

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
MARCH 2, 2010

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 Weik, Peterson, Pulkrabek, Kriesel, and Hegberg. Also present were Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Kay McAloney, Human Resources Director; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Judy Hunter, Senior Program Manager; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Ted Schoenecker, Transportation Manager; and Yvonne Klinnert, Public Information Coordinator II.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Karen Johnston, 8200 Hill Trail North, Lake Elmo, addressed the County Board on her application for appointment to the County Library Board. As of this date she has not been contacted to schedule an interview. She talked to Commissioner Pulkrabek last week and was assured that she would be contacted for an interview. When she looked at today's agenda she was surprised to learn that someone else was being proposed for that position. Ms. Johnston stated as a former city councilmember, planning commissioner and one who assisted in the formation of the Friends of the Lake Elmo Library, she believes she is qualified for the position and that an interview was warranted. She hopes that her experience was just an anomaly and that all volunteers are not treated with the kind of disrespect she feels she has received.

Commissioner Pulkrabek stated district appointments are the prerogative of the individual commissioners. There are at large positions if Ms. Johnston would like to apply for that position. After interviewing Mr. Post, he thought he was an outstanding candidate that he asked the Board to appoint him. Commissioner Pulkrabek said he knows Mr. Post. There were other people that had applied as a District 2 appointment that did not get interviews as well.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Approval of the February 16, 2010 Board Meeting minutes.

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2. Approval to appoint Anthony Post, Woodbury, as a District 2 representative to the Library Board to fill an unexpired term to December 31, 2011; and appointment of Marie Skinner, Cottage Grove, as an At Large representative to the Library Board to a first term expiring December 31, 2012.
3. Approval of changes to the following Fiscal Policies: #2305, Interest Income; #2401 Debt Policy; #2402 Housing and Redevelopment Authority Debt; #2403 Water Management Organization Capital Projects Financing; #2503 Purchasing Cards; #2504 Outstanding Checks; and #2505 Social Security and Tax Identification Numbers.
4. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2010-025** as follows:

Renewal of Library Contract #2585 with SirsiDynix Corporation

WHEREAS, Washington County Library contracts with the SirsiDynix Corporation for maintenance of its integrated library system, known as HORIZON.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners approves the extension of the Library's maintenance contract with SirsiDynix through December 31, 2010.

5. Approval to renew off sale liquor license for SSG Corporation for the period of April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011.
6. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2010-026** as follows:

Auditing Services for the County Environmental Charge

WHEREAS, Washington County desires to continue to protect and ensure the health, safety, welfare and environment of the county's residents and businesses through sound management of solid waste generated in the county; and

WHEREAS, in May of 2002 the Washington County Board of Commissioners directed staff to pursue public/private partnerships and changes in solid waste financing that could result in progress toward environmental goals, as an alternative to public collection; and

WHEREAS, on November 19, 2002 the Washington County Board of Commissioners amended the solid waste Ordinance to implement a County Environmental Charge and to successfully implement the CEC, the county has conducted and plans to continue to conduct audits to assure compliance with the Solid Waste Management Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 Washington and Ramsey counties jointly, through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, selected Olsen Thielen and Co., Ltd. to provide financial audit services for the County Environmental Charge; and

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WHEREAS, Washington County seeks to continue to work jointly with Ramsey County to procure private audit services in order to provide efficient, cost effective audits; and

WHEREAS, on December 11, 2007 (Res. No. 2007-151), the Washington County Board of Commissioners authorized the approval and execution of an agreement with Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd., for financial audit services, with a contract term of January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd., has performed over 200 audits of over 100 waste haulers and transfer stations, to date under past and current agreements with the county further strengthening its unique position as an ideal vendor to provide the county with financial audit services for the County Environmental Charge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes approval and execution of an amendment to the agreement for financial audit services with Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd., in a form to be approved by the County Attorney, for the period of January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, and maximum expenditure for 2010 not to exceed \$50,000.

7. Approval of and authorization for the County Board Chair and the County Administrator to enter into an agreement with Shawn Svendsen Cates to use county property to provide onsite county employee wellness activities.
8. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2010-027** as follows:

State Cost-Share Assistance Contract with Washington
Conservation District Prairie Restoration

WHEREAS, Washington County Parks requested cost-share assistance from the Washington Conservation District to help defray the cost of performing prairie restoration activities within the Washington County Park System; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Conservation District has made available a State Cost-Share Assistance Contract to Washington County for the described project and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners authorize the Chair of the Washington County Board of Commissioners to sign on behalf of the county the State Cost-Share Assistance Contract between Washington County and the Washington Conservation District conditioned upon approval as to form by the Washington County Attorney's office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the grant funds for the described development project be directed to Washington County without further action by the County Board.

9. Approval of contract with Trillium Development, Inc. to install a radio cabinet, radio equipment and replace/remove antennas on the King Stack in Oak Park Heights.

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10. Approval to accept a grant in the amount of \$22,068.24 to receive funding through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, State Homeland Security Program, to acquire multi-band radios to improve interoperability with emergency services personnel in three Wisconsin counties.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted 5-0 with a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Weik, Peterson, Kriesel, Hegberg, and Pulkrabek; Nays, none.

PUBLIC WORKS

Introduction of New Facilities Manager

Don Theisen, Public Works Director, introduced the new Facilities Manager, Greg Wood. Mr. Wood comes to the county with a Bachelor's Degree from St. Cloud State and a Master's Degree from the University of Northern Colorado. He has been the facilities director for the Forest Lake School District and the Stillwater Area School District. Prior to this job he was working with Kraus-Anderson in their K-12 area helping school districts set up their facility management operations.

Mr. Wood thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve the county. He looks forward to providing his expertise and helping the county achieve its goals.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Legislative Update

Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator, presented a brief legislative update including: Today the newest economic forecast for the State of Minnesota will be announced. Initial indications are that there will either be no change or a slight positive change that might reduce the state deficit. The legislature did pull the bonding bill back because of a threatened Governor veto. The negotiations over the weekend were not successful in that area. According to John Kaul, the Governor has issued a veto of the bonding bill. They are about \$300,000,000 apart in terms of the size of the bond issue as well as having different project funding priorities. The legislature did not vote to override the Governor's veto of the General Assistance Medical Care, so negotiations are continuing for medical coverage for those indigent individuals in the community.

Commissioner Peterson noted that this Thursday is the Transportation Alliance Day at the Legislature. She encouraged everyone to attend. It will be held at the Kelly Inn from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Hegberg reported on the Big Marine Open House. It was well attended with advocates and other individuals who live on the lake that were not in support of the park and the use of the lake. It was a good session with good debate.

Commissioner Hegberg attended the Republican Senate District 52 meeting. They discussed the budget deficits and its effects on counties and the expectation that the services be provided and that the budgets are balanced.

Commissioner Hegberg asked that Commissioner Peterson attend the Housing and Redevelopment Authority meeting for him on March 16. He commented on the buying of foreclosed houses. As the county looks at affordable housing he believes that some should be scattered sites. Buying foreclosed houses is one opportunity to get scattered sites. When a building is built it concentrates affordable housing in one location. For seniors that is probably a good thing; but when trying to integrate families into society, scattered sites are the best way and he will continue to support scattered site housing.

Commissioner Kriesel noted that Mayor Jud Marshall, City of Mahtomedi, is here today. Their community is doing a great job on the Yellow Ribbon Network. He also noted that Mayor Johnston, City of Lake Elmo, is here today and they too are doing a great job on the Yellow Ribbon. He reported that the Chair of the Yellow Ribbon Network, Mike Johnson, will be attending a meeting with Bayport and Oak Park Heights to get them underway. There is such an interest in becoming Yellow Ribbon communities that it is hard to get out there on a timely basis. Chief Deputy Johnson is also working with the five communities in the lower valley on the Yellow Ribbon Network.

Commissioner Kriesel reported that he attended the reception for Pat Bantli who has retired as clerk of Stillwater Township. It was a great turnout for a marvelous woman who spent 36 years in that position.

Commissioner Peterson reported that she attended the Inter-City Passenger Rail Transportation Forum. She mentioned a couple of items of interest: 1) the Association of National Engineers are working on national standards for rail development; and 2) the standardization for equipment.

Commissioner Peterson met with Dave VanHatten and a gentleman from the environmental community after the Board meeting last week. They discussed how they might work together with the environmental community as they move forward with developing the transportation plans.

Commissioner Peterson met with the Citizen's Advisory Committee for the Red Rock Corridor. The group is made up of businesses and community leaders. It will be an advocacy group for the Red Rock Corridor.

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Commissioner Peterson met with the Mosquito Control last Wednesday and she attended the Red Rock Corridor meeting on Thursday. Today after the meeting she and Commissioner Hegberg will meet with an Isaiah group about transit and housing.

Commissioner Weik reported she attended the Mosquito Control District meeting and she asked to sit on the executive review session for the Director Jim Stark.

Commissioner Weik noted that the Yellow Ribbon signs are up on the Welcome to Woodbury signs.

Commissioner Weik reported an icy road condition on Lake and Manning. That corner gets a lot of water puddles there and it was difficult to merge with northbound traffic. She called Public Works on her cell and talked to Rachelle and reported the condition. Rachelle was very helpful and indicated they would send a truck with salt to that location. Don Theisen noted it was not a county road and that all entities work cooperatively to route reports such as this to the right entity.

Commissioner Weik indicated that Kevin Giles, reporter for the Star Tribune, wrote a nice article on 4-H and funding programs. The title is "Legislature Considers Bill to Permit Raising Funds for 4-H Programs". The bill is to try to remove barriers to 4-H funding and was authored by Senator Kathy Saltzman and Representative Julie Bunn.

Commissioner Weik attended a property and local sales tax division committee hearing at the Capitol.

Commissioner Weik met with the City of Woodbury's Mayor and Administrator to discuss their grant request for the northeast corner of Woodbury, the Land and Water Legacy purchase.

Commissioner Weik has requested for several months that County Administrator Jim Schug schedule a workshop on rules and respectful workplace interactions among elected officials. Commissioner Kriesel thought this might be something that could take place during the annual Commissioner retreat.

Commissioner Pulkrabek acknowledged the presence of Lake Elmo Mayor Dean Johnston at the meeting today. He asked the Mayor about flooding he encountered yesterday in the parking lot at Sun Fish Lake Park and if anything was being done to address that problem.

Mayor Dean Johnston, City of Lake Elmo, stated the city has just approved a plan for an extension and modification of Sun Fish Lake Park parking lot. He was not aware there was a problem with water ponding there. He will look into it and make sure that is addressed in some way.

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BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The County Board recessed into Executive Session at 9:40 a.m. with the Department of Public Works to discuss an appraisal 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 Weik, Peterson, Pulkrabek, Kriesel, and Hegberg. Also present were Molly O'Rourke, Don Theisen, Wayne Sandberg, Ted Schoenecker, Sharon Price, Doug Johnson, Jim Zuleger, and Patricia Raddatz.

The Board reconvened at 10:17 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Hegberg moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Weik and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Bill Pulkrabek, Chair
County Board

Attest:

Molly O'Rourke
County Administrator

