

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
FEBRUARY 13, 2007

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 Peterson, Pulkrabek, Kriesel, Orth, and Hegberg. Absent none. Board Chair Kriesel presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Don Theisen, Director of Transportation and Physical Development; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Director of Transportation and Physical Development; Cory Slagle, Transportation Manager; Mike Rogers, Associate Planner; Keith Potter, Facilities Manager; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Patrick Singel, Community Services Division Manager; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Captain Steve Pott, Sheriff's Office; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Harley Will, Financial Services Director; and Steve Nelson, Public Information Coordinator II.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Clyde McCaskey, Forest Lake Community Association, Bob Linwood, President of the Lakes Area Business Association, John Freed, Officer of the Lakes Area Business Association, and Richard McNamara, resident of Forest Lake, spoke against the proposed roundabouts on County Road 2 in Forest Lake. A survey was distributed that was taken last August and most of those residents were opposed to them. They feel the businesses will be hurt if roundabouts are used. They would like more communication and discussion about the pros and cons of roundabouts.

The Board Chair advised these individuals that county Transportation staff is available today to discuss this matter further with them.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Approval of the February 6, 2007 Board meeting minutes
2. Approval to appoint the following individuals to 2007 committees: Debra Esse, Woodbury, to the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee as a Hospital Representative, to a first term expiring December 31, 2007; and David Schaps, Oakdale, to the Workforce Investment Board, representing Economic Development, to a first term expiring June 30, 2010.

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3. Approval to rename the county's land conservation program as the Washington County Land and Water Legacy Program; name the Parks and Open Space Commission as the citizen advisory committee for the Land and Water Legacy Program and add two at-large positions to that committee; reassign the Principal Planner in the Administration Department to manage the Land and Water Legacy Program; and add one full-time equivalent to the Administration Department to backfill the Principal Planner position.
4. Approval to establish the Reserve and Designations of fund balances for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006.
5. Approval of the 2007 cooperative agreement with Community Services, the Sheriff, and the County Attorney to administer the Child Support Enforcement Program.
6. Approval to accept \$120 in donations in memory of Mr. Nick Lagios from several individuals to be used at the Wildwood Branch Library for library materials, programs or equipment/furnishings.
7. Approval of amendment to the cost and payment section of the agreement with Olsen Thielen & Co. for financial auditing services related to the County Environmental Charge for January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007.
8. Approval to authorize the Washington County Sheriff's Office to accept a donation from the Washington County Bank in the amount of \$200 for the K-9 Unit training or equipment.
9. Approval of agreement with Tower 2000 to provide equipment and installation services at the Xcel Energy King Stack for the 800 MHz Radio Project.
10. Approval of leases for office space in the lower west wing of the Government Center with Edina Realty Title Company, Universal Title Company, and Old Republic National Title Company.
11. Approval of a Joint Powers Agreement between Dakota and Washington Counties to conduct a feasibility study for the removal/salvage options of Bridge No. 5600.
12. Approval to enter into an agreement with Xcel Energy to participate in the Energy Design Assistance program for the 2025 Campus Expansion Project.
13. Approval of a contract with Dunham & Associates, Inc. for design services for the data center expansion and relocation related to the Government Center Campus Improvements Project.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously.

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COMMUNITY SERVICES

Commissioner Peterson moved to approve the Workforce Investment Act, Title 1B Master Grant Agreement (covering adult, youth, dislocated worker, and older Americans programs) with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development. Commissioner Orth seconded the motion and it was adopted 4-1 with the vote as follows: Yes, Commissioners Peterson, Kriesel, Orth, and Hegberg; No, Commissioner Pulkrabek.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to deny execution of an agreement with the University of Minnesota to provide Extension programs locally and employ county Extension staff. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion. The motion failed 2-3 with the vote as follows: Yes, Commissioners Peterson and Pulkrabek; No, Commissioners Kriesel, Orth, and Hegberg.

Commissioner Hegberg moved to authorize the County Board Chair and the County Administrator to enter into an agreement with the University of Minnesota to provide Extension programs locally and employ county Extension staff. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted 3-2 with the vote as follows: Yes, Commissioners Kriesel, Orth, and Hegberg; No, Commissioners Peterson and Pulkrabek.

TRANSPORTATION AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Don Theisen, Director of Transportation and Physical Development, presented updates on the North and South Service Centers. He indicated that they expect to take occupancy of the South Service Center in Cottage Grove the first week in March. On Friday, April 13 they hope to move staff into the building and they will unpack over the weekend. They will then have a soft opening on Monday, April 16. Sometime between May and June they are looking at having the grand opening with a ribbon cutting by the County Board. They want to make sure the road to the service center is complete, and the landscaping is finished.

Mr. Theisen reported that for the North Service Center in Forest Lake they are still looking at a late summer completion and a fall grand opening. There will also be a ground breaking ceremony for the Transit Center and bike trail head in that area.

Mr. Theisen reported that the overall budget is still on target. The two change orders he is requesting today deal with electrical equipment in the Forest Lake Service Center and the mechanical system in the Cottage Grove Service Center. Change Order #4 in the Cottage Grove Service Center is the result of a design error. They will be requesting a similar change order at the Forest Lake Service Center because of the same design error. Final county costs for these change orders will be reduced by a payment from the design firm.

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Commissioner Peterson moved to approve Change Order #3 with Gephart Electric, Inc. for \$43,169 at the Forest Lake Service Center/Library; and Change Order #4 with Kumar Mechanical, Inc. for \$126,327 at the Cottage Grove Service Center. Commissioner Hegberg seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Jim Schug, County Administrator, reported that Don Theisen was elected President of the Minnesota County Engineers Association at their annual meeting in January.

Mr. Schug presented a legislative update on the following items: Payment of public defenders on a standby basis for which counties would be responsible for this payment, MICA is actively testifying against that; a hearing on funding for State short-term offenders housed in county jails has been scheduled for Thursday, February 16 at 12:30 p.m. in Room 10 of the State Office Building; a proposal for \$10 million in bonding for the State's share of the high speed rail between St. Paul and Chicago has been introduced; and, there is a hearing coming up on the maintenance of effort requirement in the chemical dependency treatment fund.

Mr. Schug noted that there is a County Legislative Committee meeting later this morning to discuss a proposal to seek funding to assist the Disabled Veteran's Rest Camp in doing their capital improvements.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Orth reported that he attended the Metro Emergency Services Board 911 Hero Award. An award was given to a child who saved his father by dialing 911. A discussion followed about how to improve a child's response to emergencies. He was formerly with School District 833 and designed training programs and videos for children. If any Commissioner would like copies of this information he can provide that to them.

Commissioner Kriesel reported he attended the Stillwater Township meeting with legislators and citizen advocates to determine how to get the Boomsite rest area open. He provided the legislators with the resolution of support from the County Board. The issue is who will be the lead agency and he mentioned that it wasn't part of the county's mission.

Commissioner Hegberg feels that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources would be the appropriate agency, since the Boomsite is on the scenic St. Croix River.

Commissioner Pulkrabek asked for some valuations of businesses in the Old Village in Lake Elmo. He has heard there have been significant jumps. He asked for a comparison from last year to this year.

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Commissioner Peterson reported that she and Commissioner Kriesel attended an early morning meeting with MICA and the cities group to hear a report on transportation issues. She also noted that Commissioner Kriesel received a letter from Dakota County Commissioner Mike Turner about the ½ cent sales tax meeting of February 28 at 1:00 p.m. to hear an overview of the House and Senate Bill, and receive perspectives from MICA, Metro Transitway Development Board and AMC.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Peterson and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

The Board met in workshop session with the Department of Public Health and Environment to discuss groundwater contamination in the southern portion of Washington County. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Peterson, Pulkrabek, Kriesel, Orth, and Hegberg. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Lowell Johnson, Sue Hedlund, Cindy Weckwerth, Amanda Goebel, Ann Pung-Terwedo, Dennis O'Donnell, Ginny Yingling, Minnesota Department of Health, James Kelly, Minnesota Department of Health, Alex Friedrich, Pioneer Press, and Yvonne Klinnert, Stillwater Courier.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The Board met in workshop session with the Office of Administration to review the proposed Washington County 2007 Work Plan. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Peterson, Pulkrabek, Kriesel, Orth, and Hegberg. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Lowell Johnson, Tom Adkins, Kevin Corbid, Dan Papin, Don Theisen, and Alex Friedrich, Pioneer Press.

Gary Kriesel, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator

