

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met with the following members present: Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman and Chair Parker – 6. Absent: Bennett – 1. Also present were Julie Kleinschmidt, County Manager, and Darwin Lookingbill, Director, Civil Division, County Attorney's Office.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### AGENDA

Commissioner Carter moved approval of the Agenda of the July 14, 2009 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.

#### MINUTES

Commissioner Reinhardt moved approval of the Minutes of the June 23, 2009 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.

#### EMPLOYEE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Employee Achievement Awards were presented to:

- **Rick Cunningham**, Community Human Services – Nominated for Excellent Job Performance and Performance Beyond the Call of Duty (*Presented by Commissioner Ortega*)
- **Karyn Berg**, Workforce Solutions – Nominated for Excellent Job Performance and Performance Beyond the Call of Duty (*Presented by Commissioner Parker*)
- **Ramsey County Care Center Team (Pam Higgins, Wendy Johnson, Ken Lauren, Lorna Leistikow and Joleen Magee)** Community Human Services – Nominated for Excellent Job Performance and Performance Beyond the Call of Duty (*Presented by Commissioner Parker*)

#### BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Appointments to Minnesota Landmarks Board of Directors

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-223)

WHEREAS, According to a provision in the Minnesota Landmarks By-laws, appointments to the Board of Directors of Minnesota Landmarks need to be approved by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, At the Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Landmarks Board of Directors held May 14, 2009, appointments recommended by the Nominating Committee were made; and

WHEREAS, A letter dated June 15, 2009, was sent to Chair Parker requesting the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approve the appointments; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the appointment of individuals to the Minnesota Landmarks Board of Directors, for terms as indicated:

(Continued)

Reappointments – Three-year terms to expire in 2012:

Jim Affolter  
Tom Boyd  
John Czaia  
Helen Wagner

Accept Resignations from:

Steve Proeschel  
Hoa Young

Officers of the Board of Directors of Minnesota Landmarks for 2009-2010:

Chair	Scott Knudson
Vice Chair	Tom Boyd
Vice Chair	Don Leier
Secretary	Kareen Ecklund
Treasurer	James Affolter

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Appointments to the Workforce Investment Board (WIB)

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-224)

WHEREAS, There are currently five County vacancies on the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) in the categories of Business, Education and One-Stop Partners; and

WHEREAS, Five individuals are seeking re-appointment to the WIB for terms of August 1, 2009 through July 31, 2011; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby re-appoints the following individuals to the Workforce Investment Board for a term commencing August 1, 2009 and ending July 31, 2011:

To Represent Business

Bev Fritz, Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce  
Barbara Mednick, BKM Consulting

To Represent Education

Craig Anderson, Saint Paul College

To Represent One-Stop Partners

Patricia Brady, Ramsey County Workforce Solutions  
Joe Crowe, Quality Career Services

(Continued)

PUBLIC WORKS – Petition from White Bear Township for Ramsey County to assume jurisdiction of that portion of Goodview Avenue within the Township

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-225)

WHEREAS, White Bear Township has forwarded to Ramsey County a petition, containing 34 signatures, requesting that Ramsey County assume jurisdiction of that portion of Goodview Avenue North (AKA East County Line Road) that lies west of the Ramsey/Washington county line; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 163.13 provides that Counties may assume jurisdiction when presented with such a petition; and

WHEREAS, Goodview Avenue is functionally classified as a “local” road and is not included in the Ramsey County comprehensive plan as an addition to the County road system; and

WHEREAS, Goodview Avenue is not identified as a future County route in the comprehensive plans of any of the municipalities that now share jurisdiction of the road; Hugo, Grant, and White Bear Township, nor that of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, On June 9, 2009, Washington County declined to assume jurisdiction over that portion of the road that lies east of the Ramsey/Washington County line; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby denies the request from White Bear Township that the County assume jurisdiction of the portion of Goodview Avenue that is in Ramsey County.

PUBLIC WORKS – Supplemental Agreement to Contract with Progressive Contractors, Inc. for reconstruction of McKnight Road at T.H. 36

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-226)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County is currently reconstructing McKnight Road at T.H. 36, S.P. 62-659-01, SP 151-010-02, SP 151-090-01& SP 62 6211-81; and

WHEREAS, The engineer determined that there is a need to adjust the rate of compensation to the contractor due to an increase in staging and reduced production rate; and

WHEREAS, Appropriate additions or corrections are defined in Supplemental Agreement 17; and

WHEREAS, The total costs of \$65,892 for the work identified within these contract revisions will be paid for by 100% Mn/DOT, SP 6211-81 funds; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves Supplemental Agreement 17 to Contract CC001644 with Progressive Contractors, Inc., for reconstruction of McKnight Road at T.H. 36; and Be It Further

*(Continued)*

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

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the following budget adjustment:

INCREASED ESTIMATED REVENUE

2007 17304 550880 00000 314481 MnDOT Rd Construction P033155 \$65,892

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS

2007 17304 550880 00000 442305 Hwy 36 & McKnight Road P033155 \$65,892

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes a temporary cash loan in the amount of \$65,892 from the General Fund to the Road and Bridge Capital Improvement Program (CIP) until receipt of Federal Aid and State Aid reimbursement.

PUBLIC WORKS – Agreement for Maintenance of Traffic Control Signal and EVP System at Lakewood Drive and Maryland Avenue

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-227)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County Department of Public Works, in cooperation with the City of Maplewood, are installing a traffic control signal at the intersection of Maryland Avenue and Lakewood Drive; and

WHEREAS, Agreement PW2008-23, prepared by the Ramsey County Public Works, identifies Ramsey County responsibilities for maintenance of the traffic control signals and EVP systems; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves Agreement PW2008-23 between Ramsey County Public Works and City of Maplewood for the maintenance of the traffic control signals and EVP systems at the intersection of Maryland Avenue and Lakewood Drive; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute Agreement PW2008-23 on behalf of Ramsey County; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The four (4) page maintenance agreement PW2008-23 for Maryland Avenue and Lakewood Drive is made part of this resolution by reference and is on file with the Chief Clerk.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Tamarack Nature Center XC Ski Trails Realignment and Repair Cross-Country Ski Capital Grant-In-Aid/Federal Recreational Trail Grant Programs

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-228)

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources administers the Cross-Country Ski Grant-In-Aid/Federal Recreation Trail Grant Programs and has approved a \$20,000 grant to Ramsey County for realignment and repairs to cross-country ski trails in Tamarack Nature Center; and

WHEREAS, The existing cross-country ski trails require realignment due to pending construction of the Destination For Discovery Nature Play Area and Children’s Garden and repair of some washout areas; and

WHEREAS, No local match of grant funds is required; and

WHEREAS, Conditions of the grant require the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution accepting the grant and approving entering into the grant agreement, designating a fiscal agent for the County for this project, committing adequate operation and maintenance for a period of not less than 20 years and ensuring compliance with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the grant agreement; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the \$20,000 Cross –Country Ski Grant-In-Aid/Federal Recreation Trail Grant, designated #D104-08-S-6, for realignment and improvement of cross-country ski trails in Tamarack Nature Center; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the Federal Recreation Trail Grant Program Agreement for \$20,000 for realignment and improvement of cross-country ski trails in Tamarack Nature Center; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to execute a Cross–Country Ski Grant-In-Aid/Federal Recreational Trail Grant Program Agreement necessary to implement the trail improvement project on behalf of Ramsey County; and Be It Further

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

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby commits to providing adequate operation and maintenance for a period of not less than twenty (20) years and to complying with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in the grant agreement.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Project Labor Agreement – Construction of restroom buildings and picnic shelters at Keller Regional Park

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-229)

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

(Continued)

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 restroom buildings and picnic shelters at Keller Regional Park; 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 be required for this project and the Associated Builders and Contractors recommended that a Project Labor Agreement not be required for this project; and

WHEREAS, Based on the past County Board direction, the Parks and Recreation Department recommends a Project Labor Agreement be used for the construction of restroom buildings and picnic shelters at Keller Regional Park; 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 restroom buildings and picnic shelters at Keller Regional Park.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Elderly and Disabled – Transportation Services

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-230)

WHEREAS, The Community Human Services Department issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on April 1, 2009 seeking one or more agencies to provide transportation services to clients eligible for and receiving reimbursement through one of the Medical Assistance waivers; and

WHEREAS, The Request for Proposals was sent to 122 agencies. Six agencies submitted a valid proposal; and

WHEREAS, The review committee included community representatives from the American Red Cross and Hallie Q. Brown, a manager from the St. Paul/Ramsey County Public Health Department, and three staff from the Human Services Department - one program manager, one program director and one contract manager; and

WHEREAS, The review committee is recommending the two agencies that received the highest evaluation scores for contract; and

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, Selection criteria included: 1) Service delivery –demonstrating a clear understanding of service needs and clearly outlines a service design that incorporates best practices; 2) Expertise/qualifications of staff and administrators; 3) Diversity – identification of specific strategies for delivering services to diverse clients, clients with limited English abilities, disabled clients, and other diverse populations; 4) agency’s financial stability/solvency; and 5) Cost effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, People Responding in Social Ministry has a solid history of providing transportation services Monday-Friday; Medical Transportation Management is able to broker services to provide language appropriate services to clients and services are available evenings and weekends; and

WHEREAS, Under previous action the Board has authorized the Director of Human Services, due to the individualized nature of the payment support system based on service plan documents, to sign agreements that involve Medical Assistance waiver payments; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves People Responding in Social Ministry (PRISM), 730 Florida Avenue South, Golden Valley, MN 55426 and Medical Transportation Management Inc. (MTM), 16 Hawk Ridge Drive, Lake St. Louis, MO, 63367 to provide transportation services for clients who receive funding through waiver programs in Ramsey County, for the period July 1, 2009 – December 31, 2013.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Disability Services – Adult Foster Care

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-231)

WHEREAS, On February 26, 2009, the Community Human Services Department issued a Request for Assistance (RFA) on February 26, 2009 seeking residential services for three adult Southeast Asian men; and

WHEREAS, These individuals have moved out of one residence that was closed and needed to be placed in a new residence by July 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, The RFA was sent to 122 agencies; twelve agencies submitted a proposal; and the two agencies that received the highest evaluation scores were asked to interview; and

WHEREAS, The Evaluation Team, consisting of two program supervisors, two case managers and a contract manager, recommends Healing Homes; and

WHEREAS, Selection criteria included: 1) Ability to provide quality services beginning as soon as possible; 2) Experience with Ramsey County and provider’s capacity to provide services as requested; 3) Expertise/qualifications of staff and administrators; 4) Cost effectiveness; and 5) Adequate insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, As part of criteria #1, the Evaluation Team looked at each agency's ability to address clients of various backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, The three residents are seeking culturally appropriate housing; and

**(Continued)**

WHEREAS, Healing Homes is operated by individuals from the Southeast Asian community and is in business to serve Southeast Asian residents in a culturally appropriate manner; and

WHEREAS, Funding for these services will be through the Medical Assistance Waiver and Group Residential Housing programs; and

WHEREAS, There is a daily cap for each individual's waiver and the money is paid directly by the state to the vendors; and

WHEREAS, Under previous action the Board has authorized the Director of Human Services, due to the individualized nature of the payment support system based on service plan documents, to sign agreements that involve Medical Assistance waiver payments; and

WHEREAS, To avoid a potential second move for these residents, the agreement has been signed pending final Board action; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves Handy Help, LLC, d.b.a. Healing Homes, 653 Dayton Ave., St. Paul MN, 55104, to provide adult corporate foster care services for residents who receive funding through CADI or TBI programs in Ramsey County, at the medical assistance rates, for the period June 30, 2009 – June 30, 2013.

HUMAN RESOURCES – 2009 Salary Rates for Building Trades Job classes (Carpenter, Master Electrician, and Painter)

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-232)

WHEREAS, The salary rates for building trades job classes in the Saint Paul Area are established through negotiations between the Saint Paul Building & Construction Trades Council and area building contractors; and

WHEREAS, As a result of these negotiations, a single salary rate is established for each building trade job class, and the rate for each class is applied uniformly throughout the community with no variation from employer to employer; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County and the Saint Paul Building & Construction Trades Council jointly established a salary formula to match the total compensation paid to Ramsey County building trades employees, with the total compensation paid to building trades employees affiliated with the Saint Paul Building Trades Council; and

WHEREAS, The salary formula is based on four components: wages; employer-paid insurance contributions; employer-paid retirement contributions; and, employer-paid time off benefits; and

WHEREAS, At the request of Ramsey County building trades employees, Ramsey County and the Saint Paul Building & Construction Trades Council updated the salary formula as described in the attached document entitled "*Agreement For Calculation Of Proposed Salary Rates For Ramsey County Building Trades Job Classes*"; and

**(Continued)**

WHEREAS, This document was approved by the Board of Commissioners on December 15, 1998; and

WHEREAS, Based on the updated salary formula and the 2009 salary rates for Carpenter, Master Electrician, and Painter positions affiliated with the Saint Paul Building & Construction Trades Council, the Human Resources Department has calculated new salary rates for the Ramsey County building trades job classes of Carpenter, Master Electrician, and Painter with effective dates for the new rates to coincide with the dates of the wage changes set by the Saint Paul Building & Construction Trades Council; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, in accordance with the Personnel Act, MN Statutes §383A.282, is responsible for determining the compensation for all employees in the Ramsey County Personnel System; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, in accordance with the provision of the Personnel Act, MN Statutes §383A.282, hereby approves the following salary rates for the building trades job classes for 2009:

JOB CLASS TITLE	FULL-TIME HOURLY RATE	PART-TIME HOURLY RATE	EFFECTIVE DATE OF NEW RATE
Carpenter	\$ 36.26	\$ 47.46	June 1, 2009
Master Electrician	\$ 49.22	\$ 62.64	May 1, 2009
Painter	\$ 34.96	\$ 45.94	May 1, 2009

COUNTY MANAGER – 2010 Census in Ramsey County

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

Commissioner Rettman said there is a lot of discussion about how much work we have going on in Ramsey County. She asked for information for how this will not cost the County and how it would be done with existing staff.

Julie Kleinschmidt, County Manager, said Policy, Analysis & Planning staff are available to provide an explanation of the plan. Every ten years, the County gets involved in helping fill in gaps for an accurate census count. The reason for having such an accurate census count is that it determines all sorts of funding streams that the County receives. It is to the benefit of County citizens to make certain we have an accurate count. The County is fortunate to have an expert staff who has been involved in past census counts. Staff will also be used from throughout the County because of the relationships with many of the people who are historically under-counted – that is what we can bring to this table.

Commissioner Rettman said we know every ten years this would be part of the County’s work plan. She asked if staffing is adjusted to do this work. Ms. Kleinschmidt responded affirmatively.

Connie Catlin, Director, Policy Analysis & Planning, thanked Ms. Kleinschmidt for that introduction about the census. She introduced Mary Karcz, Senior Policy Analyst; this would be Mary’s third census since she’s been in the County Manager’s office. Ms. Karcz brings history and experience; is good at coordinating with others internal and external to the County. We are able to utilize the resources in the community along with resources in the County Manager’s office and in the other departments.

(Continued)

Commissioner Ortega said Ms. Kleinschmidt has met with each of the Commissioners about where they are addressing the census – every county does this a little differently. He is satisfied with the approach being taken and has full confidence in staff. He wants to make sure that the Board reinforces and lets staff know, even though the budget is tight, that resources are put behind this for whatever it takes. This is about resources and money. The allocations from the federal government in terms of resources for counties and the State are based on populations, and it is critically important. We have representation in Washington at stake – we could lose a Congressional seat. He wanted to make sure that everybody is counted. Without those resources the County Manager should come to the Board because it behooves us to expend the resources necessary to count everybody.

Ms. Karcz provided highlights of the plan and updates on recent activities. The State of Minnesota and the Census Bureau are extremely active in the community right now, and have been for awhile. Ms. Karcz introduced Barbara Ronningen, State Demographers Office, who has also served on several census rounds, and is now on a two-year assignment to the Census. Amy Nafzger is the Census Partnership representative working with Ramsey County and with the homeless population and other groups. She has spent time getting the County resources and helping in other ways. Jenny Johnson and Nastecho Hirisi, two partnership assistants, will help us in the community, along with others.

It is census time again, and the decades come fast. Today the Board is being requested to approve the plan and support the census. Staff would like to develop a County Complete Count Committee to be called *The Ramsey County 2010 Census Network* – network because groups of people would be brought together, not to develop a big infrastructure – this would be a fairly short-term activity, to build for now and connect for what is real and there. The purpose is to count everybody in the County whether they are here short-term or long-term; whether they are easy to find or not – we all count.

Roles for the County are to integrate the census messages into County activities. The County does a lot in the community in every single way, and we need to integrate what we are doing with the census into our regular life, and to do it within a way that fits with the departments' work and our community partners' work; not to make it overbearing. It is also to facilitate communications between the County, the Census Bureau, the State, and the other Complete Count Committees; and to engage and try to bring everybody together. We cover a large area and can help bring some economies of scale to the discussion and complement the work being done by the State and the Bureau.

The key message is that the Census is coming – the information provided is confidential, and that is very important. No other agency may be more serious about confidentiality than the Census Bureau for the individual person's information or business information.

Help will be available to complete forms if people need it. Assistance centers will be set up, especially for communities that are not English speaking. Census staff people will be available to help translate and work through the questionnaires. It will be our job to get people to the centers. The forms should be returned by April 1, 2010; most will be returned by mail. The Bureau will also have a program for pick-up and drop-off of census forms in a box in various locations. High volume places will be identified – County facilities or other locations where people can drop them off – Human Services, workforce centers, libraries, etc. A list will be provided to the Census Bureau and they will take care of that.

Commissioner Ortega asked if County vendors and their expertise would be utilized. We have populations with cultural and language barriers.

*(Continued)*

Ms. Karcz said she would like to see work teams developed, starting initially from the ground up with work teams from the Departments who know their populations and their vendors. They would work together with a connection to the people in the community who are active now, and bring them together into a large group. She said she would work with anyone the Commissioners would want connected.

Commissioner Ortega said the language and cultural barriers are obvious, but locations are another issue. The County serves through our vendors to a lot of folks who might not be counted and not come downtown, not to Workforce Solutions or any of the usual 'doors' to the County, while they might be going to their neighborhood or culturally appropriate social service agency.

Ms. Karcz said staff would be doing what they can to connect. Workforce Solutions is close to the top of the list for contact for the County, the Census Bureau and the State in terms of important places to connect with a variety of people.

Commissioner Ortega said the vendors need to know they are part of this census – our resources depend on the count as well as their resources. They should be partners in moving forward in this. Ms. Karcz responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Carter appreciated the information provided today and the work up to this date. For every 100 people counted, this may mean a \$1 million in terms of resources that would come into our community -- for every 100 people not counted that would be \$1 million less. She supports everything that can be done to make sure there is a Complete Count within Ramsey County, knowing also that some of the census tracts, which were under-counted, were among our communities and wanting to make certain that we are able to accomplish greater accuracy of counts. Part of the reason for that are communities that are typically under-represented communities that are of different languages and have those types of barriers. She is aware that every effort is being made there. In engaging community organizations, there are some resources provided by the federal government that are available to Ramsey County that we have been able to apply for, and will receive help with events and activities to engage as many of our organizations, contractors and as many community organizations as possible. She asked what is planned to introduce this to people and that they can get engaged and work with the County and others to gain resources so that within communities the County has difficulty counting, we can get the help needed from the organizations most engaged. Are any kick-off events planned or other specific ways to get to as many organizations as possible?

Ms. Karcz said there is a timeline in overview of the plan in the documentation. There is a column headed *Census Roadmap*, which is the Census Bureau's plan and direction for the different phases. The other column is the County's planned activities. Right now, the Census is saying to prepare and mobilize. Staff are suggesting that during July through September some basic planning and development be done and to develop some type of a town hall-type big-group meeting. That hasn't yet been established. Input is welcome from the Commissioners on a multi-jurisdictional meeting to bring together the City of St. Paul, other municipalities and vendors for some basic information and communication to start building connections. It might not be easy logistically. It is critical that there are a few visible activities in the community to start the engagement. They are not a substitute for the nuts and bolts work, but are part of developing the web that brings people together.

Chair Parker suggested the Ramsey County League of Local Governments (RCLLG) as a good resource because they already hold regular meetings and have a network. Commissioner Reinhardt is the representative on that board.

Commissioner Ortega said he is all for the partnerships with the City of St. Paul and others, but the assumption is that the City of St. Paul is the basket where all the hard-to-reach folks are

located, and that is not true. Ramsey County has become very diverse in the last ten years with more growth in that area outside the City boundaries. This is very different than the Census done ten years ago. While encouraging doing whatever is needed with the City of St. Paul, to do what is needed because we are talking about the County, not the City of St. Paul.

Ms. Karcz responded absolutely. She has started getting contacts from the cities in the suburban area of folks to be assigned to work on the Census. Whatever is done in the kick-off process, it has to be done so that everybody in the suburbs and cities is empowered.

Commissioner Ortega said that is important because he has been repeating what we have done in the past, but looking forward, we need to connect with the leads and do more in that area.

Ms. Karcz responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Rettman said there is already some outreach being done by some Census workers. Are they verifying addresses? What else are they doing?

Ms. Karcz said the census activities are in two groups. One is field operations, and one is outreach. Field operations have been address checking – making sure where each residence is; whether there are any new residences and recording them. They are also the folks who will door knock if forms are not returned. The other group is the outreach group, which includes Amy and the partnership assistants who will set up Complete Count Committees, go to community events, going every place they can to bring census materials, provide information, to do training.

Commissioner Rettman said the Census Bureau had run ads for people to sign up. Are they still hiring people? Is the County's Workforce Solutions sending folks there for these temporary jobs?

Ms. Karcz said she does not know the current status.

Commissioner Rettman asked for confirmation on that. This is a little different from our outreach efforts, but she wanted to make sure that if there are opportunities, that it is being done.

Amy Nafzger, Partnership Specialist, US Census Bureau, located in Minnesota, said the first large wave of hiring has already been done to recruit assistants, to recruit address canvassers to figure out where all the structural places are where people may live, whether it is a home, condo, or a foreclosed home. Right now they are not hiring, but will be hiring this fall, when recruitment will be done for assistants and a large number of enumerators to follow-up with people who do not send back the forms.

Commissioner McDonough said in the roles for the County, it was identified facilitating Complete Count Committees. He asked for examples of other Complete Count Committees and how many there might be. He wanted to make sure we are doing all the right things to make sure we get as complete a count as possible, but not make it confusing, rather extremely organized.

Ms. Karcz said she did not have the list with her, but each of the State's four councils for minority communities have a Complete Count Committee that is working statewide. The Hmong American Partnership has established a Complete Count Committee for the Hmong community, and there are a few others – possibly twelve active in Ramsey County, or whose activities overlap. Contact has been made with some and more will be contacted. They have populations that intersect with the County's and the attempt will be made to leverage to bring them together. When there are gaps they will have to figure out how to bring them out. Human Services and Public Health will be helpful in finding the emerging areas and emerging groups that might not show up in formal reports.

Chair Parker asked if there is a Complete Count Committee for the homeless populations.

Ms. Karcz said they are in the process of starting one. A first meeting will be called shortly. After that, where it goes and who leads it will depend on who the natural leaders are. They would like to bring in Wilder Research who has been active with the ongoing homeless counts that occur in the State between censuses, and who understand where people are who are not in traditional housing. That is a very high priority.

*(Continued)*

Commissioner Reinhardt said the Ramsey County League of Local Governments is in a unique position to help with the census because it has every level of government from the school districts to the cities and the County all at the same table with a common goal when it comes to the census. That was an excellent suggestion and there will be welcoming partners with the League.

Ms. Karcz said the peak activity will occur the early part of 2010. April 1<sup>st</sup> is Census Day – after that on the County's side of the chart, we will be looking for data. The first big issue to affect us will be the information on State counts, which will come out at the end of 2010 and will tell us how many Congressional districts we would have. The odds now are that we will lose one seat by a very small amount -- about 2,000 people, and is why the count is extremely critical this year.

Commissioner Rettman asked when the counts would come out.

Ms. Karcz responded the deadline for it to come out is December 31, 2010. The second set is the redistricting data that comes out by April 1, 2011; the fine data used to build redistricting processes. Periodically after that there will be additional data releases.

Chair Parker said she had heard on the news that Congresswoman Michele Bachmann recommended that people not participate in the long form of the census; to only provide the bare minimum. What is the difference between the short and long-term and does it matter if people participate in both?

Ms. Karcz said this year there is no long form. There is only a short form; a copy is included in the documentation. The long form has been replaced by a different process called the American Communities Survey. Instead of a long form every ten years, there is an ongoing survey that builds up a more frequent data set. We get estimates every year on a lot of data. The good thing is some of the big jurisdictions like Ramsey County will get the big update. Right now, the smaller jurisdictions don't get the updates because there isn't a large enough sample size yet for them. Populations under 20,000 have not received updated information on the fine detail like education and poverty and income, etc. Congresswoman Bachmann is not arguing against the census; everybody is going to get a short form.

Chair Parker asked how long it would take an individual to complete the form.

Ms. Karcz said the estimate is ten minutes or less. It might take fifteen minutes if there is a large complex family with a few questions on each person in the household.

Commissioner Reinhardt said Congresswoman Bachmann has been soundly criticized across the board because people are required to fill out the form in an honest and open manner. The fact that this is a short form, that it takes less than ten minutes, and that it really makes a difference to what happens in our representation, and the amount of dollars that come back to the State – they are being collected and spent somewhere – the census is the basis for what comes back to meet our needs within the State of Minnesota.

Ms. Karcz spoke of the partnerships' support program, which is a census program where we could get up to \$2,995 in materials with both the County's logo and the Census' logo. A proposal has been submitted and it appears to be approved. We just need to get the design for the logo approved. They have proposed 2,000 grocery bags with the census message displayed to be distributed in County buildings, primarily Human Services and Public Health places during the February/March window. There would hopefully be additional materials appropriate for the communities who would receive them included in the bag.

Commissioner Rettman asked if the grocery bags would be made of cloth. Are those to be created in Minnesota? We are trying to stimulate the economy and get people back to work. Perhaps one of our local vendors could be used.

*(Continued)*

Ms. Karcz said she would verify information on the company, but the vendor the products are being purchased from is a local vendor.

Commissioner Rettman said everything Ramsey County has been trying to do with ARRA dollars is all about jobs and stimulating the economy. If we are to participate, she encouraged the development of systemic change.

Ms. Karcz agreed. The bags given out by the Census Bureau are made in the United States. The Project Homeless Connect events that Human Services puts together is a very impressive event where they bring together people who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness, providing them with services and one-stop activities for a day. The Project Connect people gave us a booth and the Census Bureau provided many materials. This was a very good event and an amazing opportunity to touch people who are not easy to access. These are the things staff want to keep figuring out how to do, and with the Board's help, can continue to do.

Each Commissioner will receive a bag of promotional materials from the State and the Census Bureau to use visibly, and pass along to people who would use them.

Chair Parker asked Ms. Karcz to continue to keep the Board informed, especially if dates have been set for community meetings, etc., to help spread the word.

Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Carter, McDonough, Parker – 6. Nays – 0. (2009-233)

WHEREAS, April 1, 2010, is the next Census Day, the day to count all people living in the United States, as required by the U.S. Constitution, in order to apportion Congressional seats to the states; and

WHEREAS, Census information is also used to distribute billions of federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year, to make decisions about community services, and to assist business and not-for-profit decision making; and

WHEREAS, Because achieving an accurate count is a difficult task, the U.S. Commerce Department's Census Bureau works closely with private and public sector organizations to assist people in fulfilling their legal obligations to complete the Census forms; and

WHEREAS, For 2010, the County Manager is recommending the creation of a complete count committee called the Ramsey County 2010 Census Network ("Network") that would be coordinated by County Manager staff and would bring together internal and external resources to ensure that everyone is aware of the Census date; understands that the information collected is confidential; knows how to find assistance; and remembers to return their forms on time; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County is committed to ensuring the best possible count in the 2010 Census; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners supports a complete and accurate count of people living in Ramsey County during the 2010 Census; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the Ramsey County 2010 Census Network Plan as the basis for moving forward with the 2010 Census outreach activities with the involvement of County departments; and Be It Further

*(Continued)*

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners directs the County Manager to involve County departments in the Ramsey County 2010 Census Network activities and to work with cities, businesses, and residents to participate in the Network in order to assist in these outreach activities.

#### OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Reinhardt reported:

- MarketFest is held in White Bear Lake on Thursday evenings through the end of July, 6-9 p.m.
- The I94 Corridor Commission elected a chair and vice-chair and is moving forward on by-laws and outreach to Wisconsin.
- She toured the Higher Ground Academy, which is an incredible school.
- She was appointed to the Pollution Control Agency's Metro Centroid Workgroup, which will help measure what can be done in the solid waste (garbage) area that would help reduce green house gas emissions -- what is needed in source reduction, recycling, composting and waste to energy. Information has to be provided back to the PCA and then the Legislature by January 2010. The work of this group runs through the end of August.
- On the Solid Waste Management Coordinating Board. The Waste to Energy Forum was held talking about the different types of waste to energy. A lot of innovations are coming forward.
- On the Extended Producer Responsibility – generators are people using the product – the manufacturers have to be included with some responsibilities for the product once it is out in the marketplace, otherwise there is no incentive to change.
- On the retirement party for David Claypool, the Ramsey County Surveyor for many years.
- On the Ramsey County Fair held this past week. The Fair Board put in a lot of time and effort and did an excellent job.
- Landmark Center, owned by Ramsey County, has programming provided by Minnesota Landmarks. A reenactment will be held of a trial for Evelyn Frechette, girlfriend of John Dillinger that took place in this building, which was once the Federal Court House.

Commissioner Carter reported:

- She and Claudia Brewington, County Manager's Office, attended a Rondo Days event – the Rondo Days Business Networking Luncheon, where discussion was focused on green industries. The Rondo Days Festival will be held on the grounds of the Martin Luther King Center. The Festival will be held Saturday, July 18, with the parade to begin at 10 a.m. at 60 Central Avenue.

Commissioner Rettman reported:

- On four neighborhood cleanups in her District the past weekend. Unpaid volunteers worked in the alleys, used as attractive nuisances for dumping of a variety of things. She commended district councils and Dayton's Bluff for making sure that which could be recycled, was recycled.
- On information fairs and rib judging that she participated in. Public Health information and other outreach materials were provided.
- On the well attended two-day Hmong Festival, now called International Festival.

#### BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

Chair Parker reported:

- On the Regions Hospital Ribbon Cutting event for their new facility.

*(Continued)*

- On the grand opening of the new St. Jude Medical Center in Little Canada. 2,000 people were hired last year, and it is anticipated that an additional 1,000 people would be hired this year. This is a LEED Certified building.
- On a tour with the St. Paul Riverfront Development Corporation, including the area along the Mississippi River with walkways and parks along both sides.

ADJOURNMENT

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Session was called to order at 10:50 a.m. with the following members present: Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker – 6. Absent: Bennett – 1. Also present were Julie Kleinschmidt, County Manager; Darwin Lookingbill, Director, Civil Division, County Attorney's Office; Tom Ring, Assistant County Attorney; and David Metusalem, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Office.

Re: Flores v. Albee et al.

Commissioner Rettman introduced the following resolution and moved its approval, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker – 5. Nays – McDonough – 1. (2009-234)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Ramsey County Commissioners authorizes the Ramsey County Attorney to proceed with a settlement as discussed in this Executive Session.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

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Bonnie C. Jackelen, Chief Clerk – County Board