

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Reinhardt, Rettman and Chair Bennett – 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 Rettman moved approval of the Agenda of the February 28, 2006 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Carter. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Bennett – 7. Nays – 0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Reinhardt moved approval of the Minutes of the February 21, 2006 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Bennett – 7. Nays – 0.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Project Labor Agreement – Construction of Sucker Lake Picnic Shelter at Vadnais-Sucker Lakes

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-082)

WHEREAS, By Resolution 2002-351, the Ramsey County Board adopted a policy regarding the use of Project Labor Agreements (PLA), with the direction to staff to return in a workshop format at a future date to determine the final criteria for use of a Project Labor Agreement; and

WHEREAS, On April 26, 2005, the Ramsey County Board affirmed the policy regarding the use of Project Labor Agreements; and

WHEREAS, The policy requires a department to request input from parties likely to be interested in the project regarding use of a PLA; and

WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Department is planning a project for construction of a Sucker Lake picnic shelter at Vadnais-Sucker Lakes; and

WHEREAS, The Department solicited recommendations in accordance with the policy; and

WHEREAS, The responses were as follows: The Saint Paul Building and Construction Trades Council recommended that a Project Labor Agreement was needed on this project and Associated Builders and Contractors recommended that a Project Labor Agreement was not needed on this project; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Based on the past County Board direction the Parks and Recreation Department recommends the use of a Project Labor Agreement for the construction of a Sucker Lake picnic shelter at Vadnais-Sucker Lakes project; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has determined that the Parks and Recreation Department shall include a requirement for a Project Labor Agreement for the project to construct a Sucker Lake picnic shelter at Vadnais-Sucker Lakes.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD – Appointments to Workforce Investment Board

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-083)

WHEREAS, There are currently seven County vacancies on the Workforce Investment Board (WIB), all representing Business; and

WHEREAS, Current goals for business include adding representatives from the WIB's priority industries – Healthcare, Advanced Manufacturing and Construction; and

WHEREAS, The WIB has received applications from two individuals who are interested in appointment to the WIB, both of which represent Advanced Manufacturing and are from companies that were specifically recruited to fit this need; and

WHEREAS, The Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce has nominated both individuals; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the appointment of the following two individuals to the Workforce Investment Board for terms beginning with the date of appointment and ending July 31, 2007:

Jeane Blake, Colder Products Company
Anja White, Heraeus Vadnais Inc.

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Appointment to the Rice Creek Watershed District Board of Managers

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-084)

WHEREAS, In accordance with the County's Open Appointment Process, a press release was distributed on December 12, 2005, seeking applicants for one position on the Rice Creek Watershed Board of Managers; and

WHEREAS, Two individuals applied for this position; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the appointment of Susan Oven, 4681 Lake Avenue, White Bear Lake, MN 55110, to the Rice Creek Watershed District Board of Managers, for a term beginning with the date of appointment and ending January 17, 2009.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Citizens Advisory Council – Waive membership term limit

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-085)

WHEREAS, Article III Section 2.A. of the Community Human Services Citizens Advisory Council Bylaws states that members will be appointed by the Board of Commissioners for staggered two-year terms, and will be limited to six consecutive years of service; and

WHEREAS, Kay Wittgenstein has been a strong leader and an excellent resource for the Low Income Committee and will have served for six consecutive years plus a two-year extension at the end of her current membership term on February 28, 2006; and

WHEREAS, The Low Income Committee is preparing to be involved in the 2006 legislative session, and other important activities; and

WHEREAS, The lack of affordable housing is a factor that is involved in multiple service areas in the Community Human Services Department and other county departments, and Kay is an integral part of the committee in addressing these issues; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby waives the term limitation set forth in Article III Section 2.A. of the Community Human Services Citizens Advisory Council Bylaws and allows Kay Wittgenstein to continue to serve on the Low Income Committee until June 30, 2008.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Mandate Reform Proposals – Submission to State Auditor

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-086)

WHEREAS, The Community Human Services Department has developed four proposals for mandate reform; and

WHEREAS, The proposals include: Reduction of Procedural Steps and Improve Coordination of Services for Teen Mothers attending St. Paul Public Schools; an Alternative Payment Model for Day Training and Habilitation Programs; Reduction in Procedural Steps for Community Providers to be certified to provide Children’s Mental Health Services; and to Eliminate the Biennial Revision or Redraft of the Children’s and Community Services Plan; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the submission to the State Auditor of the Mandates Reform proposals: to Reduce Procedural Steps and Improve Coordination of Services for Teen Mothers attending St. Paul Public Schools; an Alternative Payment Model for Day Training and Habilitation Programs; Reduction in Procedural Steps for Community Providers to be certified to provide Children's Mental Health Services; and to Eliminate the Biennial Revision or Redraft of the Children's and Community Services Plan; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign the proposals.

COUNTY ATTORNEY – Runaway Intervention Project

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-087)

WHEREAS, The State Department of Public Safety has awarded a two-year grant in the amount of \$200,000 for the Runaway Intervention Project to Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, This grant program is an initiative to identify and address the needs of young, predominantly Hmong girls in St. Paul who have run away from home and have either been sexually exploited or are at high risk; and

WHEREAS, The goals of the grant program are to improve early intervention efforts, expand the ability to serve additional young Hmong girls in crisis, improve services to the girls who have already been victimized, reduce the trauma they have suffered, improve their ability to engage in pro-social activities and reduce the likelihood that these young girls will engage in future criminal activity and finally, to better equip parents to address the risky behaviors that lead to victimization; and

WHEREAS, The project is a collaboration between the Ramsey County Attorney's Office (RCAO), Sexual Offense Services (SOS), Midwest Children's Resource Center (MCRC) and the Hmong American Partnership (HAP); Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to accept the grant award from the Department of Public Safety for a Runaway Intervention Project, effective January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2007, in the amount of \$200,000, execute the budget for the grant, make necessary budget transfers, disburse grant funds and execute any amendments to the grant; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes an increase of 0.4 FTE in the County Attorney's personnel complement and an increase of 0.4 FTE in the personnel complement of Sexual Offense Services, which shall be starred and contingent on continued availability of funding; and Be It Further

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to execute professional services agreements with Midwest Children’s Resource Center (MCRC), Hmong American Partnership (HAP), and other agencies as necessary, designated to provide services in accordance with the grant goals and objectives, and any contract amendments or change orders, related to the project, subject to the availability of funds, and the prior approval of the County Attorney and Budgeting and Accounting; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to accept future grant awards from the Department of Public Safety to support the continuation of the Runaway Intervention Project, execute the budget for any grant awards from the Department of Public Safety, make necessary budget transfers, disburse grant funds, execute any amendments to the grant and to make any necessary budget adjustments or adjustments to the personnel complement based upon grant funding.

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS – Request for Proposals for Workforce Investment Act Title 1B Adult and Minnesota Dislocated Worker Program Services

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-088)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County, through Workforce Solutions, has been providing employment and training services to low-income adults through the Workforce Investment Act (“WIA”) Title 1B (“WIA Adult”) program and to dislocated workers through the Minnesota Dislocated Worker (“State DW”) program; and

WHEREAS, These programs, which serve different populations but both provide assistance to adults looking for employment, have been provided by both Workforce Solutions staff and outside vendors, since July 1, 2000; and

WHEREAS, By County Board Resolution 2005-013, the County Board authorized an extension of the agreements with the outside vendors for these programs through June 30, 2006; and

WHEREAS, In order to meet the timeline for the selection of a vendor(s), and to ensure that there are no service lapses for the WIA Adult and State DW program participants, it is necessary that the vendor(s) selection process begin now; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Workforce Investment Board (“WIB”) Executive Committee has recommended to the full WIB that a Request for Proposals be issued for WIA Adult and State DW program services for the two-year period commencing July 1, 2006, for services similar to those of past program years and that follow the guidelines listed in Ramsey County’s two-year Local Plan; and

WHEREAS, Workforce Solutions staff is requesting authorization to issue this RFP; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the issuance of a Request For Proposals for the provision of WIA Title 1B Adult and Minnesota State Dislocated Worker Program Services in Program Years 2006 through 2008 (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2008) with one-year extensions until July 1, 2011.

HUMAN RESOURCES – Terms of collective bargaining agreement with Teamsters Local 320 (Correctional Officer 1/2 and Radio Dispatcher 1/2) for years 2006, 2007 and 2008

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-089)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County and the Teamsters Local 320 (Correctional Officer 1/2 and Radio Dispatcher 1/2) engaged in collective bargaining; and

WHEREAS, Negotiations resulted in a tentative agreement on terms and conditions of employment for 2006, 2007 and 2008; 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 (Correctional Officer 1/2 and Radio Dispatcher 1/2), effective January 1, 2006, for the years 2006, 2007 and 2008 as follows:

WAGES

2% increase effective 3/1/06

2% increase effective 3/1/07

1.5% increase effective 3/1/08

1.5% increase effective 7/1/08

In addition to the above increases, Radio Dispatcher 1 & 2 and Telecommunicator will receive an additional 1% increase on 3/1/07 and again on 3/1/08.

All general salary increases will be effective the first full pay period following the effective date.

INSURANCE

2006 – Family coverage - Employer will pay 90% of health insurance premium increase.
Employee will pay 10%

Single coverage - Employee pay \$15/month (Single & Family effective 1/1/06)

2007 – Family coverage - Employer will pay 75% of health insurance premium increase.
Employee will pay 25%.

Single coverage – Employee pay \$21/month (Single & Family effective 1/1/07)

2008 – Family coverage - Employer will pay 70% of health insurance premium increase.
Employee will pay 30%.

Single coverage – Employee pay \$21/month (Single effective 1/1/08, employer pick up increase in family coverage until 3/1/08)

(Continued)

Dental –

Employer and employee will each pay 50% of any increase in dental insurance premiums for single and family for each year of the agreement, effective January 1 of each year.

Retiree Insurance -

Early Retiree Contributions for Employees Retiring in 2006, 2007, 2008 – The County will make the same contribution to medical insurance premiums for early retirees as for active employees. 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:

	2006	2007	2008
Single	\$20/mo	\$25/mo	\$25/mo
Family	\$50/mo	\$55/mo	\$60/mo

All changes effective January 1 each year of contract.

New Hires on or after 1/1/06

- Eliminate County contribution toward retiree insurance for new hires, effective 1/1/06. These employees may participate in the County's retiree insurance plan but will be responsible for the entire premium.
- Effective the 1st full pay period following 7/1/06, all new employees hired on or after 1/1/06 begin contributing 1% of salary on a per pay period basis to a Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP).
- The County will contribute \$500 per year to the HCSP on a per pay period basis beginning the 1st full pay period following the employee's 5 year anniversary date.
- The County will contribute \$600 per year to the HCSP on a per pay period basis beginning the 1st full pay period following the employee's 10 year anniversary date.
- The County will contribute \$700 per year to the HCSP on a per pay period basis beginning the 1st full pay period following the employee's 15 year anniversary date.
- Contributions will be prorated based on the number of hours on paid status in a pay period for both full-time and part-time employees (same exception for counting unpaid union leave as described in proposed change for accruing floating holidays).
- Only insurance-eligible employees are eligible to participate in this HCSP option.

Current Insurance-eligible Employees hired between 7/1/92 and 12/31/05

- Employees must elect in writing prior to 11/1/06 whether they will maintain their current retiree insurance benefit, or opt out of the current retiree benefit and participate in the Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP) option described below. This is a one time, irrevocable decision. Employees who do
- *not* make an election in writing prior to 11/1/06, will be deemed to have elected to retain their current retiree insurance benefit.

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- Effective the 1st full pay period following 1/1/07, employees opting out of the current retiree insurance benefit will begin contributing 1% of salary on a per pay period basis to the HCSP.
- The County will contribute \$500 per year to the HCSP on a per pay period basis on the 1st full pay period following 1/1/08, or the 1st full pay period following the employee's 5 year anniversary date, whichever is later.
- The County will contribute \$600 per year to the HCSP on a per pay period basis on the 1st full pay period following 1/1/08, or the 1st full pay period following the employee's 10 year anniversary date, whichever is later.
- The County will contribute \$700 per year to the HCSP on a per pay period basis on the first full pay period following 1/1/08, or the 1st full pay period following the employee's 15 year anniversary date, whichever is later.
- Contributions will be prorated based on the number of hours on paid status in a pay period for both fulltime and part time employees (same exception for counting unpaid union leave as described in proposed change for accruing floating holidays).

SATURDAY/SUNDAY DIFFERENTIALS

Increase Saturday and Sunday differentials by \$.05 per hour effective 1/1/06 and another \$.05 per hour effective 1/1/08.

EDUCATION ALLOWANCE

Increase the tuition reimbursement maximum from \$700 to \$1,000 annually for any one employee, effective January 1, 2006.

CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

The annual clothing allowance for Correctional Officers will increase from the 2005 allowance of \$600, in each of the three years of the agreement, as follows: 2006 - \$620; 2007 - \$640; 2008 - \$660. This allowance will apply to Radio Dispatchers and Telecommunicators if they are required to wear uniforms.

FLOATING HOLIDAYS

Maintain current floating holiday accrual method in 2006. Change current method to an accrual method as described below, effective 1/1/07, provided all Ramsey County bargaining units agree to the same contract language.

- 1) Effective 1/1/07, update existing employee floating holiday bank with eligible hours under current contract language.
- 2) Beginning with the first pay period that includes January 1, 2007, accrue floating holidays based on employment status.
- 3) Effective 1/1/07, any floating holiday in excess of the maximum accumulation allowed shall be lost to the employee on May 1 and November 1 of each year (same dates as used for vacation max). Maximum accrual will remain at 16 hours.
- 4) Full-time and part-time employees shall earn pro-rated accrual based on actual hours on paid status in a pay period. Accrual for a full pay period will be .61536 hours.
- 5) Employees who have worked less than 6 months will not be paid for accrued floating holidays if terminating employment.
- 6) Floating holidays shall be taken at a time mutually agreeable to the employee and the department.

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- 7) No loss in accrual for full-time employees for up to 40 hours per pay period for no more than 2 consecutive pay periods for unpaid union leave.

OTHER PROVISIONS

The agreement reached provides for miscellaneous changes to the sick leave article and the addition of a new article on Leaves of Absence (Article 24), comparable to provisions in other collective bargaining agreements and Ramsey County Personnel Rules.

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the terms of the collective bargaining agreement with the Teamsters Local 320 (Correctional Officer 1/2 and Radio Dispatcher 1/2) 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 agreement incorporating these terms; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board of Ramsey County Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve necessary 2006 and 2007 budget adjustments for salary increases and PERA rate increases resulting from all collective bargaining agreements for all represented employees and changes approved for non-represented employees.

COUNTY MANAGER – Potential Support Item – State Legislative Proposal

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-090)

WHEREAS, Minnesota's transportation infrastructure forms the backbone of the state's economy and a has a direct impact on future economic development; and

WHEREAS, Too many Minnesotans are being killed in traffic crashes on dangerous roadways; and

WHEREAS, Funding for highway and transit systems in Minnesota has remained stagnant and is failing to keep pace with growing population and growing demands; and

WHEREAS, Local governments throughout the state are struggling to maintain local transportation systems while the state's gas tax has not been increased since 1988 and transit budgets have been cut in recent years; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Legislature has repeatedly turned to revenue from the motor vehicle sales tax, which has been viewed as user fee revenue, in order to fund both highway and transit systems, including the current dedication of 54% of motor vehicle sales tax for transportation purposes; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The legislature passed a proposed constitutional amendment during the 2005 Legislative Session that would appear on the ballot November 7, 2006, asking voters if the remaining 46% of motor vehicle sales tax revenue currently used for other purposes should be used for highways and transit systems; and

WHEREAS, Passage of this amendment would mean an increase in stable revenue for highway and transit systems throughout the state that would rise to approximately \$300 million per year once the transfer of revenue is fully phased-in by 2011; and

WHEREAS, On November 18, 2005, the Minnesota Department of Finance issued its November 2005 Economic Forecast, which estimates for FY 2008-09 revenues for the State are \$551 million higher than end-of-session projections, while expenditure estimates are \$45 million lower. As a result, projected balances for FY 2008 and FY 2009 have increased. The balances are now roughly equal to the cost of inflation and the loss of revenues from a potential constitutional amendment that would dedicate all general fund motor vehicle sales tax revenue to transportation; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners strongly supports passage of the proposed amendment to the Minnesota Constitution dedicating all of the motor vehicle sales tax revenue to transportation with at least 40% of the revenue for public transit assistance and not more than 60% of the revenue for highway purposes; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority strongly encourages the State of Minnesota to enact sound fiscal management policies to ensure that the loss of revenues from a potential constitutional amendment can be adequately absorbed by the State of Minnesota without negative impacts to health and human services, education and local government aid.

RAMSEY COUNTY LIBRARY/PROPERTY MANAGEMENT – New Maplewood Library project – Phase II Construction Services

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the draft resolution, as revised, and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Parker.

Jolly Mangine, Director, Property Management said this has been an exciting project to work on, and staff are pleased to bring the Phase II Agreement forward. A proposed budget and schedule were included in the documentation.

Jay Biedny, Property Management, introduced the Design/Build team members: David Norrgard, Chair of the Library Board; Susan Nemitz, Director, Ramsey County Library; Sandy Walsh, Manager of the present Maplewood Library Board; Mr. Mangine; McGough Construction; HGA Architects and Engineers; and himself.

Tim Carl, HGA Architects and Engineers, said this has been a thoughtful and efficient process. The design for the Maplewood Library has three hallmarks: to embrace the Maplewood Sculpture Garden just west of the site; to create an efficient, flexible, and functional layout of programs; and to give patrons of the Library a “wow” experience to keep them coming back. They have been careful to locate the building and parking in a way that saves as many trees as possible. About 100 existing trees will be saved, and 50 new pine and maple trees will surround the Library. Photos and other design drawings were shown with an explanation of the layout. The

(Continued)

building will provide a transition from the commercial area to the east to the more residential area around the park to the west. The building materials used and the trees surrounding it will provide a very unique presence for the Library from the street. A sloped roof will rise up to the north creating a large expansive glassed area to bring light into the collections area.

Chair Bennett asked if any trees would be removed from the site.

Mr. Carl responded affirmatively, but he did not know how many.

Chair Bennett asked the Parks & Recreation Department to see if any of these trees would be salvageable for any County sites.

Mr. Carl said they would be working with a forester as they go through this process.

Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett –
7. Nays – 0. (2006-091)

WHEREAS, On July 12, 2005, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorized and approved the purchase of property for the new Maplewood Library and ratified the Ramsey County Library Board's acceptance and approval of the project's Schedule and Budget, dated July 6, 2005; and

WHEREAS, On October 25, 2005, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners ratified the selection by the Ramsey County Library Board of McGough Construction and HGA Architects and Engineers, as the Construction Manager/Design Team for Phase I Design/Build services for the new Maplewood Library; and

WHEREAS, The Phase I agreement requires the Design/Builder and the County to agree on a Guaranteed Maximum Price ("GMP") before the execution of a Phase II Agreement for construction of the new Maplewood Library; and

WHEREAS, Since October, the Design/Build Team has worked with the Maplewood Library design team (comprised of representatives from Property Management, the Library Board and Staff) to complete Phase I activities; and

WHEREAS, Property Management has worked with the Design/Builder to incorporate inclusiveness-in-contracting opportunities for this project which are similar to those of the Law Enforcement Center and Dispatch Center projects; and

WHEREAS, McGough Construction and HGA Architects and Engineers have submitted a GMP of \$6,867,000 for construction of the new Maplewood Library, which is within the new Maplewood Library Project budget previously approved by the County Board; and

WHEREAS, On February 15, 2006, the Ramsey County Library Board approved the GMP and the design it represents; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County Property Management and the Library Board are requesting ratification of the Phase II Agreement between the Library Board and McGough Construction for Phase II construction services for the new Maplewood Library project for the Guaranteed Maximum Price not to exceed \$6,867,000, subject to prior approval by the County Attorney's Office, Ramsey County Library Board, Property Management and Budget & Accounting; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the Library Board's approval of a Phase II Agreement between it and McGough Construction, 2737 Fairview Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55113, for design and construction services for the new Maplewood Library project with the Guaranteed Maximum Price not to exceed \$6,867,000, and authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute contracts with McGough Construction, subject to prior approval by the County Attorney's Office, Property Management and Budgeting & Accounting.

HUMAN RESOURCES – Salary grade allocation for a new, unclassified classification:
Environmental Health Division Director

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Carter. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 6. Nays – Rettman - 1. (2006-092)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Human Resources Department conducted a classification study of a Environmental Health Division Manager position in the St. Paul/Ramsey County Public Health Department; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Human Resources Department has determined that the current classification, Environmental Health Division Manager, does not adequately describe the duties performed by the incumbent, or the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to perform the work; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Human Resources Department determined that no existing classification adequately describes the duties, responsibilities, or knowledge needed to perform the work; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Human Resources Department proposed a new classification, Environmental Health Division Director; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Human Resources Department conducted a job evaluation of the proposed new classification, and analyzed internal and external salary survey information; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Human Resources Department determined the appropriate compensation for Environmental Health Division Director is Salary Schedule 98B, Grade 38 of the Ramsey County's compensation plan; and

WHEREAS, The recommended salary grade is in accordance with the guidelines established by the Ramsey County compensation policy (Resolution 95-356) and practices; and

WHEREAS, The classification is authorized under Minnesota Statute 383A.286, Subd 3; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That Minnesota Statute 383A.286, Subd 3 authorizes the placement of the Environmental Health Division Director in the Unclassified Service of Ramsey County; and Be It Further

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following salary grade allocation for the new, unclassified, classification of Environmental Health Division Director:

	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Monthly Salary Range</u>
Environmental Health Division Director	98B	38	\$5,605 - \$8,336

SHERIFF – Request for New FTE at the LEC based on Estimated Excess Prisoner Boarding Revenues in 2006

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

Commissioner Reinhardt said it is great that there is more income coming into the Law Enforcement Center (LEC) based on the inmate boarding revenue in 2006. Generally, when more work is being done, requiring more people, it also would indicate that there would likely be less overtime. She asked if this action would result in less overtime.

Bob Fletcher, Sheriff, said if the Department is not able to add additional FTEs there will be additional overtime. For January, the numbers far exceeded what was anticipated. The Department budgeted for 74 boarders each day for the year. In January, there were 102; for February, there were 93. Overtime has increased somewhat during January and February. The request is not for overtime to help cover those hours for January and February. They are hoping to absorb that two months of overtime into the Department's total budget. However, they can't continue to board 100 inmates – it is too labor intensive and has become a safety issue. The pods are packed beyond what is felt to be safe with the current staffing level. On occasion, people are sleeping on the floor. This is a win-win for Ramsey County, Dakota County, and INS. If the facility can be properly staffed, there would be some extra revenue at the end of the year.

Commissioner Reinhardt asked for the amount of money needed to cover the additional FTEs.

Sheriff Fletcher said that would depend on how many inmates there would be. If only averaging 79 inmates for the rest of the year, that will more than cover the dollars requested for the four FTEs. If every body above the 79 is revenue that is unallocated, it could be used in a different fashion. If there were 89 inmates through the end of the year, which is 10 additional INS bodies, it would equate to an additional \$240,000 in revenue available to the County. There may be times in June, July and August, when the local population increases substantially, and they may need to cut back to 74-79, but there will be excess revenue. The revenue was exceeded significantly last year.

Chair Bennett said that if the facility was running at maximum capacity, things should run at maximum efficiency and savings, and the need for overtime would be eliminated. He asked what the perfect maximum is in order to eliminate the overtime.

Sheriff Fletcher said overtime is generated for a variety of factors. Sick time drives overtime the most, and on occasion there are pregnancies and family leave issues.

Chair Bennett said he is referring to running at maximum efficiency.

Sheriff Fletcher said an additional 12 FTEs would probably allow the jail to run at a level that would not require a significant amount of overtime.

Chair Bennett asked if the County would still make money if the facility was running efficiently at that point.

Sheriff Fletcher said it would be very close.

Commissioner Rettman said that every year the Sheriff asks for at least \$300,000-\$400,000 in overtime and vacancies, and the County gets an extra \$240,000 in revenue.

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David Twa, County Manager, said the amount is approximately \$340,000.

Commissioner Rettman said the \$240,000 brings it down to \$100,000. She asked if that is what the County Board can look forward to. That is not at maximum capacity.

Sheriff Fletcher said a more fair characterization of the vacancy factor would be that prior to 1997, the Sheriff's Department always had the money in its budget. In cutting the budget, the County Board decided to cut every department's salary vacancy factor. The Sheriff's Department has an agreement on that matter – that the money is not treated as the Department asking for it, but that there is an understanding that the money is available because of the overtime needs exceeding what is budgeted without the vacancy factor. As to the question on the \$240,000 being applied to the vacancy factor, it is the intent of Julie Kleinschmidt, Director, Budgeting and Accounting to apply any vacancy problems, deficiencies, etc., with this additional revenue.

Commissioner Rettman reiterated that with the numbers provided, it would be \$240,000, minus the \$340,000 -- \$100,000 -- that the Sheriff would need at the end of the year. If the bodies increased, then the \$100,000 would not be needed.

Sheriff Fletcher said he spoke with Ms. Kleinschmidt two days ago about this. The goal is to raise enough revenue that the County Board doesn't have to make the Sheriff's Department whole with tax levy dollars, or through the use of the contingency account. Every year this will improve. If the goal isn't achieved, the Department would have to revert back to the long-standing agreement that the County Board would make it whole.

Commissioner Rettman said that doesn't give her comfort.

Chair Bennett said if maximum capacity is going to be achieved, and there is the adequate number of staff, this should get to the perfect scenario. He and Sheriff Fletcher have spoken about a number of things – the facility has been full for six months or more, at some point in the future, some of the parking lot may need to be used for expansion, or not take in the income and revenue.

Commissioner Reinhardt said these are starred positions, which is a little different. Usually starred positions are only with grant money versus revenue that is uncertain.

Chair Bennett said the facility has a large group of Dakota County prisoners. If Dakota County expands its facility and retains their prisoners, the LEC might be over-staffed. This is similar to a grant proposal because staff could be pulled – the same as with INS inmates.

Sheriff Fletcher said that is a fair explanation. But, it is fair to say that if the revenue drops below a certain amount, the Department believes it would not be able to fund the four additional bodies with excess revenue, and would have the obligation to come back to the County Board for a decision on whether the Sheriff would need to continue with those additional bodies. If dropping that low, those four FTEs would probably not be needed for operations. There is a partnership between the bodies and the revenue being generated. However, if the population in Ramsey County increases so dramatically at the opposite time that those revenues and boarders are being removed, the case would have to be made to continue to fund those through levy dollars.

Chair Bennett said the new facility has been operating for nearly two years. He asked if the Sheriff is satisfied with the facility or sees any changes that should have been made.

Sheriff Fletcher said the LEC is an outstanding facility. He complimented Chair Bennett, as the building chair at that time, as well as the other County Board members. He is very pleased with the design and operations. There are some "bugs" and technology issues to be worked out, but the bricks and mortar, and operations are the finest in the country.

Commissioner Parker commended the Sheriff for continuing to look for other sources of revenue. She met with County Manager Twa about the financial impact of the federal budget

(Continued)

reconciliation act, which will have major impact on the 2006 budget. She suggested the Sheriff provide an update in about 3 months.

Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 6. Nays – Rettman – 1. (2006-093)

WHEREAS, The Sheriff's Department has contracts in place for the leasing of jail beds in the Law Enforcement Center for both Dakota County and the US Citizenship and Immigration Services; and

WHEREAS, The number of beds that are estimated to be leased to support the 2006 budget are below the actual average leases for all of 2005, and also the average for the start of 2006, and this volume is expected to continue; and

WHEREAS, While the lease of these additional beds generates additional revenue, higher strains are also put upon the staffing resources in the Law Enforcement Center to accommodate this volume; and

WHEREAS, Work strains occur in accommodating large groups of boarders being processed through admissions and release at the same time, in dealing with higher levels of behavioral and medical response needs, and in the daily routines of feeding, changing laundry and linens, health care, inmate movement and responding to general concerns and needs; and

WHEREAS, The Sheriff's Department's primary concern is the overall safety and security of the staff, inmates and the facility; and

WHEREAS, A sustained volume of 79 average boarders through the end of 2006 could generate additional revenue of \$203,319, enough to cover the cost of hiring four new Correctional Officers, effective March 6, 2006, to ease the staffing levels in 2006; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves an increase in the Sheriff's 2006 personnel complement by four FTE Correctional Officer positions, effective March 6, 2006, to be starred in the complement and contingent upon continued higher levels of jail bed rentals; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to approve a budget adjustment in the Sheriff's 2006 operating budget estimating additional revenue from the boarding of inmates and increasing appropriations for salaries, in the amount of \$190,022, to cover the cost of the four new FTE for the Law Enforcement Center in 2006, commencing March 6, 2006; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to adjust the 2007 budget increasing estimated revenue from the boarding of inmates and increasing appropriations for salaries in the amount of \$245,777 to cover the cost of the four Correctional Officers for the LEC in 2007.

(Continued)

PARKS AND RECREATION – Second Reading of the proposed Low Interest Loans for Ice Arena Lighting Retrofits Ordinance

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Carter. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker and Bennett – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-094)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Home Rule Charter states that every proposed Ordinance shall receive two readings: first, at the time it is presented, and second, at the time of the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, The full reading of the proposed Ordinance may be waived if a copy of the proposed Ordinance is supplied to each member of the County Board prior to its introduction; and

WHEREAS, The first reading of the Ordinance was waived on February 7, 2006, when the item was first presented, and the second reading of the proposed ordinance can also be waived; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby waives the second reading of the proposed Low Interest Loans for Ice Arena Lighting Retrofits Ordinance.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Public Hearing on the proposed Low Interest Loans for Ice Arena Lighting Retrofits Ordinance

Chair Bennett opened the Public Hearing on the proposed Low Interest Loans for Ice Arena Lighting Retrofits Ordinance and called three times for public testimony. Hearing no request to address the Board, Chair Bennett declared the Public Hearing closed.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Terry Speiker, Director, Intergovernmental Relations, said the financial forecast for the State will be out today. What will happen with the cigarette fee is in question, and will not be taken into account as the financial forecast is done. The cigarette fee is on appeal with the Supreme Court, and a decision will be made sometime in April.

Chair Bennett asked if it is still being included into next year's budget.

Ms. Speiker said right now it is being held in an escrow account. This is one of the big question marks. Another one with an inter-relationship with the cigarette tax is the property tax increases that happened all across the State. Most people who have looked at the budget forecast think it will look decent without the huge deficient that has been seen.

Nick Riley, Intergovernmental Relations, said he heard from the Department of Finance that there is about \$100 million more in revenue. If that is the case, there is still about \$94 million left in the shift to schools. Through statute, that can be changed again for other requests. This forecast is to come out around noon and can be accessed from the Department of Finance's website.

Ms. Speiker said the cigarette fee revenue is about \$400 million right now.

Chair Bennett said that is over a two-year biennium so it is \$200 million a year.

Ms. Speiker said the big emphasis every year is in passing a bonding bill; and a constitutional amendment this year; and the issues around gay marriage. Then, there is the reconciliation bill. There were six legislators from the Ramsey County Legislative Delegation

(Continued)

present at the last Ramsey County League of Local Governments (RCLLG) meeting. None of them had a good answer around the reconciliation issue.

Commissioner Reinhardt said it is a done deal, and all the lobbying in the world is not going to make a difference. All of the legislators have said that because these were mandated services, there should be a State response to it, but they have no idea where the money would come from.

Commissioner McDonough said it is a done deal, but a lot of effort has to be put into the rule-making process because that is where the interpretation part of the bill was – to send a signal to CMS to interpret the rules with the least impact. Counties need State help in making sure that happens. It is not a total “done-deal” as far as the impacts from the federal government.

Commissioner Reinhardt agreed. They talked about the difference between changing the legislation and what needed to be done with the rules and that there could be a lesser impact depending on those rules.

Ms. Speiker said the legislators are very interested in helping, but they don’t have a lot of information about what it could mean to the County. All of that information being shared with the federal members has to be shared with the State Legislators. Staff met with Representative Greiling who has formed a bi-partisan caucus on mental health issues in the House, with a complimentary one in the Senate, and is very interested in bringing those two together. Staff are trying to organize something with Dennis McGrann and AMC to sponsor something for those legislators interested in this issue at the State level.

Mr. Riley said around that mental health issue, the Governor just announced an initiative rearranging \$50 million with a lot coming out of GAMC and Minnesota Care. Dave Haley will follow this and what the impacts might be on Ramsey County. It may not be a negative impact because the State is going to assume a lot of costs in different areas. The Governor’s Chief of Staff still believes the court case on the cigarette fee will be won. Ramsey County has three bills up this week: County Road J, Lake Links and Lower Afton.

Ms. Speiker said the lobbyist for the Regional Rail Authority worked with the City of St. Paul and Senator Pappas around Union Depot language as that City bill came up, so Ramsey County is moving forward on its transit bills.

Mr. Riley said Senator Pappas testified that Ramsey County’s bill was first priority and that the federal match was most important over the City’s request.

Commissioner Parker cited the Joint meeting with the St. Paul City Council. The City has requested Ramsey County to review and support their State legislative package, which will be done at the next Legislative Committee meeting.

Ms. Speiker said she met with the City’s staff who manages their federal intergovernmental program, where the request was made that their federal initiative be brought forward along with the State initiative. That will be forwarded electronically to the Commissioners.

Mr. Riley spoke of the news articles on the meeting at the Union Depot; they showed the unity between the City of St. Paul and Minneapolis both backing Central Corridor.

BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

Chair Bennett reported:

- There is no County Board meeting on March 7 because many of the Commissioners would be attending the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.
- He and Commissioner Reinhardt attended the Ramsey County League of Local Government meeting.

(Continued)

- He attended the Metropolitan Mosquito Control Commission, where they are looking at a capital improvements program over 5-6 years out.
- He and Commissioner Parker attended a meeting with St. Paul College where there is a scholarship program for St. Paul high school students.
- The Employee Recognition Luncheon will be held today. We can be very proud of the employees in Ramsey County.

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Parker reported:

- That the scholarship program is an initiative called the “Power of Youth”. All high school students in Minneapolis and St. Paul public schools are encouraged to continue with school after graduating high school, with the incentive being two years free tuition and some assistance with books at St. Paul College. The message is to change the myth that college is for somebody else.
- The Suburban Ramsey Family Collaborative is holding a children’s summit today at the Fairview Community Center.
- Her assistant Sara traveled to India with the Rotary Exchange Program, and was featured in the local newspapers during her visit.

Commissioner Rettman reported:

- On a ballet school in the Frogtown-North End area, free to all kids who want to learn ballet.

Commissioner Ortega:

- Acknowledged and thanked County staff and other local government units on the “Twin Cities Ticket to Ride” event yesterday. County staff took the lead and put in a lot of time and effort putting this all together. Everything went very smoothly.

Commissioner Carter reported:

- On a Regional Integration for the Future seminar in southwestern Minnesota, where several renewable energy sources were toured. Materials are available in her office. In addition, everything from the conference is on the NADO website (National Association of Development Organizations), participating with NACo in sponsoring the event.
- At the Human Services/Workforce Solutions Committee meeting, a report was received from the Ramsey County Community Human Services Department regarding independent living skills concerns related to youth aging out of foster care.

Commissioner McDonough reported:

- On a meeting regarding one proposal on a downtown location for Workforce Solutions. The proposer did not have the cost estimates available. The space plan was done. It had been communicated about some pushback from some of the partners and concerns about the downtown location as a whole. The partners will meet on March 20 to discuss the issues. The consensus is to do this right.

ADJOURNMENT

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