

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA  
DECEMBER 23, 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, Pulkrabek, Hegberg, Weik, and Kriesel. 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; Don Theisen, Public Works Director; Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director; Sharon Price, Property Acquisition Manager; Harley Will, Accounting and Finance Director; Dan Papin, Community Services Director; Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment; Sheriff Bill Hutton; Kevin Corbid, Director of Property Records and Taxpayer Services; Kay McAloney, Human Resources Director; Tom Adkins, Community Corrections Director; Ann Pung Terwedo, Senior Planner; Mjyke Nelson, Information Technology Director; Jon Larson, Veterans Service Officer; and David Brierley, Public Information Coordinator.

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

1. Approval of the December 2, 2008 Board meeting minutes by amending Page 395, fourth paragraph by changing "Commissioner Peterson" to Commissioner Weik"; amending the December 16, 2008 Board meeting minutes by adding the following to Page 416 "Commissioner Weik noted she abstained from the salary votes and the budget votes because she has been on the Board for such a short time and was not involved in the 2009 budget discussions."; and, approval of the December 4, Truth-in-Taxation meeting minutes.
2. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-169** as follows

Special Revenues Fund and Update Fiscal Policy #2803  
Fund Definitions to Reflect the Addition of the New Fund

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board established Administrative Policy #1036 to direct the cost participation between Washington County and other agencies for the 800MHz Radio System; and

WHEREAS, Washington County anticipates the system to become operational in 2009 and financial processes must be established; and

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WHEREAS, Washington County expects the fund to be self-sustaining and be independent of future on-going operational support from the county's budget; and

WHEREAS, the county, in order to implement these plans, must create separate funds to account for the financial activities of the system; and

WHEREAS, funds received from user fees, grants, gifts, leases, or other means arising from the operation of the system must be used for system activities; and

WHEREAS, the resources in this fund must be used to meet the obligations arising from the maintenance, repair, operation, expansion, and administration of the radio system; and

WHEREAS, the money deposited in these funds will earn interest on any balance that is being held for future disbursements; and

WHEREAS, the existing fiscal policies of Washington County must be updated to reflect the opening of new funds and to define their use; and

WHEREAS, the Accounting and Finance Department is responsible for the implementation and management of new funds under these policies.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Washington County Accounting and Finance Department to open the new Governmental- Special Revenue Fund per fiscal policy #2802 Opening and Closing of Funds:

Fund 240 – SHR - 800MHz Radio Sys Fund 240

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners orders the Accounting and Finance Department to update Fiscal Policy #2803 Fund Definitions to reflect the addition of these new funds.

3. Approval of the 2009-2011 contract with Hugo COH, LLC to provide 24-hour customized living services at their Comforts of Home site in Hugo.
4. Approval of the 2009-2011 contract with Elder Haven Home, LLC to provide 24-hour customized living services at their site in Forest Lake.
5. Approval of the 2009-2011 contract with Senior Care Woodbury, LLC to provide 24-hour customized living and customized living services at their three facilities in Woodbury: Woodbury PAL; Woodbury Villa; and Woodbury Estates.
6. Approval of the 2009-2011 contract with Cottage Grove WP, LLC to provide 24-hour customized living services at their White Pine site in Cottage Grove.
7. Approval to accept a Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, County Veterans Service Officers enhancement grant in the amount of \$17,717.00.

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8. Approval to accept a \$25,000 donation from the RAFT Charitable Foundation to the county Library.
9. Approval to accept various donations to the county Library in the approximate amount of \$4,175.
10. Approval to enter into an agreement with the University of Minnesota to provide Extension programs locally and employ County Extension Staff.
11. Approval of comments on the City of Lino Lakes draft comprehensive plan.
12. Approval of comments on the Denmark Township draft comprehensive plan.
13. Approval of Change Order #7 to contract with People's Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$26,176.
14. Approval of Change Order #4 to contract with Commercial Drywall, Inc. in the amount of \$28,340.
15. Adoption of **Resolution No. 2008-170** as follows:

Resolution Agency Agreement for Cultural Resources/  
Architectural History Investigation for CSAH 2 Reconstruction

WHEREAS, Washington County is undertaking the reconstruction of CSAH 2 in the City of Forest Lake; and

WHEREAS, Washington County will secure and guarantee the local share of costs associated with this project and responsibility for seeing this project through to its completion, with compliance of all applicable laws, rules and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Mn/DOT Cultural Resources Unit has identified the need for an architectural history investigation to identify whether any properties within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in order to assess impacts and to complete environmental documentation for the proposed project; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget amount for aforementioned architectural history investigation is \$31,995.00; and

WHEREAS, the local share of subject budget is 20%.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Washington County does hereby agree to provide the local share of the proposed budget for the stated architectural history investigation currently estimated at \$6,399.60.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Chairman and the Administrator are hereby authorized and directed for and on behalf of the county to execute and enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Transportation.

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16. Approval and execution of Amendment No. 8 to the road kill deer removal contract with 4 Paws Road Kill Animal Services.
17. Approval of amendment to the food service agreement with Aramark Corrections Services LLC.

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

Commissioner Peterson arrived at 9:30 a.m.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Wayne Sandberg, Deputy Public Works Director, presented an overview of the status of Bridge 5600 (J.A.R.) Bridge that spanned the Mississippi River connecting St. Paul Park in Washington County and Inver Grove Heights in Dakota County. The bridge has been closed to traffic since 1999 and on April 10, 2001, the U.S. Coast Guard issued a bridge removal order and the order was reiterated on July 20, 2005. In 2006 the State Legislature approved the use of bridge bonds for removal of this structure. In 2007 Washington and Dakota Counties began a removal and reuse feasibility analysis. In 2008 the analysis was complete and in November a piece of the bridge collapsed under its own weight. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is requiring a mussels survey, relocate nesting swallows, and work around the fish spawning period. The National Parks Services may request that a Section 106 process be followed. The US Coast Guard feels there is no Federal action and they do not feel that a Section 106 needs to be done. The National Parks Service disputes this claim and is advocating for a Section 106 which could delay the removal of the bridge by a year. The county feels that the US Coast Guard is the Federal Agency in charge and they are following their lead. Staff recommends the bridge be removed in stages in 2009 with Washington County's portion being removed by March 15 and Dakota County's portions by August 1. They also recommend that the Washington County Board of Commissioners designate the removal of Bridge 5600 as an emergency removal project.

Commissioner Peterson moved to designate the removal of Bridge 5600 as an emergency removal project. Commissioner Pulkrabek seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

### **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

#### **Update on Governor's Unallotment of State Aid to Counties**

Jim Schug, County Administrator, presented a brief overview of the Governor's unallotment of State aid to counties. Washington County was expecting a county program aid on December 26 in the amount of \$3.27 million. The payment will now be \$1.8 million a reduction of \$1.47 million. He has met with Department

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Heads and started to address this issue. Depending on the next revenue projections there could be another cut in fiscal year 2009 and definitely in 2010. With only one week left in the county fiscal year, there is not an opportunity to do anything significant to recover the \$1.47 million that the county will not receive. Some positions will be held open, they've been careful in operating funds, and in renewing contracts. They will have to wait to see what the end of the year total brings to see if that significantly reduces the operating fund balance or whether it is something that can be absorbed with a combination of contingency funding. To address the reductions in 2009, he has asked departments to start putting together, by January 16, budget scenarios that would be proposed to the Board at a later date for funding reductions. An immediate hiring freeze has been instituted unless there are critical positions that become open that need to be filled. He's asked Department Heads to evaluate non-critical capital purchases and delay them unless there is a project that is currently underway. They asked that current contracts, either new or renewals, be carefully evaluated to see if they need to be implemented. They are checking all contracts to see if there is termination language in order to reduce or cancel them if the county should lose funding. They asked departments to look at all operating expenses including non-critical out-of-state travel and other things.

#### **Metropolitan Mosquito Control Appointments**

Commissioner Kriesel moved to appoint Commissioners Weik and Peterson to the Metropolitan Mosquito Control for 2009. Commissioner Pulkrabek seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously.

#### **Minnesota Inter-County Association**

Mr. Schug advised that the Minnesota Inter-County Association is having its annual meeting on January 21 in Rochester. If any of the Board members are planning on attending he asked that they let staff know and they will be registered.

Mr. Schug announced the following recognitions: County Attorney Doug Johnson, on December 4-5 through the Minnesota County Attorney's Association, received that organization's Distinguished Service Award; in November, Lowell Johnson, Director of Public Health and Environment, was given the Emerging Leadership Award through the Local Public Health Association, and is also their Chair-elect for 2009; and Molly O'Rourke, Deputy Administrator, was named as Secretary of the Minnesota Association of County Administrators.

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

Commissioner Peterson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. She also stated that she is offended at the bonuses being given to the banking industry after they just fleeced the taxpayers of money.

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Commissioner Pulkrabek asked for information on the Housing and Redevelopment Authority's redevelopment of the trailer park in Oakdale. The City of Oakdale held a special meeting last evening because the developer wanted to change the design of the building from row houses to an apartment building because they could get money from the State. The City Council did not react very well to the change in the design and denied the request. He asked how that would impact the rest of the development.

The Boardroom was cleared because of a fire alarm.

The Board meeting reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

Commissioner Peterson reported that the trail along 70<sup>th</sup> Street isn't plowed. She gets many calls asking why the county and city do not plow that. She discovered that trail along 70<sup>th</sup> was built by and with funds from the snowmobile club. The city is the only entity that can take that designation away from the trail. It is a major trail for the snowmobile trail.

Commissioner Kriesel stated he attended the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) meeting last week. He was called away to the Solid Waste Management meeting because they didn't have a quorum. He did hear the new slogan for CTIB "It's About Time" was thought of by Maggi Aitkens, Public Information Coordinator II. He wished every one a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Commissioner Weik reported she attended the Community Corrections Advisory Board meeting last week. She asked if anyone from the community is interested on serving on any of the Washington County Advisory Committees to look at the web site and send in an application. She and Jim Schug attended two meetings with the City of Woodbury to discuss the I-94 corridor, CTIB and economic development along the corridor. The second week they discussed issues that the City of Woodbury is looking at, including public works planning, parks and open space projects, and the new 800 MHz radio system. Commissioner Weik pointed out an article that was in the Pioneer Press regarding the need for more foster care families. She noted that there will be a New Year's Eve event at Bielenberg Sports Center in Woodbury. It is an annual event that is geared for families with children under 12. She wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

Commissioner Hegberg asked that staff prepare two Commissioner Awards for Greg Ochs and Judy Bull who had served on the Forest Lake City Council. The CTIB did approve Washington County's portion of funding for commuter bus service from Forest Lake to Minneapolis and St. Paul and also the I-94 Corridor Study. He attended Dakota County Commissioner Turner's retirement event.

### **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Board correspondence was received and placed on file.

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**EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION WITH PUBLIC WORKS**

Commissioner Peterson moved to go into Executive Session with the Public Works Department for an Attorney-Client Closed Session to discuss Commissioner Award, CSAH 15, Crescent Development. Commissioner Pulkrabek seconded the motion and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting recessed at 10:45 a.m. Present for the closed session were Commissioners Peterson, Hegberg, Weik, and Kriesel. Also present were Jim Schug, Molly O'Rourke, Don Theisen, Wayne Sandberg, Doug Johnson, Richard Hodsdon, Jim Zuleger, Sharon Price, and Patricia Raddatz.

The Board reconvened at 11:30 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Kriesel moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Peterson and it was adopted unanimously. The Board meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

**BOARD WORKSHOP WITH THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

The Board met in workshop session with the Office of Administration to discuss Commissioner Committee assignments for 2009. 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, Tom Adkins, Dan Papin, and Patricia Raddatz.

Dennis C. Hegberg, Chair  
County Board

Attest:

James R. Schug  
County Administrator