

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
JANUARY 22, 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, and Kriesel. Absent none. Board Chair Hegberg presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; Linda Krafthefer, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Harley Will, Financial Services Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Joe Lux, Senior Planner; Ted Schoenecker, Transportation Engineer; John Elholm, Parks Director; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Robert Crawford, Workforce Center Division Manager; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Steve Gransee, Property Records and Taxpayer Services Division Manager; Carol Peterson, Election Supervisor; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Kay McAloney, Human Resources Director; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; and Steve Nelson, 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 Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Pulkrabek to adopt the following Consent Calendar:

1. Approval of the January 8, 2008 Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval to appoint Robert Rafferty, AMI Representative to the Mental Health Advisory Council, to a first term expiring December 31, 2010.
3. Approval to appoint Sheila Colbert, Cottage Grove, to the Community Corrections Advisory Board as a District 4 representative to fill an unexpired term to December 31, 2008.
4. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-011** as follows:

Resolution Authorizing the Execution of the Joint Powers Agreement with
Dakota, Carver, and Olmsted Counties for a 2008 Residential Survey

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WHEREAS, Washington County has participated with Dakota, Carver and Olmsted County to execute a 2008 Residential Survey in order to assess residential opinions and the performance of county government; and

WHEREAS, the counties have agreed to collaborate on a joint Residential Survey in 2008, selecting the National Research Center, Inc. to conduct the survey and compile results; and

WHEREAS, Washington County will act as the fiscal agent for the joint survey, executing and managing the contract with the National Research Center, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the counties must enter into a joint powers agreement in order to carry out the Residential Survey initiative; and

WHEREAS, the joint powers agreement is authorized under MINN. STAT. § 471.59.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Board Chair and County Administrator to execute a joint powers agreement with Dakota, Carver, and Olmsted Counties to conduct a residential survey of households in the four counties and to analyze the results, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

5. Approval to amend Washington County Policy #1032 to include the Joint Mediation Session Fee of \$103.00 for 2008.
6. Approval of the January 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 contract with the American Red Cross to provide transportation services for adults using waived services.
7. Approval of the 2008 – 2011 contract with Avalon Programs, LLC for adult outpatient chemical dependency treatment.
8. Approval of the 2008 – 2011 contract with Human Services, Inc. for adult and adolescent outpatient chemical dependency treatment.
9. Approval of the 2008 – 2011 contract with Cedar Ridge, Inc. for adult residential chemical dependency treatment.
10. Approval of the 2008 – 2009 contract with Working on Life's Fulfillment, Inc. to provide home and community based services for persons with developmental disabilities.
11. Approval of contract amendment number one with HIRED, Inc. to modify the annual budget and number of participants for HIRED's work with the Andersen Dislocated Worker Project.

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12. Approval of contract amendment number one with the Employment Action Center to modify the annual budget and number of participants for EAC's work with the Andersen Dislocated Worker Project.
13. Approval of contract amendment number one with the Workforce Resource, Inc. to modify the annual budget for Workforce Resource's work with the Andersen Windows Dislocated Worker Project.
14. Approval to revise Policy #2506, Petty Cash and Change Funds to create a change fund for the Community Corrections Sentence to Service Program.
15. Approval of a lease agreement with Michael and Courtney Bengston for county owned property located within Lake Elmo Park Reserve.
16. Approval of 800 MHz radio site license agreement with T-Mobile Central LLC for co-location on their Hugo tower site located on 147th Street.
17. Approval of contract award to Vinco, Inc. for construction services for the Hugo T-Mobile radio site.
18. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-012** as follows:

2008 Criminal Gang Strike Force and Narcotics Task
Force Grant – Narcotics Division

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Sheriff's Office is authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Commissioner of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs 2008 Criminal Gang Strike Force and Narcotics Task Force;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sheriff William M. Hutton is hereby authorized to execute and sign the grant and any amendments thereto, as are necessary to implement the program on behalf of the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

19. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-013** as follows:

2008 Criminal Gang Strike Force and Narcotics Task
Force Grant – Gang Strike Force

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Sheriff's Office is authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Commissioner of Public Safety, Office of Justice Programs 2008 Criminal Gang Strike Force and Narcotics Task Force;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sheriff William M. Hutton is hereby authorized to execute and sign the grant and any amendments thereto, as are necessary to implement the program on behalf of the Washington County Sheriff's Office.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Request by the City of Oakdale

Craig Waldron, City of Oakdale Administrator, presented their request for the county's support in the passage of special legislation to provide for 35 year tax increment financing redevelopment districts (10 year duration extensions) to reverse the trend of blight and decay that exists in the area of the Oakdale Mall and the Tanner's Lake commercial area.

Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to approve a letter supporting the City of Oakdale's request for special legislation to provide for 35 year tax increment financing redevelopment districts (10 year duration extensions) to reverse the trend of blight and decay that exists in the area of the Oakdale Mall and the Tanner's Lake commercial area. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

District 5 County Commissioner Vacancy

Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services, presented options for the Board to consider to fill the vacancy in Commissioner District 5 caused by the death of Commissioner Greg Orth on January 12, 2008. There are two different methods by which the Board can fill the vacancy, by special election or through an appointment process. If a special election were considered the earliest date to fill the vacancy would be in 52 days and the longest would be in 90 days. The cost to conduct a special election is estimated to be \$50,000. That person would serve out the remainder of the current term, to 2010. In the appointment process, the Board would need to make the appointment at a regular or special meeting of the County Board and it must be by resolution. That individual would serve until a special election was held in November, 2008, and then that person would serve out the remainder of the current term, to 2010. No additional costs would be incurred by the county for filling this vacancy by the appointment option.

Commissioner Peterson stated that the County Board has a number of issues that it will be working on this next year. She believes it would be important that there is active representation from the Woodbury area.

Jim Schug, County Administrator, reported that he did have an opportunity last week to talk to the City Administrator of Woodbury. The City Council and Mayor met in workshop on an informal basis following

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Commissioner Orth's death. They couldn't take formal action, but they did express a strong preference for the appointment process. They were concerned about the timing of a special election and want to have the city represented as fully and as soon as possible.

Commissioner Hegberg stated he spoke to Woodbury Mayor Hargis and he also indicated yesterday they had a meeting and they felt the same way. They would like to have somebody represent them that could hit the ground running. The name of former Commissioner Stafford came up because of his background and experience. They felt that would be acceptable to them.

Commissioner Pulkrabek asked if the Board went with the appointment process, other than soliciting the opinion of the City of Woodbury, what would be the process for other individuals who may want to be considered. Mr. Schug stated the new law is silent on the process. It would be up to the County Board to decide if it wanted to seek persons who might be interested to go through some sort of a screening process.

Commissioner Peterson stated she is leaning toward an appointment process, but she wants to make sure that whoever they appoint would not be a candidate in the fall. She feels it is important to appoint someone who can come in and participate and represent the City of Woodbury. She thinks it's important that the Board does not give someone a leg up in the fall election.

Commissioner Kriesel agreed with those comments. He has had conversations with Mr. Stafford during the last few days and he indicated that he would be interested in the appointment and his intention would be not to run. He is leaning toward the appointment process.

Commissioner Pulkrabek stated he agrees with Commissioner Kriesel. He is not a fan of a special election because it is expensive, it would be highly partisan and because of the low voter turnout, he does not feel that would be representative of the Woodbury residents. If they appoint, that person would only serve until the end of the year and it would give whoever is interested in possibly running time to gear up on their campaign. He recommended that the Board solicit the opinion formally of the City of Woodbury as far as who they would like to see, but also have some kind of timeframe to allow others who might be interested an opportunity to apply for the appointment.

Mr. Schug stated that former Commissioner Stafford has indicated his intent not to run. The county cannot make that a condition or control it through any type of an agreement.

Commissioner Kriesel moved to approve the appointment process; that the date for appointment be February 5, 2008; and that individuals who may be interested in appointment submit a letter of intent and their resume to the Office of Administration by the end of the day on Tuesday, January 29, 2008. Commissioner Pulkrabek seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

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Commissioner Peterson asked that if individuals are interested in applying to be appointed what would they fill out and how would that process work. Will the Board review the applications on the 5th or come in on the 29th of January and look at the applications. She feels this is fairly nebulous and that it should be tightened up a little bit.

It was the consensus of the County Board that they would hold televised interviews prior to the County Board meeting on February 5, 2008 of applicants who have submitted a statement of interest and resume to the Washington County Office of Administration by January 29, 2008.

Mr. Schug noted that a press release would be prepared and that a notice would be placed on the county web site stating the intent to appoint and that interested persons should submit a statement of interest and resume to the Office of Administration by January 29, 2008.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Peterson asked that Mark Furman be invited to speak on the Central Corridor at a future Regional Railroad Authority meeting. She also attended the Metropolitan Transit Development Board. They are scheduling tours to visit out state Minnesota county projects. She asked that Commissioners try to attend one of these trips. At the AMC Board of Director's meeting she attended last Friday, she asked if other counties sold ads in their newsletters. No one at that meeting did. She asked the Commissioners to keep March 5 open for Transportation Day at the Capital. She distributed a list of State entities that have county representation.

Commissioner Pulkrabek stated it has been established that the City of Oakdale runs ads in their newsletter. He received in the mail last week a School District 622 community education newsletter and there were several ads in that. He got his driver's license renewal in the mail from the State of Minnesota and there were three advertisements in that envelops. He reminded the public that caucuses are coming up on February 5 and encouraged everyone to attend.

Commissioner Hegberg reported on the HRA meeting he attended last week. Their budget is doing well because vacancies are down. They are putting a lot of emphasis on screening occupants.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Peterson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Pulkrabek and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH PUBLIC WORKS

The Board met in workshop session with the Department of Public Works for an update on the Cottage Grove Southwest Area Transportation Study. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present were Commissioners Peterson, Hegberg, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Ann Pung-Terwedo, Wayne Sandberg, Joe Lux, Ted Schoenecker, John Elholm, and Harley Will.

Dennis C. Hegberg, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator

