

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA  
FEBRUARY 3, 2009**

**WASHINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY CONVENES**

The Washington County Regional Railroad Authority met in regular session at 9:05 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Peterson, Pulkrabek, Hegberg, Weik, and Kriesel. Absent none. RRA Chair Peterson presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Director of Public Works; John Elholm, Parks Director; Sharon Price, Public Works Property Manager; Keith Potter, Facilities Manager; Andy Gitzlaff, Associate Transportation Planner; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Sandra Hahn, Community Corrections Division Manager; Lowell Johnson, Public Health and Environment Director; Amanda Strommer, Public Health and Environment Program Manager; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Milan Tomaska, Information Technology Supervisor; Harley Will, Accounting and Finance Director, Kay McAloney, Human Resources Director; and David Brierley, Public Information Coordinator. Official Proceedings of the Regional Railroad Authority are available in the Office of Administration.

The Board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONVENES**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:20 a.m. in the Washington County Government Center, County Board Room. Present were Commissioners Peterson, Pulkrabek, Hegberg, Weik, and Kriesel. Board Chair Peterson presided. Also present were James Schug, County Administrator; Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator; George Kuprian, Assistant County Attorney; Doug Johnson, County Attorney; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Director of Public Works; John Elholm, Parks Director; Sharon Price, Public Works Property Manager; Keith Potter, Facilities Manager; Andy Gitzlaff, Associate Transportation Planner; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Sandra Hahn, Community Corrections Division Manager; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Chief Deputy Sheriff Mike Johnson; Lowell Johnson, Public Health and Environment Director; Amanda Strommer, Public Health and Environment Program Manager; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Milan Tomaska, Information Technology Supervisor; Kay McAloney, Human Resources Director; Harley Will, Accounting and Finance Director; and Dave Brierley, Public Information Coordinator.

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Board Chair Peterson asked for a moment of silence in memory of the Honorable David E. Doyscher, 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Judge, who passed away on February 2, 2009, and the Honorable Douglas G. Swenson, 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Judge, who passed away on February 1, 2009.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

The Board Chair asked for comments from the public; none were heard.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

1. Approval of the January 20, 2009, Board meeting minutes.
2. Approval of amendment number nine to contract #1875 between East Suburban Resources and the Community Services Department's Workforce Center (WFC) to provide employment training services to dislocated workers through December 31, 2009.
3. Approval of the data/voice cabling contract with Network Design, Inc., for the period of February 1, 2009, through January 31, 2010.
4. Approval of amendment to contract #4399 with SirsiDynix Corporation for maintenance of the Library's integrated library system, called HORIZON.
5. Approval of renewal of two-year agreements with the cities of Bayport, Forest Lake, Lakeland Shores, Newport, Oakdale, Scandia, and Pine Springs to provide individual sewage treatment system inspection services.
6. Approval of the license to use property with Children's Dental Service for the use of the WIC Clinic space in Cottage Grove for holding monthly dental clinics.
7. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2009-014** as follows:

Resolution for Traffic Control Signal Agreement with the city of Cottage Grove at the Intersection of County Highway 22 and Hardwood Avenue

**WHEREAS**, Washington County and the city of Cottage Grove have recently installed a traffic signal at the intersection of County State Aid Highway 22 (70<sup>th</sup> Street South) at Hardwood Avenue; and

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**WHEREAS**, Washington County has jurisdiction over County Highway 22 (70<sup>th</sup> Street South); and

**WHEREAS**, the city of Cottage Grove has jurisdiction over Hardwood Avenue;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the County of Washington enter into an agreement with the city of Cottage Grove for the following purposes, to wit:

To provide maintenance and electrical energy for the new traffic control signal with street lights, emergency vehicle pre-emption, and signing on County State Aid Highway 22 at Hardwood Avenue in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth and contained in the agreement, a copy of which is before the Board.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the proper County officers be and hereby are authorized to execute such agreement and any amendments, and thereby assume for and on behalf of the County all of the contractual obligations contained therein.

8. Approval of agreement with the Metropolitan Council for restrictive covenants on property acquired for inclusion into the Big Marine Park Reserve and the agreement filed with the Washington County Recorder's Office as part of the deed to the parcel.
9. Approval of award of contract to Owens Companies, Inc., to overhaul the Law Enforcement Center chiller and authorize execution of the contract through the signatures of the Chair of the Washington County Board of Commissioners and the Washington County Administrator, without further action from the County Board.
10. Approval to appoint Linda Stanton, Woodbury, to the Mental Health Advisory Council to a first term expiring December 31, 2012.

The foregoing Consent Calendar was adopted unanimously.

### **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Schug, County Administrator, gave an update on the 2009 legislative session. He noted some of the larger items include a proposed reduction of county program aid for Washington County in the amount of \$2.25 million in 2009, assuming Washington County does not enter into any type of joint powers agreement for the delivery of human services. Mr. Schug went on to explain the Governor's budget had reductions which could be bought back if counties participate in multi-county human service organizations. Counties with populations over 250,000 are excluded from this requirement. Reductions would be cut by approximately \$800,000 if Washington County joined a multi-county human services group. For 2010, the proposed reduction in county program aid is \$3.7 million or \$2.6 million if we enter into a joint powers agreement for human services.

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Mr. Schug commented on the reduction in Department of Natural Resources payment in lieu of taxes for State owned property. For Washington County this results in a reduction of the State payment in lieu of taxes of about \$134,000. He added there was also a requirement that counties pay back the temporary payment made last year by the legislature to cover the loss of Federal funding in child welfare targeted case management. This Federal action was later suspended and reversed so Washington County has yet to experience this reduction in Federal funds. Mr. Schug noted Washington County knew this was likely and the approximately \$522,000 is available for return.

Mr. Schug commented on the considerable work done last week on the 2009 work plan, specifically addressing these funding reduction issues and the impact on the county. At this point the plan is to continue with the changes already made including, position freezes, reduction in capital purchases and operating expenses, holding back on training where possible, and controlling out of state travel unless absolutely necessary. Mr. Schug reported, as a result of the County's actions taken to freeze positions in 2008, it has already resulted in approximately 36 positions being held open. Mr. Schug indicated the issue related to positions or contracts, through which we purchase services, will continue to be reviewed as time goes on and as we receive more information.

Mr. Schug commented the Department of Correction's budget was not affected by the Governor's proposal so we do not expect any reduction in our community corrections grants. There is however a proposal to reduce a special grant the county receives for maintaining our 8-day juvenile hold facility at the Law Enforcement Center. The county currently receives about \$90,000 to offset the cost of operating this facility; this amount is eliminated under the proposal. There is no recommended change for the short term offenders, which means the county would continue to only receive approximately \$9.00 per day reimbursement on a cost ranging up to \$117.00 per day.

Mr. Schug noted there is a proposal to reduce the state health improvement program by approximately half and to extend it from two years to four years. This would significantly decrease the impact of that program, meant to address the major health impacts on the state over the next two years.

Mr. Schug noted there is a late developing bill being proposed by Senator Vandever in which he is looking to expand the use of freeway shoulders by buses and make bus stops available for their use. He commented this is still being reviewed but believes Senator Vandever is hoping the county will assist with testimony at upcoming hearings.

Mr. Schug announced that Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services, was subpoenaed and is testifying at the United States Senate election contest hearing at the Judicial Center this morning.

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Mr. Schug recognized Myjke Nelson, Director of Information Technology, on his achievement for being elected vice chair of the Minnesota Counties Information Technology Leadership Association. He congratulated him and thanked him for his contributions to his professional association.

### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Kriesel and Commissioner Weik provided comments on Metropolitan Council's State of the Region 2009 meeting they attended on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Commissioner Weik commented the meeting was very well attended and she was encouraged by the fact the presentation started out with discussion on the east metro transportation needs. She mentioned concerns with Peter Bell's comments about using Federal stimulus dollars only for transit operating costs. Commissioner Kriesel commended Kevin Giles, Reporter for the Star Tribune, for his front page article covering the meeting.

Commissioner Hegberg reported on his Regional Solid Waste Management and Resource Recovery Project Board meetings this past week, both meeting had similar funding discussions. He mentioned concerns expressed by the recyclers about the decline in the recycling of paper and metals.

Commissioner Pulkrabek will be attending the Oakdale Business Professional Association's annual gold plate dinner fundraiser on Thursday, February 5.

Commissioner Pulkrabek commented on an ancillary issue related to the housing crisis where townhome associations are low on funds due to the number of units in foreclosure. He also mentioned the increase in legal fees compounding the issue.

Commissioner Peterson mentioned these homeowner's associations may want to have discussions with those cities who are receiving funds due to the number of foreclosures.

Commissioner Kriesel attended the Lower St. Croix Valley Alliance meeting where discussions included the loss of local state aid and the possibilities of developing legislative agendas with input from the communities. He mentioned they are also looking at combining services between cities.

Commissioner Kriesel attended a yellow ribbon committee meeting with volunteers led by Senator Saltzman to have Washington County become the first yellow ribbon county in Minnesota. The committee's goal is to provide a network of support to families with members serving in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Commissioner Weik expressed her appreciation and respect for everyone's hard work and decisions that went into last week's meeting on the 2009 work plan.

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Commissioner Weik will be attending Transportation Day at the Capitol on Thursday, and has appointments set up with both Representative Marsha Swails and State Senator Kathy Saltzman. She has a number of things to discuss with them but welcomed staff to offer their suggestions.

### **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 Kriesel, and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

### **BOARD WORKSHOP WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**

The Board met in workshop session with the Department of Community Corrections to discuss issues related to offender re-entry from jail and prison. No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present were Commissioners Peterson, Hegberg, Weik, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Tom Adkins, Sandy Hahn, Dan Luke, Bill Hutton, Lori Hanson, Chuck Yetter, John Haugen, Chris Volkers, Mike Johnson, Dan Papin, and Kristin Tuenge.

### **BOARD WORKSHOP WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

The Board met in workshop session with the Department of Community Services on the topic of Children in Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS). No business was transacted and the public was welcome to attend. Present were Commissioners Peterson, Hegberg, Weik, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Dan Papin, Richard Bachman, Chris Volkers, Judge William Ekstrum, Judge Susan Miles, Doug Johnson, Sue Harris, Tony Zdroik, Don Pelton and Lisa Hanson.

Myra Peterson, Chair  
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug  
County Administrator