

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
JULY 8, 2008

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, Pulkrabek, Hegberg, Stafford, and Kriesel. Absent none. 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; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Ted Schoenecker, Transportation Manager; Mike Rogers, Senior Planner; Joe Lux, Senior Planner; Keith Potter, Facilities Manager; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Steve Gransee, Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Rebecca Ault, Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Ron Johnson, Internal Auditor; Harley Will, Director of Accounting and Finance; Daniel Papin, Community Services Director; Richard Backman, Community Services Division Manager; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; and Maggi Aitkens, Public Information Coordinator II. 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 9:28 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Peterson, Pulkrabek, Hegberg, Stafford, and Kriesel. Absent none. 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; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Ted Schoenecker, Transportation Manager; Mike Rogers, Senior Planner; Joe Lux, Senior Planner; Keith Potter, Facilities Manager; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Steve Gransee, Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Rebecca Ault, Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Ron Johnson, Internal Auditor; Harley Will, Director of Accounting and Finance; Daniel Papin, Community Services Director; Richard Backman, Community Services Division Manager; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; and Maggi Aitkens, Public Information Coordinator II.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Board Chair asked for comments from the public; none were heard.

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CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Approval to terminate grant agreement with the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to acquire a conservation easement on property owned by Lars and Judith Steltzner.
2. Approval to amend Policy #5032 and Policy #6008 to increase mileage for individuals using personal vehicles on county business, and establish the new mileage rate at 58.5 cents per mile effective June 29, 2008.
3. Approval to accept \$4,583.33 for reimbursement for implementing the Children's Mental Health Crisis Services Evaluation Plan and to accept a change in the previous one-time amount from \$150,704.52 to \$171,849.66.
4. Approval of amendment one to the Tree Trust contract to provide youth employment services for the summer of 2008.
5. Approval of the Workforce Investment Act Plan update for 2008 effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.
6. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-091** as follows:

Conveyance of Tax Forfeited Parcel No. 05.032.21.12.0004
and 05.032.21.12.0001 to the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District

WHEREAS, parcels 05.032.21.12.0004 and 05.032.21.12.0001, forfeited to the State of Minnesota on 8/9/91, the parcels are located in the City of Forest Lake; and

WHEREAS, said parcels have more than 150 feet bordering water and are governed by M.S.282.018; and

WHEREAS, during the 2008 Legislative Session, Legislation was introduced by Senator Vandever and Representative Dettmer to allow the conveyance of these two taxation parcels to the Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District for no fee. The provision became part of the Omnibus Lands bill and was signed into law as part of Senate File 2651, Chapter 368, Article 1, Section 68.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the appropriate reviews have been completed and the department recommends approval of the conveyance to the Watershed District; and

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FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that Washington County Board of Commissioners directs the Department of Property Records and Taxpayer Services to convey parcels 05.032.21.12.0001 & 05.032.21.12.004 to Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District for no fee.

Parcel Identification Number: 05.032.21.12.0004
Municipality: Forest Lake
Approximate Size: 3 acres
Assessed Value: \$3,600.00

Parcel Identification Number: 05.032.21.12.0001
Municipality: Forest Lake
Approximate Size: 9.90 acres
Assessment Value: \$2,500.00

7. Approval and execution by Board Chair and Administrator of recycling grant agreement with the City of Mahtomedi for distribution of curbside recycling funds.
8. Approval of Amendment #2 of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Health to receive funds from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
9. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-092** as follows:

Resolution to Quit Claim Interest of Old Wildwood Road
(Formerly County Road 79) to the City of Mahtomedi

WHEREAS, as part of the agreement between Washington County and the City of Mahtomedi, it was agreed that the county would transfer the jurisdiction of Old Wildwood Road (formerly County Road 79) to the City of Mahtomedi; and

WHEREAS, Washington County made said transfer according to the agreement in 1996; and

WHEREAS, it appears that two parcels were inadvertently left out when the jurisdictional transfer to the City of Mahtomedi took place in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Washington County desires to transfer the two remaining parcels to the City of Mahtomedi to complete the jurisdictional transfer as set out in the agreement dated December 17, 1996.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Washington County Board of Commissioners relinquish Washington County's interest in the remaining lands not transferred under the December 17, 1996 jurisdictional transfer between the County of Washington and the City of Mahtomedi; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairperson of the Washington County Board of Commissioners and County Administrator are hereby authorized to execute on behalf of Washington County any and all documents necessary to transfer its interest in the remaining two parcels to complete the jurisdictional transfer of Old Wildwood Road (formerly County Road 79) as described on the Attached Exhibit A.

Exhibit A

Part of the West Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 30 North, Range 21 West described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of the above described tract; thence Easterly on the North line thereof 230.0 feet, more or less, to the right-of-way of St. Paul and Suburban Railway Company; thence Southerly on said West line of said right-of-way 700.0 feet more or less to a point; thence Westerly on line parallel with the North line to the Westerly line of said Northwest Quarter, thence Northerly on said West line to place of beginning, containing 3 acres more or less and subject to public roads; EXCEPT that part described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of the above described tract; thence Easterly on the North line thereof 230.0 feet more or less to the right-of-way of the St. Paul and Suburban Railway Company; thence Southerly on said West line of said right-of-way 66 feet more or less to a point; thence Westerly on a line parallel with the North line to the Westerly line of said Northwest quarter; thence Northerly on said West line to the place of beginning; containing .35 acres more or less and subject to public roads.

ALSO EXCEPTING that portion thereof described in Torrens Certificate No. 56539:

That part of the West Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 30 North, Range 21 West, described as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of said West Half; thence South 89 degrees 56 minutes 58 seconds East (West line of said West Half has an assumed bearing of North) a distance of 261.69 feet to the Westerly line of the Northern States Power Co. Easement; thence South 3 degrees 00 minutes 34 seconds East, along said West line, a distance of 486.22 feet; thence South 6 degrees 12 minutes 40 seconds West along said West line, a distance of 213.78 feet; thence North 89 degrees 56 minutes 58 seconds West on a line parallel with the North line of said West Half to the West line of said West half; thence North along the West line of said West Half to the point of beginning and there terminating EXCEPT the North 66 feet thereof, Subject to County Road No. 79 and Lincoln Avenue N.

AND

First consider the North line in the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter in Section 31, Township 30 North, Range 21 West of the 4th Principal Meridian, Washington County, Minnesota to course North 90 degrees, 00 minutes West from the Northeast corner of said Section 31, and with the Point of Beginning at the said Northeast corner, thence 60.00 feet going North 90 degrees, 00 minutes West; thence 137.49 feet going south 00 degrees, 00 minutes West and to a point in the North right-of-way line of Washington County Road No. 79, said point being 122.75 feet Northeast along said North right-of-way line from the Westerly beginning of said curve; thence 89.49 feet going Northeasterly through a central angle of 03 degrees, 39 minutes, 48 seconds along said right-of-way curved line of 1399.69 feet radius and to the point of intersection of said North right-of-way line with the East line of the said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 31; thence 70.95 feet going North 00 degrees, 09 minutes, 22 seconds East along said East line and to the Point of Beginning, being and containing .147 acres, according to the survey thereof, all in the said Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 31, Township 30 North, Range 20 West of the 4th Principal Meridian, Washington County, Minnesota.

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10. Approval to purchase 25 replacement home detention field monitoring devices for the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

County Road 83 Overpass at I-35 in Forest Lake

Commissioner Hegberg moved to approve Amendment #1 to the SRF Consulting Group contract for additional preliminary design services for the development of the County Road 83 Overpass at I-35 in conjunction with the County State Aid Highway 2 (Broadway Avenue) improvement project in Forest Lake in the amount of \$141,829. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

Update on Current Facilities Projects

Don Theisen, Public Works Director, presented updates on the following major facility projects:

Campus 2025 Improvements – The Campus buildings will be named the Law Enforcement Center, the Government Center, and the County Courthouse. Each floor is at a different progress level from walls being framed up to sheetrock going up, taped and painted. The tower crane will be gone mid-August. The project schedule for the Law Enforcement Center is level 4, December 15, 2008; level 3, January 10, 2009, and Level 2, December 15, 2008. The project schedule for the Courthouse is 5th floor, March 1, 2009, 3rd floor, February 15, 2009; 2nd floor, January 15, 2009; and 1st floor, January 15, 2009. The project schedule for the Courthouse and Government Center remodel is 2nd floor, February 1, 2010; 1st floor, October 6, 2010; and Government Center December 31, 2010. The Campus 2025 budget is on track. Upcoming issues include final Government Center remodel plan, courts technology level and funding shares, and transition planning.

Household Hazardous Waste Facility – The site and building plans have been submitted to the City of Woodbury. Next week's Board agenda will include a petition to the City of Woodbury to extend the sewer and water to the site. A contract has been executed with the architects to look at the entire 60 acre area and do a master plan for a potential partnership with the City of Woodbury. The total budget for this project is \$4,400,000 and is funded through the county's household waste fee fund. Upcoming issues include final utility costs and city approvals; discussion on acquiring a 10 acre parcel to the east; and, possible partnership with Woodbury.

Transportation Shop Improvements – The design has been completed for the North Shop and will include a wash bay facility, replace the north shop well, and install a reverse osmosis system to treat waste water. The permitting process has not started. The budget for this project is estimated at \$1,850,000.

(Commissioner Pulkrabek left the meeting at 10:04 a.m.)

PROPERTY RECORDS AND TAXPAYER SERVICES

Commissioner Hegberg moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2008-093** as follows:

Resolution Requesting Damaged Property be Reassessed

WHEREAS, the City of Hugo experienced a disaster on May 25, 2008; and

WHEREAS, said disaster did cause extensive damage to residential property in the City of Hugo, with the most extensive damage occurring in the Creekview Preserve development, parts of the Waters Edge development, and an area east of Hwy 61 and Oneka Lake; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hugo has been declared a disaster area by a city declaration of a state of emergency adopted on May 26, 2008 and a county declaration of a state of emergency on June 3, 2008 and the Governor of the State of Minnesota ordered that a state of emergency exists within Washington County on May 26, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Chapter 273.1231 through 273.1235 provides for a reassessment of properties damaged by a disaster upon application to the Governor of the State of Minnesota and the State Executive Council; and

WHEREAS, the minimum requirements of the aforementioned statute have been met as demonstrated in the attached damage assessment report;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board of Commissioners of Washington County does hereby request that the property damaged from the disaster that occurred on May 25, 2008 and identified in the attached damage assessment report be reassessed for the purpose of the special property tax credit for damaged property under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 273.1231-.1235.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners is requesting this application be reviewed expeditiously in order to have the property tax relief approved and processed prior to the October 15 deadline for the second half payment of property taxes.

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

Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services, stated if the application for relief is approved, the following relief will be available to residents in the disaster area and the costs will be reimbursed by the state: 1) Property owners with 50% or greater damage will be eligible for a reduction in their 2008 taxes; and 2) All property owners with damage will be eligible for a Pay 2009 credit based on the

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amount of damage. If the application for state reimbursement of property tax relief is not approved, any abatement granted through the Local Disaster Credit and Abatement laws will be a county cost.

(Commissioner Pulkrabek returned at 10:30 a.m.)

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

2007 Report of the Audit Committee

Commissioner Peterson moved to accept the 2007 Annual Audit Committee Report to the County Board. Commissioner Stafford seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

Designation of Voting Delegate for the 2008 National Association of Counties Election

Commissioner Peterson moved to designate Commissioner Dennis C. Hegberg as the voting delegate and Commissioner Bill Pulkrabek as alternate to the 2008 National Association of Counties annual conference being held July 11-15, 2008, in Jackson County, Missouri. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

Thanking Staff for Their Response to the Hugo Tornado

Commissioner Hegberg moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2008-094** as follows:

Resolution of Appreciation to Washington County Staff for Exceptional Work in the Hugo Tornado Recovery Efforts

WHEREAS, on May 25, 2008, a tornado ranked EF-3 with gusts of 136 to 165 m.p.h. winds raked a path from the eastern edge of Lino Lakes into Hugo around 5:00 p.m., killing a two-year-old child and seriously injuring eight people in Hugo; and

WHEREAS, 39 houses were destroyed by the tornado, 21 experienced damage of 50 percent or more, and 288 experienced damage of 20 to 50 percent for a total amount of \$22,334,093; and

WHEREAS, Washington County staff members from almost every department immediately rallied in support of the City of Hugo and those affected by the tornado to assist in a multitude of ways including:

- Sheriff's Office, which provided search and rescue efforts and scene security, outstanding service in responding to 911 calls, radio assistance for responders, and 57 deputies and the sheriff onsite throughout the first week

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- Public Health and Environment, which provided overall coordination between local, county, and state agencies throughout the incident as well as ongoing recovery and training work; developed a plan to collect debris in three waste streams to address issues of hazardous waste; and provided tetanus immunizations to volunteers
- Information Technology, which immediately produced critical maps and other necessary information for emergency responders, as well as provided necessary telephone connections and computer systems
- Community Services, which assisted the affected residents with housing and other social service needs
- Property Records and Taxpayer Services, which assisted with damage assessment and application for property tax relief
- Office of Administration, which provided immediate and necessary communication to the media, affected residents, and the general public
- Human Resources, which addressed insurance issues related to buildings and damaged county vehicles, as well as workers compensation claims
- Public Works, which helped clean up debris and sweep streets in the affected area to keep them safe
- Community Corrections, which provided Sentence-to-Serve crews that dedicated more than 1,000 hours in the clean-up process; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners recognizes the significant contributions made by the staff of Washington County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby expresses its deep appreciation to Washington County staff members who gave of their time, energy, and selves in assisting the City of Hugo and its residents in this time of need; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners expresses its sincere appreciation to all Washington County staff members who continued to provide exceptional services to the residents of Washington County, covering extra duties while many of their colleagues worked onsite in Hugo.

Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Peterson noted that the South Washington County Youth Service Bureau Garden Tour was held this past weekend. They raised over \$11,000. The Family Means Garden Tour will be held this weekend.

Commissioner Pulkrabek stated he received an e-mail from a Woodbury resident from his district that praised the roundabout in Woodbury and hoped the county installed more.

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Commissioner Kriesel reported that the cannon dedication held on the 4th of July at the Historic Courthouse was a great success. He noted that former Administrator of the Pine Point Nursing Home, Walter Schmidt, passed away this past week.

Commissioner Stafford reported that he and Commissioner Kriesel, along with staff, met with Senator Kathy Saltzman to talk about initiatives for the I-94 corridor. They agreed to move that up another notch and discuss it with the full board at some point.

Commissioner Hegberg reported that the Metropolitan Mosquito Control approved the budget levy and it was within the 4% area. The amount of spraying for mosquitoes has increased this year, but funds left from previous years are paying for that. There is a new Asian mosquito making its way to Minnesota that carries both encephalitis and West Nile disease.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Stafford moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Pulkrabek and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Board met in workshop session with the Department of Public Works to discuss the transit component of the Comprehensive 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, Ann Pung-Terwedo, Don Theisen, Ted Schoenecker, Joe Lux, Mike Rogers, Jane Harper, Peter Mott, and Kevin Giles, Star-Tribune.

Dennis C. Hegberg, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator

