

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Rettman, Parker (late) and Reinhardt – 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 Bennett moved approval of the Agenda of the June 7, 2005 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Carter. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 6. Nays – 0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Carter moved approval of the Minutes of the May 24, 2005 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 6. Nays – 0.

[Commissioner Parker entered the Board Meeting at this time.]

PRESENTATION OF A PLAQUE

Commissioner Bennett presented a plaque from Regions Hospital Emergency Medical Services, to Rob Fulton, Director, Public Health, and Richard Ragan, Public Health, for outstanding leadership and dedication to the Emergency Medical Services Community. Commissioner Bennett said he and Commissioners Reinhardt and McDonough have served on the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Board.

Mr. Fulton said since 1976, the County and Public Health have been responsible for emergency medical services as part of the Community Health Services Act. That changed about four years ago, with responsibility taken over by a regional/statewide advisory committee on EMS. The County has managed to support the system through the EMS Radio Board, which was transferred to Regions Hospital in the last year. Many people have worked on this beginning with Denny Ohlund, Dick Ragan, and Karen Kushner, County Attorney's Office. The County has joined in partnership with the EMS through the County's emergency preparedness work. They will work closely with Regions Hospital, the City of St. Paul, Maplewood, and White Bear Lake, as well with Allina's ambulances.

COUNTY MANAGER/COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – East African Task Force

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-212)

WHEREAS, In July 2004, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners appointed a Ramsey County East African Task Force; and

WHEREAS, The purpose was to identify barriers to services and to develop recommendations for the Board; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County East African Task Force held ten meetings that included representatives of the Somali, Ethiopian, Oromo, Eritrean, and Sudanese communities; and

WHEREAS, Open invitation meetings were held in which more than 200 individuals from the Somali, Ethiopian, and Oromo communities discussed important issues they faced in making the adjustment to life in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County East African Task Force has adopted seven recommendations for significantly improving the lives of both East African and all other refugees and immigrants in Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, The County Manager, and Ramsey County Departments have been working with the Human Resources Department in an effort to increase the number of employees within Ramsey County who are bilingual and bicultural in the African languages; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the Board to ensure that employees in all Ramsey County Departments are fully aware of how to access interpreter services; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners accepts the Report of the Ramsey County East African Task Force; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board directs the County Manager to maintain regular communication with the Ramsey County East African Task Force on progress on implementation of the recommendations from the Report.

PUBLIC WORKS – Agreement for Concrete Railroad Crossing Surface on Lexington Avenue

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-213)

WHEREAS, The Soo Line Railroad Company, in cooperation with Ramsey County, is proposing the installation of a concrete grade crossing surface on Lexington Avenue (CSAH 51); and

WHEREAS, The cost split for this work is 50% Soo Line Railroad Company and 50% Ramsey County in the amount of \$20,100; and

WHEREAS, The installation of a concrete grade crossing surface is eligible for County State Aid Highway fund reimbursement by force account agreement; and

WHEREAS, The agreement prepared by the Soo Line Railroad Company identifies cost participation and maintenance responsibilities of each agency for the project; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the agreement between Ramsey County Public Works and the Soo Line Railroad Company for installation of a concrete grade crossing surface on Lexington Avenue (CSAH 51); and Be It Further

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

RESOLVED, The three (3) page agreement is made part of this resolution by reference and will be kept on file with the Chief Clerk; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve the following budget adjustment to accomplish this work;

INCREASE ESTIMATED REVENUE

2005 17304 550880 314606 CSAH Construction Regular P033228 \$20,100

TRANSFER TO/INCREASE APPROPRIATION

2005 17304 550880 424625 Lexington Ave. Railroad P033228 \$20,100
Crossing

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves a temporary cash loan of \$20,100 from the County General Fund to the 2005 Capital Improvement Program Fund until receipt of County State Aid Highway reimbursement funds.

PUBLIC WORKS – Mn/DOT Agreement 9-87661 – TH 120 Detour

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-214)

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) is scheduled to perform a bituminous mill and overlay and other associated construction on TH 120 from 4th Street North to TH 244, State Project 6227-60; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota State Statutes authorizes the Commissioner of Transportation to designate by order any public street or highway as a temporary trunk highway detour when it is determined that such detour is necessary for the purpose of constructing or maintaining any trunk highway; and

WHEREAS, A detour on Larpenteur Avenue from TH 120 westerly 1.00 miles to McKnight Road/Lakewood Drive and then southerly 1.60 miles to TH 5, will be required to carry TH 120 traffic during the contract construction for an estimated duration of 28 days; and

WHEREAS, The State is willing to reimburse Ramsey County for the life of the roads consumed by the detour and has prepared Agreement 87661 which addresses maintenance responsibilities and explains how the reimbursement is determined using the “Gas Tax Method” in the amount of \$3,824.04; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves Agreement 87661 between the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Ramsey County; and Be It Further

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute Agreement 87661 on behalf of Ramsey County; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The eight (8) page Agreement 87661 is made part of this resolution by reference and will be kept on file with the Chief Clerk.

DISTRICT COURT – Approval of 2005 Contract Addendum extending Hospital Participation Agreement between Ramsey County and Regions Hospital for Court Civil Commitments

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-215)

WHEREAS, Regions Hospital provides civil commitment facilities and patient care services to Ramsey County and the District Court; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County and Regions Hospital have entered into an agreement since 1985 to provide these services; and

WHEREAS, The Contract was most recently negotiated and executed in 2001 followed by an Addendums in 2002, 2003 and 2004; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Addendum to the Agreement between Ramsey County and Regions Hospital, on file with the Chief Clerk, to provide civil commitment facilities and patient care services to Ramsey County and the District Court, for the period of January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005, at a cost not to exceed Nine Hundred Eighty-one Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$981,500) per year, to be payable at the rate of Eighty-one Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-one Dollars and Sixty Cents (\$81,791.60) per month; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Chair and Chief Clerk are authorized to execute the addendum on behalf of Ramsey County.

SHERIFF – Accept the Donation of a Gift for the Sheriff's Water Patrol Division

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-216)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County Board Resolution 2003-159, requires County Board approval of all gifts to the County greater than \$10,000; and

WHEREAS, A donor, requesting to remain anonymous, wishes to donate a gift of stock to the Sheriff's Water Patrol Division to be used to acquire a replacement vehicle for the water recovery team; and

WHEREAS, The estimated cost of the identified vehicle and the value of the stock to be transferred is \$35,000; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the generous stock donation for the purchase of a vehicle by the Sheriff's water recovery team; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to approve the necessary budget adjustment to estimate the revenue from the donation and to establish appropriations for the capital expenditure.

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Commissioner Reinhardt – Metropolitan Counties Energy Task Force

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-217)

WHEREAS, In 1999 metropolitan counties formed a Metropolitan Counties Energy Task Force (MCETF) to address the issue of electric energy deregulation; and

WHEREAS, As various other energy issues emerged, the purpose of the MCETF adjusted to include those issues; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County joined the MCETF in 1999 and was a member until 2003; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County dropped its membership in the MCETF beginning in 2003; and

WHEREAS, The MCETF continues to work on energy issues relevant to counties; and

WHEREAS, The MCETF has invited Ramsey County to consider joining again at no cost for the remainder of 2005; and

WHEREAS, The staff of the Environmental Health Section of the Department of Public Health formerly provided support to MCETF efforts; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the County becoming a member of the MCETF for the remainder of 2005 at no cost; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners appoints Commissioner Ortega and Commissioner Carter as representatives to the MCEFT; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners requests the Commissioners appointed to the MCEFT to report back to the County Board on the benefits of continued membership during the 2006-2007 budget process.

SHERIFF/COURTS – Agreement with Computer Task Group, Inc. for Criminal Justice Information System Support and Maintenance Services

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-218)

(Continued)

WHEREAS, On February 10, 1998, by Resolution 98-060, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved a Software Maintenance Agreement with Computer Task Group, Inc., to provide software maintenance and on-site support of the Criminal Justice Information System for the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, In early 2000, Computer Task Group, Inc., notified Ramsey County of their corporate decision to discontinue the business of maintaining computer applications, however agreed to continue to provide professional services through Ben Gong to ensure ongoing, uninterrupted maintenance of the CJIS; and

WHEREAS, By County Board Resolution #2000-87, the Board approved a Support Services Agreement with Computer Task Group, which has just expired; and

WHEREAS, While the original maintenance agreement was extremely limited in scope of services to be provided, the subsequent support services agreement enabled Ben Gong to become an integral component in the success of the integration project, and he has been the key developer of the County Interface Module, as well as the integrated Jail Management, Warrant Tracking, Criminal History and Civil Process system; and

WHEREAS, In addition to supporting the current systems, the new Agreement allows the County to continue to use the talents of Ben Gong to the fullest extent as we move forward to integrate the County Attorney's Office and the Department of Corrections into the County's Criminal Justice Information System, a grant for the funding of which was approved by the County Board in October 2004; and

WHEREAS, Funding for the Agreement is available in the Sheriff's 2005 operating budget; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves an Agreement between Ramsey County and Computer Task Group, Inc., 800 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14209, to provide criminal justice information systems support and maintenance services for the one year period from April 1, 2005, through March 31, 2006, with automatic annual renewals for four additional one year periods, at a first year annual maximum cost of \$227,552.00, with subsequent annual rate increases of not to exceed four percent each year; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the Agreement; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to approve any subsequent amendments or renewals to the Agreement.

PARKS & RECREATION – Lake Josephine County Park Redevelopment

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-219)

WHEREAS, The 2005 Ramsey County Capital Improvement Program (CIP) includes \$600,000 for redevelopment of Lake Josephine County Park; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The project is financed with a \$200,000 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Outdoor Recreation Grant, and \$400,000 of County CIP bond funds; and

WHEREAS, The lowest responsible bidder was Lund Martin Construction, Inc. with a lump sum bid of \$669,000; and

WHEREAS, Based on the construction bid, and costs associated with design, engineering, soil borings and permits result in an anticipated project cost of \$750,000; and

WHEREAS, The increased cost can be attributed to unanticipated soil correction necessary for the building and roadway, and inflation in construction costs since the project was originally proposed in 2003; and

WHEREAS, \$60,000 was advanced from the Open Space Land Acquisition Account for consulting services on the project; and

WHEREAS, The County CIP Contingent Account has a balance of approximately \$413,000; and

WHEREAS, The Capital Improvement Program Advisory Committee recommended an appropriation of \$90,000 from the CIP Contingent Account for the additional project costs; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves a permanent appropriation of \$60,000 from the Open Space Land Acquisition Account to the Lake Josephine County Park redevelopment project; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board hereby approves an appropriation of \$90,000 from the Capital Improvement Program Contingent Account for the Lake Josephine County Park redevelopment project; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board hereby approves a contract with Lund Martin Construction, Inc., 3023 Northeast Randolph Street, Minneapolis, MN 55418-1824, as the lowest responsible bidder for the lump sum amount of \$669,000, subject to receipt of bonds and insurance acceptable to the Ramsey County Attorney; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the construction contract in the form approved by the Ramsey County Attorney.

PARKS & RECREATION – Long Lake Regional Park – Trail and Preservation Easement

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-220)

WHEREAS, The Long Lake Regional Park master plan includes trail and preservation easements around the east side of Rush Lake in order to provide for a future trail around Rush Lake and preserve the natural appearance of the Rush Lake shoreline; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The developers of a portion of the shoreline, United Properties, intends to develop Applewood Pointe of New Brighton Senior Cooperative Housing Project and is willing to grant an easement to Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County desires to secure the easement and will construct a non-paved trail connection to the Applewood Pointe project; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves a Trail and Preservation Easement between Ramsey County and United Properties that will allow Ramsey County to construct a public trail across a portion of United Properties Applewood Pointe of New Brighton site and restrict certain removal and alteration of vegetation by United Properties; and Be It Further

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

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES/WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS – PY 2005 Local Plan, Master Contracts and Funding, and Program Operation Contracting and Subcontracting Authorizations

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-221)

WHEREAS, The State of Minnesota has designated Ramsey County as Workforce Service Area #15 under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998; and

WHEREAS, The State of Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development is requiring local Workforce Service Areas to submit a Local Plan Update for the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), State Dislocated Worker Program and Minnesota Youth Programs; and

WHEREAS, Both the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and the local Workforce Investment Board are required to approve and sign the Local Plan Update for the Workforce Investment Act Dislocated Worker and Adult Programs and the Minnesota State Dislocated Worker Program and the Local Plan for the WIA Youth and Minnesota Youth Programs; and

WHEREAS, the local Workforce Investment Board has approved and signed the Local Plan Update and Local Youth Plan for PY2005; and

WHEREAS, The State of Minnesota has made allocations of PY2005 funds for Federal WIA Title I Adult of \$985,795; for WIA Title I Dislocated Workers of \$971,317; for WIA Title I Youth of \$1,158,643; for the Minnesota State Dislocated Worker Program an estimated \$1,164,068 and the Minnesota Youth Program an amount yet to be determined; and

WHEREAS, Workforce Solutions applies for grants to serve groups of laid-off workers throughout the year and receives funds to serve these workers in the form of Special Conditions Addenda to the Local Plan; and

WHEREAS, Workforce Solutions subcontracts to third party vendors for the provision of WIA Title I Adult and Youth Services, including Minnesota Youth Program, and the Minnesota State Dislocated Worker Program Services; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Workforce Solutions periodically seeks to sign service agreements as a subcontractor with other Workforce Service Areas to provide services to dislocated workers, adults and youth; and

WHEREAS, Workforce Solutions will be the recipient of Federal Department of Labor earmark funds to provide English language services to incumbent workers at east metro hospitals; and

WHEREAS, Workforce Solutions will be applying to the Workforce Investment Board for WIA Incentive money to use for providing English Language services to businesses in Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, Workforce Solutions subcontracts with third party vendors for the provision of English language services; Now, Therefore Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the PY2005 Local Plan for the Workforce Investment Act (“WIA”) Adult and Dislocated Worker and the State Dislocated Worker Programs (“Local Plan); and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign the PY2005 Local Plan; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to negotiate and execute modifications and amendments to the Local Plan; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes Ramsey County’s acceptance and expenditure of PY2005 Federal funds for WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs; and PY 2005 State funds for the Minnesota State Dislocated Worker Program; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to negotiate and execute the PY2005 WIA Master Contracts, and amendments to the Master Contracts, with the State of Minnesota for operation of WIA Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Programs, and Minnesota Youth and Dislocated Worker Programs, including amendments related to changes in funding, and to execute the required certification forms; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to negotiate and execute subgrant agreement amendments extending for PY2005 and using the State of Minnesota Dislocated Worker Program funds, the Minnesota Dislocated Worker subgrantee service agreements with HIRED, Employment Action Center and Lao Family Community of Minnesota, Inc in place for PY2004; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes Ramsey County’s acceptance and expenditure of FY 2005 Federal Department of Labor Earmark funds for English Language services to incumbent workers of the east metro hospitals; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with the Federal Department of Labor for the Earmark funds and any amendments to the contract; and Be It Further

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the application, acceptance and expenditure of WIA Incentive funds (amount yet to be determined) for the delivery of English Language Learner services to incumbent workers at east metro hospitals; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to negotiate and execute a contract with the State Department of Education for Workforce Solutions to deliver English Language Learner services to incumbent workers at east metro hospitals; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to negotiate and execute a subcontract up to \$25,000 with Language Solutions LLC 310 E. 38th St., Suite 223A, Minneapolis, MN 55409 for the provision of voice recognition software and training to be delivered to healthcare incumbent workers between September 1, 2005 and December 31, 2006; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to negotiate and execute grantee revenue generating services agreements with Federal, State, Local and/or nonprofit workforce development program providers where Workforce Solutions is the grantee for PY 2005; 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 the Workforce Solutions budget in order to cover program expenses until grant funds are received, with repayments to be made upon receipt of grant funds.

COUNTY MANAGER – Lease Agreement between the University of Minnesota and Ramsey County for Placement of Public Safety Communication System/800 MHz Equipment

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-222)

WHEREAS, The Biological Sciences Center at the University of Minnesota-Saint Paul campus has been identified as a location for both base radio system equipment and the network controller equipment for the Countywide Public Safety Communication System/800 MHz Project, and

WHEREAS, After review of the site by the County's consulting engineers and architects, it became apparent that it was necessary to build an equipment shelter (penthouse) on the rooftop of the Biological Sciences Center; and

WHEREAS, There will be no rent charged to the County due to the fact that the radio equipment is part of a system that will provide vital public safety services throughout Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, The University of Minnesota Police Department will be able to connect with the regional radio system through the microwave equipment that the County will install on the Biological Sciences Center; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the Lease Agreement between the Regents of the University of Minnesota and Ramsey County for space located on the rooftop of the Biological Sciences Center at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities-St. Paul Campus, for placement of Public Safety Communication System/800 MHz equipment shelter, equipment and antennas, with an initial term that will terminate on April 30, 2005; and Be It Further

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

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to execute subsequent no-cost renewals, subject to prior approval by the County Attorney's Office and Budgeting and Accounting.

COUNTY MANAGER – Award Contract for the Public Safety Communication System/800 MHz Equipment at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities – Saint Paul Campus to Sheehy Construction

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-223)

WHEREAS, The Biological Sciences Building at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities-Saint Paul Campus has been identified as the location for both base radio station equipment and network controller equipment; and

WHEREAS, After review by the County consulting engineers and architects, it became apparent that it was necessary to build an equipment shelter penthouse on the rooftop of the Biological Sciences Building; and

WHEREAS, Specifications for the shelter and other changes needed at this site were prepared by engineers and architects under contract with Ramsey County for its Public Safety Communication System (PSCS)/800 MHz project; and

WHEREAS, Staff at the University of Minnesota reviewed and approved the specifications; and

WHEREAS, On April 22, 2005, Saint Paul Contract and Analysis Services issued Request for Bids A COMGR-202-3 for construction of the rooftop equipment penthouse; and

WHEREAS, On May 18, 2005 the bids were opened, and five bids were received; and

WHEREAS, The low bid was submitted by Sheehy Construction; and

WHEREAS, County Manager staff is recommending the award of the contract to Sheehy Construction for a cost not to exceed \$339,300; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners awards the Purchase Order Contract to Sheehy Construction, 360 W. Larpenteur Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55113 for construction of the rooftop equipment penthouse on the Biological Sciences Center (Building #411) at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities-Saint Paul Campus, for an amount not to exceed \$339,300; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute a Purchase Order Contract contingent on 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 make all necessary payments and budget adjustments, and execute amendments and change orders to the agreement with Sheehy Construction as necessary, provided the total contract amount is not increased; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the expenditure of up to \$339,300 from the Ramsey County 2004 Capital Improvement Program Bond funds for the Sheehy Construction Contract.

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Appointment of NACo voting delegates

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

Commissioner Bennett said everyone listed in the resolution has the right to vote, but only one person can pick up the ballot. One delegate and two alternates need to be specified to pick up the ballot.

Commissioner Parker said Jim Mulder from the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), could be designated to pick it up as well.

Commissioner Bennett said that has been done internally when no one has been present, giving Mr. Mulder the ballot, but we must pick it up by someone designated from Ramsey County. Mr. Mulder has been given the slip in case someone is not able to get to the meeting. He has the power to vote our votes.

Commissioner Wiessner said she would not be attending this meeting and wanted to make it clear that the rest of the group could vote for her.

Commissioner Bennett said the problem is in picking it up – one person must be designated.

Commissioner McDonough asked if all the names could be listed with agreement among this group who would pick it up. The way it is now, anyone could pick it up and that is the way it should be.

Commissioner Bennett said there could be six forms. Normally one person is designated. Anyone who would be in attendance the whole conference should have his or her name listed to pick it up.

Chair Reinhardt said for clarification, there would be agreement that one of those attending would be listed with a first and second alternate.

Bonnie Jackelen, Chief Clerk-County Board, requested clarification that the resolution would not change.

Chair Reinhardt responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Bennett said the general session is the main vote on the resolutions followed by election of the second vice-president.

(Continued)

Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-224)

WHEREAS, The National Association of Counties (NACo) By-laws pertaining to voting at the NACo Conferences state that each County shall direct which of its appointed or elected officials shall cast its votes, providing the delegates are registered for the convention; and

WHEREAS, The By-laws further provide that a member county may prescribe rules with regard to proxy voting of its delegates; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby determines that Ramsey County's votes at the National Association of Counties Conferences shall be evenly proportioned to those County Commissioners who are in attendance in any meetings where votes are cast; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The voting delegates authorized to pick up Ramsey County's credential material are:

Commissioner Tony Bennett
Commissioner Toni Carter
Commissioner Jim McDonough
Commissioner Rafael Ortega
Commissioner Jan Parker
Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt
Commissioner Janice Rettman
David Twa, County Manager
Terry Speiker, Director, Intergovernmental Relations

HUMAN RESOURCES – Salary grade allocation for a new, unclassified, classification: Director of Community Relations and External Affairs – Community Corrections

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

Commissioner Rettman said the narrative in the documentation talks about the position being created, with a corresponding elimination of 1 FTE position. She requested an amendment in the Resolution to reflect that there would be a corresponding 1 FTE reduction.

Commissioner McDonough and Commissioner Parker accepted the amendment as friendly.

Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-225)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Human Resources Department conducted a classification/compensation study of a proposed job classification: Director of Community Relations and External Affairs - Community Corrections; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Human Resources Department determined that no one existing classification adequately describes all the duties of this position, or the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to perform the work; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Human Resources Department proposed a new classification, Director of Community Relations and External Affairs, and developed a new classification specification; and

WHEREAS, The position of Assistant Director of Community Corrections has remained vacant under the current Department Head's tenure and will be eliminated; and

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

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Human Resources Department determined the appropriate compensation for Director of Community Relations and External Affairs Community Corrections is Salary Schedule 98B, Grade 38, of the Ramsey County compensation plan; and

WHEREAS, The recommended salary grade is in accordance with the guidelines established by 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 the position of Director of Community Relations and External Affairs – Community Corrections is designated as an unclassified position in the Community Corrections Department; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the following salary grade allocation for the new classification of Director of Community Relations and External Affairs – Community Corrections:

Director of Community Relations and External Affairs – Community Corrections:

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Monthly Salary</u>
98B	38	\$5,605 - \$8,335

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The position of Director of Community Relations and External Affairs – Community Corrections will replace the position of Assistant Director of Community Corrections.

COUNTY MANAGER – Amendment to Motorola Contract for the Public Safety Communication System/800 MHz

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

Commissioner Rettman asked how much of the stated dollar amount is needed for Ramsey County.

David Twa, County Manager, said Ramsey County's share is \$588,181.

Commissioner Rettman asked if the remaining amount is for potential consolidated dispatching.

(Continued)

Mr. Twa responded affirmatively. This request is to order equipment for those entities believed to be interested in the consolidation – the cities of Maplewood and St. Paul.

Commissioner Rettman said in voting for this, it does not mean there is a pre-determination of the consolidation. She asked if there is a provision for the County to ship back material or for those other cities to purchase it from the County.

Mr. Twa said a letter was sent to each of the communities indicating that unless the County heard otherwise from them, the County would proceed in certain ways. One was, if ordering the equipment for them and they later reversed their decision in terms of partnering in the dispatch, there could be additional costs and they would have to assume the purchase of the equipment being ordered. In the case of the City of St. Paul, the County is ordering their equipment. In the case of Maplewood, it is an upgrade on their equipment. In conversations with the City of White Bear Lake, it was assumed they did not want the County to order their equipment. The County did not hear a positive response so no equipment was ordered for the City of White Bear Lake. In the event there is no consolidation, Maplewood and St. Paul would have to purchase their equipment from the County.

Commissioner Rettman asked if the County would be held harmless – act as their vendor in a sense.

Mr. Twa said there would be a change order, which would be directly between the two cities and Motorola.

Commissioner Rettman asked if the County would be reimbursed.

Mr. Twa responded affirmatively. The County would not assume the cost for any of the communities that would not enter into a consolidated dispatch system.

Commissioner Rettman requested clarification that nothing in this action predetermines the vote on consolidation.

Mr. Twa responded affirmatively. In fact, staff have been in negotiation with each of those communities, and assuming that there is an agreement on consolidation, each of those agreements would come back to the County Board for action.

Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-226)

WHEREAS, A major component of the new Countywide Public Safety Communication System/800 MHz is the dispatch operations that connects public safety officers with emergency calls from residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, In order to assure that all of Ramsey County's radio communications system is built, installed and tested in accordance with the Integrated Schedule agreed upon by the County and Motorola, an agreement for the purchase and installation of dispatch center equipment needs to be approved at this time; and

WHEREAS, On October 28, 2004, Ramsey County issued a Request for Bids (RFB) (COMGR(800) 191-2) to furnish all labor and materials necessary for the provision and installation of radio communications consoles as part of the development of the countywide 800 MHz radio subsystem to the Metropolitan Public Safety Communication system; and

WHEREAS, Motorola CGISS Northern Division (Motorola) responded with a bid dated December 1, 2004; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Motorola is the only company that makes radio communications equipment that can work on the Metropolitan system; and

WHEREAS, The bid covers dispatch consoles, central electronics banks, or other equipment, software licenses, detailed design services, and installation; and

WHEREAS, The dispatch center equipment and services will be provided through an amendment to the existing agreement with Motorola that was approved on September 14, 2004, by the County Board for software licenses, detailed design services, installation and equipment for the County's Public Safety Communication System/800 MHz infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, The terms and conditions of the original Motorola Agreement are appropriate for dispatch equipment and services, and amending the contract is the most straightforward approach to moving forward; and

WHEREAS, The RFB described a system with the four existing dispatch centers and Motorola's proposal and pricing were for a four-dispatch center system; and

WHEREAS, In the interim, significant discussions regarding consolidating dispatch operations have occurred; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County requested Motorola to prepare pricing for dispatch equipment and services for one dispatch center that will have the capacity to provide countywide dispatch services; and

WHEREAS, The amendment to be negotiated with Motorola will be based on a countywide dispatch center and if any of the independent dispatch centers elect not to join in the countywide dispatch center, another contract amendment with Motorola will be prepared; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota ARMER grant funds and County bond funds will be used to fund the purchases covered by the amendment; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves an amendment to the agreement between Ramsey County and Motorola CGISS Northern Division, 1110 West 78th Street, Suite 150, Eden Prairie MN 55344, Motorola contract 04-16857, for the furnishing of all equipment and services for the installation of radio communications consoles, in an amount not to exceed \$1,893,729.88; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the amendment to Motorola Contract 04-16857, subject to prior approval by Budgeting and Accounting and the County Attorney's Office; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to make all necessary payments and budget adjustments, and execute amendments and change orders to the agreement with Motorola CGISS Northern Division as necessary to reflect changes in the dispatch related requirements, provided the total dollar amount under the amendment is not increased; and Be It Further

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the expenditure of up to \$1,893,729.88 from the Ramsey County 2004 Capital Improvement Program bond funds for the amendment to the Motorola agreement.

RAMSEY COUNTY LIBRARY/PROPERTY MANAGEMENT – Capital Improvement Project Update on the Ramsey County Library in Maplewood

Commissioner Bennett introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Parker.

Commissioner Rettman said she was pleased that this was coming within the budget. However, that is not stated in the resolution. She suggested revising the resolution stating that the Ramsey County Board hereby authorizes Property Management in negotiations not to exceed the original total of \$7,911,500, excluding land acquisition. That is consistent with all the information presented on May 24, 2005. She had consulted with Jolly Mangine, Director, Property Management, and he is okay with this language. Part of the discussion had been that the building would come within that dollar amount. To redo the current Maplewood Library, it would cost a certain amount. This would take that same dollar amount, but the land acquisition is tantamount to getting rid of some other land. Divesting of the other land should at least equal the new land.

Commissioner Bennett and Commissioner Parker accepted the amendment as friendly.

Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-227)

WHEREAS, On October 5, 2004, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners ratified the Ramsey County Library Board's design team selection for the \$7.9 million expansion and renovation of the Maplewood Branch Library at 1670 Beam Avenue, Maplewood; and

WHEREAS, The Schematic Phase Cost Estimate prepared by the design team for the renovation and expansion of the Maplewood Branch Library exceeded the \$7.9 million Project Budget approved as part of the Library's Phase I Capital Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, The Schematic Design Phase confirmed that expanding the library building on the existing site would require finding additional public and staff parking away from the library site; and

WHEREAS, On February 28, 2005, the Ramsey County Library Board directed Library Administration and Property Management to explore an alternative new site/new building program that could utilize the \$7.9 million project budget more effectively; and

WHEREAS, On May 18, 2005, Ramsey County Library Administration and Property Management made a presentation to the Ramsey County Library Board on the status of the new site/new building program alternative which included the identification and pre-qualification of several Maplewood sites; and

WHEREAS, On May 18, 2005, the Ramsey County Library Board approved the new site/new building program alternative for the Maplewood Branch Library; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the Ramsey County Library Board's decision to proceed with a new site/new building program for the Maplewood Branch Library; and Be It Further

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chair of the Library Board or their designee to enter into a non-binding Letter of Intent to purchase a new site in Maplewood as part of negotiations to acquire property for a new branch library; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes Property Management to enter into negotiations to purchase a new site in Maplewood and return to the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners with a Purchase Agreement, an estimated Project Budget not to exceed the original total of \$7,911,500 excluding land acquisition, Project Schedule, and a financing plan for the new building; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes Property Management to develop an exit strategy for the existing Maplewood Library property at 1670 Beam Avenue and present the exit plan to the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners along with the purchase agreement for the new site; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby directs Property Management to acquire an appraisal of the existing Maplewood Library property at 1670 Beam Avenue.

PARKS & RECREATION – Ordinance Approving Land Exchange at Bald Eagle-Otter Lakes Regional Park

Commissioner Bennett introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Ortega. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 7. Nays – 0. (2005-228)

PROPOSED ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EXCHANGE OF LAND WITHIN BALD EAGLE-
OTTER LAKES REGIONAL PARK

ORDINANCE NO. 2005-228

WHEREAS, Ramsey County and Metropolitan Council Environmental Services have proposed exchange of easements on property that would be mutually beneficial to both parties; and

WHEREAS, The proposed easement exchange is consistent with the “no net loss of parkland” provision of the Ramsey County Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners held a first reading of the Ordinance on May 3, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the Ramsey County Home Rule Charter, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on May 24, 2005, to receive comments on the proposed land exchange; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the Ramsey County Home Rule Charter, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners held a second reading of the proposed ordinance and a public hearing to receive comments on the ordinance on May 24, 2005; Now, Therefore,

(Continued)

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF RAMSEY DOES ORDAIN, That the exchange of an easement on real property, currently owned by Ramsey County as part of Bald Eagle-Otter Lakes Regional Park, described below as a Permanent Sanitary Sewer Easement; for an easement on real property owned by Metropolitan Council Environmental Services, as described below as Access Easement, is hereby approved:

Description – Permanent Sanitary Sewer Easement

A permanent easement for sanitary sewer purposes, over, under and across part of the south 200 feet of the SW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 1, Township 30, Range 22, lying west of Hugo Road, described as follows:

Commencing at the SW Corner of the SW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 1, Township 30, Range 22; thence east along the south line of said SW ¼ of NW ¼ to the west line of Hugo Road; thence northwesterly along the west line of Hugo Road a distance of 60 feet to point of beginning; thence deflecting left 90 degrees a distance of 50 feet; thence deflecting right 90 degrees a distance of 50 feet; thence deflecting right 90 degrees a distance of 50 feet to the west line of Hugo Road; thence southeasterly along the west line of Hugo Road a distance of 50 feet to point of beginning.

Description - Access Easement

An access easement to the following described property for preservation of open space and park purposes including vegetation management and public access:

Beginning at a point on the Westerly line of Lot 55, Montville, Dayton and Warren's Prospect Addition to St. Paul, said point being 298.55 feet Northerly from the Southwesterly corner of said Lot 55; thence due East a distance of 50 feet; thence North 12 degrees 30 minutes East parallel to said Westerly line of said Lot 55 a distance of 51.2 feet; thence due West a distance of 50 feet to a point on the Westerly line of said Lot 55, said point being 51.2 feet Northeasterly from the point of beginning; thence Southwesterly along said Westerly line of said Lot 55 a distance of 51.2 feet to the point of beginning.

and Does Further

ORDAIN, That the Chair and Chief Clerk are authorized to execute the documents necessary to implement the land exchange; and Does Further

ORDAIN, That this Ordinance shall not be effective until thirty (30) days after publication of the Ordinance and the minutes in order to permit filing of any initiative and referendum in accord with the Ramsey County Home Rule Charter.

HUMAN RESOURCES – Ramsey County Commissioners' Salary Ordinance for 2006

Commissioner McDonough introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Carter. Roll Call: Ayes – McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Bennett, Carter, Reinhardt – 6. Nays – Rettman – 1. (2005-229)

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The provisions of the Ramsey County Home Rule Charter relating to compensation for the Board of Commissioners state that:

- a) The Board may determine the annual salary of its members by passage of a salary ordinance; and
- b) The salary ordinance must be passed by July 1 of the year prior to the effective date of the ordinance; and
- c) The ordinance shall not become effective until the first business day of the following year (January 1, 2006); and

WHEREAS, The Charter requires that per diem payments be made to the County and that, with the exception of fees, payments and other compensation paid to an officer of the Association of Minnesota Counties, the County will not add these payments to the Commissioners' salary when payments are received from the various boards, committees and other governmental agencies; and

WHEREAS, The current annual salary of the Board of Commissioners is \$60,512 for County Board Members, and \$62,546 for the County Board Chair; and

WHEREAS, Over the period of January 1, 2004– December 31, 2004, the consumer price index (CPI-U) for the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area increased by 2.8%; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners that the salary rates for the Board of Commissioners should be adjusted by between 50% and 100% of the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan area for the most recent year for which the CPI-U information is available; and

WHEREAS, An increase of 2.8% for the Board of Commissioners will result in a salary increase equal to 100% of the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area for the period of January 1, 2004 – December 31, 2004; Now, Therefore, the Board of Commissioners for the County of Ramsey Does

ORDAIN, That the annual salary for the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners for calendar year 2006 shall increase by 2.8% to \$62,206 for County Board Members and by 2.8% to \$64,297 for the County Board Chair; and Be It Further

ORDAINED, With the exception of fees, payments and other compensation paid to an officer of the Association of Minnesota Counties, the Board voted to decline fees, payments and other compensation paid to County Board members in exchange for representing the County on outside boards, committees and other governmental agencies and any subcommittees thereof, and that any funds received by the County would remain within the County's General Fund; and Be It Further

ORDAINED, That the Commissioners are eligible to receive fees, payments and other compensation paid from the following boards, committees and other governmental agencies and any subcommittees thereof, such amounts to be remitted to County Treasury and thereafter paid to board member;

Association of Minnesota Counties (if serving as an Officer)

and Be It Further

(Continued)

ORDAINED, That all appointments of County Commissioners to various boards, committees and other governmental agencies shall be ratified by County Board resolution before per diems shall be paid; and Be It Further

ORDAINED, That any subsequent new appointments or changes in appointments to new or existing boards, committees or governmental agencies, and any subsequent establishment of new per diem rates or increase in current per diem rates shall be ratified by County Board resolution before per diems shall be paid; and Be It Further

ORDAINED, That any increase in per diems or new per diems which are approved by the above described process, shall be included in the next annual salary ordinance, and Be It Further

ORDAINED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners shall be allowed to receive actual and necessary expenses for attendance at conferences, seminars, etc., in connection with their official County Commissioner duties as do all other Ramsey County employees; and Be It Further

ORDAINED, That unless a valid referendum petition is filed within 30 days after the publication of this ordinance, this ordinance shall:

- a) Become effective on January 1, 2006 and replace the previous salary ordinance (Ordinance 2004-239); and,
- b) Continue in effect throughout calendar year 2006 and subsequent years until changed by a subsequent County Board ordinance.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Commissioner Parker said the Legislature is meeting in Special Session.

Transportation Funding discussion

Terry Speiker, Director, Intergovernmental Relations, distributed draft information about the transportation funding package, which looks only at the road side of it. Another piece is being put together about the transit side. Dave Verhasselt is working on a composite for use when talking with legislators and anyone else, about how important it would be to have a comprehensive transit and transportation funding package.

Nick Riley, Intergovernmental Relations, said staff have identified \$64 million worth of projects that would be unfunded because of the 10¢ gas package that the Governor vetoed. Ramsey County would have received \$81 million total over 10 years if that had passed. Staff are working with legislators to try to put together another package, which would not be as rich as this one was, but it is hoped that both House and Senate would buy into it. This would include tab fees and something for transit to backfill the cuts that were made at MetroTransit -- \$60 million -- and then to get some money in the first biennium for additional bus service that might be added. This is not what everybody wanted, not what AMC wanted or what transit advocates wanted, but it is what staff feel is a compromise to help meet Ramsey County's needs part way. This package is a work in progress but may put some pressure on legislators that didn't vote for the transportation package, but also help those who voted in favor. It will show that they made a good vote. It may raise pressure if another package comes along.

(Continued)

Commissioner McDonough asked who is developing this compromise. In the end, the success of what was put in the Governor's bill was everybody sticking together at AMC, at the joint powers board, and all the advocates.

Mr. Riley said it is an insider game right now, and staff are doing what they can in working with Representative Hausman, who is trying hard to insert as much as can be in the compromise bill. Representative Bernie Lieder is the House lead in developing a bill. He would be looking at this from a rural perspective, but understands the needs of transit in the metro area. Representative Dan Larson, from Bloomington, has been working on this. They are trying to include Representative Erhardt because he was one of the chief proponents of the other amendment. Staff attended two different meetings that Representative Hausman was at, and provided her as much input as needed. Everyone realizes that any bill cannot be any richer than the bill that was vetoed, attempting to provide something that the Governor might not like, but might let it go.

Ms. Speiker said the legislators have been doing the talking, collecting a great deal of information on the House side. There has also been a composition of who voted from the Republican side with the original bill. A number of those members have been asked to participate. The Senate has been clear that if there is a bill, that it begin in the House, so it would be the House members putting the bill together.

Commissioner McDonough said there was a lot of discussion last week at the joint powers board meeting. He believes the Board needs to be as supportive as it can be in crafting the compromise. There is a fine balance of when the compromise becomes no good, not wanting anything then. Whatever is written may be for the next 5-7 years and can't be improved on. There might be a point when he'd rather wait a year than to compromise too far.

Mr. Riley said there is the concern if a different bill were to be developed. Representative Holberg is purportedly working on something that is more like what the Chamber had. Staff feel that was not as well received as far as Ramsey County's and AMC's interest. If that bill were to come out, the Senate might have to vote for it, resulting in a worse position. That is why a compromise is being worked on.

Ms. Speiker said she couldn't say enough about Representative Hausman's understanding of the need to have a strong balance of transit and transportation, metro and rural.

Commissioner Rettman said the \$64.8 million is not all CSAH dollars. Citing Mr. Riley's comment that the County lost \$64 million, she said it is more like \$23 million because the partners come up with the remaining amount to equal the \$64 million.

Ms. Speiker responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Rettman said this is about the leveraging component of having CSAH dollars. That is important when saying the County would have received \$81 million because there are a lot of other projects that aren't even on the horizon that could equal the dollar amount -- Ramsey County's are the \$24 million listed here. She said Ramsey County has the need for the \$81 million in its own right without leveraging other components. She does not want to give the illusion that the \$64 million is Ramsey County's loss.

Mr. Riley said in another version further along than this, it is acknowledged that there are numerous projects that haven't even been mentioned. They haven't done a five-year solicitation because we haven't been able to do what is already on the books.

Commissioner Rettman said she doesn't want Ramsey County without the virtual reality that there are numerous projects throughout this County that don't have a placeholder somewhere.

Mr. Riley said something not mentioned in this information is the amount of money the cities would get out of the CSAH formula, which is a big factor for city streets and roads that go through cities under the jurisdictions. There is a lot of money tied up in the transportation bill.

(Continued)

Commissioner Ortega asked if there is a chance this is going to pass.

Mr. Riley said it is hoped this will pass. It is being set up so Ramsey County is in a good position. When the transportation bill to fund the department comes forward, an amendment could go on for this funding. They are trying to be all-inclusive, but one faction might say it is not enough. That is why they are trying to do this internally as much as possible. If everyone was brought to the table, it would be a different situation and harder to control.

Commissioner Ortega asked if this is successful, what does it mean for the next year. We need to look at a permanent revenue stream and keep the entire state together.

Mr. Riley said part of the transit package is already on the table because the last bill the Governor vetoed contained a provision that is going to go on the ballot for transferring the motor vehicle excise tax. That says at least 40% has to go into transit. This would be on the November 2006 ballot, so we're already missing two years. Transit got a piece of what they were looking for in the last bill even though the Governor vetoed it; he couldn't veto that part of it. This is an attempt for a scaled-down version that still has all the other components, and would be agreeable to everybody currently at the table.

Commissioner Ortega asked if there is a risk of that referendum losing because of this bill – it is a statewide referendum. If a rural area is not getting anything out of this, what would be the incentive to vote for the referendum?

Mr. Riley said if there is no bill, that referendum is still on the ballot. If there is a bill, it will make that referendum a little more palatable because the rural folks will have seen a gas tax increase.

Commissioner Ortega said it could go either way; there is a chance of it not being more palatable.

Mr. Riley said in discussion with some of the rural legislators, this referendum question would likely fail. There would have to be an education campaign about what this would do for transit.

Commissioner Bennett asked when the referendum is on the ballot, how much money is for transit.

Mr. Riley said in the first year it would be about \$100 million, jumping up in preceding years, not transferred all in the first year.

Ms. Speiker said discussion is going on about taking Representative Erhardt's bill that was vetoed to fix the language.

Commissioner McDonough said there are several approaches that could be taken. We are working too hard for something that is not going to do enough for us to let people off the hook. Making it to the Governor's desk was an accomplishment. He is willing to take the risk in saying that there are people who have to be responsible for not letting that move forward.

Ms. Speiker said staff could back off on the work they have been doing – it is up to the County Board.

Commissioner McDonough said staff are on the right track. His message to staff would be that this compromise is not an end-all cost compromise. There is a point when you just say no, that the compromise gives up too much and would be too difficult to improve on. He asked if the AMC Transportation Committee has gotten together about how to keep the counties together as this moves forward.

Ms. Speiker said the Transportation Committee hasn't gotten together but at each one of the District meetings, they have been talking about people's perception. Transportation continues to be people's highest priority and there is still strong resolve to stay with something as comprehensive as AMC had put out. They didn't say they would walk away from this.

(Continued)

Chair Reinhardt said there is a recognition that at a certain point it is not worth doing because in fact it may come back and be worse. The East Metro group shared that same general message – yes, they want to work together to see if a compromise could be moved forward, but there are some things they would not do because it would hurt – the referendum for a gas tax was one.

Commissioner Parker said the County Board took a position for having a dedicated funding source for transportation and transit trying to change the formula in any way it could. If that compromise hadn't happened, we would have continued to try to work on those things. Direction to staff would be the same as it would have been if that hadn't happened – to continue to work to try to get the best possible as long as it is going toward our goal.

Commissioner Ortega agreed but this is a fragile coalition. He is suggesting that activities should be couched that the County Board is concerned about that coalition, that our vision is long-term, not just about the roads this year, but about the roads in the next five to ten years.

Mr. Riley said other factors are long-term funding for any of the corridors and bonding. It is in our best interest to try to keep working to get the best bill possible that has a long-term vision. Central Corridor needs the bonding. The AMC formula is still being continued as the lead factor; metro counties do get a better break on the formula for any CSAH funding.

Commissioner Ortega said if all those things have already been agreed to by the other 87 counties, that is his point. There will be a breakdown if there isn't a balanced approach to this.

Commissioner McDonough believes staff have a good understanding of this and are doing the right thing. The message from his point is to hold the course. He reminded everyone that whatever the County gets, it would not be what was hoped for, and whatever we get can't hurt us next year as we build on it.

Mr. Riley said the bill would be developed whether Ramsey County is involved or not, and staff are trying to add as much into it as possible.

Commissioner Bennett said no matter how this is crafted, the message has to be that we need \$1 billion a year to do what is needed. He asked if anyone came up with the answer for how much it costs to sit idle in traffic for 43 hours. Information needs to be put into simple terms for people: The average person who has a car and drives 20,000 a year getting 20 miles to the gallon, would spend \$100 dollars more a year at a 10¢ gas tax.

Mr. Riley said the Governor's \$750 million annually is strictly for state highways, and is strictly bonding, which somebody has to pay for, and eats into the general transit/transportation funds, and is not a good solution.

Exemptions for 800 MHz

Ms. Speiker distributed copies of a letter that went to Senator Mee Moua. This is not in the formal legislative package but something the County Board asked staff to work on. An exemption is being asked for on anything that might appear such as levy limits or a freeze for the capital and operating side of 800 MHz.

Commissioner Bennett said counties that already have 800 MHz have this exemption. If looking at the contract approved today and adding sales tax, the contract would cost more.

Commissioner Carter said she appreciates what is being done to ensure the County does not pay that. It is important to move forward on 800 MHz and protect what we are doing in other areas of the County's work.

Other discussion

Commissioner Rettman asked what is going on in other areas with the Nursing Home and overall health care.

(Continued)

Ms. Speiker said Dave Haley, Community Human Services, attended a meeting with Senate Finance staff. The Nursing Home positions were discussed but no final action was taken. On the Senate side, there continues to be a special provision for the Ramsey Nursing Home, and on both sides there are some provisions for some cost-of-living increases.

Ms. Speiker said Senator Berglin continues to be adamant about not taking money from the health care access fund to help fund the general fund. There is an interest on the part of the Department of Human Services to help pay for the premium for a six-month period of time – in Ramsey County, that would be about 4,000 single adults who could lose their health care if her idea doesn't move forward. She would like to change the cap in Minnesota Care and rollback some of the things that have happened over the past several years.

Senator Berglin continues to be very clear that this is not an area of compromise. She has a clear understanding of what she would like to go forward and feels this is extremely important.

As reported on the news, people feel as though there is a move toward resolution. There is a hearing today on the Governor's cigarette proposal. A Senate tax working committee will also take place this afternoon.

Commissioner Rettman asked about the \$500 million that separates folks – does it include the \$300 million from the cigarette tax.

Chair Reinhardt said the difference is \$243 million, if they use the \$.75 tax per pack, plus the levy for schools.

Ms. Speiker said the racino issue appears to be back.

Commissioner Rettman asked about the human services budget and if there was any movement.

Ms. Speiker responded negatively.

Commissioner Ortega asked what that means for other things such as transportation.

Ms. Speiker said the transportation piece is not part of that discussion. There is some talk that transportation will not be resolved in this special session; but they will resolve the other issues and the Governor might be willing to call them back to just deal with transportation. The human services issue revolves around a significant difference about how health care is paid for and who gets health care. This discussion of health care primarily includes MNCARE and General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC). Senator Berglin is interested in trying to rollback a number of reductions made in MNCARE over the last several legislative sessions and trying to ensure that if GAMC is not available, another substitute would be there, probably in the form of MNCARE.

Mr. Riley said that once they agree on the major pieces, someone will have to give in and it will happen fast. He predicted the Legislature would be finished in two weeks.

Ms. Speiker said there are signs that things will move quickly.

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Parker reported:

- She went on a bus tour with the City of St. Anthony. They have been working on several economic development projects. Some are in Hennepin County and some are in Ramsey County, but the most impressive project is on the site of the former Apache Plaza. There are condos, offices, shops, etc. being built on that site. She commended the St. Anthony City Council for deciding to start fresh on that site.
- She attended the first meeting with a consultant that has been donated to the County from the "DO" campaign, the Blue Cross Blue Shield Active Living by Design program. The consultant spent a couple of hours with about 25 people from within Ramsey County, including municipalities, talking about what might be done.

(Continued)

Commissioner Carter:

- Acknowledged the volume of collaboration and cooperation that is happening in the community. Many people are working together with the County in many areas.
- Attended a luncheon of the Minnesota Director's Forum at Lao Family. This is a group of refugee and immigrant organizations that come together to discuss issues and work together to collaborate around those issues for the betterment of the community.
- Met with a group called DAC, the name is a Spanish theme, which translates to "people with disabilities working to improve their lives". This is a non-profit community organization with which Ramsey County collaborates and works with the families of young people with disabilities.
- She attended a meeting of the Union Gospel Mission's Saint Paul Area Coalition. They work in collaboration with many other organizations to eliminate homelessness. Awards were given to individuals working out of those organizations and some lifetime awards as well. Jim Anderson, Community Human Services Department, was the recipient of an award.

Commissioner Bennett reported:

- He attended the NACo Board of Director's Meeting. The prescription drug cards, which had previously been a pilot project, have now been approved for all member counties. Information should be received shortly.
- The 2006 NACo Legislative Conference will be March 4-8th, which is a Saturday through Wednesday.
- The 2006 NACo Annual Conference will be held in Chicago August 4-8. Dates in July were not available.
- He attended one of the last meetings of the Radio Board. He headed up the Task Force to merge the Radio Board and the 911 Board. That merger takes place July 1, 2005. It will now be called the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board. Commissioners Bennett, Rettman and McDonough serve on that Board. The City of Minneapolis and all seven metropolitan counties will be members.

Commissioner Rettman reported:

- She has been serving on SHAC regarding the funding formula with the Minnesota Department of Health. A bit more money was obtained because of the urban area. Four more counties were added, two of which are in Wisconsin. They are now looking at a 17-county metro area.
- She attended the meeting of the Mosquito Control. There will be mosquitoes this year. Mosquito Control staff are working to diminish the mosquito supply, but with all the rain there is only so much that can be done. Baiting must be done throughout the life cycle of the mosquitoes. West Nile Virus is a threat; people should continue to wear long pants and shirtsleeves.
- She spoke at the Memorial Day tribute at Oakland Cemetery.

Commissioner Ortega reported:

- The Post Office announced yesterday that it is ready to sell its property by the Union Depot. Congresswomen McCollum has been instrumental in this transaction.
- The Central Corridor is gaining steam this year. Many projects will begin to move on a fast track.

(Continued)

Commissioner Reinhardt reported:

- That she, Commissioner Rettman and Commissioner McDonough attended Phase III opening of the Phalen Boulevard. Congresswoman McCollum has been instrumental in obtaining financing for the Phalen Corridor and other things pertaining to transit and transportation, and moving the East Metro forward.
- She attended the AMC District X Meeting, where there was lots of discussion about the legislative agenda and the futures project with AMC. She will Chair District X this year.
- She attended the Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board meeting where the industrial solid waste definition change was discussed. A small group has been working on this. They have a clear directive from Senator Pogemiller and Senator Tomassoni to work together. This is about the environment and making certain that the waste moves up the waste management hierarchy to the extent possible, rather than allowing huge loopholes in the law as it is currently written.

ADJOURNMENT

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Session was called to order at 10:45 a.m. with the following members present: Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Parker, Rettman, and Chair Reinhardt – 7. Absent: None. Also present were: David Twa, County Manager; Darwin Lookingbill, Director, Civil Division, County Attorney's Office; Karen Kushner, Assistant County Attorney; Jolly Mangine, Director, Property Management; Connie Catlin, Director, Policy Analysis and Planning; Julie Kleinschmidt, Director, Budgeting & Accounting, and Kathy Kapoun, Budget Analyst, Budgeting & Accounting.

Re: Sale of Riverfront Property commonly known as Adult Detention Center and the F Building portion of the Ramsey County Government Center West.

The Executive Session was called to discuss the offer regarding the matter mentioned above. Direction was given in the manner in which to proceed.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Bonnie C. Jackelen, Chief Clerk – County Board