announced that the county is looking for more volunteers for the medical reserve corps. There is a certification process that is needed to serve in the group.

Commissioner Weik announced that she wrote a letter to the editor for the Pioneer Press regarding the "One County-One Book Club" and it was published yesterday in the editorial page. She thanked the Pioneer Press for its support.

March 10, 2009

Commissioner Weik reported that she and Commissioner Pulkrabek met with members of the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce last Friday, and briefly with City of Woodbury Mayor Hargis and Councilwoman Giuliani Stephens. They discussed the I-94 Corridor and future changes to the watershed. She briefly attended the watershed district meeting in Woodbury last evening to get an overview of some of the changes that may be coming. Today, she and Commissioner Peterson will tape County Insight.

Commissioner Peterson reported on a Joint Powers Agreement meeting at Dakota County for the high-speed rail. She felt it was well attended with mayors as well as counties along the corridor. There are five counties who have indicated interest as a financial partner.

Commissioner Peterson announced that next Monday, March 16, there will be a Counties Transit Improvement Board workshop to discuss long-term investment. She believes that more than three Commissioners could be attending that meeting. It will be held at the Metro Counties Government Building in St. Paul at 1:00 p.m.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Kriesel moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Weik and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioners Hegberg and Pulkrabek absent. The Board meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The Board met in workshop session with the Office of Administration to review and comment on the Draft Housing, Natural Resources and Environment, and Land Use Chapters of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Peterson, Weik, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Jane Harper, Amanda Hollis, Don Theisen, Dennis O'Donnell, Ann Pung-Terwedo, Lowell Johnson, Sue Hedlund, Josh Beck, Amanda Strommer, and Judy Hunter.

Myra Peterson, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator