

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD**  
**WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**  
**APRIL 15, 2008**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:10 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Pulkrabek, Hegberg, Stafford, and Hegberg. Commissioner Peterson absent. 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; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Sue Hedlund, Deputy Director of Public Health and Environment; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; John Elholm, Parks Director; Cory Slagle, Transportation Manager; Michael Welling, Surveyor; Ann Pung-Terwedo, Sr. Planner; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Harley Will, Financial Services Director; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Amanda Hollis, Management Analyst I; Larry Timmerman, Sr. Planner; Dave Brierley, Public Information Coordinator; and Maggi Aitkens, Public Information Coordinator II.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Brent Peterson, 502 West Churchill, Stillwater – Mr. Peterson, Executive Director of the Washington County Historical Society highlighted upcoming events for the Minnesota Sesquicentennial that will be held in Washington County including: Museums will open the first weekend in May with an open house at the Warden House Museum hosted by the Stillwater Business and Professional Women's Club on April 27 from noon to 4:00; on Saturday May 3 they will be hosting the Big Top Chautauqua: Old Minnesota Songs of the North Star; Saturday, on May 10 at the Washington County Historic Courthouse they will be holding the Minnesota Statehood Celebration, and Governor and Mrs. Sibley will attend; at Hay Lake School in Scandia, on Flag day the author Doug Hoverson will talk about his book Land of Amber Waters, the History of Minnesota Breweries and there will be a beer tasting; and, on June 28 and 29 at the Washington County Fairgrounds they will hold their vintage baseball festival with 11 teams participating.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

1. Approval to appoint Duane Gatzke, Labor Representative, to the Workforce Investment Board to a first term expiring June 30, 2011.
2. Approval to donate one annual vehicle permit to the Washington County Historical Society's Sesquicentennial event to be held on May 10, 2008.

3. Bids were received for 2008 cracksealant on various county roads as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Price to Remove Sealant Materials</u>	<u>Price Per Unit</u>	<u>Total Bid</u>
American Pavement Solutions	\$0.20	\$1.56	\$120,800
Fahrner Asphalt Sealers	\$0.20	\$1.85	\$142,550
Asphalt Surface Technologies	\$0.39	\$2.44	\$190,410

Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-052** as follows:

Bid Award for Crackseal Provision and Application on  
County Roads for 2008 to American Pavement Solutions, Inc.

WHEREAS, in order to complete road maintenance during 2008 on county roads to fill cracks in highway surfaces, the county solicited bids for the project; and

WHEREAS, bids were opened on April 1, 2008, with American Pavement Solutions, Inc. being the lowest responsible bidder; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the bid of American Pavement Solutions, Inc. be accepted and the county enter into a contract with American Pavement Solutions, Inc. under the terms and conditions set forth in the bid specification documents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the contract between the county and American Pavement Solutions, Inc. be executed through the signatures of the Chairman of the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the Washington County Administrator without further action of the County Board conditioned upon compliance with all bid specification requirements and approval as to form by the Washington County Attorney's office.

4. Approval of the following documents for jurisdictional transfer of roads and beach within Big Marine Park Reserve: Cooperative agreement between Washington County and May Township; real estate purchase agreement; and, **Resolution No. 2008-053** as follows:

Resolution to Establish County Road in May Township

WHEREAS, it appears to the County Board of Washington County that the roadways hereinafter described should be a designated County Highway under the provisions of Minnesota Law; and

WHEREAS, the roadways described herein are currently township roads under the control and authority of May Township; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 163.11, subd. 1 Washington County may establish by resolution of the County Board the herein described roadways as county roads; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of the creation of the Big Marine Park Reserve, the Washington County Board of Commissioners has determined, after due consultation with the staff of Washington County and representatives of the Township of May, that under the terms and conditions set forth herein the

April 15, 2008

public interest would be served by the designation of the hereinafter described roadways as a county road.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Board of Washington County that the roadways described as:

All of Lisbon Avenue North as shown and dedicated as First Street on PAULSONS FIRST DIVISION OF LOT 7, according to the recorded plat thereof, Washington County, Minnesota, and

All of Lisbon Avenue North as shown and dedicated as First Street, all of Susan Street and all of Oak Lane as shown and dedicated on OAK LANE, according to the recoded plat thereof, Washington County, Minnesota, and

All of Lisbon Avenue North and Lomond Trail North as shown and dedicated on WRANGHAM ADDITION, according to the recorded plat thereof, Washington County, Minnesota, and

All of Lomond Trail North from its intersection with Manning Trail North, easterly to Big Marine Lake and northerly to its intersection with 177<sup>th</sup> Street North, all in Sections 5 and 6, Township 31 North, Range 20 West, Washington County, Minnesota.

Shall, effective May 1, 2008, be designated and constitute a Washington County Highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to the extent authorized and permitted by law Washington County hereby agrees to hold harmless, defend and indemnify the Township of May from any liability or claims of liability from this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to the extent authorized and permitted by law Washington County hereby agrees to waive its right to exercise its authority to return to the Town of May the control of and responsibility for the roadways that are subject to this resolution.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Peterson absent.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2008-054** as follows:

Resolution in Support of H.R. 5613 and S. 2819  
the Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act of 2008

WHEREAS, regulations proposed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will alter the administration and financing of the Medicaid program and place severe restrictions on the ability of Washington County to provide essential core safety services to vulnerable populations, and;

WHEREAS, the proposed regulations, by reducing federal payments, would shift the costs of these essential core services to the state and counties, and;

April 15, 2008

WHEREAS, the citizens most affected by these regulations often have complex medical, behavioral, and social problems which necessitate critical services, including case management, in order to live successfully in communities and outside of institutional or hospital settings, and;

WHEREAS, with unemployment rising, home foreclosures at a record high, and real wages declining, Washington County is experiencing an increased demand for services for vulnerable citizens and a growing need for resources to assist them; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 5613 and S. 2819, the Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act of 2008, would place a moratorium until March 2009 on seven Medicaid regulations issued by CMS which would reduce Federal Medicaid funding to States for vital safety net programs and services to vulnerable citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners urges Congress to support H.R. 5613 and S. 2819, delaying the implementation of regulations that will result in less federal funding for essential safety services to abused and neglected children, jeopardize the ability of people with disabilities to live independently in the community, and increase county costs for federal and state mandated programs.

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

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT**

Commissioner Pulkrabek moved to accept a grant of \$15,000 from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) to implement the “Accreditation Preparation and Quality Improvement Demonstration Site Project”. Commissioner Kriesel seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously; Commissioner Peterson absent.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Commissioner Kriesel moved to adopt **Resolution No. 2008-055** as follows:

##### Resolution to Acquire Right of Way on County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 18

BE IT RESOLVED that Washington County proceed to improve a portion of County State Aid Highway 18 between T.H. 95 (Manning Avenue) and CSAH 21 (St. Croix Trail South) located in Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29 and 30, Township 28 North, Range 20 West in the City of Afton as shown on the attached map; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the officers of said county, including the County Engineer, the County Administrator and the County Attorney, shall proceed and are hereby authorized to proceed to acquire, by negotiations and purchase and if necessary the exercise of eminent domain,

April 15, 2008

right of way to establish said highway plus sight corners, permanent slope, drainage and utility easements, and temporary construction easements. Such officers are specifically authorized to take such action and execute such instruments and plats if any be necessary, to acquire said right of way and associated easements.

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

## **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

### **Update on the Minnesota Anniversary Project (MAP 150)**

Stacy Becker, Citizens League, presented an update on the Minnesota Anniversary Project (MAP 150) that looked at more opportunities to learn from citizens and what they wanted to know about their property taxes. She stated that this project included Ramsey, Morrison, and Washington Counties. Citizens informed them that the main thing they wanted was context: they liked trends over time; a full picture of what they are paying for, moving costs from the state to counties, including what is happening to revenues if those revenues from the state are declining; they like information for bigger outside trends like per capita and inflation adjustments; and some liked comparisons and rankings between jurisdictions, but some did not. They really liked charts that took the full property tax, broke that out by jurisdiction, and showed how much was spent on schools, criminal justice/police, streets/public works, parks and fire. Ms. Becker stated they will be going back to the individuals who participated six months ago and ask them if it has helped them as they went through the last property tax cycle. That survey has not been completed, but she will get it to the Board when it is compiled. They have created a property tax web site, Minnesota Property Tax Facts, [www.propertytaxfacts.mn](http://www.propertytaxfacts.mn) where all this information is provided. This web site has a survey individuals can take and results are immediately available. Another area the citizens needed help in understanding was school referendums and getting accurate information. So they compiled information on school referendums that occurred in 2007 and that information is also available on their web site. Ms. Becker stated that as a result of the school test, they are in the process of developing a simple model that local jurisdictions can use to provide online information. They are also in the process of doing a citizen involvement survey which can be found on [www.citizensleague.org](http://www.citizensleague.org). The Citizens League is considering looking into some policy follow up on the tax system, what it would take for there to be more consistency overtime so taxpayers knew what was coming.

### **Legislative Update**

Jim Schug, County Administrator, presented a brief legislative update: A key issue the county is watching is the conference committee and activity on the supplemental budget from both the House and the Senate; some of that information will be shared with the Board during the 2009 budget process workshop next week;

April 15, 2008

Washington County was a leader in establishing a fee for licensing of corporate foster care and there has been some effort on the part of the corporate foster care lobby to undo that fee; and the proposed legislation that would allow the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District to move into Section 103B which is a metro watershed and allows them to levy for additional administrative fees is included in the Senate Omnibus Tax Bill, but it does not require what Washington County is seeking, that the watershed get County Board approval of their annual budget and their workplan.

Commissioner Hegberg stated he supports watershed district projects instead of studies. He wants to see Comfort Lake-Forest Lake get what they need, but on the other hand he would like to see the County's advocacy. At this point he is thinking that for Washington County, they might need to seek approval to look at all the watershed districts budgets and work plans in the county.

Mr. Schug stated that the Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed legislation didn't start out as a county initiative. They just asked for the county's support of the special legislation. In the course of that discussion the County Board said it would support it, but with the condition that the County Boards of Chisago and Washington County would get to review and approve/deny the budget request and work plan. In discussions with other counties and county organizations, some feel there is a lot of merit to that issue because watersheds are appointed boards yet have taxing authority. There wasn't an opportunity to research and promote this statewide or at least metro wide. One thing they could do for the 2009 county legislative package is to take this to the member associations such as MICA and AMC to see if there would be general county wide support for that provision.

Commissioner Kriesel stated he supports everything that Commissioner Hegberg has stated. He would like to see a trend analysis on the watershed districts budgets over the last five years.

Commissioner Hegberg suggested that the County Board maintains its position, it does not agree with the bill, but it will not lobby against it.

#### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS**

Commissioner Pulkrabek reported on the tax cut rally that he and Commissioner Kriesel attended this past Saturday. He also reported that he would not be able to attend the Foster Care dinner this week.

Commissioner Kriesel reported he would be attending the Foster Care recognition dinner.

#### **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

April 15, 2008

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Hegberg adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

**BOARD WORKSHOP WITH THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

The Board met in workshop session with the Office of Administration to review the MetroMAP, a commercial and industrial site locator, website functionality. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Pulkrabek, Hegberg, Stafford, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Larry Timmerman, Amanda Hollis, and Maggi Aitkens.

Dennis C. Hegberg, Chair  
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug  
County Administrator

