

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
DECEMBER 15, 2009

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 Hegberg, Pulkrabek, Peterson, Weik, and Kriesel. Absent none. Board Chair Peterson 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; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; John Elholm, Parks Division Manager; Harley Will, Accounting and Finance Director; Melinda Kirk, Budget/Financial Analyst; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Sandy Hahn, Deputy Community Corrections Director; Julie Sorrem, Risk Manager; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; and Yvonne Klinnert, 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 Pulkrabek moved, seconded by Commissioner Weik to adopt the following Consent Calendar:

1. Approval of the November 24 and December 1, 2009 Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval to reappoint John Waller, Hugo, to the Board of Managers for the Rice Creek Watershed District to a second term expiring January 17, 2013.
3. Approval of the 2009-2011 contract with Betty's Home, a corporate foster care providing home and community based services for persons on Medical Assistance waivers.
4. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2009-146** as follows:

Approval of the Washington County Narcotics Task Force
 Joint Powers Agreement

WHEREAS, the Washington County Narcotics Task Force Joint Powers Agreement is made by and between two or more governmental units as outlined in Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.59; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Statutes, Section 626.76 provides that any appointive or elective agency or office of peace officers as defined in subdivision 3 may establish rules or regulations and enter into agreements with other agencies and offices for: (1) assisting other peace officers in the line of their duty and within the course of their employment; and (2) exchanging the agency’s peace officers with peace officers of another agency or office on a temporary basis. Additionally, the agency or office may establish rules and regulations for assisting probation, parole, and supervised release agents who are supervising probationers, parolees, or supervised releases in the geographic area within the agency’s or office’s jurisdiction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Narcotics Task Force Joint Powers Agreement be approved, and that the County Board Chair, County Administrator, and Sheriff are authorized to execute the Washington County Narcotics Task Force Joint Powers Agreement together with all related documents.

5. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2009-147** as follows:

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Solar Energy Grant Application

WHEREAS, Washington County desires to explore solar energy opportunities as a cost effective way to supply electricity to park facilities; and

WHEREAS, an appropriate method to obtain funding for solar energy projects in parks is by grant application; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has grant opportunities for solar energy projects in state and regional parks; and

WHEREAS, if grant application is successful, Washington County Parks will partner with Century College through a cooperative agreement to install the solar energy system project in accordance with all state building standards; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners supports making grant application to the DNR for the funding of a solar energy project to reduce the cost of heating water at the Lake Elmo Park Reserve campground shower and restroom building.

6. Bids were received for the 2009-2010 snow season as follows:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Zone 1</u>	<u>Zone 2</u>	<u>Zone 3</u>
Asphalt Restoration		\$28,337.00	\$48,204.00
The Brickman Group, LTD	\$47,375.00	\$36,839.00	\$36,500.00
Frattalone Companies	\$40,100.00		
Peterson Companies	\$38,650.00	\$25,670.00	

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Adoption of **Resolution No. 2009-148** as follows:

Bid Award for Snow Removal

WHEREAS, in order to provide for the removal of snow from various county locations within designated zones during the 2009-2010 snow season, the county solicited bids for this project; and

WHEREAS, bids were opened on December 1, 2009; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the bid of Peterson Companies for Zones 1 and 2, and the bid of The Brickman Group, LTD for Zone 3, be accepted and the county enter into a contract with Peterson Companies for Zones 1 and 2, and a contract with The Brickman Group, LTD for Zone 3, under the terms and conditions set forth in the bid specification documents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the contract between the county and Peterson Companies, and the contract between the county and The Brickman Group, LTD, be executed through the signatures of the Chairman of the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the Washington County Administrator without further action of the County Board conditioned upon compliance with all bid specification requirements and approval as to form by the Washington County Attorney's office.

7. Approval to transfer \$451,000 from Fund 117 to 2009 budget for Business Unit 166051 for the balance of the approved 911 contract with Independent Emergency Services, Contract #4998.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted 5-0 with a roll call vote as follows: Yes, Commissioners Hegberg, Pulkrabek, Peterson, Weik, and Kriesel; No, none.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Resolution Certifying Property Tax Levies for Washington County Payable 2010

Commissioner Weik stated that with the economic crisis the county is at a turning point in public policy. She would prefer to leave as many discretionary tax dollars in the taxpayer's pocket as possible. She would like to support the 1% Land and Water Legacy portion of the budget, but she does not support a levy increase.

Commissioner Kriesel stated he is in support of this levy. Several months ago the County Board provided staff with direction that it would be somewhat comfortable with an increase of zero to 1%. The County Administrator met with staff and started at a zero percent basis. If the county is going to protect its core and essential services, and the services that the citizens expect the county to deliver, it will require the .94% levy increase. Over the last year the County Board has cut its budget by \$3.5 million. It is

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uncertain what will be coming down from the state. He appreciates Commissioner Weik's opinion as well as the other Commissioners who have worked hard and have engaged staff on their concerns.

Commissioner Pulkrabek stated he agrees with Commissioner Weik's comments. He feels that in these difficult economic times, now is not the time to raise people's property taxes. Now is the time to do exactly the opposite and give people back some of their hard-earned money so they can spend it as they see fit rather than how the government sees fit. He does not support the tax levy increase. He does support the Land and Water Legacy program and he has since its inception. His vote against the levy in the budget is not a reflection as a vote against Land and Water Legacy. His preferred methodology would have been to fully fund the Land and Water Legacy program with cuts from within the budget to get it to zero or below.

Commissioner Kriesel moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2009-149** as follows:

Resolution Certifying Property Tax levies for
Washington County Payable 2010

The Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to
the Washington County Auditor-Treasurer the following tax levy for
payable 2010:

Washington County Levy	\$86,783,800
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Commissioner Hegberg seconded the motion and it was adopted 3-2 with a roll call vote as follows: Yes, Commissioners Hegberg, Peterson, and Kriesel; No, Commissioners Pulkrabek and Weik.

Commissioner Peterson stated she did not vote for the levy in September but she will support this. She believes with the additional cuts that will be made at the state level, the county will need every dime it has and it is not going to be a pleasant couple of years. The county does have core and essential services that do have to be provided by mandates from the state and the federal government and the county will be hard pressed to find those dollars to carry on those services.

Resolution Certifying Property Tax Levies for Washington County Payable 2010 – Regional Rail

Commissioner Pulkrabek stated he will support the Regional Rail levy. Although, he believes the increase is higher than what he would like to see.

Commissioner Kriesel stated he will support the Regional Rail budget. He somewhat understands Commissioner Pulkrabek's concerns. This is a budgeted amount, but does not necessarily mean that all that money has to be spent. He is sure the County Board will look for opportunities to see if there is anything they can change in that regard.

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Commissioner Peterson stated she is supporting this item because she feels it is an investment in economic development. It prepares the county for when it comes out of this recession. The county needs to match the Counties Transit Improvement Board dollars and also match other federal and state dollars.

Commissioner Hegberg moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2009-150** as follows:

Resolution Certifying Property Tax Levies for
Washington County Payable 2010 – Regional Rail

The Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to
the Washington County Auditor-Treasurer the following tax levy for
payable 2010:

Regional Rail	\$566,400
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Commissioner Pulkrabek seconded the motion and it was adopted 5-0 with a roll call vote as follows:
Yes, Commissioners Hegberg, Pulkrabek, Peterson, Weik, and Kriesel; No, none.

Resolution Certifying Property Tax Levies for Washington County Payable 2010 – HRA

Commissioner Pulkrabek stated he will support the Housing and Redevelopment Authority's levy. He has spoken out in the past that he does not believe the government should be involved in housing issues and does not feel it is a core function of county government. As Commissioner Kriesel has mentioned, cutting the HRA out in one fell swoop is not fiscally prudent, but he still is pushing to see some type of long-term phase out of HRA in probably three to ten years.

Commissioner Hegberg feels that there needs to be increased housing for seniors, especially in Washington County.

Commissioner Kriesel agreed with Commissioner Hegberg. That is the core function the county expects the HRA to perform and rental opportunities for those who cannot afford homes. He feels one reason that this county is in this crisis is because someone came up with the idea that everybody is entitled to a home. He is not sure financially if that is achievable. He is more interested in keeping people in their homes. There are a lot of individuals just hanging on by a thread. He wished there were more programs devoted to helping those people such as trying to get their mortgage refinanced at a lower interest rate.

Commissioner Weik stated she appreciated staff's time and members of the county Housing and Redevelopment Authority coming in for the recent workshop. She does plan to ratify today's levy amount; however, she totally agrees with Commissioner Kriesel that after the workshop her take away was that housing is not an entitlement. She is concerned about keeping the county's residents in their homes. There are residents with tax forfeiture and foreclosures. She noted that at the public meeting

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last week a person asked does the county hear the taxpayers. Commissioner Weik stated she hears them loud and clear. The Board empathizes and it is working on funding core and essential services. There were several comments about being pushed out of their homes. People are living on their savings; they are out of work or are living from paycheck to paycheck. She encouraged the HRA Board to look at a limited mission because Commissioner Kriesel said it best at the workshop that currently, in his opinion, there is mission creep with the county HRA. She encouraged them to look at emergency rental housing and the county's seniors.

Commissioner Peterson stated she will be voting for the levy because one of the other missions of the HRA is to find housing for those who are mentally and physically challenged. With the increasing cases of Autism the county will need more and more housing opportunities for those who do need long term help.

Commissioner Hegberg moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2009-151** as follows:

Resolution Certifying Property Tax Levy for
Washington County Payable 2010 - HRA

The Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby certify to the Washington County Auditor-Treasurer the following tax levy for payable 2010:

Washington County Housing and Redevelopment Authority	\$3,332,236
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Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted 5-0 with a roll call vote as follows: Yes, Commissioners Hegberg, Pulkrabek, Peterson, Weik, and Kriesel; No, none.

Resolution Adopting the Washington County Budget for Payable 2010

Commissioner Hegberg complimented staff for preparing the budget. They did an excellent job of holding openings so there wouldn't be the quick necessary layoffs. He knows that next year will be a difficult year so he asked staff to continue that diligence and to delay hiring to save cash. The county has a AAA bond rating and it wants to maintain that. There will be another difficult year in 2011.

Commissioner Pulkrabek stated that his vote against the budget is not a reflection on the staff. He believes they do a fantastic job; they do every year in laying out the budget. It takes months to do. It is presented in a clear and easily understood fashion. He just feels that the county is spending too much money and it's not a reflection on staff, it ultimately falls on the Commissioners.

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Commissioner Kriesel stated that Washington County has the second lowest tax rate in the metro area; the second lowest per capita spending in the metro area; and the third lowest per capita levy in the metro area. This Board has historically operated at a conservative level and is focused on core and essential services.

Commissioner Weik stated she does not support a levy increase, but her vote against the budget does not reflect no support for Land and Water Legacy. She supports bonding for Land and Water Legacy. She did not get her corresponding cuts to zero out that increase; however, she is glad the interest rate is lower than what was anticipated in September and bonding for Land and Water Legacy should be less than what they had budgeted which is good. The Governor's unallotments within the past twelve months and the cuts last May have totaled around \$3 million. The unallotment combined with the economic crisis is forcing the county to decide what is most important in terms of services that the county delivers. The county is the safety net and it is the administrative arm of the state. If taxpayers have questions or concerns about a lot of the mandated services we provide in terms of public health and safety they do need to contact their legislators and the governor. The legislature will be in session on February 4. She appreciates all of the citizens of her district. People have contacted her by e-mail and by phone and everyone who attended the public meeting last week and any of the citizens who watch on cable television. She pledges to be actively engaged in forging new paths to recovery for the citizens in this county.

Commissioner Peterson stated she applauds not only the directors but the line staff who she feels are doing yeomen's jobs. The Board keeps asking them to take on greater and greater case loads. The Board has asked staff to reduce their salaries. She believes if the Board follows its processes and goes forward they can manage the budget crisis and they can provide the services necessary. The Board has been at the legislature for as long as she has been a Commissioner requesting relief from unfunded mandates. She believes this Board will be there again seeking relief from unfunded mandates. She feels that is one of the greatest issues the Board has before it.

Commissioner Hegberg moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2009-152** as follows:

Resolution Adopting the
Washington County Budget for Payable 2010

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<u>OPERATING FUNDS</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE OTHER THAN LEVY</u>	<u>FUND BALANCE Contrib/(Use)</u>	<u>GROSS LEVY</u>	<u>STATE AID</u>	<u>CERTIFIED LEVY</u>
General Government	\$93,001,800	\$42,255,100	\$429,100	\$51,175,800	\$3,458,473	\$47,717,327
Community Services	\$35,068,000	\$18,601,300	\$0	\$16,466,700	\$1,112,824	\$15,353,876
Public Works - Road & Bridge	\$14,080,900	\$9,360,600	\$0	\$4,720,300	\$318,999	\$4,401,301
Public Works - Parks	\$4,996,900	\$4,094,100	(\$157,200)	\$745,600	\$50,388	\$695,212
Regional Rail Authority	\$971,600	\$107,500	(\$297,700)	\$566,400	\$0	\$566,400
Library	\$6,577,700	\$484,000	\$0	\$6,093,700	\$411,814	\$5,681,886
Debt Service - Countywide	\$8,561,700	\$0	\$707,700	\$9,269,400	\$0	\$9,269,400
Debt Service - Library District	\$688,600	\$0	\$0	\$688,600	\$0	\$688,600
Subtotal:	\$163,947,200	\$74,902,600	\$681,900	\$89,726,500	\$5,352,497	\$84,374,003
<u>CAPITAL FUNDS</u>						
Capital Projects	\$18,249,300	\$15,719,000	(\$250,000)	\$2,280,300	\$154,103	\$2,126,197
Capital Repair	\$430,000	\$818,100	\$388,100	\$0	\$0	\$0
Historic Courthouse	\$0	\$23,500	\$23,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal:	\$18,679,300	\$16,560,600	\$161,600	\$2,280,300	\$154,103	\$2,126,197
<u>REFERENDUM</u>						
Land & Water Legacy Program	\$850,000	\$0	\$0	\$850,000	\$0	\$850,000
Total 2010 Budget	<u>\$183,476,500</u>	<u>\$91,463,200</u>	<u>\$843,500</u>	<u>\$92,856,800</u>	<u>\$5,506,600</u>	<u>\$87,350,200</u>
<u>OTHER LEVY PAYMENT</u>						
Less Regional Rail Auth. (RRA) – a separate taxing authority				(\$566,400)	\$0	(\$566,400)
Total Washington County 2010 Levy (Operating minus RRA):				<u>\$92,290,400</u>	<u>\$5,506,600</u>	<u>\$86,783,800</u>

Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted 3-2 with a roll call vote as follows: Yes, Commissioners Hegberg, Peterson, and Kriesel; No, Commissioners Pulkrabek and Weik.

PUBLIC HEARING – OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Receive Comments and Adopt the Capital Improvement Plan 2010-2014

The Board Chair presented a brief overview of today’s public hearing to consider the adoption of the proposed 2010-2014 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan.

Melinda Kirk, Budget/Financial Analyst, reviewed comment letters received along with responses for the following: City of Cottage Grove; City of Oak Park Heights; and the City of Woodbury.

The Board Chair asked for comments from the audience; none were heard. The Board secretary indicated that she had received all documentary evidence.

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Commissioner Weik moved to close the public hearing on the proposed 2010-2014 Capital Improvement Plan. Commissioner Pulkrabek seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Hegberg moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2009-153** as follows:

Adoption of the 2010-2014
Washington County Capital Improvement Plan

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners has formulated the 2010-2014 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan which covers a five-year period from the date of its adoption and sets forth the estimated schedule, timing, and details of the specific capital improvements by year, the estimated cost; the need for the particular improvement; and the sources of revenue to pay for the improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners released the draft version of the proposed 2010-2014 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan to the communities of Washington County on October 27th, 2009 for the purpose of receiving written comments; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners, after public notice, conducted a public hearing on December 15, 2009 for the purpose of receiving public comments on the proposed 2010-2014 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan; and

WHEREAS, in passing upon the aforesaid Plan, the County Board of Commissioners has considered the following for each project to be funded with Capital Improvement Bonds:

- 1) the condition of the County's existing infrastructure, including the projected need for repair or replacement;
- 2) the likely demand for the improvement;
- 3) the estimated cost of the improvement;
- 4) the available public resources;
- 5) the level of overlapping debt in the County;
- 6) the relative benefits and costs of alternative uses of the funds;
- 7) operating costs of the proposed improvements; and
- 8) alternatives for providing services more efficiently through shared facilities with other counties or local government units; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners adopts the proposed 2010-2014 Washington County Capital Improvement Plan which is attached hereto.

Commissioner Pulkrabek seconded the motion and it was adopted 5-0 with a roll call vote as follows:

Yes, Commissioners Hegberg, Pulkrabek, Peterson, Weik, and Kriesel; No, none.

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PUBLIC HEARING – ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE**Consider Tax Exempt Financing by the City of White Bear Lake to Refinance 22 Facilities for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Owned by Northeast Residence**

The Board Chair presented a brief overview of today's public hearing to consider tax exempt financing by the City of White Bear Lake to refinance 22 facilities for persons with developmental disabilities owned by Northeast Residence

Harley Will, Director of Accounting and Finance, provided an overview of a request to provide tax exempt refinancing of 22 supervised living facilities for persons with developmental disabilities owned by Northeast Residence. These facilities are located in various communities in Ramsey and Washington County. The refinancing constitutes a project under Minnesota's conduit revenue bond financing statute. The City of White Bear Lake has agreed to be the issuer of a revenue note that will be purchased by Bremer Bank for the refinancing. Under Minnesota statutes the City of White Bear Lake can issue the revenue note but only if Ramsey and Washington County Boards consent by resolution to refinancing of the facilities in their respective jurisdictions. The bonds that will be issued are also considered to be private activity bonds pursuant to federal tax laws. One of the requirements of the federal tax law is that the governmental units having jurisdiction over the area in which any one of the recipient facilities is located must approve such bond issues. The elected representatives of the affected governmental unit must give their approval after a public hearing following a reasonable public notice. Washington County will have no financial stake in the projects or in the financing. The objective of the hearing is to obtain Board approval of the issuance of the bond's revenue notes, but it also provides opportunity to review the project for which the bonds will be issued.

The Board Chair asked for comments from the audience; none were heard. The Board secretary indicated that she had received all documentary evidence.

Commissioner Hegberg moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2009-154** as follows:

Resolution Giving Host Approval to the Issuance of a
Revenue Note to Refinance Certain Properties of Northeast Residence, Inc.
and Located in Part in Washington County, Under Minnesota Statutes,
Sections 469.152 Through 469.165

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of Washington County, Minnesota (the "County") as follows:

1. Description of the Project.
 - a. Northeast Residence, Inc., a Minnesota nonprofit corporation and an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Corporation"), has proposed the issuance of a revenue note under Minnesota

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Statutes, Sections 469.152 to 469.165, as amended (the “Act”), in an amount of approximately \$4,200,000 (the “Note”), to refinance various supervised living facilities for developmentally disabled persons and located in various communities in Ramsey County and Washington County.

- b. The Corporation has proposed that the City of White Bear Lake (the “Issuer”) issue the Note.
2. Costs of the County. The Corporation has agreed to pay any and all costs incurred by the county in connection with this Resolution and the issuance of the Note, whether or not such issuance is carried to completion.
 3. Public Hearing.
 - a. As required by Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), a Notice of Public Hearing was published in the county’s official newspaper at least 14 days prior to the date to the date of the public hearing, calling a public hearing on the proposed issuance of the Note and the proposal to refinance the various facilities of the Corporation mentioned in the notice.
 - b. On the date hereof, the Board held a public hearing on the issuance of the Note and the proposal to refinance the Corporation’s facilities, at which all those appearing who desired to speak were heard and any written comments were accepted.
 4. Approval. The proposal to refinance the Corporation’s facilities as described above, and the issuance of the Note by the Issuer, are hereby given approval by the county as required by the Code and by Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.656.
 5. Limited Obligation. The Note, when and if issued, shall not constitute a charge, lien or encumbrance, legal or equitable, upon any property of the county or the Issuer. The Note, when and if issued, shall recite in substance that the Note and the interest thereon, are payable solely from revenues received from the Corporation and property of the Corporation pledged for payment thereof, and shall not constitute a debt of the Issuer, the county, the State of Minnesota or any political subdivision thereof.

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Washington County, Minnesota, this 15th day of December, 2009.

Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion and it was adopted 5-0 with a roll call as follows: Yes, Commissioners Hegberg, Pulkrabek, Peterson, Weik, and Kriesel; No, none.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Kriesel commended Stillwater Police Officer Brad Allen who was involved in the shooting that occurred in Stillwater last Friday.

Commissioner Hegberg reported on the Public Employee’s Retirement Association meeting he attended. He noted that they are increasing the contributions ¼% for the employee and ¼% for the employer. They also voted to limit the COLA increase to 1% per year until they reach a 90% funded rate. He suggested that a law should be discussed that would remove guns from the home of people with mental issues.

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Commissioner Pulkrabek mentioned a newspaper article from the Star Tribune entitled “Smoking Rates Rise Slightly”. It reports that smoking amongst adults in the United States increased from 2007 to 2008 and went from 19.8% to 20.6% of adults. The rates have remained the same or gone up slightly since 2004 despite rising cigarette taxes, anti-smoking ad campaigns, and smoking bans in offices and restaurants. The article goes on to say that the reason is because efforts haven’t been wide spread enough. He asked if anyone in the audience doesn’t know it is harmful to smoke.

Commissioner Peterson reported that today is Judy Steltzner’s last day at work. She has been an individual that everyone has come to rely on. The Board wishes her well in her retirement, but it is sad to see her go.

Commissioner Peterson also announced that she will be seeking re-election in 2010. There had been rumors out there that she wouldn’t run. If the economy were better she stated she would think about retiring, but she feels it will take an experienced County Commissioner to guide the Board through the next four years which she feels will be a difficult time.

Commissioner Weik indicated that she had input from residents over the weekend taking her to task saying that Washington County’s participation on the Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board is duplicating the efforts of the Met Council. She tried to articulate that these are not overlapping functions. Counties, under state statute and for public health reasons, are required to provide these services and the metro counties joined together years ago to do this efficiently and cost effectively. She suggested that she and Commissioner Kriesel might want to do an Opinion Editorial for the newspapers so citizens are clear that the counties are not duplicating the efforts of the Met Council

Commissioner Peterson congratulated Commissioner Hegberg on his 20 years of service to the County Board and presented him with a Certificate of Recognition.

Commissioner Weik left the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION

The Board met in Executive Session at 10:22 a.m. with the Department of Public Works to discuss the possible purchase of 2222 Maxwell Avenue (known as the Knox Site) in the City of Newport for a potential transit site. Present for the Executive Session were Commissioners Hegberg, Pulkrabek,

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Peterson, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Wayne Sandberg, Ted Schoenecker, Kevin Corbid, Doug Johnson, and Patricia Raddatz.

The Board reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Kriesel moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Hegberg and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Weik absent. The Board meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Regional Railroad Authority met in workshop session with the Department of Public Works for an update on the Counties Transit Improvement Board meeting scheduled for December 16. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Hegberg, Pulkrabek, Peterson, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Wayne Sandberg, Ted Schoenecker, Harley Will, Kevin Corbid, Sheriff Bill Hutton, Doug Johnson, Lowell Johnson, Judy Hunter, Tom Adkins, and John Kaul, County Lobbyist.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH ADMINISTRATION

The Board met in workshop session with the Office of Administration to discuss the proposed 2010 Washington County Legislative Positions. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Hegberg, Pulkrabek, Peterson, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Wayne Sandberg, Ted Schoenecker, Harley Will, Kevin Corbid, Sheriff Bill Hutton, Doug Johnson, Lowell Johnson, Judy Hunter, Tom Adkins, and John Kaul, County Lobbyist.

Myra Peterson, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator

