

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, and Chair Parker – 7. Absent: - 0. Also present were David Twa, 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 August 5, 2008 Board Meeting as amended with the revised documentation for item 10.7, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Reinhardt moved approval of the Minutes of the July 22, 2008 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Tamarack Nature Center – Teal Pond Restoration – Minnesota DNR/Conservation Partners Grant Program

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-240)

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources administers the Conservation Partners Grant Program and has approved an \$18,000 grant, designated CP09-004, to Ramsey county for restoration of Teal Pond at Tamarack Nature Center; and

WHEREAS, The Conservation Partners Grant Program requires a fifty percent (50%) local match and \$18,000 in matching funds are available from the Museums and Library Services Grant received by the County for implementation of the Destination for Discovery Master Plan at Tamarack Nature Center; and

WHEREAS, Acceptance of this grant must be made by a resolution approved by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and must include certain provisions as follows: 1) state that the County act as the legal sponsor for the grant; 2) state that the County has the financial capability to meet the match requirement and ensure adequate completion of the project; and 3) state that the County will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the grant agreement; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts, and will act as legal sponsor for, the \$18,000 Conservation Partners Program Grant, designated CP09-004, for restoration of Teal Pond in Tamarack Nature Center; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby acknowledges the requirement of a fifty-percent (50%) local match of grant funding and has the legal authority and financial capability to meet this match requirement; and Be It Further

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby agrees to comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the grant agreement; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes Gregory Mack, Director of Parks and Recreation, to execute Conservation Partners Grant Program Agreement CP09-004.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Rice Creek North Regional Trail – Approval of Mn/DOT Cost Sharing Agreement

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-241)

WHEREAS, As part of the Rice Creek North Regional Trail project, a chain link fence was proposed to be constructed between the trail and Minnesota Department of Transportation Arden Hills Training Facility property; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation requested, and agreed to fund, changing the proposed chain link fencing to a decorative aluminum fence to match existing fencing on other portions of their property; and

WHEREAS, As part of the Rice Creek North Trail project, the Minnesota Department of Transportation requested, and agreed to fund, construction of a short segment of eight-foot wide (8') bituminous trail connecting existing walkways on their property to the new Rice Creek North Regional Trail; and

WHEREAS, A Cost Sharing Agreement (Mn/DOT Contract Number 93123-P) has been negotiated between the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department and the Minnesota Department of Transportation to allow payment of a total of \$15,388 by the Minnesota Department of Transportation to allow payment of a total of \$15,388 by the Minnesota Department of Transportation to Ramsey County for this additional work; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Cost Sharing Agreement, designated Mn/DOT Contract Number 93123-P, between Ramsey County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation, allowing payment of \$15,388 by the Minnesota Department of Transportation to Ramsey County; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign the Cost Sharing Agreement.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Appropriation from Capital Improvement Program Contingent Account for Energy-Savings Lighting System Upgrade

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-242)

WHEREAS, Xcel Energy provides a County Government Initiative Rebate Program to encourage county governments to implement energy-saving upgrades; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The Center for Energy and Environment, working on behalf of Xcel Energy, conducted lighting system audits of the Parks and Recreation Administration/Maintenance Center and Aldrich Ice Arena; and

WHEREAS, The audits revealed that lighting system upgrades can result in substantial energy savings; and

WHEREAS, The total cost to Ramsey County for lighting system upgrades at these facilities is approximately \$32,000.00, with an energy savings payback of 4.3 to 4.8 years; and

WHEREAS, The Capital Improvement Program Advisory Board reviewed the lighting system upgrade proposals on July 10, 2008, and recommended appropriation of \$35,000.00 (estimated cost, plus contingency) from the Capital Improvement Program Contingent Account to implement these improvements; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners appropriate \$35,000.00 from the Capital Improvement Program Contingent Account for energy-saving lighting system upgrades at the Parks and Recreation Administration/Maintenance Center and the Aldrich Ice Arena; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorize the County Manager to execute the contracts with the Center for Energy and Environment and Xcel Energy in order to secure the County Government Initiatives rebates.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Elmer L. Andersen Memorial Trail, Minnesota DNR/Federal Recreational Trail Grant Program

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-243)

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources administers the Federal Recreation Trail Grant Program and has approved a \$25,000 grant to Ramsey County for continued development of the Elmer L. Andersen Memorial Trail within Tony Schmidt Regional Park; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Recreation Trail Grant Program requires a fifty percent (50%) local match and \$25,000 in matching funds are available from the County Capital Improvement Program under the Tony Schmidt Regional Trail and underpass project funded by the county and the City of Arden Hills; and

WHEREAS, Conditions of the grant require the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners pass a resolution accepting the grant and designating a fiscal agent for the County for this project; and

WHEREAS, A segment of the Elmer L. Anderson Memorial Trail alignment will be constructed on property owned by the City of Arden Hills, specifically within Perry Park; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The City of Arden Hills has received a Department of Natural Resources grant to construct a paved trail connecting Perry Park to the Elmer L. Andersen Memorial Trail and a short segment of this trail will be constructed on property owned by the County, specifically within Tony Schmidt Regional Park; and

WHEREAS, The County and the City of Arden Hills will be responsible for all costs of construction and maintenance of their respective trails; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Natural Resources grant program requires all owners of property over which a trail is constructed complete a formal agreement allowing construction on their property; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department and the City of Arden Hills have negotiated an agreement allowing construction and establishing obligations for use, ongoing maintenance, replacement and reconstruction of their respective trails; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the trail plan and recommended approval of the Agreement with the City of Arden Hills to construct and maintain the trails; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the \$25,000 Federal Recreational Trail Grant, designated 0030-08-3B, for continued development of the Elmer L. Andersen Memorial Train within Tony Schmidt Regional Park; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby designates Gregory Mack, Director of the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department, 2015 N. Van Dyke Street, Maplewood, MN 55109, as the fiscal agent for the County for this project; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes Gregory Mack, Director of Parks and Recreation to execute a Federal Recreational Trail Grant Program Agreement necessary to implement the trail project on behalf of Ramsey County; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Agreement between Ramsey County and the City of Arden Hills for Construction and Maintenance of Trails in Tony Schmidt Park and Perry Park; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the Construction and Maintenance Agreement between Ramsey County and the City of Arden Hills.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Transitions Initiative

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-244)

WHEREAS, The Transitions Initiative is a collaborative and community-wide response to effectively integrate a broad array of resources and knowledge to increase the academic achievement of students of African heritage; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The goals of the Initiative are to convene a community-wide consortium to improve educational outcomes for black students; to identify existing resources and develop clear strategies for improving educational outcomes; and to create a comprehensive 5 year Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, To date, the Initiative has developed the comprehensive five-year strategic plan – Students of African Heritage Achieving Now (SAHAN) - to improve achievement; and

WHEREAS, Within the plan, the initial SAHAN pilot effort will be the University Academies for Boys and Girls at the North End elementary school this fall; and

WHEREAS, With funding from the Children’s Collaborative and a state grant, Ramsey County Human Services, the Wilder Foundation and community agencies have arranged for staff to be on site at the school; and

WHEREAS, This will include a half-time social worker and three-quarter time mental health professional; and

WHEREAS, The staff will come from a shift in duties and the additional of staff within community agencies. No increase in staff complement is being requested; and

WHEREAS, The proposed Memorandum of Understanding also includes time devoted to working on additional ways to improve the coordination of school, county and community agency services. The dollar amounts reflect the annual value of the services being delivered; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the Memorandum of Understanding with the Saint Paul Public Schools for the Transitions Initiative; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

PUBLIC WORKS – Agreements PW2008-08 and PW2008-09 for Maintenance of Traffic Control Signals and EVP System

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-245)

WHEREAS, The City of Maplewood, in cooperation with Ramsey County, has installed traffic control signals at the intersection of Beam Avenue and Country View Drive and the intersection of County Road D and Country View Drive; and

WHEREAS, The agreements prepared by Ramsey County Public Works identify Ramsey County responsibilities for maintenance of the traffic control signals and EVP systems; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the Agreements PW2008-08 & PW2008-09 between Ramsey County Public Works and the City of Maplewood for the maintenance of the traffic control signals and EVP systems at the intersections of Beam Avenue and Country View Drive and County Road D and Country View Drive, respectively; and Be It Further

(Continued)

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

RESOLVED, That the four (4) page agreement PW2008-08 for Beam Avenue and Country View Drive and the four (4) page agreement PW2008-09 for County Road D and Country View Drive are made part of this resolution by reference and are on file with the Chief Clerk.

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS – Partnership Agreement between the Board of County Commissioners and the Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-246)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County, through Workforce Solutions, operates a substantial part of its workforce development programs under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (“WIA”); and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Section 117 of WIA and Section 661.300 of the WIA regulations, the roles and responsibilities for WIA programs and services delivered in Ramsey County may be articulated in a formal partnership agreement (“Partnership Agreement”) between the Board of County Commissioners as the Local Elected Official (“LEO”) and the Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board (“WIB”); and

WHEREAS, The Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Saint Paul and Ramsey County that created the consolidated workforce program in Ramsey County requires that the Partnership Agreement also include provisions regarding additional roles and responsibilities of the Board and the WIB for overall County workforce development efforts; and

WHEREAS, The WIB and the County Board previously executed Partnership Agreements for Program Years 2000-2002 (July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2002); PY 2002-2004 (July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2004); an additional eighteen month period July 1, 2004 – December 31, 2005; Calendar Years 2006-2007 (January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2007); and

WHEREAS, Representatives of the WIB and the County have agreed to continue the provisions of the current Partnership Agreement except for necessary changes related to dates and funding; and

WHEREAS, The Partnership Agreement has been approved by the WIB Executive Committee and must now be approved by the County Board; and

WHEREAS, Continuing the Partnership Agreement between the County Board and the WIB will be in the best interests of the residents, job-seekers and employers in Ramsey County; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the proposed Partnership Agreement with the Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board for the period from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009; and

RESOLVED The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and the Chief Clerk to sign the Partnership Agreement.

(Continued)

HUMAN RESOURCES – Selection of Employee Life Insurance Carrier for Benefit Plan Year 2009

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-247)

WHEREAS, On February 12, 2008, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Life Insurance for plan year 2009 (Resolution #2008-077); and

WHEREAS, The Human Resources Department and the Ramsey County Joint Labor Management Insurance Committee (LMC) have recommended that the life insurance proposal from Minnesota Life (administered by Ochs, Inc.) be accepted based on being the most competitive proposal, long-term rate cap guarantees, a history of excellent customer service, and performance guarantees placing up to \$10,000 in premium at risk; and

WHEREAS, The County’s benefit consultant, Deloitte Consulting, has done an analysis of the proposals and concurs with the recommendation of Minnesota Life as the carrier; and

WHEREAS, The LMC has reviewed and is recommending approval of several plan design modifications proposed by Minnesota Life that were requested in the RFP; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the selection of Minnesota Life, a Ramsey County-based company, as the provider of Basic and Optional Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance for plan year 2009, renewable annually for up to four additional years; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the rates for 2009 as listed below, including rate cap guarantees of 0% for 2010 and 2011 and rate cap guarantees based on the County’s loss ratio for 2012 and 2013:

Basic Life and AD&D (7.5% decrease in rates)

	<u>Current Monthly Rates</u>	<u>2009 Monthly Rates</u>
Ramsey County	\$ 0.134/\$1000 annual salary	\$0.124/\$1000 annual salary
Participating Public Entities	\$0.16/\$1000 annual salary	\$0.148/\$1000 annual salary

Optional Employee and Spouse Life (4.2% overall decrease in rates)

<u>Age of Insured</u>	<u>Current Monthly Rates/\$1000</u>	<u>2009 Monthly Rates/\$1000</u>
Under 30	\$0.04	\$ 0.04
Age 30-34	\$0.05	\$ 0.05
Age 35-39	\$0.06	\$ 0.06
Age 40-44	\$0.10	\$ 0.10
Age 44-49	\$0.15	\$ 0.14
Age 50-54	\$0.23	\$ 0.22
Age 55-59	\$0.40	\$ 0.38
Age 60-64	\$0.55	\$ 0.52
Age 65-69	\$0.85	\$ 0.81
Age 70+	\$0.95	\$ 0.90

(Continued)

Optional AD&D Insurance	(No change)		
		<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>2009 Rates</u>
Monthly Rate/\$1,000:		\$0 .025	\$ 0.025

Dependent Life	(9.5% decrease in rates)		
		<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>2009 Rates</u>
Monthly Rate/\$1,000:		\$ 0.21	\$ 0.19

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The County Board accepts the following plan design changes:

- a. Increase the guarantee issue amount for Employee Optional Life (the amount available without evidence of insurability) for new employees from \$30,000 to \$40,000.
- b. Offer current employees a one-time opportunity to purchase an additional \$10,000 in Optional Employee Life coverage without evidence of insurability.
- c. Modify the design of Dependent Life coverage from a three tier option of \$6,000/\$8,000/\$10,000 to \$10,000 only

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the County Board authorizes the County Manager to execute the contract for 2009, including any addenda and amendments during the plan year.

HUMAN RESOURCES – Selection of Employee Long Term and Short Term Disability Insurance Carrier for 2009 Benefit Plan Year

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-248)

WHEREAS, On February 12, 2008, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the issuance of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Long and Short Term Disability Insurance for plan year 2009 (Resolution 2008-077); and

WHEREAS, The Human Resources Department and the Ramsey County Joint Labor Management Insurance Committee (LMC) have recommended that the proposal from National Insurance Services, with underwriting by Madison National Life (NIS/Madison) be accepted based on being the most competitive proposal and providing long-term rate cap guarantees; and

WHEREAS, The County's benefit consultant, Deloitte Consulting, has done an analysis of the proposals and concurs with the recommendation of NIS/Madison as the provider; and

WHEREAS, NIS/Madison has agreed to offer the requested plan design modification relating to benefit maximum for Long and Short Term Disability insurance requested in the RFP and recommended by consensus of the Labor Management Committee with no impact on proposed rates; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the selection of NIS/Madison as the provider of Basic and Optional Long Term Disability Insurance and Short Term Disability Insurance for plan year 2009, renewable annually for up to four additional years; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the rates for 2009 as listed below, including 0% rate cap guarantees for 2010 and 2011, and a conditional rate cap guarantee of no more than 15% for 2012, if the County’s loss ratio is 100% or less:

<u>Basic Long Term Disability Insurance</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>2009 Rate</u>	<u>Percent Decrease</u>
County paid rate per \$100 monthly salary	\$0.098	\$0.088	10.1%
<u>Optional Long Term Disability Insurance</u>			
Employee paid rate per \$100 monthly salary			
Under Age 40	\$0.073	\$ 0.066	10.1%
40-49	\$0.190	\$ 0.171	10.1%
50 and over	\$0.227	\$ 0.204	10.1%
<u>Optional Short Term Disability Insurance</u>			
Employee paid rate per \$100 monthly salary			
30 day elimination period	\$0.56	\$0.515	8%
60 day elimination period	\$0.43	\$0.395	8.1%
90 day elimination period	\$0.27	\$0.240	11.1%

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the recommended plan design change to increase the maximum benefit for employees with Short Term Disability and employees carrying both Basic and Optional Long Term Disability from \$5000 month to \$7500 month so that all employees with these benefits receive the full 60% income replacement, regardless of income; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the County Board authorizes the County Manager to execute the contract for 2009, including any addenda and amendments during the plan year.

COUNTY MANAGER – Joint Powers Agreement Regarding Dispatch Services Related to 2008 Republican National Convention

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-249)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has approved two Joint Powers Agreements with the City of St. Paul (“City”) for security and public safety services related to the Republican National Convention (“2008 RNC”) that will be held from September 1, 2008, through September 4, 2008; and

WHEREAS, The 2008 RNC is expected to require support by the Emergency Communications Center over and above those normally provided to St. Paul; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The City and County have negotiated a third Joint Powers Agreement for dispatch services related to the 2008 RNC (“Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, The Agreement describes City and County responsibilities for dispatch related activities and the related financial information; and

WHEREAS, The City anticipates that federal financial assistance will fully fund or reimburse the City for these services; and

WHEREAS, Funds received under the Agreement will be used to reimburse the County for additional costs incurred by the Emergency Communications Department; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the Joint Powers Agreement Regarding Dispatch Services Related to 2008 Republican National Convention; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the dispatch Joint Powers Agreement, subject to prior approval by the County Attorney’s Office and Budgeting and Accounting; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve any amendments to the dispatch Joint Powers Agreement; and Be It Further

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

SHERIFF – Sale of Property located at 2232 Searle St., Maplewood, acquired by Ramsey County through drug forfeiture proceeding

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

Commissioner Rettman said the documentation referenced the Sheriff’s Office working with the Departments of Property Management and Property Records and Revenue to sell the property. The auction process used by Property Records and Revenue is awesome – a minimum bid could be set on the property and they utilize an auctioneer all the time. She hoped that is the direction this property would go in before hiring a real estate agent. In that way, it would assist Records and Revenue in keeping that moving in an auction, and both the Department and the Sheriff’s Office would be reimbursed.

Undersheriff Nick O’Hara, Ramsey County Sheriff’s Office, said he and Commissioner Rettman had spoken this morning prior to the County Board meeting. They are looking for guidance for the best way to move the property, to get the best price – 90% of the proceeds come back in one way or the other to the Sheriff’s Office, or to the County Attorney; 10% goes to the State. This is a tough market, and they would like to move the property quickly.

Commissioner Bennett cited Minn. Stat. Section 373.01, subd. 1(5)(b) in the Executive Summary. He asked if the Sheriff’s Office is governed by rules that do not allow the County a choice in how the property is sold.

Undersheriff O’Hara said they have been working with the County Attorney’s Office and taken their guidance with regard to how the property is moved. He is comfortable with the fact that they have laid out an agenda to move on the property.

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Commissioner Bennett said Commissioner Rettman had suggested moving the property through Property Records and Revenue; he wondered if the cited statute would supersede that.

Commissioner Rettman said the documentation states that the Sheriff's Office is already working with the Department of Property Management and the County Attorney's Office. Action is requested to: "authorize the sale of the property by auction". Since the County already has an auction set-up in Records and Revenue that is where she felt the nexus was.

Commissioner Reinhardt pointed out that the money comes into the Sheriff's budget and/or into the County Attorney's budget and then once a year or so, those expenditures come back to the County Board for approval. The money goes into the department, but is not expended without first coming to the County Board.

Commissioner Reinhardt asked if because the methamphetamine was manufactured at the property, does it need to be cleaned up before it is sold.

Undersheriff O'Hara said this property had a bunker building at the back of the house in the hill. There was a swinging door in the garage. The Sheriff's Office got in with a search warrant before it was finished and saw what was anticipated. There is a remediation process with regard to methamphetamine properties, and that has been done. What is needed now is to notice that in the advertisement, depending upon how it is done so that potential buyers would realize that the property has been remediated. No problems are expected with residuals, not in the ground or in the building. The problem with this property is that they have tried to clear title for several years, and in the process, the market has taken a steep decline. Just recently, vandals ripped the copper out and did some damage. It has been difficult to clear title because the owner, Mr. Smith, after we seized it and filed notice, obtained about an \$180,000 loan on the property. The County had filed, and they had not checked, and the loan was made; they tried to come after us to try to challenge whether it is a homeowner exemption or not. On June 18, the judge cleared it and the property title was given to the County. It has been quite a process.

Commissioner Bennett said he is curious about what they did with the loan. Did he use the property as collateral for the loan?

Undersheriff O'Hara responded affirmatively, and the County had filed, and they had not done the title search.

Commissioner Bennett asked who was held responsible for the \$180,000.

Undersheriff O'Hara said it might have been HSBC, the name that came up on the documents.

Commissioner Bennett said the County couldn't have title to it. He asked if it was under the Courts jurisdiction.

Undersheriff O'Hara said the Examiner of Titles went through all the documentation to see if any exemptions applied, and gave us the clear title June 18.

Undersheriff O'Hara said the Sheriff's Office tried to obtain insurance knowing that it was a vacant home, but the County is self-insured so there is no possibility of getting the insurance. The neighbors were great, they looked after the property, but they could only do so much.

Commissioner Bennett asked if the property was under the Courts jurisdiction or had it been turned over to the County when the copper was ripped out.

Undersheriff O'Hara said the County was given title on June 18; the copper was removed shortly before that.

Commissioner Bennett asked if the Courts would be liable for that pipe then.

Undersheriff O'Hara said the Court was the arbitrator, not the possessor; the title was in limbo at that point. It truly was the County's at that point but the Court had not made the final determination as yet.

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Commissioner Bennett said it might be interesting for Property Records and Revenue to look at that – maybe they have insurance that is not self-insured.

Dave Twa, County Manager, said it was not owned by the Court during that process; they make determination on the title and would not have any liability.

Darwin Lookingbill, Director, Civil Division, County Attorney's Office, said the problem was we hadn't been able to sell it because we didn't have clear title. We have had problems with other Ramsey County properties in selling them when we didn't have clear title, and this is a similar issue.

Commissioner Bennett asked how they take responsibility then for the loan.

Mr. Lookingbill said the reason we couldn't sell it was because the bank and the title insurance company filed a lien against the property, and, therefore, we didn't have clear title to pass along. The Court decided that the bank didn't get their mortgage filed prior to our forfeiture – we got in before they did. It was a timing issue, basically who had first rights. The Court finally decided for the County.

Commissioner Bennett said he is just trying to find a way to save that money.

Commissioner Reinhardt cited the copper theft in Falcon Heights. She said Representative Gardner championed the new statute at the State legislature regarding prosecution of people who strip copper. With all the foreclosures, that has been a huge issue. She was not sure when that law went into effect. This property is in the City of Maplewood. Are the Maplewood police pursuing that theft?

Undersheriff O'Hara said proof in a situation like that copper pipe is extremely difficult. There would be nil chances of proving where the copper came from unless you could match up the cut with the pipe, and law enforcement doesn't have time to pursue these types of cases.

Commissioner Reinhardt had cited this as a tool used in Falcon Heights. Hopefully, if there are leads on this case, they'll be able to use that tool.

Chair Parker asked if there is information on the remediation costs.

Undersheriff O'Hara said typically, the Feds come in, and the EA might come in to help out with remediation. He did not believe it was serious in this residence because he was in the process of developing his meth lab and his bunker to do the work. He could check with the Narcotics Squad and get the information to the Commissioners. There was a search warrant for a meth lab so he assumed they were in the process of making it.

Chair Parker said she would be interested in getting information on the remediation costs.

Undersheriff O'Hara said he would provide the information.

Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7.
Nays – 0. (2008-250)

WHEREAS, On August 19, 2004, the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant at the residence occupied by Thomas Paul Smith and located at 2232 Searle Street in Maplewood ("the Property") and discovered an operating clandestine methamphetamine laboratory; and

WHEREAS, On May 17, 2005, Thomas Paul Smith pled guilty to first degree controlled substance crime for the manufacture of methamphetamine and was sentenced to time in jail; and

WHEREAS, On November 1, 2005, Thomas Paul Smith was served with the summons and complaint for forfeiture of his residence, which had been used in the manufacture of methamphetamine; and

WHEREAS, An Order for judgment from Ramsey County District Court forfeiting the Property to Ramsey County was entered November 16, 2006; and

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WHEREAS, Because the Property was registered (Torrens) property, Ramsey County filed a petition in proceeding subsequent with the Ramsey County Examiner of Titles on July 31, 2007 to clear a title issue relating to the Property and an Order was issued June 18, 2008 entering a new certificate for the land transferring title to Ramsey County, free of other interests; and

WHEREAS, The Property was subject to forfeiture under the provisions of Minn. Stat. section 609.531, et seq., and pursuant to the provisions of Minn. Stat. section 609.5315, the court order forfeiting the Property authorized that it be sold and the proceeds distributed according to law; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. section 373.01, subd. 1(5)(b) prescribes the procedure for Ramsey County to sell the Property; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Sheriff's Department, working in conjunction with the County Attorney's Office and the Department of Property Management, to take the necessary steps to sell the Property located at 2232 Searle Street in the City of Maplewood; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the publication of the Notice to Interested Parties, which will include a notice of the disclosure requirements of Minn. Stat. section 152.0275, subd. 2(m) regarding the methamphetamine production at the Property, and the acceptance of bids for purchase of the Property as required by Minn. Stat. section 373.01, subd. 1 (5)(b); and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the hiring of a real estate appraiser to value the Property; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the sale of the Property by auction or by hiring a real estate agent to list and sell the Property if no acceptable bid is received in response to publication of the notice; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The proceeds of the sale of the Property shall be distributed pursuant to the provisions of Minn. Stat. section 609.5315.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Active Living Ramsey County Strategic Plan and Establishment of Interdepartmental Work Group to Integrate Active Living Principles into the Work of County Departments

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

Chair Parker said this action would support the Active Living Ramsey County (ALRC) Strategic Plan 2008-2012. She introduced Connie Bernardy, the new coordinator for Active Living Ramsey County. The ALRC group has been talking about how to integrate the principles into the daily work that the County does. A new task force would be created to look at internal operations to see where changes might be made within the County's operating departments.

Greg Mack, Director, Parks and Recreation, said they have been working since the beginning of the process with several departments, notably Public Health, Public Works, Regional Railroad Authority, as well as a number of Commissioners who have been engaged in the discussions. In talking with the companion counties, it was found that they are working on infusing this into other

(Continued)

parts of their organizations, and have been eligible for additional grant funding. The strategic plan was developed to focus on areas of physical health, policy development, and how to look at the infrastructure of the services provided for parks and roads. In one of Public Works' performance measures, they noted that 100% of the roadways built include pedestrian ways.

Commissioner Bennett said at a recent townhome association near the new Rice Creek park, a question was raised for when benches would be placed there.

Mr. Mack cited the Thousand Benches Program, and said an invitation was extended to the City of Shoreview to participate. The ALRC program would finance 50% of the cost. The City of Shoreview and other municipalities are looking into finding the local match. Perhaps the townhome association would like to participate.

Commissioner Bennett said he'd made that suggestion.

Chair Parker welcomed Ms. Bernardy.

Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7.
Nays – 0. (2008-251)

WHEREAS, Lack of physical activity and poor nutrition contribute to increasing rates of obesity and other chronic diseases; and

WHEREAS, Health problems associated with physical inactivity and poor nutrition affect Ramsey County through reduced quality of life; and

WHEREAS, In December 2004, the Active Living Ramsey County (ALRC) initiative was implemented with the support of community leaders, elected officials and representatives from organizations throughout Ramsey County "to create and promote environments that make it safe and convenient for people to integrate physical activity into daily routines"; and

WHEREAS, The ALRC Steering Committee prepared and adopted a strategic plan to clearly identify the future direction for the initiative; and

WHEREAS, Representatives from Ramsey County's Parks and Recreation, Public Health, Public Works and Sheriff's departments participated on the Steering Committee to organize the ALRC partnership and prepare the plan; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of ALRC, received and accepted a Blue Cross Blue Shield Prevention Minnesota grant to create, plan and promote Active Living initiatives and approved funding for the ALRC 1,000 Benches Program; and

WHEREAS, In 2008, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved funding for the Active Living Ramsey County Coordinator position, to help advance the work of the partnership;
Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners supports the Active Living Ramsey County Strategic Plan 2008-2012; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners directs the County Manager to work with Senior Management Team to address how Ramsey County can integrate Active Living principles into the work of County departments.

(Continued)

HUMAN RESOURCES – Metropass Agreement with the Metropolitan Council

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

Commissioner Rettman believes this is a subsidy and that employees should purchase their own bus pass just like non-County employees do.

Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 6. Nays – Rettman – 1. (2008-252)

WHEREAS, The current Metropass Agreement will expire on September 30, 2008; and

WHEREAS, The County continues to believe that the Metropass Program is a key ingredient in reducing traffic congestion and pollution in Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, The Metropass Program provides a potential benefit to all of the County's employees, and is consistent with the County's Model Employer Initiative; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Metropass Renewal Agreement with the Metropolitan Council for a one-year period effective October 1, 2008, in a form to be approved by the County Attorney's Office; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves continuation of the employee cost of \$34.50 per month for a Metropass for the period from October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to fund the County portion of the Metropass Program for 2009 with parking revenues from the Ramsey County Government Centers East and West; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to execute the Metropass Agreement and any addendum during the one-year term of the Agreement, and to make any additional budget adjustments or employee contribution adjustments that are necessary.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT/COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – Ramsey County Boys Totem Town Pre-Design Study

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

Commissioner Rettman said page one of the RFP under background states that Boys Totem Town houses 85 youth offenders – 65 male and 20 female. However, page three under new facilities, number 2a, states "...a population of 65 boys and 20 girls – note: there are no girls currently housed at the Boys Totem Town campus". She asked for clarification.

Jolly Mangine, Director, Property Management, said the materials were written by Community Corrections. He would look into that and any mistakes would be corrected.

Commissioner Rettman said that should be done before it is sent out. It is one way or the other, and asked that the County Attorney's Office look at this as well.

Commissioner Rettman asked how much was set aside in the Capital Improvement Program for this amount for the pre-design.

Mr. Mangine responded \$100,000.

(Continued)

Commissioner Rettman asked if that is for a not to exceed amount.

Mr. Mangine responded affirmatively.

Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7.
Nays – 0. (2008-253)

WHEREAS, On December 18, 2007, the County Board approved the 2008-2013 Capital Improvement Program Plan, the 2008-2009 Capital Improvement Program Budget, and 2008 Capital Improvement Program Financing including funding for the Boys Totem Town pre-design study; and

WHEREAS, Located on the present site since 1918, the BTT campus includes a mix of buildings and additions. The main building was built in 1936, the school building in 1928, and an addition connecting the two buildings in 1967; and

WHEREAS, Although the buildings on the campus are well maintained, the large open dormitory housing style no longer supports current practices regarding youth corrections, and major infrastructure issues have been identified; and

WHEREAS, Property Management and Community Corrections staff have developed a RFP for pre-design services with the following outcomes:

- A documented review and updating of the existing and future space and program requirements;
- A master site plan;
- A schematic design; and
- A project budget and schedule;

and

WHEREAS, Property Management and Community Corrections are requesting authorization to issue a Request for Proposals for pre-design services for the Ramsey County Boys Totem Town campus; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to issue a Request for Proposals for pre-design services for the Ramsey County Boys Totem Town campus.

PROPERTY RECORDS AND REVENUE – Appointment of Members of the Ramsey County Canvassing Board

Commissioner McDonough said two commissioners who are not up for election are needed to serve on the County Canvassing Board in 2008.

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, with Commissioner Carter and Commissioner Rettman to serve on the County Canvassing Board in 2008, seconded by Commissioner Ortega.

Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Parker – 7.
Nays – 0. (2008-254)

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes §204C.31 provides that the County Canvassing Board shall consist of the county auditor, the district court administrator, the Mayor of Saint Paul and two members of the County Board who are not candidates in 2008; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County Commissioner Carter and Commissioner Rettman are not candidates in 2008; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints Commissioner Carter and Commissioner Rettman as members of the Ramsey County Canvassing Board in 2008; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That in the event the two above named Commissioners decline to serve on the Canvassing Board and decline to name alternates, the Director of Property Records and Revenue is authorized to appoint alternates; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That payment of \$50 per day is authorized for Canvassing Board members who are not elected officials or employees of Ramsey County.

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Rettman reported:

- She attended the SDEIS (Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement) public hearing, and both planning commission hearings on the stations, and planning for the current existing station along the Central Corridor. She and Commissioner Carter attended a meeting hosted by the Frogtown Community District Council, on the parking issues, attended by representatives from Congressman Oberstar's Office, Congressional Delegations from Coleman, Klobuchar, and Kline, and Representative Alice Hausman's Office. Parking and park and ride areas are high priorities. An additional meeting will be held on Saturday, at 1:00 p.m.
- On the Ramsey County Charter Commission meeting, where she provided an update on what is going on in Ramsey County.
- She attended the Association of Minnesota Counties meeting in St. Cloud with the express interest in public health nurses and visiting home nurses, and the continuation of funding for the services they provide.
- On the Shiloh Baptist Fun Day.
- On the Falcon Heights Festival.

Commissioner Reinhardt reported:

- White Bear Lake's Market Fest has concluded for the year. In conjunction with that was the first annual Environmental Resource Fair, to raise awareness that daily individual actions, when added up, make a huge difference. The Waste Management hierarchy is Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, but at the top of the list is, Reduce.
- A car show is held on Friday evenings in North St. Paul.
- On the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) policy committee meetings. She is the vice chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. All the policy committees are working on the legislative agenda for 2009.
- She chairs the Mission and Impact Work Group of the foreclosures data committee, established in State statute. A meeting was held with the design work group on what would be desirable to include in data collection regarding foreclosures.
- She chaired the MetroGIS Policy Board.
- She is on the executive committee for the Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board (SWMCB). They will move forward on the logo with the Green Knight for the SWMCB website, etc., which will be rebranded.
- Ramsey County is a partner in the urban tennis program; she attended the awards ceremony.

(Continued)

Commissioner Bennett reported:

- He was appointed chair of the National Justice and Public Safety Committee by the president of NACo. He had been appointed to represent the counties in the Midwest Region on a 21-member advisory group of FEMA. FEMA is going through a lot of changes, and works directly with Ramsey County in emergencies. Judd Freed, Ramsey County Emergency Services Director, is well respected as emergency management director with this group.

Commissioner Carter reported:

- She attended the SDEIS (Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement) hearing.
- She attended the Frogtown CDC parking meeting at the Lexington Library.
- On the Association of Minnesota Counties public policy committee meetings she attended. Discussed was an implications wheel brought in by AMC staff. That tool, which will be available on-line, was used to assess the implications of the change in public defender funding. Platforms were also worked on in the policy committees. A highlight was the development and implementation of a redesign project that Commissioner McDonough participated in, and gave him kudos for the work that the AMC Leadership Team is doing.

Commissioner McDonough said the Executive Board worked for 6-8 months on a redesign to raise the level at AMC to move on a particular item typically driven in a crisis situation to resolve that; to raise the level of what AMC does as an association in the relationship it has with the State and the legislators; to emphasize transparency, flexibility, and partnership as we move forward, as counties providing services work together on policy and budget decisions made that affect both county and state government.

David Twa, County Manager, said Commissioners Carter, McDonough and Reinhardt all attended sessions dealing with the implications wheel, and staff have gone to training on how to implement it. It is now a tool available to the County Board, and to the departments to be used for future activities. It will be a good tool for the County to use.

Chair Parker said it will be very helpful during the legislative session.

BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

Chair Parker reported:

- Little Canada held its Canadian Days, and St. Anthony had its Village Fest – both great community gatherings, with activities going on all weekend.

ADJOURNMENT

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in Executive Session at 10:05 a.m. in Room 220 Court House, with the following members present: Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, and Chair Parker – 7. Absent: None. Also present were: Gail Blackstone, Director of Human Resources; Marcy Cordes, Labor Relations Manager, Darwin Lookingbill, Civil Division Chief; Jim Grieman, HR Benefits Manager; Jean Gramling, HR Manager; Kathy Kapoun, Budget Manager; Nancy Norstrem, Administrative Secretary.

The Executive Session was called to order at 10:05 a.m. to discuss parameters for bargaining.

(Continued)

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Ortega. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, Ortega, Reinhardt, Parker - 4. Nays – Bennett, McDonough, Rettman - 3. (2008-255)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves parameters for bargaining as discussed in the Executive Session.

This Executive Session was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Bonnie C. Jackelen, Chief Clerk – County Board