

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Chair Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega (late), Vice-Chair Parker, Reinhardt, and Rettman – 7. Absent: None. Also present were David Twa, County Manager, and Gary Davis, Assistant County Attorney. Vice-Chair Parker called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

Commissioner Carter moved approval of the Agenda of the October 3, 2006, Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Bennett moved approval of the Minutes of the September 26, 2006 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.

PUBLIC HEALTH – Adjustment of Public Health complement by an additional 0.5 FTE Nurse-Degree for Correctional Health services

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2006-327)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County has the legal obligation to provide medical care for detainees and inmates; and

WHEREAS, Public Health currently provides on-site professional nursing services for inmates and detainees at the Ramsey County Correctional Facility, Juvenile and Family Justice Center, and Boys Totem Town through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Community Corrections; and

WHEREAS, A combination of increased frequency of health issues with juveniles detained at the Juvenile and Family Justice Center, ongoing census increases, and additional requirements of nursing staff due to Department of Corrections Rule 2960 that went into effect July 2005, has increased the workload for the current nursing staff, creating a need for additional coverage; and

WHEREAS, In order to fill this need, Public Health is requesting an additional .5 FTE starred position in the complement; and

WHEREAS, The Memorandum of Understanding allows the Department of Community Corrections to purchase nursing services from Public Health; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes an increase of 0.5 FTE Nurse Degree/Diploma starred positions in the Public Health complement; and Be It Further

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to make the necessary adjustments to the Public Health budget by increasing estimated revenue and appropriations to fund this position.

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Commissioner Reinhardt – Child Care providers

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

Commissioner Reinhardt said she is excited to have this come before the County Board today. This is the recognition of the Child Care Providers Together (CCPT) as the bargaining unit for childcare providers in Ramsey County. A lot of efforts have been made to come together and as advocates, especially at the State level, for child care providers, which is key to making Ramsey County and Minnesota work toward having quality care for our children. It has been exciting to work with advocates in AFSCME and SEIU and some of the many wonderful providers. CCPT is part of AFSCME AFL-CIO. Several childcare providers and their children were present.

Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 7.
Nays – 0. (2006-328)

WHEREAS, Quality child care is critical to the success of Ramsey County residents by assisting individuals to both obtain and retain employment and for improving a child's school readiness; and

WHEREAS, Childcare funding has been reduced in Minnesota over the last three years, with the potential for further reductions; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County administers child care assistance programs, including MFIP child care assistance and Basic Sliding Fee child care assistance and performs licensing and inspection of child care providers, including home-based providers, on behalf of the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, A partnership with Licensed Home Based Child Care Providers would improve the quality of childcare in Ramsey County such as provider training and retention, improvements in program quality and improvements in licensing and payment procedures; and

WHEREAS, Child Care Providers Together (CCPT)/AFSCME, AFL-CIO has approached Ramsey County with interest in both joint advocacy for and representation of Licensed Home Based Child Care Providers in Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, On August 10, 2006, a neutral third party verified that a majority of home based licensed child care providers licensed in Ramsey County have signed membership cards expressing their interest in being represented by Child Care Providers Together (CCPT)/AFSCME, AFL-CIO; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners recognizes Child Care Providers Together (CCPT)/AFSCME, AFL-CIO as the majority representative of licensed home based child care providers in Ramsey County and will work with Child Care Providers Together (CCPT)/AFSCME, AFL-CIO to approach the State and Federal governments on issues of mutual concern with the intent of improving the quality, efficiency and effectiveness of the child care licensing and subsidy system; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners directs Community Human Services staff to meet with Child Care Providers Together (CCPT)/AFSCME, AFL-CIO to immediately begin discussions regarding but not limited to: accreditation and licensing, joint means to improve quality childcare, streamlining of bureaucracy and planning of joint advocacy of child care issues; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager or his designee to meet and negotiate an agreement with Child Care Providers Together (CCPT)/AFSCME, AFL-CIO regarding matters of mutual concern including, but not limited to: working to improve the training, provider retention administration, quality and effectiveness of child care in Ramsey County in partnership with state and federal governments; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That nothing in this resolution will alter the existing relationship between licensed home-based child care providers and the County or in any way imply an employer-employee or principal-agent relationship.

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Bennett reported:

- On the Corrections Conference in Brainerd, Minnesota, also attended by some Ramsey County Community Corrections staff. The president of NACo spoke at the conference. A staff person from the NACo Justice and Public Safety Committee and a national representative from the State of Maryland also attended.

Commissioner Reinhardt reported:

- On a Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board meeting. Preparations are being made for the next legislative session. A presentation will be given next month on paint stewardship. Discussion was held on Trash Mountain at the State Fair and how well received that was; it received a great deal of national attention.
- The Volunteer Recognition for the Tamarack Nature Center. Demonstrations were given on how honey is spun out of honeycombs.
- She attended the Grand Opening Celebration for the freezer at Second Harvest. Freezer space will no longer be rented, and money is to be saved in a short period of time.

Commissioner Parker reported:

- On a meeting of the Ramsey County League of Local Governments held at the Ramsey County Public Works Facility with water as the topic. About 60 people attended the meeting. The program was the compilation of the Soil and Water Conservation District and watershed districts to talk about the difference between their roles and the state of water in Ramsey County with the various water quality and drainage issues.

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- On a meeting at the Roseville Library in preparation for the expansion of the Roseville Library. A first meeting was held with immediate neighbors of this library to talk about future expansion. Neighbors were asked about any issues with the current library and if they had any suggestions. There will be other opportunities for citizen input.
- She and her Assistant, Sara Merz, participated on a panel of the Minnesota Planning Conference about “Active Living Ramsey County”. This was made up mostly of city planners from around the State.
- She attended the Corrections Conference for the session on drug court legislation, which will be a controversial topic at the legislature.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Bonnie C. Jackelen, Chief Clerk – County Board