

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
OCTOBER 19, 2010

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 Hegberg, Kriesel, Pulkrabek, Peterson, and Weik. Absent none. Board Chair Pulkrabek presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Rick Backman, Community Services Division Manager; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; John Elholm, Parks Director; Greg Wood, Building Services Manager; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; and Yvonne Klinnert, 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 Hegberg moved, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to adopt the following Consent Calendar:

1. Approval of the October 5 and 12, 2010 Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval to execute the contract to be a member of the Washington County Children's Mental Health Action Collaborative Agreement.
3. Approval of a 1-4 day temporary on-sale liquor license for the Arcola Historic Foundation for October 29, 2010 at the Arcola Mills Mansion.
4. Approval to appoint Commissioners Kriesel and Hegberg to serve on the County Canvass Board scheduled for Monday, November 8 at 10:00 a.m.
5. Approval and authorization for the County Board Chair and the County Administrator to enter into an agreement with the Forest Lake Schools Community Education Program to use county property to provide onsite County Employee Wellness activities at the County Service Center-Forest Lake.

6. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2010-148** as follows:

Request to Authorize the Director of Public Works
to Request the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of
Transportation to Perform a Speed Study to Determine the Reasonable
and Safe Speed Limit at the Following Locations:

Woodbury

- County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 16 (Valley Creek Road) from Weir Drive to CSAH 25 (Century Avenue)
- CSAH 25 (Century Avenue) from Lake Road to Interstate 94

Lake Elmo

- CSAH 13 (Ideal Avenue, Olson Lake Trail) from Trunk Highway 5 to CSAH 35 (50th Street North), with the condition that such study is to be conducted after the substantial completion of the Interstate 694 reconstruction project and Trunk Highway 5 roundabout project currently underway

Afton

- CSAH 18 (40th Street South, Afton Blvd South) from Trunk Highway 95 (Manning Avenue South) to CSAH 21, upon completion of the current reconstruction project.

Forest Lake

- County Road 83 (11th Ave SW, 220th Street SW) from 12th St SW to Everton Avenue, upon completion of the current bridge construction project.

WHEREAS, the authority to determine the safe and reasonable speed on a County Highway resides with the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and;

WHEREAS, the above portions of roadway have been recently modified by construction or have been determined by County Staff to have prevailing speeds which differ from the posted speed limits, and;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of all parties to have reasonable and safe speeds posted on our County Highways.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Director of Public Works to request that the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Transportation perform a speed survey to determine the reasonable and safe speed limit at the above referenced locations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Public Works is hereby authorized to install and maintain signing consistent with the resulting order.

7. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2010-149** as follows:

Resolution to Acquire Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota Property
for Inclusion into Grey Cloud Island Regional Park and
Use Land and Water Legacy Program Funds for the Purchase

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WHEREAS, Washington County is interested in acquiring the property described herein on Grey Cloud Island for inclusion into the Grey Cloud Island Regional Park; and

WHEREAS, the owner has agreed to sell the property to Washington County; and

WHEREAS, Washington County has enacted the Acquisition of Development Rights Ordinance #175 to establish a program for the preservation of open space, parks and public water, commonly referred to as the Land and Water Legacy Program, and has established the policies, rules and official controls governing such acquisitions; and

WHEREAS, Washington County intends to issue general obligation bonds to acquire land and interests in land to fund the Land and Water Legacy Program, and

WHEREAS, Washington County passed Resolution Number 2007-163 making a declaration of official intent to reimburse certain costs of projects identified as part of the Land and Water Legacy Program from proceeds of the general obligation bonds in accordance with Section 1.150-2(d)(3) of the Treasury Regulations, and

WHEREAS, the purchase of parkland is an eligible expenditure of Land and Water Legacy funds; and the Washington County Board of Commissioners has determined that the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota meets the criteria of the Land and Water Legacy Program and is worthy of protection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize its Chairman and Administrator to execute on behalf of the County a Purchase Agreement and any other document necessary for the County to purchase the property as shown on the aerial photo attached and legal description attached hereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Washington County will use Land and Water Legacy funds to purchase the property and that the Washington County Board of Commissioners intends that the costs of the project shall come from proceeds of the general obligation bonds issued to finance the preservation of open space, parklands, and other natural areas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Washington County will purchase said property for a sum of \$2,500.00.

8. Approval to enter into agreements with the Metropolitan Council for restrictive covenants on the Appert property acquisition for inclusion into the Grey Cloud Island Regional Park and the portion of the Pontius property acquisition for inclusion into the St. Croix Valley Regional Trail, and to file the agreements with the Washington County Recorder's Office as part of the deed to the parcels.
9. Approval of contract amendment with Braun Intertec Corporation in the amount of \$27,676.50 for additional geotechnical services on the County Road 83 Bridge Overpass of Interstate 35 construction project in Forest Lake.

10. Approval of contract with Forest Lake Contracting, Inc. for turn lane construction on Everton Avenue in the City of Forest Lake.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted 5-0 with a Roll Call vote as follows: Ayes, Commissioners Hegberg, Kriesel, Peterson, Weik, and Pulkrabek; Nays, none.

PROPERTY RECORDS AND TAXPAYER SERVICES

Commissioner Peterson moved to approve contracts for assessing services with the cities of Stillwater and St. Paul Park, and the townships of Denmark, West Lakeland, and Baytown. Commissioner Hegberg seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS – COMMENTS – QUESTIONS

Commissioner Weik reported on the Extension Committee Meeting last week. They heard a presentation on 4-H youth development and programs and received a State Fair update. They have sent out a thousand letters for fund raising and their membership has grown to over 600 members. They asked what the Extension Committee could do to help the County Board understand their program. She noted there was an opening on the Extension Committee for an at large member. The next Extension meeting will be on Thursday, November 11. The 4-H awards and recognition event will be held on October 25, 7:00 p.m. at Hooley Hall.

Commissioner Peterson stated that one thing the Extension Committee could do is advocate for their programs. She feels it is important to appoint people to the Extension Committee that have a background in 4-H, Master Gardener or whatever background they are involved in.

Commissioner Weik reported on the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Board of Director's meeting. They heard a presentation by Lt. Col Barbara Riley, National Guard, on the Yellow Ribbon counties. The AMC Board adopted a motion unanimously to support the other 83 counties in Minnesota to complete a Yellow Ribbon process. The Board received notification today that AMC has named a new Executive Director, Jeff Spartz, and he will start in November. Commissioner Paul Wilson, Olmsted County, reported that 20 counties have dropped out of the National Association of Counties due to budget issues. AMC 2011 dues will be kept at the 2010 level, and that the budget will be adjusted. They are projecting a slight shortfall, but they do have a plan for funding that shortfall.

Commissioner Weik attended the Minnesota Inter-County Association (MCIT) meeting. They heard a presentation on health care homes. There was an update under the taxes and state aid. There is talk that cities are moving forward on a ½ cent sales tax and may try to get out in front of counties on that. They heard about the revisions to the Met Council's 2030 Transportation Plan. Anoka County sent a letter of

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concern and Scott County is holding meetings and discussions on this issue. The plan holds transit harmless but affects road projects.

Commissioner Peterson suggested that before the AMC and MICA Annual Meetings, the Board discuss the ½ cent sales tax for counties that is out there and what happens if the cities institute a ½ cent sales tax.

Commissioner Weik stated that MICA was going to send a letter to Met Council saying that MICA members passed a resolution asking the Met Council to slow down the changes to the 2030 Plan until the new Met Council starts. She thought it might be a good idea for Washington County to write a letter to its Met Council members asking them to wait.

Commissioner Weik attended the Gateway Corridor meeting. The strategic communication plan was distributed and they are asking for comments by November 19. The Wisconsin Coalition gave an update that they are developing a budget and how they want to proceed with their next steps.

Commissioner Peterson reported that Cottage Grove finalized their Yellow Ribbon action plan.

Commissioner Kriesel reported on the Gateway Corridor meeting where they discussed the draft work plan and budget. They also passed a resolution requesting the state to fund \$1 million for an environmental assessment and preliminary engineering. He also reported that the National Parks Service issued a report back to the Judge, a Section 7A Report, that the Stillwater Bridge shouldn't be built.

Commissioner Weik stated she has had comments from citizens in the area of Century Avenue and Valley Creek intersection regarding the final appearance of the easement area and that it has not been completed. They were also interested in a monument marker and wanted to know how to go about getting that. Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director, stated in coordination between the utility relocations and the project there were strips of grass that were not seeded properly during the project. The county is aware of those areas and will sod those areas next spring as it is getting too late to do a good job now. As far as working with the homeowners associations, they are happy to work with them to get that extra layer of personalization. It is incumbent upon the homeowners association to come with resources for that, but the county would be happy to work with them.

Commissioner Hegberg asked about political signs and their removal. He asked if there was a reason the signs aren't just laid in the ditch. Mr. Sandberg stated it is against state law to place political signs in the public rights of way. Staff time is an issue, so they focus on signs that are close to the road or attached to an existing highway sign. The signs are not left in the ditch because that amounts to littering, and because individuals do not pick them up. Staff removes the signs and brings them to either

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the north or south shops. The signs are kept for a minimum of two weeks and the campaigns are welcome to come out to the shops and pick them up. Staff will then work with them as to where they can be placed.

Commissioner Peterson informed Mr. Sandberg that there was a large roar of thanks when County Road 74 was completed. It came from business owners and neighbors who can now align their tires for winter. Mr. Sandberg stated that is a perfect example of where the wheelage tax has resulted in a direct investment back into county highways. That road was ineligible for county state aid and it took a long time to get the resources to do that. The wheelage tax was how they did it.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Peterson moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Weik and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

BOARD WORKSHOP WITH THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

The Board met in workshop session with the Office of Administration to review the draft 2011 Legislative Agenda. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present for the workshop session were Commissioners Hegberg, Kriesel, Pulkrabek, Peterson, and Weik. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Wayne Sandberg, Andy Gitzlaff, Doug Johnson, Don Theisen, Lowell Johnson, Dan Papin, Tom Adkins, Yvonne Klinnert, Kevin Corbid, John Kaul, and Scott Wentz, Woodbury Bulletin.

Bill Pulkrabek, Chair
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug
County Administrator