

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega (late), Reinhardt, Rettman, and Chair Parker – 7. Absent: None. Also present were Pat O'Connor, Interim 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 October 7, 2008 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.

MINUTES

Commissioner McDonough moved approval of the Minutes of the September 16, 2008 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.

PROCLAMATION

Commissioner Rettman read the proclamation declaring October as "Let's Talk Month".

Grit Youngquist, Adolescent Health Coordinator, St. Paul Ramsey County Department of Public Health, thanked the County Board for its continuing support over the years for this initiative undertaken with partners in the community.

The following community partners were present and thanked the Commissioners for their support: Lynn Wyman, Ramsey County Library; Lorie Alveshire, Minnesota Organization on Adolescent Pregnancy, Prevention & Parenting; and Juliet Mitchell, UJIMAA Healthy Youth Development & Teen Pregnancy Prevention Project.

[Commissioner Ortega arrived at this time.]

PARKS AND RECREATION – 2008 Regional Park Grants

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-303)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has approved a Capital Improvement Program and master plans for its regional parks and trails; and

WHEREAS, The 2008 Minnesota State Legislature appropriated \$745,000 to Ramsey County for the Tamarack Nature Center Destination for Discovery Development Project and designated the Metropolitan Council as the grant pass through agency; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Council proposed funding for Bald Eagle-Otter Lake Regional Park and Rice Creek North Regional Trail Natural Resource Restoration, Keller Regional Park Redevelopment and Reimbursement to the County for Rice Creek North Regional Trail construction costs; and has provided grants for this purpose; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following grant agreements: SG2008-063, Tamarack Nature Center Destination for Discovery Development, up to \$745,000; SG2008-067, Bald Eagle-Otter Lake Regional Park and Rice Creek North Regional Trail Natural Resource Restoration, up to \$50,000; SG2008-068, Keller Regional Park Redevelopment, up to \$1,411,000; and SG2008-69, Rice Creek North Regional Trail Development Reimbursement, up to \$145,000; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign the agreements; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes a temporary cash loan, up to \$2,351,000, the total amount of the four grants, from the County General Fund, to the Open Space Fund, to pay grant eligible costs until funds are reimbursed from the Metropolitan Council.

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Appointment to the Small business Enterprise Advisory Committee

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-304)

WHEREAS, On July 22, 2008, the Ramsey County Board adopted Resolution 2008-229, which appointed several individuals to the Small Business Enterprise Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, Vacancies currently exist in Districts 6 and 7; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the appointment of the following individual to the Small Business Enterprise Advisory Committee:

<u>District Of Representation</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>
<u>DISTRICT 6</u> Ann Caroline Polachek 911 Rose Avenue E St. Paul, MN 55106	5/31/2012

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – Agreement with Ergometrics & Applied Personnel Research, Inc. (Ergometrics)

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-305)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County Community Corrections wishes to revise the hiring processes for the positions of Community Corrections Aide and Communications Worker while continuing to ensure that they are based on relevant job skills and identify strong candidates through the initial exam process; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County Community Corrections wishes to train the existing employees on best practices; and

WHEREAS, Ergometrics & Applied Personnel Research, Inc. has developed assessment and training videos and materials that will assist Ramsey County Community Corrections toward those goals for the positions of Community Corrections Aide and Community Corrections Worker; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve and execute an Agreement with Ergometrics & Applied Personnel Research, Inc, 18720 33rd Avenue West, Suite 200, Lynnwood, WA, for the term October 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009, at a County cost not to exceed \$9,600 for Year 1 costs through December 31, 2008 and \$9,000 for Year 2 and thereafter through December 31, 2009, to provide the use of the IMPACT system for scoring applicants and training for existing positions of Community Corrections Aide and Community Corrections Worker; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve and execute the Agreement with Ergometrics & Applied Personnel Research, Inc. and any necessary amendments or renewals in a form to be approved by the County Attorney; and Be It Further

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

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL – Member appointments

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-306)

WHEREAS, Several committees of the Community Human Services Citizens Advisory Council have membership vacancies; and

WHEREAS, The County’s open appointment process was followed to obtain applications; and

WHEREAS, The Citizens Advisory Council recommends applicants listed in the attached Membership Appointment Recommendations be appointed to serve on the committees identified for the terms noted; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the appointment of the following individuals to serve on the committees of the Community Human Services Citizens Advisory Council, with terms specified.

<u>Adult Services Committee</u>	<u>Term Expiration Date</u>
Chris Rosenthal	6/30/10
Gaoly Yang	6/30/10
Lynn McDermott, LSW	6/30/10
Maureen Davidson	6/30/10

(Continued)

Children's Mental Health Committee

Heather Schilling	6/30/10
Judy Ohm	6/30/10
Stan Karcz	6/30/10
Janee Anez	6/30/10
Mary Hunt	6/30/10
Speciose Sinyigaya	6/30/10

Children's Services Review Panel

Georgia Boehlke	6/30/10
Virginia Pieper	6/30/10
Mark Proctor	6/30/10
RD Brown	6/30/10
Tonya K. Long	6/30/10

Developmental Disabilities Committee

Chris Steiner	6/30/10
Michael P. Golben	6/30/10
Jonathan Rose	6/30/10
Christopher Gangl	6/30/10

Low Income Committee

Mary Gallagher	6/30/10
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Adult Mental Health Committee

Renee Jenson	6/30/10
Claire D. Grubich	6/30/10
Kelly Bot	6/30/10

COUNTY MANAGER – Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee – Joint Levy Resolution

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-307)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County, the City of Saint Paul, and Independent School District #625 are members of the Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee (JPTAC); and

WHEREAS, The JPTAC, created in MN Statutes 383A.75, has a duty to agree, by October 1st of each year, on the appropriate level of overall maximum property tax levy for the three jurisdictions and publicly report such to the governing bodies of each jurisdiction for ratification or modification by resolution; and

WHEREAS, On September 22, 2008, JPTAC members met and passed a resolution that identifies the maximum joint jurisdictional levy; and

WHEREAS, The recommendation of JPTAC members is that the maximum joint jurisdictional levy, after fiscal disparities, be increased in Pay 2009 by 4.0% from the Pay 2008 final joint property tax levy; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, JPTAC members have recommended that the elected bodies of each jurisdiction pass individual resolutions in support of the attached joint levy resolution; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the recommendation for the joint overall maximum Pay 2009 levy as identified by the Joint Property Tax Advisory Committee on September 22, 2008.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Energy-Saving Lighting – Ramsey County Care Center

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-308)

WHEREAS, The Center for Energy Environment, working on behalf of Xcel Energy, has completed an audit of the lighting systems at the Ramsey County Care Center; and

WHEREAS, Xcel Energy currently offers a County Government Initiative Program that provides rebates to assist counties in system upgrades that result in a substantial energy savings; and

WHEREAS, The lighting system at the Care Center qualifies for a \$9,020.69 rebate. Applying this rebate to the estimated cost, the conversion costs would be \$24,114.65; and

WHEREAS, Based on the estimated annual energy savings, the payback for these improvement is 3.7 years; and

WHEREAS, The Capital Improvement Program Contingent Account has a current balance of \$231,082; and

WHEREAS, This proposal was reviewed by the Capital Improvement Program Advisory Board on October 2, 2008; and

WHEREAS, It is recommended that \$35,000 be appropriated from this account in order to implement the energy-saving lighting system improvements at the Ramsey County Care Center; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners appropriates \$35,000 from the Capital Improvement Program Contingent Account for energy-saving lighting system upgrades at the Ramsey County Care Center; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to execute the contracts with the Center for Energy and Environment and Xcel Energy in order to secure the County Government Initiative rebates.

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS – Minnesota Family Investment Program Supported Work Experience Program

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-309)

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County received \$1,405,120 in Supported Work funding from the State of Minnesota for State Fiscal Year (“SFY”) 2008 (July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008); and

WHEREAS, During the 2008 session, the state legislature allocated \$7,100,000 in additional Supported Work funding for State Fiscal Year (“SFY”) 2009 (July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009) and \$7,100,000 for SFY 2010 (July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010). In addition, the legislation allows for unspent SFY 2008 (July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008) and SFY 2009 supported work funds to be available until expended; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Human Services has determined the Supported Work funding level for each county and tribe for SFY 2009, and has allocated \$1,884,385 to Ramsey County for SFY 2009; the SFY 2010 funding allocation has not been determined. Notification of SFY 2010 funding will be announced in July 2009; and

WHEREAS, The Supported Work funds will be used to provide paid transitional work experience and other supported employment and a continuum of employment assistance, including outreach, recruitment, program orientation, intake, testing and assessment, job development and marketing, pre-worksite training, supported worksites experience, job coaching, and post placement follow-up, in addition to extensive case management and referral services; and

WHEREAS, Services through December 31, 2008, will be provided through existing contracts with Supported Work Experience Program vendors; and

WHEREAS, On August 19, 2008, the County Board approved the issuance of a Request for Proposals for Supported Work Experience Program vendors to provide program services for calendar years 2009-2014; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to accept SFY 2009 and SFY 2010 MFIP Supported Work funds and supplemental funds; make necessary budget adjustments; and execute appropriate contracts and contract amendments for the receipt and expenditure of funds; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to make temporary cash loans as needed from the County General Revenue Fund to Workforce Solutions in order to cover SFY 2009 and SFY 2010 Supported Work Experience Program expenses until funds are received, with repayment to be made upon receipt of Supported Work funds from the State of Minnesota; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners directs Workforce Solutions staff to return to the County Board with the results of the Request for Proposals solicitation process for Supported Work providers.

COUNTY MANAGER/BUDGETING & ACCOUNTING – Monthly report of contracts and final payments and grant submissions that were approved during the month of August 2008

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2008-310)

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Administrative Code 3.40.37 authorizes the County Manager to approve contracts, within certain limits; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Code 4.30.50a requires a monthly report on all contracts and final payments approved by the County Manager; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Code 4.30.39d requires the County Manager to report grant submissions, amendments, renewals, and acceptances along with the monthly contract report; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the Report of Contracts and Final Payments and Grants for the month of August 2008.

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Rettman reported:

- On some of the Charitable Giving Campaign activities, and thanked the many employees for the work they have done on this campaign.
- She and Commissioner Ortega attended the Greater Frogtown Community Development Corporation (CDC) gathering.
- New Horizon, a child care center opened on Rice Street. Public health nurses have been a critical component, working with the families in the Frogtown and North End communities on well-baby, immunizations, nutrition, etc.
- Rob Fulton, Director, St. Paul Ramsey County Public Health Department, Commissioner Reinhardt and Commissioner Rettman, accepted a plaque from Life Track on the occasion of their 60th anniversary, recognizing the Department as one of the original funders, participant and partner.
- She and Rob Fulton, Director, St. Paul Ramsey County Public Health Department, attended the State Health Conference, where Mr. Fulton made a presentation. In 2011, there will be voluntary accreditation. Ramsey County may want to apply for the statewide advisory panel reviewing the accreditation on outcome based performances in creating data that would support what we are doing. Getting the accreditation would be a national component that could assist state and national legislators, and local governments make good judgments on the data and the return on the dollar.
- The Visiting Nurse Program was a component of the Health Conference. As president-elect of the Association of Minnesota Counties, Commissioner McDonough is also working on that.
- The Capitol Region Watershed District, now in existence for five years, held a kick-off for its 10-year plan. The Watershed District had previously been a watershed management organization, but did not have the ability to make as much progress toward water quality, and is now doing many other things.
- On the "Heat's On" event. The Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties put together a list of seniors and disabled individuals who receive a visit from a member of the pipefitters union to check furnaces and to make sure people are safe in their homes. The pipefitters volunteer their time with the companies involved donating carbon monoxide detectors this year.

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Commissioner Reinhardt reported:

- On the grand opening of the transitional unit at the Ramsey County Care Center. Everyone is proud of what is being done there, and the grounds are being changed to a prairie restoration.
- On a well-attended North St. Paul Neighborhood Crime Watch event.
- On a community meeting in Maplewood regarding the Lake Links. The sign-up sheet intended to maintain contact with people to keep them informed has been misplaced. This is about brainstorming ideas for the lake links that go around Silver Lake in North St. Paul, the Gateway Trail, and connection across Highway 36, with Margaret Street open. A link has been made on the Ramsey County Website to look at sections of the plan and to provide input.
- Most of the Commissioners attended the Child Care Providers Recognition Dinner, with Chair Parker acting as emcee. These individuals are all passionate and loving in their care of children. One individual was recognized for 45 years as a child care provider.

Chair Parker said there are 900 licensed child care providers in Ramsey County, who take care of 9,000 children.

- She attended the first of two open houses for the Rush Line Corridor, held in Maplewood. The second open house will be held tonight at 5:30 p.m. at the North Branch Library at 6355 - 379th Street. Presentations are to review the alternatives analysis and what was considered on this rail corridor.
- The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) Board meeting was held Friday, October 3, where discussion was held about what we are trying to do on partnering at State and Federal levels between counties. Commissioner McDonough, president-elect of AMC, has been taking on an incredible leadership role in talking about what we need to do to build on the relationships we have with legislators; but support is needed from across the State.
- Great progress is being reported on the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). It has taken awhile to get this up and running. Law enforcement embraces JDAI. JDAI is looking not only at the disproportionate minority confinement but at disparities, as well -- the difference being when people are treated differently.
- On the International Conference on Public Administration with folks from 25 different countries talking about public administration and what we have in common as far as budget issues. Over 900 papers were offered up for presentation; over 200 were accepted; about 25 were accepted for presentation, one of which was her own paper, which she presented -- *Taxpayer Costs Avoided Through Preventing Crime*.

Commissioner Bennett reported:

- On the Metropolitan Emergency Services Executive Board meeting.
- Two wings at the Ramsey County Care Center were developed to help keep County taxpayer costs down by bringing in transitional care.

Commissioner Ortega reported:

- On the last meeting of the Post Office Partnership with Dakota and Ramsey Counties, working basically on the Union Depot, the issues of the Post Office moving out to Eagan, and related issues. Representatives from the offices of Senators Coleman and Klobuchar sat in on some of the negotiations, but the person deserving the most credit is Congressperson Betty McCollum. She encouraged this group to meet, shepherded it along, and worked behind the scenes in Washington with the Post Office to make sure Ramsey County was successful.

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BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

Chair Parker reported:

- On the Inter-City Leadership visit to Atlanta. This was a stimulating trip with a lot of things going on in Atlanta to be learned from. A gas shortage is going on in the southeast part of the country, and only about one in twenty gas stations were open in Atlanta, creating congestion and two to three-hour waits at the stations that were open. Atlanta has a high pollution index necessitating the use of a special kind of gas. They are car-dependent without a seamless transit system with buses and rail.
At the conference, there was a presentation from high-level executives from Delta and Northwest airlines. Negotiations are to be complete by the end of the year. Out of about 10,000 different routes, the two airlines have only about 12 that are duplicated. They will complement each other and double the number of routes of that one system. No layoffs are expected, and any changes to be made are expected through attrition. The St. Paul/Minneapolis airport is to be retained as an important hub for the airline services.
A wonderful presentation was provided by the Atlanta superintendent about the schools. Meria Carstarphan also attended this conference.
There was also a presentation from the City of Atlanta's energy staff.
- On a presentation by Decision Resources, the marketing research firm that does a lot of surveys of government policy issues. They did a survey regarding the river. 300 people in St. Paul were interviewed on their concerns, use of the river, any significant problems. There is a strong perception of pollution, and people are very concerned about the water quality.

INTERIM COUNTY MANAGER UPDATE

Pat O'Connor, Interim County Manager, said residents and taxpayers of Ramsey County will receive their Truth In Taxation notices the first part of November. On December 11, there will be a joint public hearing at Arlington High School at 6 p.m., with appraisers in attendance at 5:30 p.m., to answer any questions folks may have about appraisals on their properties. It is a good opportunity for folks to provide information to the appraisers on any corrections that may need to be done such as classifications. Staff are very proud of the work done at Ramsey County, and this hearing gives a good opportunity to hear back from residents and taxpayers about where we can do a better job.

Commissioner Bennett asked Mr. O'Connor to provide more information about what the Truth In Taxation notices are and what they address. People get confused with those notices and tax statements coming out.

Mr. O'Connor agreed that this is a very confusing process. The property tax code in Minnesota is very difficult to understand. What the property owners will see on the Truth In Taxation statement is a comparison between what their assessed value was in the previous tax year and what their taxes actually were during that year, and compare them with what their assessed value is for the coming year, 2009, along with what the most their taxes could be in 2009. The final levy hasn't been passed yet by the County, City or School District – that will come following the hearing. Under Minnesota law, the amount shown on the Truth In Taxation Statement cannot be exceeded. Public officials can make changes to lower the levy, but they can't increase them from that point.

Commissioner Bennett said the County Board passed the maximum levy in September, and is the number that would be used.

Commissioner Reinhardt said there is no school referendum this year, but it would not be included.

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Mr. O'Connor said special assessments are not included in the Truth In Taxation notice, either. Included in the notice are the date, time and place of the public hearing.

Commissioner Rettman said the actual hearing notice is prescribed by Minnesota Law.

Mr. O'Connor concurred.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Bonnie C. Jackelen, Chief Clerk – County Board