

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met with the following members present: Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman and Chair Parker – 6. Absent: - Bennett – 1. Also present were Julie Kleinschmidt, County Manager, and Darwin Lookingbill, Director, Civil Division, County Attorney's Office.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### AGENDA

Commissioner Carter moved approval of the Agenda of the May 5, 2009, Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.

#### MINUTES

Commissioner Reinhardt moved approval of the Minutes of the April 28, 2009 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.

#### PROCLAMATION/RECOGNITION of the Emergency Communications Center for the outstanding work performed during the 2008 Republican National Convention

Chair Parker presented a Proclamation to Scott Williams, Director, Ramsey County Emergency Communications Center (ECC), which had been generated because a letter had been received from the United States Secret Service, for the outstanding work done by Mr. Williams and the entire Department before and during the Republican National Convention. Mr. Williams accepted the Proclamation on behalf of all ECC employees, who had gone above and beyond their normal scope of work in providing services for this Convention.

Mr. Williams thanked the Board for this honor and thanked all those involved in various roles during the Convention. He is very proud of the ECC staff and all the public safety communication partners.

#### PUBLIC WORKS – Highway 36/Rice Street Interchange – Amendment No. 3 to Agreement PW2008-19 between Ramsey County and SEH, Inc.

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-145)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County entered into Professional Services Agreement PW2008-19 with Short Elliott and Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH, Inc.) for the purpose of Concept Development and completion of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Preliminary Engineering (PE) for reconstructing the Trunk Highway 36/Rice Street Interchange and related roadway improvements; and

WHEREAS, It has been determined that other additional scope changes are warranted by requirements associated with the "preferred alternative", and also to help expedite overall project delivery by minimizing transition time between preliminary design and final design; and

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, The recommended work scope changes and associated costs are identified in Amendment No. 3 to the Agreement; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves Amendment No. 3 to Agreement PW2008-19 between Ramsey County and SEH, Inc., 3535 Vadnais Center Drive, St. Paul, MN 55110-5196, for Concept Development and completion of an Environmental Assessment and Preliminary Engineering for reconstructing the Highway 36/Rice Street interchange and related roadway improvements, in the amount of \$138,780; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign the Amendment on behalf of Ramsey County, and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve any necessary budget adjustments; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves a temporary cash loan in the amount of \$138,780 from the General fund to the Road and Bridge CIP fund until receipt of participating funds.

PUBLIC WORKS – Detour Agreement 94291 for TH 51

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-146)

WHEREAS, MnDOT is planning improvements to T.H. 51 from T.H. 36 to Grey Fox Road for grading, bituminous mill and overlay and traffic signal construction and other associated construction; and

WHEREAS, MnDOT Detour Agreement 94291 for T.H. 51 identifies Ramsey County roadways: Fairview Avenue, Hamline Avenue, Lexington Avenue, County Road C, County Road B and County Road E, as part of the detour route; and

WHEREAS, Agreement 94291 for T.H. 51 identifies compensation to Ramsey County by MnDOT for maintenance and the road life consumed by the detour to be \$9,648.60; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves Detour Agreement 94291 between Ramsey County Public Works and MnDOT; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement on behalf of Ramsey County; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The thirteen (13) page agreement is made part of this resolution by reference and is on file with the Chief Clerk; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve any necessary budget adjustments.

*(Continued)*

COUNTY MANAGER – Reappointment of County Engineer

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-147)

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 163.07, Subdivisions 1 and 2, require the County Board of each county to appoint a county highway engineer; and

WHEREAS, The law further requires the county highway engineer to be a registered highway or civil engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, The Statute further provides that initial appointments may be for a term of only one year and that reappointment shall be for a term of four years, made in May of the year in which the term expires; and

WHEREAS, County Board Resolution 2000-292 appointed Kenneth Haider as Ramsey County Engineer effective October 2, 2000; and

WHEREAS, County Board Resolution 2001-175 reappointed Kenneth Haider as Ramsey County Engineer effective May 31, 2001 through May 30, 2005; and

WHEREAS, County Board Resolution 2005-172 reappointed Kenneth Haider as Ramsey County Engineer effective May 31, 2005 through May 30, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Haider is well qualified to continue in his capacity as Ramsey County Engineer; and

WHEREAS, In order to conform to Minnesota Statutes Section 163.07, the County Manager has recommended that the County Board reappoint Kenneth Haider as Ramsey County Engineer, for a term beginning May 31, 2009 and ending May 30, 2013; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby reappoints Kenneth Haider, who is registered under the law as a Professional Civil Engineer, Registration Number 12809, to the position of Ramsey County Engineer to be effective May 31, 2009 through May 30, 2013.

COUNTY MANAGER – Petition for Ramsey and Washington Counties to Take Over Goodview Avenue

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-148)

WHEREAS, On April 17, 2009, the Ramsey County Attorney's Office received a *Petition for County to Take Over Road*; and

WHEREAS, The petitioners are requesting that Ramsey County, in conjunction with Washington County, take over Goodview Avenue so that necessary improvements can be made; and

WHEREAS, Goodview Avenue borders White Bear Township in Ramsey County and the City of Grant in Washington County; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. Section 163.13 sets out the procedure that allows any person owning real estate in the county to petition the county board to establish a county highway or portage; and

WHEREAS, The statute requires that the matter be considered at the next regular county board meeting, and based upon an investigation, the board shall make a determination by resolution; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the ***Petition for County to Take Over Road***; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board hereby directs the County Manager to work with the Department of Public Works on an investigation and comment.

COUNTY MANAGER – Ramsey County Draft 2008 Comprehensive Plan Submittal

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-149)

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Council requires all Twin Cities' counties and municipalities to review and update their Comprehensive Plans ("Plan") at least once every ten years per the Metropolitan Land Planning Act, Minnesota Statutes 473.851 – 473.871; and

WHEREAS, The Comprehensive Plan documents how the local jurisdiction plans to incorporate the Metropolitan Council's *Regional Framework*, and address the local System Statements provided by the Metropolitan Council to the specific local jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, The previous Ramsey County Comprehensive Plan was formally adopted by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners on December 17, 2002 (Resolution #2002-445); and

WHEREAS, The deadline to submit the Draft 2008 Comprehensive Plan is May 15, 2009; and

WHEREAS, As a required part of the update process, local jurisdictions are allowed a six-month period to review and comment on other jurisdictions' plans; and

WHEREAS, Thirty-nine jurisdictions were provided the opportunity to review and provide comment on the Ramsey County Draft 2008 Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County has revised the Draft 2008 Comprehensive Plan; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves, on a preliminary basis, the Ramsey County Draft 2008 Comprehensive Plan; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to submit the Ramsey County Draft 2008 Comprehensive Plan to the Metropolitan Council by May 15, 2009.

*(Continued)*

PROPERTY RECORDS AND REVENUE – 2009 Special Board of Appeal and Equalization

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-150)

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Section 274.13, Subd. 2, authorizes a County Board of Commissioners to appoint a Special Board of Appeal and Equalization and delegate to it the powers and duties in Minnesota Statutes, section 274.13, subd.1; and

WHEREAS, Section 274.13, Subd. 2, authorizes the County Board to determine the number of appointees to the special board, and the compensation to be paid, but specifies that at least one member of the special board must be an appraiser, realtor or other person familiar with property valuations; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners desires to appoint a special board to be known as the Ramsey County Board of Appeal and Equalization to be conducted pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 274.13, subd.1; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners desires to establish standards to ensure that Ramsey County property owners are provided easy access to the Special Board and simplified procedures for presenting appeals and receiving a fair, impartial hearing; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners desires to provide for required training for our Board Members on future Special Boards of Appeal and Equalization Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints the Special Board members and designated chairs as stated below, to conduct the 2009 Ramsey County Special Board of Appeal and Equalization, as needed, June 17, 2009 through June 30, 2009; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the procedural rules stated below. The procedures shall be adhered to by the Ramsey County Special Board of Appeal and Equalization in conducting its business; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the code of ethics and conduct guidelines as stated below. The procedural rules shall be adhered to by the Ramsey County Special Board of Appeal and Equalization in conducting its business; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby grants the County Manager the authority to coordinate and provide resources for designated 2010 Special Board of Appeal and Equalization Board Members to attend required state sponsored training.

**2009 Special Board of Appeal and Equalization Members**

<b>DISTRICT 1</b>	Jerry Stradinger	651-633-9189
Tony Bennett	1426 W. County Road E Arden Hills, MN 55112	
<b>DISTRICT 2</b>	David L. Norrgard	651-636-9218
Jan Parker <i>Board Chair</i>	2499 N. Albert Roseville, MN 55713	

(Continued)

2 <sup>nd</sup> appointee <i>By Board Chair</i>	Mark Mastel 2599 Lexington Ave N #322 Roseville, MN 55113	651-283-8825
<b>DISTRICT 3</b> Janice Rettman	Nyals Kittel 1118 Churchill Street St. Paul, MN 55103	651-489-1918
<b>DISTRICT 4</b> Toni Carter	Marilyn Porter 1247 Maywood Street St. Paul, MN 55117	651-489-7469
<b>DISTRICT 5</b> Rafael Ortega	Pat Igo *(Chair) 819 Holly Ave St. Paul, MN 55104	651-298-0000
<b>DISTRICT 6</b> Jim McDonough	Tienne M. Linden* (Chair) 2217 Highwood St. Paul, MN 55119	651-731-2562
<b>DISTRICT 7</b> Victoria Reinhardt	**Bob Cardinal, Broker 2497 Adele St Maplewood, MN 55109	952-831-3300
<b>COUNTY MANAGER</b> <i>2 appointments</i>	**Marsha Goff, Appraiser 1532 Asbury St. St. Paul, MN. 55108	651-644-5251
	**Albin Kline, MAI, Appraiser 5896 Prairie Ridge Drive Shoreview, MN 55126	763-545-0690

\*Designated Chair

\*\*Required Real Estate Professional

### 2009 Special Board of Appeal and Equalization Procedural Rules

1. The Ramsey County Board of Appeal and Equalization shall consist of at least ten members, with one member being recommended by each Commissioner and two members by the Chair and two members by the County Manager. All members must be residents of Ramsey County. At least one member must be a real estate appraiser, realtor or other real estate professional, familiar with property valuation in the County.
2. Two designated chairpersons shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Commissioners. A chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Appeal and Equalization and shall have duties and responsibilities as are normally attended upon that office. The Board of Appeal and Equalization shall be convened as panels of five members, including a designated chair each day. If volume of appeals dictates two separate panels, the panels may consist of only three members if required. The Ramsey County Assessor's office shall schedule panel members.

(Continued)

3. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held as specified in Minnesota Statutes, section 274.14.
  - The Assessor's Office will mail an application form 1679 to interested persons, including a request for basic information concerning the property.
  - Upon timely receipt (*by May 15*) of a completed form 1679 the Assessor's Office will arrange with the applicant, a time to perform an inspection of the property.
  - The Assessor's Office will complete a review appraisal of the property for valuation appeals. This appraisal will be written and will, if possible, be made available to the applicant at least two days prior to the hearing, but always prior to any scheduled Board hearing.
  - Upon receipt of the completed application and review of the property the Assessor's office will schedule a hearing at 40-60 minutes intervals beginning the first day scheduled for the Board.
  - If total applicants appearing before the Board are below 150 then the following format will be utilized. Each Residential applicant will be allowed 10 minutes to present any data or information relevant to the market value or tax classification of the subject property. The County Assessor, or designee, will then be allowed up to 5 minutes to present any relevant information to support the market value or tax classification assigned by the Assessor. The Board shall have 5 minutes to make a decision. The Board Chair shall have the authority to cast a tie-breaking vote should any deliberations result in a tie.
  - Each Commercial or Apartment applicant will be allowed 15 minutes to present any data or information relevant to the market value or tax classification of the subject property. The County Assessor, or designee, will then be allowed up to 10 minutes to present any relevant information to support the market value or tax classification assigned by the Assessor. The Board shall have 5 minutes to make a decision.

The Board Chair shall have the authority to cast a tie-breaking vote should any deliberations result in a tie.

  - If total applicants to the 2009 Board of Appeal and Equalization exceed 150 then the County Board authorizes the Director of Property Records and Revenue to adjust the process to ensure all citizens' appeals can be heard in the statutory ten day window. If modifications are made they will be made in fashion that ensures the process remains fair and transparent.
  - All deliberations are to be made immediately following the individual hearings and in full view and hearing of the public. The Board will make its decisions based solely on information offered at the hearing and will conduct no independent fact-finding of its own relative to the value or classification of any parcel presented to the Board for review.
  - The decisions of the Board should be made by motion, second, discussion and voice vote. The Recording Secretary will record the vote of each Board member for each case heard by the Board. The Secretary shall review said record with the Board each day to ensure accuracy.
4. All meetings and hearings conducted by the Board shall be conducted pursuant to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law, Minnesota Statutes, section 471.705. All data presented relative to the valuation or classification of any parcel will be considered public data.

**(Continued)**

5. Each member will be paid \$300 for the first day of service and an additional \$200 for each additional day of service. Each member will receive a minimum of \$300.
6. All of the Board's legal questions, which arise from work performed, should be referred to the Ramsey County Attorney for appropriate response.
7. The Director of the Department of Property Records and Revenue will be responsible for staffing and assembling documentation for the appointees. The Assessor shall provide an organizational orientation session for the appointees prior to beginning their work on June 17th. Examples of staffing responsibilities include, but are not limited to the ten-day staffing and scheduling, the administering of an oath to the members, completing forms for compensation for the members and the training program.
8. The Director of Property Records & Revenue shall appoint a non-voting member to serve as the recording secretary for the Special Board of Appeal and Equalization.

**Ramsey County Special Board of Appeal and Equalization**

**Board Code of Ethics and Conduct Guidelines**

*The Mission of the Ramsey County Special Board of Appeal and Equalization is the fair and equitable resolution of all valuation and classification appeals on real and taxable personal property located in Ramsey County. As part of this mission, the Board will attempt to foster an open and trusted professional relationship with concerned taxpayers and County staff.*

1. Board Members shall strive to treat applicants, fellow Board members and staff respectfully at all times.
2. All deliberations shall be made on an impartial basis and publicly.
3. Board members should refrain from discussing Board proceedings with applicants outside of the presence of the other Board Members.
4. Concerns about the actions, behavior or motivations of any participant in the Board process should be directed to the County Manager.
5. Board members should attempt to understand all facts presented them in order to arrive at a fair decision. They should ask for clarification when necessary and seek additional information when required.
6. No Board member shall participate in any proceeding regarding his/her own property.
7. No member shall sit in judgment of an appeal where the member either has a personal interest in a property under appeal or personal bias toward the parties. Should this situation arise the Board member will inform the Chair and recuse themselves.

**(Continued)**

8. Board members should be extremely cautious of participating in deliberations of an appeal where the member has a prior personal relationship with the applicant. Such relationship should be disclosed prior to the beginning of the hearing of the appeal. Fellow Board members should then decide whether the issue should be waived or the fellow Board member is excused for that preceding.
9. It is unethical to accept or to agree to accept compensation of any kind from an appellant appearing before the Board.
10. No board member shall participate or vote in any deliberation relating to issues or proposal in which he or she has a conflict of interest. A conflict of interest exists where the member:
  - 10.1. Has a material, current, or anticipated financial interest in the property, or is affected by the issues or proposed assessment to a greater degree than other members of his/her business classification, profession or occupation; or
  - 10.2. Is a director, trustee, officer, employee, or agent of a company or institution directly involved in the property; or
  - 10.3. Is related by blood or marriage to an individual having any current or contemplated ownership interest in the subject property; or
  - 10.4. Is a personal friend of the applicant.
11. There will be no official audio or video recording of any of the meetings. There shall be no unofficial audio or video recordings made unless agreed to by all participants and then they will not be made part of the official record.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Family Child Care Providers

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-151)

WHEREAS, Home-based family child care providers have been working with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) to raise the standard and quality of children care services in Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, This effort has moved forward and resulted in the formation of a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, Child Care Providers Together; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of Child Care Providers Together is to work toward improving the value of home-based child care services; and

WHEREAS, Initially, the work will focus on the distribution of program eligibility and availability information to the families being served, for health conditions in young children, on aspects of running a small business, and to work with Ramsey County and other stakeholders to raise the quality of child care services in Ramsey County; and

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, Six experienced child care providers have been selected as mentors to distribute this information and be available as resource contacts to assist in the development and stabilization of child care services; and

WHEREAS, The funding will be utilized to reimburse their time and to cover costs in the distribution of information; and

WHEREAS, Funding for improving child care services was included through a budget addendum in the 2009 Community Human Services Department budget; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the selection of Child Care Providers Together, 300 Hardman Ave South, South St. Paul, MN 55075, for the distribution of program eligibility and availability information, for health conditions in young children, plus to work with Ramsey County and other stakeholders to raise the quality of child care services in Ramsey County, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for the period May 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to approve and execute the agreement in a form authorized by the County Attorney.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-152)

WHEREAS, The Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program was created by the Minnesota Legislature in 1993 to prevent or shorten the duration of homelessness through the provision of supportive services and/or direct financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County received \$2,600,000 for the current biennium ending June 30, 2009; and

WHEREAS, The allocation for continued funding for the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program is still pending final action by the Legislature as part of its 2010-2011 budget bill and the decision on the distribution of that allocation by the Minnesota Housing Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, In response to a contingent Request for Proposals from Minnesota Housing earlier this year, the Community Human Services Department, under the direction of the FHPAP Advisory Committee, has prepared an application requesting \$3,026,320 from the state for the biennium which runs from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, The application is due for submission to Minnesota Housing on May 8, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Under a schedule approved by the Board, CHS issued a contingent request for proposals to community providers in late March; and

WHEREAS, Proposals are due in May 13, 2009; and

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, A proposal review panel, primarily comprised of FHPAP Advisory Committee members not affiliated with any proposals submitted, will make recommendations for vendors which will be brought to the Board for final selection in early June; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the submission of the application for Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance program funding for the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to accept the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program award from Minnesota Housing, to accept any supplemental awards, and to make any necessary budget adjustments.

PUBLIC HEALTH – Letters of Support for Congressional Funding of Nurse Home Visitation Program

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-153)

WHEREAS, The Nurse-Family Partnership Program, a nurse home visitation program, has demonstrated long-term results in improving the health and well-being of low income, first-time mothers and their children; and

WHEREAS, The Saint Paul – Ramsey County Department of Public Health has initiated the Nurse-Family Partnership Program to serve mothers and children in Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, The Saint Paul-Ramsey County Department of Public Health, along with its community partners, has identified a need to support and expand the Nurse-Family Partnership to serve additional eligible families in Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, The proposed Federal FY2010 budget includes the creation and funding for a Nurse Home Visitation Program to be implemented at State and Local levels; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes inclusion of support for establishment and funding of the Nurse Home Visitation Program for low-income, first-time mothers and their children in the federal legislative package for the 111th Congress; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the submittal of this item to members of Ramsey County's Federal Legislative Delegation with request for support and assistance in seeking enactment; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Director of Public Health to send letters to Senator Amy Klobuchar and Congresswoman Betty McCollum, urging the establishment of the Nurse Home Visitation Program and the inclusion of funding of \$87 million in the federal budget for FY2010.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Support for the Regional Parks Foundation of the Twin Cities and Appointment to the Foundation Board of Directors

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-154)

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, Ramsey County is an Implementing Agency of the Metropolitan Regional Parks and Open Space System; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Regional Parks and Open Space System includes approximately 53,000 acres, 49 regional parks and park reserves, 6 special recreation features, 29 regional trails, and has more than 33 million visits annually; and

WHEREAS, The 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan identifies approximately 17,000 acres of additional land to be acquired to complete the system; and

WHEREAS, The total cost for acquisitions is estimated at approximately \$193 million; and

WHEREAS, Partnerships with the private sector is key in achieving the vision established in the 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan; and

WHEREAS, The By-laws of the Regional Parks Foundation of the Twin Cities specifies that Implementing Agency Stakeholder Representatives on the Board of Directors shall be a person who is employed by or affiliated with the Implementing Agency; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the Regional Parks Foundation of the Twin Cities; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints Gregory A. Mack, Ramsey County Director of Parks and Recreation, to the Regional Parks Foundation of the Twin Cities Board of Directors to represent Ramsey County.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Cooperative Deer Management Implementation Program for fall 2009

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-155)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved a Cooperative Deer Management Plan for Ramsey County parks and open space properties on December 14, 1999; and

WHEREAS, The results of the 2009 deer survey and proposed special archery hunt were reviewed by the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Commission on April 14, 2009, and recommended approval of the Program for Fall 2009; and

WHEREAS, A number of agencies and municipalities are conducting or planning deer management programs in addition to the management programs on County property including the Twin Cities Army Ammunitions Plant, H.P. Fuller and the cities of Maplewood, North Oaks and St. Paul; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the Ramsey County Cooperative Deer Management Implementation Program for Fall 2009, including the following sites: Otter Lake Unit of Bald Eagle-Otter Lake Regional Park, Pig's Eye and Battle Creek Units of Battle Creek Regional Park, Snail Lake Regional Park, Vadnais Lake Regional Park, Poplar Lake County Park and Fish Creek Open Space.

*(Continued)*

PARKS AND RECREATION – Cooperative Development Agreement and Maintenance Agreement for Redevelopment of White Bear Lake County Park boat launch facilities

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-156)

WHEREAS, The White Bear Lake County park boat launch and parking facilities (Facilities), constructed under the provisions of the April 13, 1981, Management Agreement between the State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources (State) and Ramsey County (County), are in disrepair and have reached the end of their useful life; and

WHEREAS, The State and the County have determined this public water access is a high priority for improvements under the State public water access program and the State has committed to redesign, expand, utilizing adjacent State property, and to reconstruct the Facilities; and

WHEREAS, The County has committed \$53,525.00 in 2007 CCAMPP funding towards the cost of reconstructing the Facilities, such funding is the total County obligation, and the State is responsible for all other costs; and

WHEREAS, The State requires a separate Cooperative Agreement establishing the obligations of the State and County relative to design and reconstruction of the Facilities and such agreement shall be for a term limited to the design and reconstruction process; and

WHEREAS, The Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) and the City of White Bear Lake (City) are charged, per Minnesota Statute, with overseeing stormwater management related to redevelopment of the Facilities and the RCWD and the City have required provisions for stormwater management be included in the redevelopment plans; and

WHEREAS, The RCWD and the City require the County obtain a permit for reconstructing the Facilities and a stipulation of obtaining the permit is that the County and State execute a Maintenance Agreement with the RCWD, and acceptable to the City, establishing responsibilities for on-going maintenance of the stormwater management elements constructed as part of redevelopment of the Facilities; and

WHEREAS, Per the April 1, 1981, Management Agreement between the State and County, the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for maintenance of the Facilities and will extend this on-going responsibility in the Maintenance Agreement required by the RCWD and the City to the stormwater management elements constructed as part of the redevelopment of the Facilities; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Cooperative Agreement between Ramsey County and the State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources for design and reconstruction of the White Bear Lake County Park boat launch and parking facilities; and Be It Further

*(Continued)*

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Maintenance Agreement between Ramsey County, the State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources and the Rice Creek Watershed District for on-going maintenance of the stormwater management elements constructed as part of the redevelopment of the White Bear Lake County Park boat launch and parking facilities; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute these Agreements.

HUMAN RESOURCES – Terms of Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamsters Local 320 (Deputy Sheriff-Sergeants) for years 2009, 2010 and 2011

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-157)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County and the Teamsters Local 320 (Deputy Sheriff-Sergeants) engaged in collective bargaining, which included negotiations and mediation; and

WHEREAS, Negotiations and mediation resulted in a tentative agreement on terms and conditions of employment for 2009, 2010 and 2011; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the implementation of a three year agreement on terms and conditions of employment for the Teamsters Local 320 (Deputy Sheriff-Sergeants), effective January 1, 2009, for the years 2009, 2010 and 2011 as follows:

WAGES

2009 - 3% increase effective January 1, 2009  
2010 - 2% increase effective January 1, 2010  
2011 – 1.99% increase effective March 1, 2011  
All increases effective the 1<sup>st</sup> full pay period following effective date.

DEFERRED COMPENSATION

Effective 7/1/09, Ramsey County will increase the matching contribution to deferred compensation to \$20.00 per month, per contributing employee (pro-rated for part-time employees).

WORK SCHEDULES – PREMIUM PAY

Effective upon ratification by the Union and the County increase Saturday differential from \$.25 per hour to \$.40 per hour and Sunday differential from \$.30 per hour to \$.45 per hour.

CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

Effective 1/1/09 increase allowance from \$750 to \$760 per year.  
Effective 1/1/10 increase allowance from \$760 to \$770 per year.  
Effective 1/1/11 increase allowance from \$770 to \$780 per year.

INSURANCE

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Single coverage Employee Pays	\$21/mo	\$26/mo	\$31/mo

(Continued)

Split of Premium	100% employer	80% employer	75% employer
Increase for Family	0% employee	20% employee	25% employee

Changes will be effective on January 1 of each year, except that for 2011, the County will pay the entire increase in premium for family medical coverage until March 1, 2011.

Dental -

For the year 2009, employees will receive the full 5.6% premium decrease. For the year 2010, the employee will pay the total premium increase. For the year 2011, the County and the employee will split the increase or decrease in premium 50/50 for single or family coverage. All premium rates are effective January 1 of each year.

Retiree Insurance -

Early Retiree Contributions for Employees Retiring in 2009, 2010, 2011 – The County will continue to make the same contribution to medical insurance premiums for early retirees as for active employees, for employees retiring during the term of this contract. County contributions are subject to the years of service requirements previously established by the County Board.

Regular Retiree Minimum Payment For Employees Retiring During the Term of the Contract:

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Single	\$30/mo	\$35/mo	\$35/mo
Family	\$70/mo	\$80/mo	\$80/mo

All changes effective January 1 of each year.

HEALTH CARE SAVINGS PLAN

Effective the first full pay period in 2011, for insurance-eligible employees hired on or after 1/1/06 and for insurance-eligible employees hired on or after 7/1/92 who opted into the HCSP:

- The County will contribute \$520 per year to the HCSP on a per pay period basis beginning the 1<sup>st</sup> full pay period following the employee's 5 year anniversary date.
- The County will contribute \$624 per year to the HCSP on a per pay period basis beginning the 1<sup>st</sup> full pay period following the employee's 10 year anniversary date.
- The County will contribute \$728 per year to the HCSP on a per pay period basis beginning the 1<sup>st</sup> full pay period following the employee's 15 year anniversary date.

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

The agreement reached also includes a modification of sick leave, vacation and premium pay provisions;

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the terms of the collective bargaining agreements with Teamsters Local 320 (Deputy Sheriff-Sergeants), and authorizes the Chair of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and the County Manager, as representatives of the County to approve and sign the agreements incorporating these terms and conditions.

(Continued)

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Nominees to Committees of the National Association of Counties (NACo)

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-158)

WHEREAS, The National Association of Counties (NACo) is seeking applications for leadership positions to NACo Steering Committees; and

WHEREAS, Applicants to the Committee positions are being solicited from elected officials of member counties; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt is submitting an application for the Chairpersonship of the Environment, Energy and Land Use Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt has a strong educational and work-related background in environmental issues, including serving as Chair of the Recycling Association of Minnesota and Co-Chair of America Recycles Day in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Reinhardt currently serves as Chair of the Environment and Natural Resource Committee and Vice-Chair of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee of the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), Chair of the Ramsey/Washington Coordinating Board (SWMCB), as Vice-Chair of Naco's Air Quality Subcommittee and a member of NACO's Environment, Energy and Land Use Committee, Solid and Hazardous Waste Sub-Committee, and NACO's IT Committee; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the candidacy of Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt to the Chairpersonship of the Environment, Energy and Land Use Steering Committee of the National Association of Counties.

LEADERSHIP QUALITIES:

Commissioner Reinhardt:

Serves as:

- Chair of the Association of Minnesota Counties Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- Former Chair (1997-2009) of the Metro GIS Policy Board
- Chair of the Ramsey County Budget Committee
- Chair of the Rush Line Corridor Task Force
- Vice-Chair of the National Association of Counties Air Quality Sub-Committee
- Vice-Chair of the Ramsey County Legislative Committee
- Vice-Chair of the Ramsey County Public Safety & Justice Committee
- Vice-Chair of the Ramsey County Public Works, Parks and Solid Waste Committee
- Vice-Chair of the St. Paul Children's Collaborative
- Vice- Chair of the Association of Minnesota Counties Environment and Natural Resources Committee
- Chair of the Ramsey/Washington Resource Recovery Project Board
- Vice-Chair of the Association of Minnesota Counties Extension Committee

*(Continued)*

- Vice-Chair of the Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board
- Vice-Chair of the Minnesota Clean Water Council
- Former Vice-Chair of the National Association of Counties Environment, Energy and Land Use Steering Committee
- Vice-Chair of the Association of Minnesota Counties Natural Resources Committee
- Member of the Association of Minnesota Counties Board of Directors, Vice-Chair of the Legislative Steering Committee, and other special task force appointments by the Chair
- Member of the National Association of Counties Environment, Energy and Lake Use Steering Committee, Solid and Hazardous Waste Sub-Committee, and the IT Steering Committee

Serves on the following Ramsey County Committees:

- County Facilities Committee
- Human Services/Workforce Solutions Committee
- Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority
- Ramsey County Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Serves on the following Boards, Committees and Commissions:

- Ramsey/Washington Community Action Partnership (alternate)
- Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee
- Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative
- Ramsey/Washington Resource Recovery Project Board, Executive Committee
- St. Paul Children's Collaborative
- Association of Minnesota Counties District X
- Association of Minnesota Counties District X, Executive Committee (alternate)
- Minnesota River Basin Joint Powers Board
- Vice-Chair of the Ramsey County Extension Committee
- Ramsey County League of Local Governments
- Governor's Council on Geographic Information
- Governor's Council on Geographic Information, Co-Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee
- MN Electronic Real Estate Recording Task Force
- Paint Product Stewardship Initiative
- MN Waste Pesticide Task Force
- Minnesota Clean Water Council
- 800 MHz Subsystem Policy Committee (alternate)
- Metro GIS Policy Board
- Metropolitan Energy Policy Coalition
- Vice-Chair of the Association of Minnesota Counties Legislative Steering Committee
- Northeast Diagonal Policy Advisory Committee (alternate)
- Northstar Corridor Liaison
- Counties Transit Improvement Board (alternate)
- 1-94 Corridor Joint Powers Board

and Be It Further

*(Continued)*

RESOLVED, Due to her extensive experience in and commitment to issues surrounding the environment, energy and land use, Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt is an excellent candidate for the Chairpersonship of the Environment, Energy and Land Use Steering Committee of the National Association of Counties.

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Nominees to Committees of the National Association of Counties (NACo)

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-159)

WHEREAS, The National Association of Counties (NACo) is seeking applications for leadership positions to NACo Steering Committees; and

WHEREAS, Applicants to the Committee positions are being solicited from elected officials of member counties; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Tony Bennett is currently serving as Chairperson of the Justice & Public Safety Steering Committee, and wishes to continue in that capacity; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the candidacy of Commissioner Tony Bennett to the Chairpersonship of the Justice & Public Safety Steering Committee of the National Association of Counties.

Commissioner Bennett:

- Has served as Ramsey County Commissioner since 1997
- Is a life-long resident of Ramsey County, Minnesota
- Has over 30 years of legislative and law enforcement experience
- Is a 26-year veteran of the St. Paul Police Department
- After being confirmed by the U.S. Senate, was appointed by the President of the United States as the United States Marshall for the District of Minnesota
- Attended the University of Minnesota and College of St. Thomas

*Formerly Served as:*

- Chair of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners
- Chair of the Ramsey County Facilities Committee of the Whole
- Chair of the Ramsey County Budget Committee

*Serves on the following Ramsey County Committees*

- Budget Committee of the Whole
- Finance, Personnel and Management Committee
- Legislative Committee of the Whole
- Public Works, Parks & Solid Waste Committee
- County Facilities Committee
- Public Safety & Justice Committee
- Regional Railroad Authority

*(Continued)*

- Housing & Redevelopment Authority

*Serves on the following Boards, Committees and Commissions:*

- National Association of Counties Justice & Public Safety Steering Committee, Vice-Chair
- Association of Minnesota Counties – District X
- Association of Minnesota Counties Criminal Justice Policy Committee
- Ramsey County Board/Bench Committee
- Ramsey County Court House/City of St. Paul City Hall Committee
- I-35W Corridor Committee
- Metropolitan Emergency Services Board
- Metropolitan Emergency Services Executive Board
- Ramsey County Library Board of Trustees, alternate
- Metropolitan Mosquito Control District Board
- Willow Lake Nature Preserve
- NACo Membership Committee
- AMC Board of Directors
- Corrections Management Committee
- LOCATE
- Minnesota Landmarks
- Ramsey County League of Local Governments, alternate
- 800 MHz Subsystem Policy Committee
- Metropolitan Transportation Advisory Board
- Republican National Committee

RESOLVED, Due to his extensive experience in and commitment to issues surrounding justice and public safety, Commissioner Tony Bennett is an excellent candidate for the Chairpersonship of the Justice & Public Safety Steering Committee of the National Association of Counties.

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Nominees to Committees of the National Association of Counties (NACo)

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker - 6. Nays – 0. (2009-160)

WHEREAS, The National Association of Counties (NACo) is seeking applications for positions to NACo Steering Committees; and

WHEREAS, Applicants to the Committee positions are being solicited from elected officials of member counties; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Jim McDonough is submitting an application for membership on NACo's Large Urban County Caucus; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Jim McDonough has a strong background in the area of community service for many youth groups, community planning councils, regional and statewide initiatives, tasks forces, and planning groups; and

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, Commissioner Jim McDonough is currently serving as President of the Association of Minnesota Counties; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the membership of Commissioner Jim McDonough on the Large Urban County Caucus Steering Committee of the National Association of Counties.

Jim McDonough

Serves on the following Ramsey County Committees

- Budget Committee of the Whole
- County Facilities Committee
- Regional Railroad Authority, Chair
- Legislative Committee of the Whole
- Finance, Personnel and Management Committee
- Human Services/Workforce Solutions Committee, Vice-Chair
- Housing and Redeployment Authority

Serves on the following Boards, Committees and Commissions:

- Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Officer, President
- Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) General Government Committee
- National Association of Counties (NACo) Community and Economic Development Committee
- Ramsey County Extension Committee
- Ramsey Soil & Water Conservation Board
- Workforce Investment Board Agreement Negotiation
- 800 MHz Subsystem Policy Committee
- Metropolitan Emergency Services Board
- Metropolitan Emergency Services Board Cost Allocation Committee
- Metropolitan Mosquito Control District Board
- Midwest High Speed Rail Association
- Red Rock Corridor
- Counties Transit Improvement Board

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, Due to his extensive experience in and commitment to issues surrounding the community, both locally and regionally, Commissioner Jim McDonough is an excellent candidate for membership on the Large Urban Caucuses Committee of the National Association of Counties.

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Nick Riley, Intergovernmental Relations, and Claudia Brewington, Intergovernmental Relations, were present to discuss current happenings at the State Legislature.

Mr. Riley said the Legislature is currently processing many of the omnibus bills. Economic development is one of those bills, and Ramsey County was able to get \$100,000 annually for two years for the Building Lives program. The transportation bill helps the Metropolitan Council; their operating budget was \$63M short and they were able to cobble together sufficient funds so that they will only lose about \$3M. The environment bill passed on the floor; that bill funds our Park system at about the same level as we received last year. Today, the legacy bill is on the floor, which would give us more funding

*(Continued)*

for specific projects through the 3/8ths cent sales tax. They are doing all the bills together that are under that provision. Some Ramsey County projects, such as Tamarack Nature Center and Lower Afton Road, are included in that bill. The Health and Human Service Committee continues to meet, but they have not completed the public safety bill, which has the short-term offender provision in it. Currently, Ramsey County is in a good position. With the offers that have been going back and forth it looks like the State will take back short-term offenders, which would be a huge victory for counties throughout the State.

Greg Mack, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, said staff has been following the constitutional amendment fund (referred to as 3/8ths). It was important that the Board took early action to declare what percentage it felt should happen with this money as it relates to the parks and trails portion of the funds. About 14.25% of the total funding was going to be in that area and the Board took action early in the legislative program and actually became the model for other agencies, so we were able to get solidarity with ten implementing agencies to be talking about the same level of appropriation as it would relate to the State of Minnesota, the Metropolitan Regional Park System, and the Greater Minnesota Regional Park System. At this point, the House and Senate have different versions but they are fairly close as it relates to the parks and trails. There is about \$22M that would be appropriated over the biennium in the House version to the Metropolitan Regional Park System, and about \$28M under the Senate version. There are a number of projects and initiatives that we have removed from the priority list that have been in master plans and the capital improvement programs. There is language in that constitutional amendment that the funds are not to be used to supplant other funds. There is a distribution formula included in the legislation. The appropriation would be to the Met Council for subgrants to all of the agencies based on those formulas.

Mr. Mack said another item is the general fund appropriation for operations and maintenance and what is referred to as the "lottery in lieu of" tax portion, which is the increment of sales tax that is within the \$1.00 lottery ticket, and is appropriated for natural resource activities. In combination, those are fairly close to what we have received in the last biennium; the difference is a small amount of reduction in the general fund appropriation and a small increase in the "lottery in lieu of" portion. The bottom line increase for the Met Council's appropriation is about \$500K; however, a portion is based on receipts from the sale of lottery tickets. In our system, that is used for rehabilitation, the capital asset management piece.

Commissioner Reinhardt said there are a few things going on with the 3/8ths cent sales tax revenue and staff have been doing a wonderful job on the parks funding. Another portion of that funding is for the arts. Susan Nemitz, Director, Ramsey County Libraries, has been working with the Friends of the St. Paul Public Library. In the House version there is \$5M statewide for libraries. This money is not in competition with anything else put forward. It would mean approximately \$100K for Ramsey County Libraries. The Agenda notes that action may be taken on legislative items. She would like a formal Board position that we are supportive of this appropriation and thank Ms. Nemitz and Friends of the St. Paul Public Library for pushing forward to get some of those funds for our Library system.

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Ortega.

Commissioner Carter requested clarification that those funds come out of the arts portion of the funding source, and asked if the total amount of funding is known.

Mr. Mack said it would be 19.75% of the total, the projection for the biennium is about \$90M. This would begin in July and takes a while to build up. The Senate has not released its version of the arts portion. They took a different approach, and would come together in a finance bill. The arts area has had a lot of competition from a number of different sources. A large portion would go to the State Historical Society. The House version includes funding for the three zoos – Duluth, Minnesota and

*(Continued)*

Como Zoos. The Senate version has about \$400K to the University of Minnesota to develop an interactive web site that would allow integration of all various systems of parks so people would have access. There are similar discussions going on in the arts area about making certain people are aware of and get access to various facilities. There would also be the ability to underwrite student activities for participation in the arts. There is a vehicle in the arts education portion of that funding that would provide scholarships for students to participate. They are trying to be sensitive about spreading the funds, but also to get the word out.

Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.  
(2009-161)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has reviewed a number of proposals and initiatives for inclusion as support items in their 2009 State legislative package; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby supports Legislation that allows a portion of the Cultural Heritage funds or sales tax proceeds to fund public library programming; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The County Board authorizes submission of this item to members of the Ramsey County State Legislative Delegation, and authorizes County representatives to work with the Legislature and other interested parties to seek the necessary legislation to enact this proposal.

Commissioner McDonough raised the issue of supplanting; there was concern, especially when the Governor came out with his budget, about these dollars. The Ramsey County Board took a position that these dollars needed to be directed to new initiatives and new investment and not be used for supplanting. He asked if there is a sense about how successful that position has been at the Legislature in making certain that these dollars don't just supplant and backfill budget cuts.

Mr. Riley said the area they would have done that in is the parks area, but it did not happen this session. The group of parks organizations, including Three Rivers, Anoka County, Hennepin County, Ramsey County, Dakota County and Carver County, has worked hard and close. They have explored any pots of money that are outside of the parks funds that they might be able to access. They have reached into some other areas, not with a lot of successes, but they are exploring everything possible.

Commissioner Reinhardt testified about the Metropolitan Landfill Abatement Account money which includes the local recycling development grants. That is \$2.1M that would have gone into landfill cleanup because there is a huge deficit. This money is collected at metropolitan landfills and by statute is to be spent in the metro area. The SCORE funds are a solid waste tax that is put on garbage collection across Minnesota. There was some confusion between the two funds. It was her pleasure to be able to testify about those funds.

Mr. Riley said the SCORE funding increased by \$250K per year and is now at \$14,250,000. He thanked Commissioner Reinhardt for her testimony. He also thanked Commissioners Carter and McDonough who have also spent time at the Capital in the various committees. It is good for Legislators to see the presence of our Commissioners.

There is a committee called the Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy that is made up of all the leadership in the House and Senate, including both parties. They have been exploring ways they can get through this fiscal mess. Administration members testify about various pieces of this budget trying to wade through everything. This Commission meets almost daily. The Tax Committee is still going through the tax bill; many small provisions have been passed. They have

*(Continued)*

talked about the TIF district for Central Corridor. They don't like expanding TIF districts; it is likely to be passed, but right now they are reluctant to pass any new TIF districts or expand any TIF districts. Another provision of interest is the debt on the Xcel Center. The debt is somewhere around \$35M and they are trying to have it dropped to \$14M. That is in the bill that was just passed and will be sent to the Governor.

The Governor has said that the economic development bill is 'veto bait'.

Ms. Brewington said the Legislative Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy has looked at public safety and some of the issues happening in health and human services. Public safety came up with a final committee position but they were \$43M over their target, which was \$99.3M below base, offset by \$38M with federal stimulus dollars so the remaining cut was \$61.3M. They were hoping to get some adjustment from the Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy. Apparently their negotiations evolved into disagreements and they never met. Public safety, because the Commission on Planning and Fiscal Policy did not give them the go ahead on the \$43M, they did not vote on their final agreement which contained the transfer of short-term offenders to the State; that would be a considerable savings for the County. They raised their revenue in that budget by raising court and filing fees; one fee is \$1 per page for documents that are requested. On civil cases, the counties have to pay for that as well, so it is a considerable expense. MICA and AMC testified they would prefer a one-time fee rather than \$1.00 per page. Fees have been raised for all civil filings.

Ms. Brewington referred to Health and Human Services and said there are not many avenues with which to raise revenues. Most of their services are serving low income residents and people with special needs. They are limited in what they can do to raise revenue, so they are heavily cutting revenue across the board, including nursing facilities, waived services, and MFIP. She believes there is recognition that counties cannot take the brunt of cuts during this economic downturn, as they did in 2003. The people we serve will be hit harder. There are targets for health and human services but those numbers are not known. When that committee begins talking about amendments or a new offer, staff does not get the paper until after they are done.

Commissioner Reinhardt said things are changing so quickly. She attended the Tax Committee and spoke with Representative Marquart. He complimented both Mr. Riley and Ms. Brewington because after one of the late night hearings he turned on the TV and the County Board meeting was playing. He said it was interesting to listen to the recap of what was happening at the Legislature from a county perspective, and he was very impressed. It is important for legislators to know that what they do has a huge impact on counties.

Mr. Riley said the Tax Committee has talked about new fiscal mandates on counties and that they should probably go through the Tax Committee, and would need an impact statement.

Commissioner Rettman asked about the ½ cent tax. Mr. Riley said a decision has not yet been made; he believes it will not happen. Targets in human services are predicated that they would have \$1.5 billion in new revenue. When or if that doesn't happen, there will be additional severe cuts. The bills that have passed, such as transportation, economic development, and environment bills have some cost to the State. If the Governor signs those there are fewer areas where cuts can be made; areas include K-12 education, higher education and human services, but huge cuts won't be made to K-12. There would likely be some cost shifting which would go on property taxes, but other cuts won't happen. The cuts are likely to be in the human services area.

Commissioner McDonough said two weeks ago, the AMC Legislative Steering Committee had Representative Marquart attend a meeting to discuss the ½ cent sales tax. The Steering Committee decided not to take any position. Last week at the AMC Legislative Conference, the General Management Committee took up the issue. In the end, they decided to recommend to the full general assembly to oppose the ½ cent sales tax provision. It was brought to the general assembly which voted to oppose the sales tax provision. The biggest issue for the counties is partially looking back to

*(Continued)*

1991 and the local government trust fund, and the distrust about how that happened. The State is looking to the counties to impose a sales tax; it always comes down to the counties being the one to impose the tax, whether it is a sales tax or property tax.

Ms. Brewington said the Ramsey County delegation has been wonderful to work with this session, especially Senator Mee Moua, who is on the Tax Conference Committee and the Public Safety Conference Committee, and Representative Sheldon Johnson.

Commissioner Ortega asked where the big hits will come from in the health and human services bill.

Ms. Brewington said her assessment is that the hospitals will receive a huge hit. They are getting rate reductions, the disproportionate share and intergovernmental transfers. A tremendous amount of money is drawn down and some adjustments will be made to take revenue away from the hospitals. The provider rates will be reduced. The number of people taken into programs will stick. She also believes the MFIP (Minnesota Family Investment Program) probably won't be cut because it is a small section of the budget. They are trying to get a two-year waiver on the 60-month limit. A huge amount of families would become homeless because they just would not be able to make it in this economy, as they have had a difficult time in the past of retaining employment. She believes the hospital and providers is where huge cuts will be seen, along with some alternative programs for the elderly, young people at risk and discretionary grants sent to counties and non-profits to help with different populations. There is recognition at this point that there is an increase in need and the counties need the funding to take care of that. She believes counties will be the last places they look to make deep cuts.

Commissioner Ortega said the infrastructure we have created depends on a healthy Regions Hospital and healthy non-profit organizations, or we can't deliver the services. He asked if staff believe the legislature will go into special session.

Mr. Riley said the Governor will not accept the tax increases. The Senate's position has been to not do any fee increases and be very transparent. They are now starting to do a lot of fee increases across the board. Bills that are passing now have fee increases in them. There will likely be some sin taxes in the bill to help mitigate some of the huge hits, but it will still be a big fall when it happens. He believes they could end in time, but it will not be a pleasant end for anyone.

Commissioner Ortega said we should start anticipating two things: when this is over, people will start coming to the County asking why services cannot be delivered; and secondly, we need to start anticipating how the hospitals will affect us. He has already received emails from people about placing freezes on services.

Chair Parker referred to the lack of resources for the human services area – she asked if there has been discussion about the dime-a-drink or nickel-a-drink.

Ms. Brewington said at this point there is a 1 cent tax on alcoholic beverages in the tax bill. There has not been a huge push to do that. If it went through it would go into the general fund and would not end up in the human services area. That is why people have backed off this idea for this year. Additionally, they would raise license fees on hospitals, nursing home beds, and many other licenses including providers of day training and habilitation, etc. Those are the partners with whom we contract to provide services. As Commissioner Ortega mentioned, that network, if some of the providers fall through, and they close their doors, then we start to see a problem in contracting for those services. We are the provider of last resort that people come to. We did see some of that in 2003 with child care providers. They have a slim margin for surviving in that industry and many of them went under because they could not survive on their reimbursement rates. The providers in other human services segments have a little healthier profit margin so they take some cuts, but how much is another question. That network will be threatened.

*(Continued)*

Mr. Riley said this biennium is softened a bit by the federal stimulus dollars. There is a structural problem with the State's budget, and will continue unless revenues are increased significantly.

Mr. Riley said the bonding bill may come out today. It will be under \$300M – the Governor wants it closer to \$200M. The Governor is recommending \$26M for high speed rail in the bonding bill to match federal funds. Funding for some transit projects is still in the bill. \$50M is in the bill for flood mitigation, and some money for the state college system, and the University of Minnesota.

Chair Parker reemphasized the importance of the work at the Legislature done by Mr. Riley, Ms. Brewington, and Commissioners. This influences everything that is done as a county and has a direct impact on property taxes. She thanked department staff for all the work they do on research, running numbers, etc. to support the efforts.

Commissioner Reinhardt said staff gives support in many Committee meetings, such as providing talking points, and other materials. It has been pointed out to her by the Legislators and others, that just having a Commissioner in the room makes a huge difference. She said all staff are appreciated for their work.

#### UPDATE ON FLU PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

Rob Fulton, Director, City of St. Paul and Ramsey County Public Health Department, distributed a handout developed primarily for a meeting held with city and county emergency staff.

There is good news and bad news. The good news is that H1N1 is acting just like the seasonal flu. The bad news is that H1N1 is acting like the seasonal flu, but there is no vaccine for it. In 2007, 600 people in Minnesota died from the seasonal flu, and that is when there was a vaccine for it. There is no vaccine for the H1N1 right now. 35,000 people in the country die of seasonal influenza. Many people who die are elderly with other illnesses and chronic diseases, and the flu creates the final disease they die from. Even though the elderly are immunized, the vaccine is not 100% effective in elderly people.

One of the responses to H1N1 in the last 24 hours is people have been backing down. One of the reasons people started with a very high alert level was the 1918 flu that was so devastating was an H1N1 Type A. When that shows up, people don't know what is going to happen to it. It showed up with some bad data from Mexico about the number of cases and the number of deaths. As we've seen over the last several weeks how less virulent this is, it has led CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and the State to begin backing down. The original guidance was that if there was one case in a school, the school be closed for 14 days. Now the guidance is that the schools don't need to be closed, but to act as if this were a seasonal flu.

The H1N1 is transmitted as are all viruses, for the most part. Respiratory viruses through droplets – droplets land on people's hands – they sneeze into the hand – they touch something, putting the virus on an object – someone else touches the object with their hand – they scratch their nose or rub their eye – the virus goes from the surface to the hand, to the eye or mouth. That is how viruses get passed. Not a lot of it gets passed by sneezing on someone; most of it is that secondary transmittal – that is why people should wash their hands well with soap. There is better no prevention of any kind of viral disease like colds than washing your hands. Hand sanitizers should be available for use.

There are case definitions. We are talking about the number of cases of confirmed swine flu, tested and confirmed as cases of H1N1 by the CDC. When the Minnesota labs test a viral swab, they have a probable case because at the moment they don't have the testing material for H1N1 but will get that. The CDC has now said to stop sending the probable cases because it is here, and we can often diagnose without. All the suspect cases, unless hospitalized, will not have full testing done. We will handle this much like we handle seasonal flu. CDC has sentinel organizations, one of which happens to be HealthPartners that reports all their activity and that is how they assess what is going on in

*(Continued)*

communities and across the United States. About 29 sentinel organizations are measured to get a feel for how much flu is going on and what it turns out to be.

The H1N1 appears to have originated in Mexico; it is a mix of swine flu, bird flu, and human flu, which is what causes it to be different than just swine flu, just bird flu, or just human flu. The only death reported in the United States is related to a toddler infected in Mexico, brought to Houston for treatment because that individual had some other conditions that had been treated at Houston. The seasonal flu as well as this flu does mutate over time. A concern is if it gets back into a pig and then gets back out to humans. There was an incident in Alberta, Canada where a farm worker who was in Mexico came back to the farm infecting the herd of pigs. There is the concern about what happens if that comes back out to humans. That is being watched carefully.

The seasonal flu season begins in the southern hemisphere at about this time of the year. Whereas, our flu season starts in November, theirs starts in May. We will be tracking what is happening in the southern hemisphere to see what the expected flu will look like for the next season, which has already been anticipated, and what happens when that mixes with the H1N1. There is a little time before that can become severe, but it is expected that we will have to do additional vaccinations this fall and winter for H1N1, along with the seasonal flu. The seasonal flu vaccines are being grown right now and will be ready for distribution in the next 30-60 days. We can't add the H1N1 to that vaccine; a separate vaccine will have to be created. Funding of \$1.5 billion is being authorized in Congress right now to assist in that work.

About two weeks ago the first cases started coming up. The first call Mr. Fulton got on a Sunday morning was from the Ramsey County Sheriff to find out what we are doing about this. By that time a small team had already been created within our emergency preparedness staff led by Jane Norbin. By Tuesday she said this is bigger than what our staff could handle.

A department operations center was set up using the Public Health Incident Management Team with a system called C-FLOP. Mr. Fulton acts as commander. They do Finance with an already created accounting code for tracking the time that people put in on this called FLU09. They have Logistics. Once the State has a confirmed case, a release of anti-virals from the federal stockpile is made. That has arrived, and will be distributed to regions and to counties, from counties to clinics and hospitals. That has not come to the County yet. They are finding a secure site where those will be kept. There is also a program of practice for how the anti-virals are to be distributed at the hospitals and clinics. There is Operations, which is the "O" of C-FLOP, but nothing has been set up yet.

An incident management system was called up two years ago when children were dying from seasonal flu. A special clinic was held at Children's Hospital and others in three east metro counties. Planning is the important part of this because it is what says each of these areas should be doing. Mr. Fulton as commander is responsible for liaison. There is a liaison to the State, a liaison to Emergency Management, liaisons to the schools because that has been an important player in the concern about shutting down schools. There are representatives from the Sheriff's Department, City and County Emergency Management, and our Human Resources employee health staff person sits in on these meetings. The remaining slots are filled by Public Health staff.

The Pandemic Flu Plan is being followed, and has been amended to drop avian and add H1N1. The group was called up last Thursday and is to meet every Monday and Thursday at 8 a.m. Now that we are downsizing, that group will probably meet once a week, and then less often.

One of the tools we have is isolation and quarantine. People are being asked for voluntary isolation and quarantine; if you are sick, stay home. The message we are hearing is to wash your hands, cough into your sleeve, cough into a tissue and throw it away, wash your hands, and if sick, stay home.

*(Continued)*

They are trying to get enough communication out to people in enough languages about situations that may occur. They are working with ECHO, a program that started in Ramsey County, now at AMC (Association of Minnesota Counties). They are running their flu show, available in six languages, with hotlines for people to call with simple messages about how to stay healthy.

Ramsey County now is using Twitter at <http://twitter.com/healthynamsey> We are participating in a State conference call daily at 2 p.m., which follows a State conference call with the CDC at 11 a.m. daily. We are also using our health alert network, which is a way to manage the information.

Staff have spent a lot of time talking with the St. Paul Public Schools about the school's decision to close. There are a lot of factors in closing schools for 14 days. There is the infectious disease control factor, but there are other implications. Kids don't eat two meals a day. In the St. Paul school district there are many low income children who count on those two meals a day for kids to eat at school. When closing down a school, the families are not prepared to have enough food to feed the kids, which adjusts somewhat in the summer time. The schools are also concerned about having to prolong the school year. It is nice now that the decision can be left up to the school boards and treat this as seasonal flu. Periodically during severe flu seasons, there are schools that close, and that is a local decision, and it makes sense – 14 days seemed to be long. At the moment, the Orono schools have reopened; Rocori may reopen Thursday; and the Emerson Spanish immersion school in Minneapolis may open in a day or so.

Staff have been talking with the First Responders about personal protective equipment. The Sheriff is well-prepared. The first thing done is to mask the sick person. Screening of all admits have been increased to the Adult Detention Center and the Correctional Facility to identify people who may appear to have flu symptoms. Currently, anyone who has a fever and flu symptoms are sent to the emergency room for a diagnosis and to collect swabs, only because there are not enough isolation rooms to hold them for a period of time. That may change as the concern goes down and we move toward a seasonal flu. Anyone coming in for booking also has their temperature taken; if it is over 100 degrees, a nurse is sent down to screen for symptoms, and a decision is made at that point whether to send them to the ER.

This will not go away in two weeks. We will probably see H1N1 again next fall. The flu dissipates although several cases thought to be H1N1 turned out to be seasonal flu. Basic principles of handwashing, covering a cough, is the same message put out in the 1918 flu will work until we get a vaccine. Then it will be get vaccinated but wash your hands. It is expected that people will get two vaccines next year, one for the seasonal flu and one for H1N1, and possibly a booster for H1N1.

H1N1 is not affecting the very elderly, partly because in 1957 there was a similar flu strain, and those who lived then possibly have some antibodies. This has been affecting children and young and middle-aged adults.

Mr. Fulton said he could respond to any questions. This is time consuming for staff, taking them away from doing other things, particularly in the midst of budget work for next year.

Commissioner Reinhardt thanked Mr. Fulton for the update. It is important that people understand that we are dealing with this and what their personal responsibility is. The simple but important message is about washing hands, with soap.

Mr. Fulton said washing with soap for about 20 seconds up to the wrist is important. The hands are the largest germ-carrying part of the body.

Commissioner Ortega appreciated the update because he has had people ask him if Ramsey County has a plan. It is important to send out the message about handwashing and prevention, that Ramsey County has had a plan, and that we are prepared. When will Ramsey County have the vaccine?

Mr. Fulton said vaccinations are grown in fertilized eggs, and he would expect a vaccine would be available by late fall.

*(Continued)*

Commissioner Ortega asked if the incidents are expected to go up in Ramsey County.

Mr. Fulton responded affirmatively and said they have been surprised that there has not been an identified case yet. But, it will be seen much like seasonal flu is seen. It won't be a large number of cases because schools will be out in six weeks, and because people are outdoors more now. There was no reason to cancel Cinco De Mayo because there was no disease present, it was outdoors, and there wasn't much risk in getting H1N1 by going to that event, the International Festival at the Xcel Center, or the Powderhorn event. Right now, there are no probable cases. There may be suspect-like symptoms – fever, sore throat, coughing, aches and pains, an occasional gastro distress or diarrhea, but generally speaking, it is the fever that triggers it, but, it is hard to tell a flu from a cold.

Commissioner Carter noted the Minnesota Hotline number shown on the TV screen right now for people to call with questions. She said it takes about six months to develop a vaccine and that it could be available around the same time.

Mr. Fulton said it might be available in November. Ramsey County gets its supply of vaccine for the seasonal flu in September/October. That is in full production right now and the reason it can't be stopped and modified. That vaccine carries against several types of influenza. It is about a six-month process.

Commissioner Carter said this might be given in two types next year. Is that to say that although it might be available toward the end of the year, it wouldn't be available to give out with the other vaccine and perhaps not until next year, or is it expected in November?

Mr. Fulton said he is not sure what kind of guidance will be given about whether both shots could be given on the same day. He guessed that the seasonal flu would be given first and at a later time the H1N1 flu shot, perhaps by the end of this year. Given the publicity, and when we start into the flu season to encourage people to get their vaccinations, that there will be a very good response. Minnesota has always been one of the highest vaccinated states for flu, and we are the top state for vaccinating people over 65. We have a very good system, but it will be taxed if we have to add a second vaccine to it, but will be prepared to do that.

Commissioner Carter cited Mr. Fulton's caution about hands and handwashing. She said nail biting should be a concern as well.

Mr. Fulton said it is. One of the places viruses remain even with decent handwashing, is along the cuticles of the nails. Citing the use of scrub brushes on all the hospital and doctor shows, he said Ramsey County requires people to use them in the food establishments when washing hands. If a person is biting their nails, they are close to that area.

Commissioner Rettman said a few years ago, we went through several training sessions to be prepared. Her personal perception is that of all the staff ready to go, it is the St. Paul Ramsey County Public Health Department, and Judd Freed, Emergency Management. Johns Hopkins saw Ramsey County as being very prepared for this type of thing. She is concerned that people will become complacent about this.

Commissioner Reinhardt said Mr. Freed has gone to AMC conferences to talk about preparedness and planning. Jane Norbin, Director, Health Policy and Planning, has gone above and beyond the call of duty, along with many other key leaders in this area for Ramsey County, the State and on the national level.

Chair Parker said this is a great learning opportunity for all of us. It is interesting to see the path of the H1N1, and that it is a similar path of seasonal influenza that we don't take time to track. These are good reminders for all of us.

Mr. Fulton said the St. Paul City Council will be briefed tomorrow; they are going to get on the agenda with the League of Local Governments; they have met with the emergency managers from the municipalities; and they will present to the department heads of the City and the County in the next

*(Continued)*

week. There is continual information going out to departments to share with employees. There is information everywhere – the weekly Ramsey News, on the Ramsey County Website with links to the CDC and Twitter.

Commissioner Carter asked for clarification about the Twitter site.

Mr. Fulton said it can be found at <http://twitter.com/healthynamsey>

## OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Reinhardt reported:

- The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) held its legislative conference in conjunction with the School Board Association, the Township Association, and the League of Minnesota Cities.
- The groundbreaking for the renovation of the Roseville Library was held followed by the opening of the temporary location, and the Friends of the Library annual luncheon.
- On a Funders meeting on *Ending Homelessness*. There are many partners working together on the many issues people face being homeless.
- The Governor's Fishing Opener will be held this Friday and Saturday in White Bear Lake with many events taking place. Friday afternoon the Lieutenant Governor will tour Tamarack Nature Center. This is the first time the Fishing Opener will be held in the metropolitan area.

Commissioner Carter reported:

- On the AMC Health and Human Services Committee meeting.
- The Ramsey County WIB is in its strategic planning process. There will be an update in a Board Workshop in June.
- On the Charter Commission meeting where three new members were welcomed. Commissioner salary and term limits, and an on-line checkbook will be studied by the Commission.
- On a FRAN (Frogtown Action Network) roll-out where community members came together on the work toward Central Corridor.
- On the Casey Alliance visit to the Merrick Community Center where there is a group of women supported by Human Services to develop responses around the disproportionality of children of color and out-of-home placements in Ramsey County.

Commissioner Ortega reported:

- That the Cinco de Mayo parade was bigger than ever, and well-attended.

## BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

Chair Parker reported:

- She and Commissioner Reinhardt and Commissioner Rettman attended the 8:30 a.m. groundbreaking of the renovation of the Roseville Library on Saturday. At 10:00 a.m. the grand opening of the temporary library was held. The annual meeting of the Friends of the Library was also held attended by two Minnesota authors. About \$900,000 has been raised by the Friends. One way people can support the new library is by donating \$35 to have their name on a paver at the library. Donations of colored glass will be accepted for use in flooring materials. Naming rights for library rooms, and other opportunities are available to people who want to get involved.

(Continued)

- On a meeting sponsored by the Ramsey County Soil and Water Conservation Board, which just completed a study of Long Lake water quality and erosion problems. As a result of that study, a grant will be available with support for property owners around the lake, including Ramsey County, to help stop the soil erosion around that lake.
- The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the School Patrol will be celebrated on Tuesday, May 12 7:30 a.m. to noon, at Aldrich Arena.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Parker declared the meeting adjourned.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Session was called to order at 11:25 a.m., with the following members present: Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, and Chair Parker – 6. Absent: Bennett – 1.

Also present were Julie Kleinschmidt, County Manager; Darwin Lookingbill, Director, Civil Division, County Attorney's Office, and Allen Carlson, Community Corrections Department.

Re: Gillespie v. Ramsey County

A discussion of the above matter was held and the County Attorney was provided with direction on how to proceed. No formal action was taken.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

---

Bonnie C. Jackelen, Chief Clerk – County Board