

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
DECEMBER 2, 2008

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, Hegberg, Weik, 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; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Jill Timm, Program Manager, Public Health and Environment; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Ted Schoenecker, Transportation Manager; Cory Slagle, Engineering and Construction Manager; Ann Pung Terwedo, Senior Planner; Dennis O'Connell, Senior Planner; Keith Potter, Facilities Manager; Patricia Conley, Library Director; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Kay McAloney, Human Resources Director; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Melinda Kirk, Budget/Financial Analyst; and David Brierley, Public Information Coordinator.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jim Keller, Denmark Town Board Supervisor, invited staff from Washington County to a Webinar entitled "A Roadmap to Sustainable Communities" on December 4 in Roseville. He left details with the County Administrator.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

1. Approval of the November 18, 2008 Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval of the Regional Parcel Data Sharing and Distribution Agreement with Public Parties between the Metropolitan Council and the Counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Ramsey, Hennepin, Scott and Washington.
3. Approval to temporarily close the Oakdale Branch Library from December 21, 2008 through December 29, 2008 for re-carpeting.
4. Approval to enter into an agreement with the Washington Conservation District to fund general operations and services to county departments and county residents.

December 2, 2008

5. Approval to enter an agreement with the Washington Conservation District for services related to the Wetland Conservation Act.
6. Approval to accept Natural Resource Block Grant funding in the amount of \$70,973 from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources for 2009.
7. Approval of the service contract with the University of Minnesota Center for Sustainable Building Research to conduct post-occupancy evaluations for the Service Centers in Forest Lake and Cottage Grove and authorize execution by the Board Chair and County Administrator.
8. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-154** as follows:

Resolution to Grant Easement for Ingress and Egress Over
Washington County Government Center Campus

WHEREAS, as part of the campus boundary registration, Washington County seeks to vacate portions of Panama Avenue and Hubert Street within the City of Stillwater; and

WHEREAS, the City of Stillwater Planning Commission reviewed the proposed vacations and is making recommendation to the Stillwater City Council for approval of the vacation of Panama Avenue and Hubert Street conditioned upon the following 3 items:

1. That an easement be reserved for a storm sewer that is contained within Panama Avenue
2. That an easement be reserved for a water main that is contained within Panama Avenue
3. That an easement be given for road purposes to the resident at 15055 N. 60th Street; and

WHEREAS, the City Council will reserve items 1 and 2 in the proposed Resolution for vacation of Panama Avenue and Hubert Street and Washington County will grant an easement for ingress and egress over part of the Washington County Government Center Campus for the resident at 15055 N. 60th Street.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners execute an easement over the following described lands for ingress and egress to the resident located at 15055 N. 60th Street:

Exhibit A.

An exclusive easement for driveway purposes over, under and across the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 34, T30N, R20W, and vacated Panama Avenue in the plat of McMillan and Cooley's Addition to Stillwater, being a strip of land 28 feet wide, 14 feet on either side of the following described centerline:

Commencing at the southeast corner of Section 33, T30N, R20W, Washington County, Minnesota; thence N00°00'13"W, bearings are based on the Washington County Coordinate System NAD83, 1986 adjustment,

December 2, 2008

along the east line of the southeast quarter of said Section 33 a distance of 299.73 feet to the northerly right-of-way line of Minnesota Trunk Highway No. 36; thence N89°54'14"W along said northerly right-of-way line 5.20 feet to the point of beginning of the centerline to be described; thence northerly 30.76 feet along a non-tangential curve concave to the west, having a radius of 90.00 feet, a central angle of 19°34'49" and a chord bearing N09°47'11"E; thence N00°00'13"W, tangent to said curve, 80.63 feet; thence northeasterly along a tangential curve, concave to the southeast, having a radius of 32.00 feet and a central angle of 90°35'08", a distance of 50.60 feet to its intersection with the centerline of an existing 28 foot wide driveway easement and said centerline there terminating.

The sidelines of said easement are prolonged or shortened to terminate at the northerly right-of-way lines of Minnesota Trunk Highway No. 36.

Said easement is to be used solely for ingress and egress to and from the Grantee's property located at 15055 North 60th Street, Stillwater, Minnesota

9. Approval to enter into property lease agreement with Jerome and Lois Grundhofer through the signatures of the Chair of the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the County Administrator for county owned property located within Big Marine Park Reserve.
10. Approval to amend the Retention Schedule as contained in the County General Records Retention Schedule Sheriff/Law Enforcement.
11. Approval to award the contract to Independent Emergency Services for 9-1-1 telephone customer premise equipment at the Washington County Sheriff's Office Public Service Answering Point dispatch center.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously.

RECOGNITION FOR MAYOR SANDY SHIELY

Commissioner Peterson moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2008-155** as follows:

Resolution of Appreciation
Mayor Sandy Shiely
Upon her Retirement as Mayor of Cottage Grove

WHEREAS, Mayor Sandy Shiely will retire as Mayor of the City of Cottage Grove effective December 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Shiely was first elected to serve the citizens of Cottage Grove in 2000 when she became the first female mayor of Cottage Grove and one of the first female city councilmembers; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Shiely's private accomplishments since moving to Cottage Grove in 1967 include serving as President of the Cottage Grove Mrs.

Jaycees; being active in the Cottage Grove businessmen's association; serving on the Cottage Grove Planning Commission; and teaching school full-time from 1982 to 2002; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Shiely's public accomplishments include serving two terms as mayor; helping in the creation of the Cottage Grove Industrial Park; being a leading advocate of the East Ravine plan; creating a strong pro business position for Cottage Grove; being very responsive to sound municipal fiscal stability; and providing leadership for a significant fund balance growth and two bond rating upgrades; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners acknowledges with grateful appreciation Mayor Shiely's leadership and public service as Mayor of Cottage Grove and for her active civic participation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners heartily commends Mayor Shiely upon her retirement as Mayor of Cottage Grove and hereby proclaims Saturday, December 13, 2008, as "Mayor Sandy Shiely Day in Washington County."

Commissioner Weik seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

Jill Timm, Public Health and Environment Program Manager, and Sara Wovcha, Director of Children's Dental Services, provided an overview of the partnership to provide physical facility space for dental services at the Cottage Grove Service Center in the Department of Public Health and Environment's WIC clinic space. Children's Dental Services will provide this service to low income children ages 0-21, and pregnant women. There is no direct cost to the county.

PUBLIC WORKS

Denmark Township Comment Letter

Ann Pung-Terwedo, Senior Planner, reviewed a draft letter to Denmark Township regarding their comprehensive plan. The draft Denmark Township comprehensive plan included changing the land use designation for a 54 acre parcel from Agricultural to Commercial/Industrial Rural; and, changing the land use designation for a 64 acre parcel from Agricultural to Semi-Rural Density (5 acre density). The county's proposed response to these changes is to include the two alternatives for the Denmark land use plan, one will reflect the current land use, and the other will reflect the Township's proposed changes. These two alternatives will be viewed by the Planning Advisory Commission and the general public to provide guidance on any proposed change in land use to these areas.

December 2, 2008

Commissioner Peterson stated that the Washington County Comprehensive Plan does not take into consideration the Red Rock Corridor and the need to increase the density along that corridor. She believes that Denmark's requests are appropriate. The other issue is the soil conditions in south Washington County have tremendous difficulties. In the original comprehensive plan done ten years ago it encouraged large lot development. She feels the county should be rethinking, as it finds out more information about groundwater contamination, that it should re-evaluate that thought process and communicate that with the Metropolitan Council.

Berry Farrington, Denmark Township Planner, asked that the county provide one comment letter so they do not need to submit multiple layers of correspondence with their comp plan to Metropolitan Council. The Township would be happy to work with the county as it moves through its planning process.

Jim Keller, Denmark Town Supervisor, stated they believe what they are proposing is in the best long-term interest of Denmark Township and Washington County because it is putting new development, business and residential, along the Highway 61 corridor. They suggest meeting with the county staff and come up with a compromise. They would like to have one comment letter to the Metropolitan Council and they are willing to sit down and work something out with the county.

Commissioner Peterson noted the following concerns in the review of the Denmark Township comprehensive plan: 1) The county needs to be concerned about groundwater and in particular the soils in Denmark Township; 2) The county does need to take into consideration the amount of land that is being removed that does generate fairly high revenue from the St. Croix River Valley; and 3) The density necessary to create a transitway, and Red Rock is a key transitway, for Washington County and Denmark contributes to that transitway.

It was Board consensus to revise the draft comment letter to Denmark Township on their comprehensive plan and that Denmark Township will work with county staff to draft that letter.

2008 Road Construction and Pavement Preservation Projects

Cory Slagle, Engineering and Construction Manager, reviewed the road and bridge construction projects completed in 2008 including: CSAH 13 (Radio Drive) final construction and landscaping, from CSAH 18 (Bailey Road) to Pioneer Drive, in Woodbury; CSAH 13 (Radio Drive) bridge modifications and ramp construction at I-94 in Woodbury; CSAH 15 (Manning Avenue) reconstruction, from TH 35 to CSAH 12, in Stillwater and Grant; CSAH 16/25 (Century Avenue) reconstruction in Woodbury; CSAH 18 (St. Croix Trail South) reconstruction from 7th Street South to 5th Street North in Lakeland and Lakeland Shores; CSAH 18 (St. Croix Trail South) bridge replacement over Valley Branch Creek in Afton; and CSAH 22 (70th Street South) traffic signal at hardwood Avenue in Cottage Grove.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator, noted that the county revenue projected for 2009 will be at least \$540,000 less than anticipated in the preliminary budget. This includes a \$300,000 reduction in interest earnings, \$200,000 less in license center revenue and \$40,000 less in mortgage, deed and recorder's functions. She also mentioned there were reductions in fuel expenses and increases in road maintenance expenditures. She presented the following 2009 budget adjustment for the Board's consideration: Delaying a planned cooperative fiber optic project with Dakota County; reduce the fuel budget in the Sheriff's Office and Public Works Department; increase the salt and other road maintenance supplies' budget; reduce expenditures in the license centers; and eliminate the proposed addition of a Maintenance Worker for the Big Marine Regional Park. These proposed reductions exceed the \$540,00 revenue shortfall and staff would suggest that the difference of \$11,300 be placed in contingency for fuel in case those savings are too optimistic.

Commissioner Peterson asked that the fiber optics project not be delayed for a long period of time.

Commissioner Weik asked if fuel could be purchased in bulk at this time. Ms. O'Rourke stated the county can purchase off the State contract and Public Works has been working with the communities about buying in bulk. She feels they will be getting a better rate than what they based the 2008 budget on.

Commissioner Weik asked could additional savings be found in the license centers by going to four day weeks or closing them one day a week. Ms. O'Rourke stated they have looked at those options and they will continue to look at them. The hours that are most popular are the Saturdays and extended hours on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

Commissioner Kriesel asked if more people were migrating to the on-line services for the license centers, is that part of the reduction or is this attributed to the economy. Ms. O'Rourke stated there has been some transfer to the on-line which is done by the State so the county does not get that revenue. However, she does not feel that has been substantial. They are seeing the reduction in passports after the initial rush to get them and with the economy, less people are traveling in winter. The titling is another area. It is not so much the tab renewals, but people are not buying the vehicles that they have in the past.

It was Board consensus to make the following adjustments: Delaying a planned cooperative fiber optic project with Dakota County; reduce the fuel budget in the Sheriff's Office and Public Works Department; increase the salt and other road maintenance supplies' budget; reduce expenditures in the license centers; and eliminate the proposed addition of a Maintenance Worker for the Big Marine Regional Park.

Jim Schug, County Administrator, noted that as a result of the State's revenue shortfall, the county will likely see an impact as the legislators convene and look for ways to balance their budget.

December 2, 2008

Mr. Schug reminded the Board that Thursday evening the Board will hold its Truth-in-Taxation hearing in this room at 7:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Peterson reported that she and Commissioner Weik taped their first County Insight program together. They interviewed Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin, and they talked about the Truth-in-Taxation hearing this week.

Commissioner Pulkrabek stated he is in agreement with Commissioner Weik about looking at the hours of the license center and also the environmental center that will open next year. He watched most of Oakdale's Truth-in-Taxation meeting yesterday and there was a considerably higher turnout than years past. He is expecting a decent turnout on Thursday. He would promote the idea that since the State Legislature thinks it is such a good idea to have Truth-in-Taxation hearings for local governments, he suggested that every incumbent state representative and state senator host a meeting in their district and have people come out and they can make a presentation on the state budget. He wished his Aunt Audrey a Merry Christmas. She is a loyal watcher of the County Board meetings and lives in Cottage Grove.

Commissioner Kriesel presented Commissioner Awards to Marguerite Rheinberger and Jackie Dubbe for their work in organizing the area candidate forums.

Commissioner Weik stated she enjoyed taping County Insight with Commissioner Peterson and meeting Commissioner Peter McLaughlin and discussing the Counties Transit Improvement Board initiatives. Commissioner Weik also highlighted the great work done by the Washington County Sheriff's Office in conjunction with the Woodbury Police Department in apprehending the suspects in the Lake Elmo home invasion. She mentioned that the City of Woodbury will hold a "Get To Know Woodbury" event on Thursday morning at Woodbury High School. The Mayor will kick off the event and there will be presentations by School District 833, city staff will be on hand representing community development, economic development, new Housing and Redevelopment Authority housing loans, park and recreation, public safety, and public works.

Commissioner Hegberg mentioned that the Forest Lake Police Department apprehended an individual who was developing illegal passports and it was discovered by an employee at Frandsen Bank.

ADJOURNMENT

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

December 2, 2008

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Board met in workshop session with the Public Works Department to discuss the allocation of \$950,000 awarded to Washington County by the Counties Transit Improvement Board. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Peterson, Pulkrabek, Hegberg, Weik, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Don Theisen, Wayne Sandberg, Ted Schoenecker, Cory Slagle, Harley Will, Kevin Giles, Star Tribune, and Elizabeth Mohr, Pioneer Press.

Dennis C. Hegberg, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator