

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met with the following members present: Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman and Chair Parker – 7. Absent: None – 0. 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 Reinhardt moved approval of the Agenda of the September 1, 2009 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Ortega. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Ortega moved approval of the Minutes of the August 11, 2009 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Carter. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0.

NON-AGENDA

The following individuals joined Commissioner Carter at the podium: Sharon Cross, Public Health; Kristin Kinney, Workforce Solutions; Barb Dahl, HIRED; Julie Ann Zeuli, Community Human Services; Patricia Yates, Workforce Solutions; Boyd Brown, Goodwill/Easter Seals; and Alicia Smith, American Indian Family Center, joined Commissioner Carter at the podium, partners with Workforce Solutions in this accomplishment for young partners. Other partners in the audience were also recognized.

Commissioner Carter said that at its annual conference earlier this month, the Minnesota Workforce Council Association recognized Ramsey County for its innovative Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) Services for Young Parents program.

Ramsey County received a \$1,225,789 performance bonus for meeting MFIP goals on both the TANF Work Participation Rate (WPR) measure and the Self Support Index (SS Index) measure. One-half of the total bonus was awarded for each measure. The bonus has been included in the MFIP consolidated fund allocation for 2010.

The goal for the SS Index is to reach a rate within or above an expected range of performance set by the Department of Human Services for each county. The expected range of performance for Ramsey County was 0.606-0.627. We achieved a rate of 0.614, which is within the expected range. This is the second consecutive year the requirements for this measure were met.

In 2003, with the support of the County Board, Workforce Solutions, Community Human Services, and Public Health worked together to develop an evidence-based program designed to improve outcomes for teen parents on MFIP. Employment services practices were merged with public health nurse home visiting services for pregnant and parenting teens and their children to promote school attendance, address health needs, and improve parenting skills. Financial workers are paired with public health nurses to ensure communication.

Culturally specific services for American Indian teen parents are provided through the American Indian Family Center in collaboration with CHS/financial assistance staff and public health nurse. Services are delivered in the community at a variety of schools, in the home, at employment service provider location and financial assistance offices.

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In January 2009, young parent services were expanded when HIRED was selected to provide customized age-appropriate education and job search services, as well as parenting classes, and mentoring opportunities for older teen parents who have graduated from high school or chosen the work option in MFIP.

During the summer of 2008 and 2009, Workforce Solutions, Public Health and Goodwill/Easter Seals developed a paid work and career exploration program for teen parents. The summer program provided experience dealing with workplace responsibilities and challenges. A number of the teens improved school attendance and progress knowing it would increase the change of participating in the summer program.

In 2003, the high school graduation rate of teen parents on MFIP in Ramsey County was 33%. In 2008, the high school graduation and GED completion rate of the teen parent population was 64.2%.

Along with increasing graduation rates, improving health and developing parent skills, goals include reducing the incidence of long term dependence on public assistance, reduce subsequent births, and reducing the personal costs to young parents and their children.

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS – Recovery Act: Workforce Investment Act Dislocated Worker Services

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-270)

WHEREAS, The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (“ARRA”), which was signed into law on February 17, 2009, includes funding for the federal Department of Labor (“DOL”) for employment and training services under the Workforce Investment Act (“WIA”); and

WHEREAS, The federal Department of Labor has held a portion of the ARRA Stimulus funding in reserve for the funding of National Emergency Grants (“NEG”) for dislocated worker services when there are a large number of workers being laid-off in the same industry and/or company; and

WHEREAS, In Minnesota, NEG funds must be applied for by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (“DEED”) and the funds are then vended out to areas where the dislocation events have or are occurring; and

WHEREAS, DEED applied to DOL requesting funding through ARRA Stimulus funds National Emergency Grants to cover the cost of serving two major industries affected by the current economic downturn in the state: the technology industry and the automotive industry; and

WHEREAS, The application was approved and the State of Minnesota received funds for dislocated worker services to these two industries; and

WHEREAS, DEED has identified NEG funds for Ramsey County to provide dislocated worker services to both industries: \$559,086 for Ramsey County to provide dislocated worker services to Celestica, a technology company located in Arden Hills; and \$131,301 for Ramsey County to provide dislocated worker services to identified Ramsey County employers in the automotive industry; and

WHEREAS, Funding from the NEG for services to Celestica and identified Ramsey County employers in the automotive industry will replace previously allocated dislocated worker funding from the State of Minnesota for services provided on and after February 17, 2009; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to accept and expend American Recovery and Reinvestment Act National Emergency Grant funds through the federal Workforce Investment Act for dislocated worker services to Celestica and to identified employers in the automotive industry; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to negotiate and execute any amendments to the existing sub-grantee service agreements with current program vendors consistent with the Program Year 2008 Local Plan modifications previously approved by the County Board and by DEED, subject to prior 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 any necessary budget adjustments.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – Second Amendment to Agreement with Bob Kelly Programs

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-271)

WHEREAS, A vendor that was providing domestic abuse services for a significant number of probationers has scaled back their services in this area; and

WHEREAS, The Community Corrections Department wishes to amend the Agreement with Bob Kelly Programs, LLC to accommodate the increased number of offenders being referred to Bob Kelly Programs, LLC; and

WHEREAS, The Community Corrections Department intends to issue a Request for Proposals for domestic abuse services in 2010; and

WHEREAS, The funds are available in the existing Community Correction's budget to cover the cost of the increase; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves changing the end of the term to December 31, 2010, and increasing the not- to-exceed amount to \$60,000 for 2009 and \$60,000 for 2010 for the Agreement with Bob Kelly Programs, LLC, 7034 Goodview Avenue South, Cottage Grove, MN 55016; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to execute the Amendment and any additional amendments, in a form to be approved by the County Attorney; and Be It Further

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

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – Agreement with The Center for Effective Public Policy

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-272)

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The Community Corrections Department previously entered into an Agreement with The Center for Effective Public Policy to develop a policy structure to guide responses to violations of probation according to best practices for the Juvenile Division; and

WHEREAS, The Community Corrections Department wishes to enter into a second agreement for the same services for the Adult Division; and

WHEREAS, The funds are available in the existing Community Correction's budget to cover the cost of the agreement; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve an Agreement with The Center for Effective Public Policy, 8403 Colesville Road, Suite 720, Silver Spring, MD 20910, a non-profit agency, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 for the term of the Agreement, October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010, to develop a policy structure to guide responses to violations for probation for the Adult Division; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to execute the Agreement and any amendments, in a form to be approved by the County Attorney; and Be It Further

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

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Ramsey County Care Center – Medical Director

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-273)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Care Center is required to have a medical director (42 Code of Federal Regulations 483.75(I)); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Michael Spilane has served in that capacity since August 8, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spilane has provided excellent service to the residents of the Ramsey County Care Center; and

WHEREAS, The requested action is to extend the agreement with HealthPartners Medical Group for Dr. Spilane's services at the rate of \$1,000 per month; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves Dr. Michel Spilane to serve as the Medical Director for the Ramsey County Care Center, at the rate of \$1,000 per month, for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2013; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to approve and execute the agreement, in a form to be approved by the County Attorney, with HealthPartners Medical Group, 8100 34th Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55425, for Dr. Michael Spilane to serve as the Medical Director for the Ramsey County Care Center.

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COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Adolescent Services

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-274)

WHEREAS, Hennepin County and the State of Minnesota are partnering with Ramsey County to offer a full day of workshops for foster care residents and foster care families; and

WHEREAS, The titles of the sessions are: Tell It Like It Is; It's Who You Know; Milestones; Relatively Speaking; Can You Relate; and Independent City for the Youth, and Getting Solid and It's Relative for the foster care families.

WHEREAS, The purpose is to provide hands on peer-to-peer training for youth who are transitioning out of foster care. The workshops are designed to help youth share their story for advocacy and awareness; build skills in networking to gain employment and career opportunities; reflect on and document one's life milestones; building strength through resiliency; build skills for safe and healthy relationships; and for foster care families to understand the complexity of relationships with biological families for transitioning youth; the critical role biological families play in youth's view of permanence; understand permanence and the role it plays for youth; and learn strategies to help youth identify and develop relationships with supportive adults; and

WHEREAS, It is expected that over 130 foster care residents and 40 foster care families will attend and benefit from the sessions; and

WHEREAS, Funding will come from the Minnesota Department of Human Services as part of the annual SELF grant for services to individuals aging out of foster care residences and launching into adulthood; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve an agreement with Foster Club, 753 First Avenue, Seaside, Oregon 97138, to conduct training workshops for foster care residents and their families, in an amount not to exceed \$14,500; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to execute an agreement in a form to be approved by the County Attorney's Office.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Early Intervention – Coordination of Services with School Districts for Children with Disabilities

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-275)

WHEREAS, Since 1994, Ramsey County and the six public school districts in the County have operated an office that provides a single point for central intake and coordination of services for children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, This effort has improved the delivery of services and has achieved high levels of family satisfaction; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, This service is funded primarily with federal dollars, plus a smaller amount of money from the school districts and Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, Since 1998, Ramsey County has served as the designated Local Primary Agency for this effort; and

WHEREAS, The responsibilities of this designation are to:

- Facilitate the development of the annual application for funding submitted to the State of Minnesota;
- Provide oversight for data collection efforts; and
- Be the central location for the referral of appeal requests from families; and

WHEREAS, The agreement would extend Ramsey County as the Lead Primary Agency for another year; and

WHEREAS, The agreement is with the Mounds View and St. Paul School Districts since they are serving as the fiscal host for the federal dollars that are distributed to support this effort and

WHEREAS, The Mounds View School District serves as the administrative host for all the suburban Ramsey County School Districts for this program; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the agreements with Mounds View School District, 350 Highway 96 West, Shoreview, MN 55126, and St. Paul Public Schools, 360 Colborne St., St. Paul, MN 55102, to serve as the Local Primary Agency for the Interagency Early Intervention Program for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreements.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Vulnerable Adult Services – Structured Decision Making

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-276)

WHEREAS, The Structured Decision Making tool has been utilized in children and family services for over 10 years; and

WHEREAS, Among the benefits has been more consistency in decisions among workers and earlier focus on essential factors that can lead to improved outcomes; and

WHEREAS, There have been efforts to develop a similar tool for vulnerable adult case work; and

WHEREAS, Two states – New Hampshire and California - currently use this tool throughout their entire service system; and

WHEREAS, The benefits include the earlier identification of risk factors for individual vulnerable adults and a decrease in the incidence of maltreatment reports; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Community Human Services Department proposes to develop and implement this system by customizing an assessment tool for Minnesota's regulatory environment; and

WHEREAS, The anticipated benefits specifically for Ramsey County include increased safety of vulnerable adults through a decrease in maltreatment, plus a significant increase in the identification of overall needs leading to improved planning and resource allocation; and

WHEREAS, It would also provide consistency in provision of service in the event seasoned staff left this service area and less experienced staff filled those positions; and

WHEREAS, Numerous counties are interested in developing this tool; and

WHEREAS, The Community Human Services Department is discussing the possibility of joining other counties in an agreement with the National Council for Crime and Delinquency, the national expert in designing these tools for vulnerable adults; and

WHEREAS, The agreement will either be directly with NCCD or through Olmsted County's contract with NCCD; and

WHEREAS, The expense would be a one-time cost of \$13,000 and an annual maintenance fee of \$2,500; and

WHEREAS, Funds are available in the approved Community Human Services Department budget; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve an agreement with the National Council for Crime and Delinquency, 426 South Yellowstone, Suite 250, Madison, WI 53719, for the development of a Structured Decision Making tool for vulnerable adult services, in the amount of \$13,000, plus the annual maintenance fee of \$2,500, for the period November 1, 2009 to October 31, 2010; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to execute the agreement in a form to be approved by the County Attorney and Budgeting and Accounting.

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Appointments to the Capital Improvement Program Citizens Advisory Committee

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-277)

WHEREAS, In accordance with the County's Open Appointment Process, a press release was distributed seeking applicants to the Ramsey County Capital Improvement Program Citizens Advisory (CIP) Committee for vacancies in Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; and

WHEREAS, The CIP Committee is comprised of fourteen members; two from each Commissioner District; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Four applications have been received, all from the incumbents; and

WHEREAS, Remaining vacancies will be advertised in future press releases; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints the following individuals to the Capital Improvement Program Citizens Advisory Committee, for terms beginning with the date of appointment and ending August 30, 2011:

APPOINTEE	TERM EXPIRATION
District 1 Keith Warner 4173 Thornhill Lane Vadnais Heights, MN 55127	August 30, 2011
District 2 Faith O'Neill 2551 Fry Street Roseville, MN 55113	August 30, 2011
District 3 Greg Lauer 1526 Arona Street St. Paul, MN 55108	August 30, 2011
District 7 Gary B. Unger 1847 Idaho Avenue E. St. Paul, MN 55119	August 30, 2011

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Appointment to the Parks and Recreation Commission

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-278)

WHEREAS, In accordance with the County's Open Appointment Process, a press release was distributed seeking applicants to the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS, The Parks and Recreation Commission is comprised of nine members; one from each Commissioner district and two at-large positions; and

WHEREAS, Vacancies exist in District 3 and one at-large position; and

WHEREAS, An application was received from the at-large incumbent, and the vacancy for District 3 will be re-advertised in future press releases; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints the following individual to the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Commission for a term beginning with the date of appointment and ending June 1, 2012.

(Continued)

APPOINTEE
Philip M. Jenni
472 Portland Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55102

TERM EXPIRATION
June 1, 2012

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

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-279)

WHEREAS, There are currently three County vacancies on the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) in the categories of One-Stop Partners (currently in process), Labor (1 vacancy) and Economic Development (1 vacancy); and

WHEREAS, One individual has applied to fill the labor opening; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints the following individual to the Workforce Investment Board for a term commencing with the date of appointment and ending on July 31, 2011:

To Represent Labor

Mary Dahlquist, Regional Labor Federation, Labor Resource Center

PUBLIC WORKS – Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Business Development/Infrastructure Application for funding of the Trunk Highway 36/Rice Street interchange reconstruction

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-280)

WHEREAS, The Business Development/Infrastructure Application (BDIA) is the mechanism through which agencies are allowed to apply for Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) grants under several programs, including the Bio-Science Business Development Public Infrastructure Grant program; and

WHEREAS, St. Jude Medical currently employs over 2,300 people in Minnesota and will provide approximately 600 more jobs after the planned expansion to its Corporate Headquarters and other facilities in the Trunk Highway 36/Rice Street interchange area over the next three to five years; and

WHEREAS, St. Jude Medical relies heavily on good access to the highway system for the distribution of its products as well as its employees' routes to work; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) representatives advised the Public Works Department that it is appropriate to apply for partial funding of this interchange project under the Bio-Science Business Development Public Infrastructure Grant Program due to its strong ties to the needs of St. Jude Medical; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The Public Works Department has prepared a grant application in the amount of \$1.5 Million based on discussions with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) representatives; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Public Works Department to submit the Business Development/Infrastructure Application, in the amount of \$1.5 million, to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign the Declaration that is part of the Business Development/Infrastructure Application; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign the Local Government Resolution, which is also part of the application, authorizing the County Manager to execute necessary agreements and amendments to implement the project on behalf of Ramsey County.

PUBLIC WORKS – Amendment to Agreement with TKDA for the Warner Road Bridge Project at Childs Road

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-281)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County is preparing plans for the reconstruction of the eastbound Warner Road (CSAH 36) bridge over Childs Road and various railroad tracks in the City of St. Paul; and

WHEREAS, The public involvement process has identified the need for grade-separated pedestrian crossings at the access ramps from Childs Road to Warner Road which has increased the affected project area requiring additional services; and

WHEREAS, Amendment No. 1 to PW2008-20 includes the additional tasks to be completed by the design consultant, TKDA, Inc.; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves Amendment 1 to PW2008-20 with TKDA for additional professional services required on the Warner Road Bridge project at Childs Road; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute Amendment 1 to PW2008-20 on behalf of the County; and Be It Further

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

INCREASED ESTIMATED REVENUE

2009 17304 550880 00000 314617 CSAH Engineering Fee Reim P033276 \$83,100

TRANSFER TO/INCREASE APPROPRIATION

2009 17304 550880 00000 442109 Warner Rd Eastbound Bridge P033276 \$83,100

(Continued)

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes a cash loan in the amount of \$83,100 from the General Fund to the Road and Bridge CIP Fund until receipt of participating funds.

COUNTY MANAGER/BUDGETING AND ACCOUNTING – Capital Improvement Program 2008-2009 Budget Amendment

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-282)

WHEREAS, County Board Resolution 2007-413 and 2008-394 both approved \$2,655,000 in the 2009 Capital Improvement Plan as Potential Projects; and

WHEREAS, County Board Resolution 2009-135 allocated \$1,553,400 of the \$2,655,000 Potential Projects money to the Disaster Recovery Computer Center leaving \$1,101,600 for Potential Projects; and

WHEREAS, The County Manager recommends amending the 2008-09 Capital Improvement Program Budget by transferring the remaining \$1,101,600 of Potential Projects budget to the RCGC – West Relocation Project, Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the amendment of the 2008-2009 Capital Improvement Program Budget by transferring the remaining \$1,101,600 of Potential Projects budget to the RCGC – West Relocation Project.

COUNTY MANAGER/BUDGETING & ACCOUNTING – Monthly report of contracts and final payments and grant submissions that were approved during the month of July 2009

Commissioner Carter introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-283)

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

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

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

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the Report of Contracts and Final Payments and Grants for the month of July 2009.

(Continued)

HUMAN RESOURCES – Renewal of Metropass Agreement with the Metropolitan Council

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

Commissioner Rettman asked if the level of participants is down from previous years. Out of 3,000+ employees, it seems that 313 is a miniscule amount. This always comes in during a budget process, and every time she has tried to cut it, finds it has already been taken up for the budget process. Even if \$100,000 of revenues is being used, there are competing needs for citizens. This is wonderful for the participant, but it is a subsidy. Metro Transit makes monthly passes available to anyone. She will be consistent on her vote for this.

Jim Grieman, Human Resource Manager-Benefits, said the ridership budgeted for last year was 323; this is down ten from last year. The ridership fluctuates based on gas prices, and a few riders were lost when some employees moved to the Plato Building.

Commissioner Reinhardt said this is discussed during the budget process. It is already included in the 2009 budget and would be discussed during the 2010-2011 budget process. This is not any different than other budget items as to how it comes to the Board.

Commissioner Rettman said she got a written response last year that because the agreement is with Met Council, once it is signed, if the revenues can't be used other revenues would have to be found. The documentation states that parking revenues from the Government Centers East and West are being used for this. If the County gets out of the West Building, what revenues are available to make that up?

Mr. Grieman said there is no plan yet for how to budget this if the County moves from the West Building.

Commissioner Reinhardt said the 2010-2011 budget proposal is to be heard next Tuesday. Regarding the plan to move out of the West Building, the County would not be out of the building before this contract would be complete.

Commissioner McDonough said he will vote for this agreement, but when the budget is presented, he would like a sense on where the County stacks up with the other 200+ public and private agencies – 313 seems a small number of the County's workforce. He has always had some concerns with the amount of dollars put into this that benefits so few employees. Are there other things that do a better job that are available to a wider range of employees than what this particular program provides? He would like to know how the County stacks up, how we are doing with other organizations that participate. He believes in the concept of the program, but it doesn't necessarily mean that works in every place depending on the type of employment, where people are working, what we are asking for our employees. If we are willing to get involved in helping to support transit and subsidize it, we should have that broader conversation.

Commissioner Carter said she would support this agreement today. She has similar concerns. She recognizes that we help employees in a variety of ways, even to drive to work, it is important to help employees to take transit to work to the extent that it makes sense – one size doesn't fit all. This program may never reach out to the majority of individuals within Ramsey County. A discussion is needed on other ways of encouraging transit. She will support this and welcome a broader discussion on how we can do that.

Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Bennett, Parker – 6. Nays – Rettman – 1. (2009-284)

WHEREAS, The Metropass Program, operated through the Metropolitan Council, is an all-you-can-ride discounted bus card that is good throughout the metropolitan transit system, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County has participated in the Metropass Program for the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, The current Metropass Agreement that went into effect on October 1, 2007, for a 12 month period, includes the option to renew for additional 12-month periods; and

WHEREAS, The current 12-month renewal period under the Metropass Agreement expires on September 30, 2009; and

WHEREAS, The County continues to believe that the Metropass Program is a key ingredient in reducing traffic congestion and pollution in Ramsey County; and

WHEREAS, The Metropass Program provides a potential benefit to all of the County's employees, and is consistent with the County's efforts to be a Model Employer; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the renewal of the Metropass Program for a one-year period effective October 1, 2009, at a monthly amount of \$76 per participant, in accordance with the renewal terms in the current Metropass Agreement; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves an increase in the employee cost from \$34.50 per month to \$41.50 per month for a Metropass for the period from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to fund the County portion of the Metropass Program with parking revenues from the Ramsey County Government Centers East and West; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to execute the renewal letter amendment to the Metropass Agreement and any subsequent amendments to the Metropass Agreement during the one-year term of the renewal, and to make any additional budget adjustments or employee contribution adjustments that are necessary.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Chemical Dependency Services

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

Commissioner Rettman said she received some information this morning from Kurt Koehler, Planner, Chemical Dependency Services, Community Human Services. She asked if these grant dollars would restore any of our case managers. Mr. Koehler responded negatively; this is all contracted service.

Commissioner Rettman asked if this is replacing some of our FTEs with contracted services. Mr. Koehler responded negatively. This program has always been provided primarily through contracted services. There is one case manager who works in Detox, which has been unaffected by changes in the service.

Commissioner Rettman said the legislature changed some of the guidelines. Some of the information provided states that some cut services are being 'reconstituted' and adding new ones. Does that mean there will be new beds, or is this all about case management. Mr. Koehler responded that this is all about case management.

(Continued)

Commissioner Rettman requested confirmation that this moves back to a bigger array of services for the individuals being served, not adding more beds, and therefore not getting into the concentration issue.

Mr. Koehler said the Department does want to increase the number of clients, but keep the caseloads low – the number of clients per case manager, not the number of clients receiving case management because they got such great outcomes out of the original program. The program has been compromised in recent years because of changes in Minnesota 25 where they had attempted to bill services to the consolidated fund through their providers, but is no longer billable since changes took place a year ago. This is an opportunity to restore some of the funding to be able to pay those counselors for their time, and keep caseloads down. This is not for bed space.

Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-285)

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Human Services is seeking proposals to support innovative projects which will address the multiple needs of individuals with chronic alcoholism or drug addiction and who are homeless; and

WHEREAS, The goals of this RFP are to:

- Improve the safety, dignity and general quality of life of program participants, and
- Reduce the program participants' use of jails, detoxification centers, and hospital emergency rooms; and

WHEREAS, Since January 2006, the Community Human Services Department has attempted to provide case management for residents of Rule 31 licensed treatment services through funding from Ramsey County's allocation from the state Chemical Dependency Consolidated Treatment Fund; and

WHEREAS, Legislative and rule changes in July 2008 prohibit concurrent funding for case management and formal chemical dependency treatment from the Consolidated Fund; and

WHEREAS, As case management services can reduce detox admissions and emergency room utilization, these changes have decreased the continuity of care needed to improve functioning and avoid deep end service costs; and

WHEREAS, The Community Human Services Department is preparing an application in response to this RFP to provide through currently contracted agencies and community partners, re-established and new capacity for chemical dependency case management and treatment support activities that are not covered by the Consolidated Chemical Dependency Treatment Fund; and

WHEREAS, The amount requested in the application will be \$600,000 for the 18 month period of January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011; and

WHEREAS, There will be the option for an additional eighteen (18) month funding period depending on applicant outcomes and funding availability; Now, Therefore, Be It

(Continued)

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes submission of a grant application to the Minnesota Department of Human Services for chemical dependency case management and treatment support activities not covered by the Consolidated Chemical Dependency Treatment Fund, in the amount of up to \$600,000; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to accept the funds and approve and execute any contracts, in a form approved by the County Attorney, to implement the chemical dependency case management and treatment support services.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Tamarack Nature Center – Amendment No. 3 for Additional Professional Services

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

Commissioner Rettman said this is about jobs. If we are getting the money, it is important to talk about the jobs being created.

Greg Mack, Director, Parks and Recreation, said the total project for Tamarack Nature Center (TNC) is about \$12 million. To date, about \$2 million has been secured from State grants to allow the County to do the first couple of phases, the Children's Garden, the Nature Play Area, and the Garden House. Those have been funded through \$745,000 State bond appropriation. The additional appropriation was through the Constitutional Amendment Legacy Fund at \$1,095,000. The Department is prepared to bring forward to the Board contracts within the next month to proceed with those. There would be work under contract by the end of the year. The County may be well-ahead of the curve in the Legacy Fund. The Department just received a contract to come before the Board next week from Met Council to do these. Because the County had the design money from the Institute of Museums and Library Services, they were able to do the pre-design, and move right into this project.

Chair Parker clarified that the Legacy Fund is the fund established through the voters in favor of the Constitutional Amendment. Some of that money is coming back into our community to fund this project.

Commissioner Rettman said Commissioners are very proud of Tamarack. It is important for people to know that if they voted on something where it is going, that jobs will be created for a play space in a nature setting. She would talk later about the gifts portion of this project.

Commissioner Reinhardt gave kudos to staff and the community. The TNC is in Commissioner Bennett's district but close to her backyard. Her kids participated there when there was just a mobile home set-up. This is an incredible place for adults and children. She thanked all the people involved in bringing this forward because this is a gem in our community.

Commissioner Rettman said staff will solicit gifts for the Center; no new FTE is being created. She said she is thrilled that the Department is continuing the policy set by the County Board in how people give gifts, how the gifts are monitored, and how the financial documentation for any gifts are given. It is critical that a stringent system has been set up to account for every dime. The 501(c)(3) option cited in the documentation was also presented by Peter Bell in his work with the Parks Foundation. If a large amount of money is charged for administrative costs, she asked Mr. Mack to come back to the County Board.

Commissioner Bennett said this is a great project, which serves Ramsey County and neighboring counties. It is located in White Bear Township, at the corner of County Road H2 and Otter Lake Road.

Chair Parker asked how someone would make a contribution to Tamarack Nature Center.

(Continued)

Mr. Mack said the Tamarack Gift Fund would be the most logical approach. There are a number of elements that would enhance the capital funding that the State has provided. Individuals can contact him, and he would put them in contact with Mary Vidas, Director, Tamarack Nature Center, to come up with what is the best gift for them based on their means. This has been structured with multiple levels ranging from \$50 (though they can go below \$50), to several thousand dollars, depending on people's interest, all to support the first two phases listed in this documentation today.

Chair Parker asked if County employees through charitable giving could indicate this as something to donate to.

Mr. Mack said currently under the Ramsey County Service Fund, there is giving to TNC with payroll deduction opportunity, but that is specifically for scholarship and program services, not for the capital items to be purchased here. But, he encouraged employees to do that. Also included in the Ramsey County Service Fund is the Mighty Kids Program, the skating program.

Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-286)

WHEREAS, By Resolution 2008-044, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved an agreement with Partners & Sirny, L.L.P., 121 West Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55404, for professional design services to provide design development of key destinations identified in the Tamarack Nature Center Destination For Discovery Master Plan, including the Nature Play Area and Children's Garden; and

WHEREAS, The Agreement was subsequently amended (Amendments No. 1 and No. 2) to include an Eco-Arts assessment, preparation of construction documents for the Nature Play Area and Children's Garden (excluding the Garden House) and construction administration of a portion of the project; and

WHEREAS, State Legacy Amendment funding in the amount of \$1,095,000 has been approved for the Tamarack Nature Center Destination for Discovery project and will be received by the County through grants administered by the Metropolitan Council; and

WHEREAS, Previous funding levels limited the project activities to construction of only a part of the Nature Play Area and Children's Garden; and

WHEREAS, The additional funding allows the Parks and Recreation Department to complete construction of the Nature Play Area and Children's Garden, and proceed with design and construction of the Garden House; and

WHEREAS, Partners & Sirny has performed the professional services under the Agreement in a timely and satisfactory manner; and

WHEREAS, It is in the County's best interests, based on design continuity and project economies, to continue the services of Partners & Sirny and increase the scope of the professional services to include construction administration of the entire Nature Play Area and Children's Garden and all services for the design and construction of the Garden House; and

WHEREAS, The additional cost of professional service fees is \$65,000, increasing the total contract amount from \$261,856 to \$326,856; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Funding for services under Amendment No. 3 is provided from grants from the State of Minnesota and from the Institute of Museum and Library Services previously approved by the County Board; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves Amendment No. 3 to the Agreement between Ramsey County and Partners and Sirny L.L.P. 121 West Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55404, in the amount of \$65,000, for professional architectural services for the Destination for Discovery Project at Tamarack Nature Center, increasing the total contract amount from \$261,856 to \$326,856; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign Amendment No.3, subject to prior approval by the County Attorney's Office.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Tamarack Nature Center Destination for Discovery Fund Development Plan

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

Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Bennett, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-287)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the Tamarack Nature Center Destination for Discovery Master Plan and authorized preparation of design, development and construction documents for the Nature Play Area and Children's Garden; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County has received grants from the State of Minnesota totaling \$1,840,000 for Phase Ia of the Destination for Discovery consisting of the Nature Play Area and Children's Garden; and

WHEREAS, Phase Ib (Early Learning Center) will be eligible for funding under the Legacy Amendment in 2011 and beyond; and

WHEREAS, State grants may fund the basic elements of the projects, supplemental funding through gifts and donations can enhance the project making it a truly unique and special place; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Parks and Recreation Department to solicit gifts for the Tamarack Nature Center Destination for Discovery project to supplement the current capital project Phase Ia and finance elements of Phase Ib, Phase II and associated program services; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the donor recognition guidelines for the Tamarack Nature Center Destination for Discovery project; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager, upon review as to form by the County Attorney, to approve and execute an agreement with the Regional Park Foundation of the Twin Cities to serve as fiscal agent for donations to the Tamarack Nature Center Destination for Discovery project for donors seeking a 501(c)(3) option.

(Continued)

COUNTY MANAGER/PROPERTY MANAGEMENT – Extension of Volunteers of America Building Lease for Woodview Detention Center

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

Commissioner Rettman said she would not support this continuation. When the Board made the decision to expand the Correctional Facility to accommodate women, we had said we would move out of the VOA and terminate the contract. She believed the County was to put this land back on the market or work with Roseville to put it back on the market and get it back on the tax rolls. This is a beautiful piece of property off Larpenteur Avenue near a dog park and wetland, near Linder's Garden Center, on the walking trail. The VOA has been given notice of two or three years, while the County cobbled together the money to do the changes at the Workhouse. She appreciates the \$150,000 a year rent, the same paid over the past five years, however, it does not put the property back on the tax rolls, where she believes this prime piece of property should be placed.

Commissioner Reinhardt believes all Commissioners agree with that; however, the market is such right now that it would be very difficult. The commitment has always been to get this property back on the tax rolls. She would support this extension today. There was a lot of discussion about what that amount should be, and the reality is that today, in this market, this is something we can get the same funds in as in previous years; we can get out of the contract once we decide we want to, or when there are other opportunities available. She did not view this as backing away from the commitment, but as long as we do have this and there are no other opportunities to do something different, that this is money that can come in to help us as there are other cuts going on. She wanted to assure Commissioner Rettman of the Board's commitment.

Commissioner Ortega agreed. This Board is very committed to moving forward to make this piece of property available for development or something else. He has spoken with members of the VOA. Given their current situation in terms of their federal contracts and the time they need to make the appropriate adjustments for other facilities, it behooves the Board, as stated about the current economic times, that we allow them to move forward. They understand that this is the final contract; they did not get the reduction they wanted and will pay the same amount. We have 90 days to allow them to move out. He had suggested to them that they need to move quickly on their plans – they may come to the Board to say they are moving out ahead of time. He assured Commissioner Rettman that this Board is committed to that. The VOA is a non-profit, and serves people who need assistance.

Chair Parker agreed. The two-year extension to the existing agreement is reasonable. She also agreed that we need to be in discussion with the City of Roseville and talking with the community about what the future plans are for that space, which is a very nice piece of property.

Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Bennett, Parker – 6. Nays – Rettman - 1. (2009-288)

WHEREAS, On March 18, 2008, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved a renewal to the building lease with the Volunteers of America ("VOA") for the Woodview Detention Center, for the period of January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009; and

WHEREAS, On June 23, 2009, in a Ramsey County Board Workshop, the VOA presented and discussed an offer to extend the current lease; and

WHEREAS, Staff has worked with the VOA to structure a lease extension with the following terms:

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- Two (2) year extension with an option to renew for an additional two (2) year period upon a six (6) month written notice of such intent.
- Ninety (90) days termination clause.
- Annual rent of \$150,000, \$12,500 monthly; and

WHEREAS, The County Manager and Property Management are requesting Board approval on the Eighth Amendment to the Lease with VOA for the Woodview Detention Center, for the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011, at a cost to VOA of \$150,000 per year, at a rate of \$12,500 monthly, with an option for renewal for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the Eighth Amendment to the Lease with Volunteers of America of Minnesota, 1771 Kent Street Roseville, Minnesota 55113, for the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011, at a cost to VOA of \$150,000 per year, at a rate of \$12,500 monthly, with an option for renewal for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the Eighth Amendment to the Lease for the Woodview Detention Center on behalf of Ramsey County, subject to prior approval by the County Attorney's Office, Property Management, and Budgeting and Accounting; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the option to renew the Lease for the Woodview Detention Center on behalf of Ramsey County, subject to prior approval by the County Attorney's Office, Property Management, and Budgeting and Accounting.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT – RCGC West Relocation Project – Purchase of Metro Square Building, St. Paul MN

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

Commissioner Bennett said he is curious to hear if the County Attorney's Office had any comments to make today. He is concerned about getting the due diligence completed within the 30 days.

Commissioner Reinhardt said it is actually more than 30 days. The reality, just as with any other contract is, if the Board doesn't feel it has the information, we can try to get an extension, with a cost likely associated. The final vote on this would be October 6. There is a lot of work to do in the meantime. There is a commitment to work with the County Attorney's Office and the other folks that have to move, to make sure that this will work. Commissioner Ortega, Chair of the Facilities Committee, has been working with the County Attorney's Office so that we can get this done and fulfill our commitment as a Board. Every Commissioner wants to make sure our employees are able to do their work in the best way possible. Moving forward, she looks at this as any other contract would be – if we determine we need more time, then we will go back to figure out how to get that time. For now, there are some constraints, but with the amount of time that we have, the discussions that have taken place, she is confident we will be able to work things out.

Commissioner Ortega said he met with Chair Parker, the County Manager, and County Attorney Susan Gaertner yesterday. The intent of this Board was to move forward to consult with all departments and to look at this opportunity, which is a good one, and make it workable. How do we

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make it happen -- that is what the 30 days due diligence is for. It is not just about making sure that the building mechanicals are good, but about how we facilitate the type of move. In the options laid before the Board, this was the best option. For the second best option, the difference was very small and the cost would have been very high. We have to move out of the West Building – this is not the time to pause after emptying out half the building. We should move forward on that. We will address most, if not all the issues. We faced very similar circumstances with the Plato Building when moving the Property Records and Revenue staff, and that was very successful. At the least, we need to take a good look at a good opportunity. It would be folly not to move forward to investigate this because the opportunity is here now. We have until October 6 to find out if this is feasible, but we are not there yet.

Chair Parker said it was a very productive meeting yesterday. During the next month, we are going to be looking carefully at the use, not just the West Building, but the people located here – is this the best office location for everyone – are there some changes that could be made at this time? We have evolved over the past several years to fit the functions to the buildings; the buildings that have the best public access for the functions that need more public access. This is what will take place during the next month – not just the needs of the County Attorney’s space, but other space needs of other departments and employees, as well as talking to the City and Courts to possibly make other changes.

Susan Gaertner, County Attorney, said she wanted to address initially the due diligence period as she had expressed to those present at the meeting yesterday. She has some concerns about getting appropriate data pulled together within 30 days, but they will do their best. By appropriate data, she is talking about trying to quantify what portion of her staff absolutely needs to be in very close proximity to the Court House because of the function that they perform. When looking at the cost of this building, it is very imperative, in her view, that part of that calculation be lost productivity that would result from any portion of her staff that either perform the litigation function or support the litigation function being at that distance from the Court House. She has been quite clear that they cannot do their job effectively if that far away from the Court House. They will do their very best within the next 30 days to quantify which portion of staff needs to be much closer to the Court House than Metro Square, and what portion can be located in Metro Square, and what business changes they can make in the work they do to accommodate this move.

Commissioner Ortega said he didn’t want to reiterate the discussion yesterday on the points of agreement. After that meeting, he followed up in terms of the extension for 60 days, and they turned us down, basically due to the fact that it would cost them more money after which we would have to renegotiate the whole deal. Rather, after speaking with Jolly Mangine, Director, Property Management, we would move forward, and if at that point we needed more time, then we would renegotiate.

Commissioner Ortega said it had been agreed that it was very hard for either the County Attorney’s Office or any of us on how to get to this productivity issue, and how to make the work processes or changes to fit better. We agreed to hire a consultant; somebody who would look at how to make that work flow. The County Attorney and County Manager will address that issue to obtain a consultant to help with that process. At the very least, we might come out with a much better product about how to do this. He wanted Ms. Gaertner to know that all the pieces talked about at the meeting were followed-up to try to push this forward. He would have preferred 60-days or 90-days.

Commissioner McDonough said he would not support this. It is not the right place – a half-hour round trip for potentially over 100 employees every day is not productive, and that needs to be built into this. The other solutions proposed as far as the due diligence will still cost us money. There will be fragmenting of the County Attorney’s Office that becomes more inefficient for the operations;

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there will be potential solutions to acquire cubicles close to the Court House to deal with some of the issues. He believes these are inefficient ways to deal with the issues, for a lot of the same reasons the Board extended the lease at Woodview. He is a strong supporter of getting out of the West Building and off the River – he has believed in that for a long time. But, there is no sense of urgency here and we are trying to make something fit that doesn't fit or work. We have time to make things work extremely well. Anybody who we potentially might not include in that facility, which is large enough to include everybody, means we have to lease out space to utilize the space there. It is like anything in real estate, it is location-location-location, and he thinks this is a bad location for the County Attorney's Office; it will dramatically affect the efficiency and operations of that Office; and we can do better than this site.

Commissioner Reinhardt said there is a commitment to making this work. When moving the jail off the River, some of the same concerns were brought up about transportation – very different than the County Attorney's Office, but a commitment was made then to work through those issues to make sure that it worked for the Sheriff, and we were able to do that. The Board has made a commitment, and we will abide by that commitment to making sure that this works. There are many different options. Commissioner Ortega is working with the County Attorney's Office and other departments to make sure that we can work those things through. The move to the Plato Building involved issues as well that had to be worked out. She would like to go forward, investigate this to see if it can work. The difference in time absolutely has to be included. Right now it is ten minutes round-trip; we're talking 24 minutes round-trip – those minutes matter, and it is productivity, and making sure the right people are at the right place, and that was talked about. It is important, and it is part of the evaluation.

Commissioner Reinhardt reiterated that this isn't the final vote. The due diligence and all the requested information has to come back to the Board – that is part of the action being taken today. If the Board doesn't like the answers, we can walk away and get our money back. She doesn't see any reason not to at least investigate it. If it doesn't come back the way she wants it, she doesn't have a problem voting against it, but we need to get the answers and figure out how we can do this, because we know and have seen the numbers on this. She believes the difference between \$10/square foot and \$18/square foot, and the revenue coming in, are worth investigating and will save the taxpayers of Ramsey County a whole lot of money, if it comes back as it is projected. If it doesn't, we can say no, but let's get the answers. If it is good, as it appears on the surface before doing all the due diligence, then let's find that out either way.

Commissioner Rettman said she has not always felt that we have had a great track record in property – we buy high and sell low. She said that has been deplorable, and her vote has reflected that. This doesn't make a whole bunch of sense. What was left out of this packet is how the numbers stack up on this building. The reality is that we are at a tipping point in the West Building whereby some money would have to be put into the building to keep the employees there in decent standards – not elegant standards, but adequate standards. The majority of this Board said we would get off the River and put the property back on the tax rolls. We have had developers come in with promises and fade away. In front of the Board today is a building that if we don't do something then we have to put money in – that is good money after bad. Something has to be done on the West Building. One option left out of the packet before the Board today is one that would be displacing affordable housing and she would not be a part of that. If looking at the numbers, and doing due diligence, the taxpayer would be held harmless in the \$274,000+, but, we get 246 rented parking spaces, a dollar amount at the end, plus the ability to put the riverfront property up for sale and back to the tax rolls. None of that is part of this equation. This equation is based on the dollar amount of the \$4 million that we would pay for it, the revenue of the bonds, of the renovation to make it decent

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standards that our employees expect to be productive. That is what this is about. The location is not about creating another Active Living aspect. The public defenders do the same thing every day; other stewards of the court do this every day. Mr. Mangine has stated he was more than willing to work with Commissioner Ortega and the Chair to find a work space so individuals wouldn't have to go back to their office. She believes this is the wiser decision in getting off the River. Otherwise, she would see a budget amendment coming in shortly to do some things in the West Building because it is at the tipping point. She believes this is the right decision at this moment in time.

Chair Parker said in the discussion with the County Attorney yesterday, we were not talking only about the "hotel" kind of option for the County Attorney. We are talking about some people who it does make sense to locate here. That was an impression before, that it was the only option that might be available, and we have made a commitment to find a mix of all the options.

Commissioner Rettman asked if that includes the East Building.

Chair Parker responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Bennett said he didn't know the West Building was off the market. He assumed that offers could still be made. He also wants to get rid of the West Building. He asked for clarification on the consultant to study the cost factors for ongoing operating costs if that move were made.

Commissioner Ortega said the consultant would study work processes, the productivity issues.

Commissioner Bennett asked if that should be included in the resolution.

Commissioner Reinhardt said she thought it was included.

Commissioner Ortega said the County Manager's word is good.

Commissioner Bennett said he thought that those drawing up the resolution would make sure that is included.

Commissioner Rettman said the option is to mitigate the potential impact on the County Attorney's Office and as long as it is under a certain amount.

Commissioner Bennett said his biggest objection is that we always look at the price of a building, but we also have to look at the next ten years, because we have to pay employees to walk back and forth. If that cost is going to use up all the savings we would have made on the building, then it is not a good deal. We made the Law Enforcement Center work, but spent about \$1.5 million putting in a sally port and have deputies traveling back and forth at the salaries they are making, plus we could have saved some of the safety factors had it all been combined. In this case, we are not talking about safety factors, but we are talking about some highly paid people, and they need to be in contact with their office. If this can be worked out by October, his vote may be yes.

County Attorney Gaertner wanted to introduce a dose of realism to the conversation.

Commissioner McDonough was correct that this is a serious blow to the productivity to the County Attorney's Office, and to their morale. People in her office deeply care about the citizens they serve and when there is an impediment in their ability to do so, it is very difficult. She has expressed concerns, and remains concerned that within the next 30+ days that they can in any intelligent way, quantify the loss to productivity, or even quantify how many people need to be in the Court House or in immediate proximity to it. A consultant doing any kind of credible job within 30+ days is unrealistic. Respectfully responding to Commissioner Rettman's comment comparing her office's function to the public defender's office, she said it represents a lack of understanding of the complex function of her office and the citizens it affects – that is an apples to oranges comparison. When you think about all the hours that will be spent going back and forth between this building and the Metro Square building by her staff, if an appropriate resolution is not reached, it is really a waste of taxpayers' money. She is also concerned about the speed within which this decision is going to be made because staff input is going to be critical to this endeavor. If splitting up her office, leaving some staff in or in immediate

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proximity of the Court House, and moving some in Metro Square, there is going to have to be extensive staff involvement in deciding exactly what that looks like in order to best serve the public.

Commissioner Reinhardt said the discussions on this Board have been in the best interest of providing the best service at the best price for the taxpayers as a whole. There is no difference between that and what the employees are talking about. They have just as much dedication and sincere desire to serve the people the best way we possibly can. The reality is we are moving out of the West Building. It is not going to be exactly the same. There are other issues to look at, and we need to explore those. We need to get as many answers as possible. There are differences with every department. Did things work out perfectly with the Law Enforcement Center -- we ended up paying more because we were unable to act quickly enough. We have acted obviously within the State's statutes that allowed for this negotiation. This was not a secret meeting. It was run diligently, and Gary Davis did a great job in making sure it was done correctly to allow us to have this negotiation and work through this. The purpose behind that was to get the best possible outcome for the services we provide and for the taxpayers. She does not see any reason not to explore that. In the end, she believes we will be able to meet that requirement that we are all committed to. We serve the constituents of Ramsey County and want to do it in the best way possible. That means there will be a change because we will not be in the West Building anymore. She agreed with Commissioner Rettman – putting good money in after bad, which we would have to do, makes no sense. We need to figure out a solution. It makes sense to move forward, but there are going to be changes because we are not going to be in that building anymore. For a lot of people, that is good news because the building is not in good shape. There is a reason we are trying to get out of the building.

Commissioner Reinhardt said to insinuate we have lesser standards or goals, is inaccurate and we do have the commitment to moving this forward. We are also taking into consideration the productivity, trying to work through all these issues in a very diligent manner. We need to do that and get answers rather than hunches.

Commissioner Rettman said she has a great deal of respect for the County Attorney's Office. She also has a great deal of respect for the Corrections Department, Information Services and all the folks in the West Building. Not all may be expressing their concerns, but this is going to take a year and a half. The due diligence is one thing. All the issues need to be day-lighted, not just those of the County Attorney's Office. Major financial decisions have been made to do more with our with our IT department, to make sure we have that seamless technology available. We have made huge commitments over the past few years and in the next few years, which is part of this. She was thinking of productivity aggregately. The decision of due diligence and for the consultant was not just for 30 days; it is an ongoing one. Mr. Mangine will listen to every issue and try to accommodate those. The Board gives Mr. Mangine parameters with instructions. Right now, it is this building. Once the decision is then comes the ancillary work for every department, not just one. She believes that was done with Property Records and Revenue, Veterans Services, Public Health and others when they moved, so it would be no different.

Commissioner Carter thanked County Attorney Gaertner for bringing to the Board the concerns of her office. It has been stated in different ways that those are the concerns that were discussed seriously as the Board looked at making the recommendation to move forward on this offer to purchase. The assessment that will occur within the next 30 days will reflect that concern, and already planned, would engage the County Attorney's Office to the extent possible to ensure that the concerns can be addressed appropriately. It was not without taking into account operational concerns and concerns of morale and support that County Attorney Gaertner's staff and others might have as we move forward. She would vote in support today, recognizing that there are choices we

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are making now that would prohibit choices that could be made later, but that with a year and a half to move forward, and with this small due diligence period, to take into consideration the County Attorney's Office and other departments' concerns and issues will be cared for. That is of great concern to the Board and will be a matter that will not be ignored.

Chair Parker said in the 30+ days during this due diligence, it is important to say that one of the things we will be looking at is whether it makes sense that for the 3000+ employees that could be working in this building productively -- is it a healthy building – would the work done there be too expensive? During this time we will be sorting through all of that. We have a high standard for the work environment for our employees. We want a healthy building, a healthy location, and energy efficient, which are all things we will be looking at to see if we can work it in to something that can meet our standards.

We will look at not just the existing West Building employees but will be looking broader than that. The decision being made today to enter into a purchase agreement is a commitment to explore the issue further. As Commissioner Reinhardt stated, this is not the final vote. In 30+ days we can vote 'no' if we don't think it will meet our needs. We are entering into a purchase agreement for something that looks like it worth exploring.

County Attorney Gaertner expressed appreciation to the Board Chair, Chair of the Facilities Committee, and the County Manager for taking time to meet and listen to her concerns. Regarding the previous comment about change, she assured the Commissioners that her staff is resilient and deals constantly with change. This is not about a fear of change; it is about a fear of not being able to serve the public that they care deeply about. She is not aware of a County Attorney or District Attorney's Office in this country that is not located in the Court House or within very immediate proximity of the Court House. There is a reason for that; they need to be near the work they do. She has pledged that within the next 30 days she will explore, in as much detail and as in a responsible way as possible, what the productivity costs would be from this move and how to ameliorate those. She will work with the Board, but wants to make certain that work results in an understanding of the complex functions of the County Attorney's Office and how many would be affected by this change.

Chair Parker said the Board appreciates Ms. Gaertner's willingness to work on this issue. The Board commits to working with her to make certain a good solution is found for everyone.

Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, Ortega, Reinhardt, Rettman, Parker – 5. Nays – McDonough, Bennett – 2. (2009-289)

WHEREAS, On August 21, 2009, in an executive session, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorized staff to negotiate ownership of the Metro Square Building, St. Paul, Minnesota ("Metro Square") and directed staff to return to the Ramsey County Board with a draft purchase agreement for the purchase of the Metro Square and to work with the County Attorney's Office to prepare options to mitigate the potential impact of moving to the Metro Square; and

WHEREAS, The County Manager and Property Management negotiated a purchase agreement with LNR Partners Incorporated for the purchase of the Metro Square Building located at 121 7th Street East, St. Paul, Minnesota for \$4,000,000; and

WHEREAS, The following are some highlights of the attached purchase agreement between Ramsey County and LNR Partners Incorporated:

- Earnest money of \$400,000 (fully refundable during the 30 day inspection period).
- Inspection period of 30 days.
- Closing on or before October 9, 2009; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The tentative financing plan for the RCGC-West Relocation Project, including the purchase and remodeling of the Metro Square, and relocating the remaining staff is as follows:

\$ 1,101,600	Amended 2008-2009 Capital Improvement Program Budget which assign the remaining Potential Project dollars to the RCGC - West Relocation Project
\$ 4,950,000	2010 – 20 year General Obligation Bonds
<u>\$14,640,605</u>	2011 – 20 year General Obligation Bonds
\$20,692,205	Total; and

WHEREAS, The purchase of the Metro Square Building would allow Ramsey County to relocate the remaining departments in the RCGC-West building and vacate the building; and

WHEREAS, The County Manager and Property Management are requesting the Ramsey County Board to authorize and approve the draft purchase agreement for the purchase of the Metro Square; authorize the County Board Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the final purchase agreement, subject to prior approval by the County Attorney's Office, Budgeting and Accounting, and Property Management; County Manager to make all necessary payments and budget adjustments, and execute contracts and agreements related to the purchase of the Metro Square, within the \$1,101,600 allocated to the RCGC-West Relocation Project; and direct staff to return to the County Board with the final purchase agreement; a due diligence report; total purchase, remodeling, and operational costs; a project schedule; and a financing plan, before the closing; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes and approves the draft purchase agreement for the purchase of the Metro Square for the purchase price of \$4,000,000; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign and deliver the final Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Property on behalf of the County, subject to prior approval by the County Attorney's Office, Budgeting and Accounting and Property Management; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to execute and deliver on its behalf all necessary documents required by or deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of the Agreements for Sale, Purchase of Property, and due diligence reports subject to prior approval by the County Attorney's Office; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to make all necessary payments and budget adjustments, and execute contracts and agreements related to the purchase of the Metro Square, within the \$1,101,600 allocated to the RCGC-West Relocation Project; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby directs staff to return to the County Board with the final purchase agreement; a due diligence report; options to mitigate the potential impact on the County Attorney's Office; total purchase, remodeling, and operational costs; a project schedule; and a financing plan, before the closing.

(Continued)

PUBLIC HEALTH – Update from Public Health on H1N1

Rob Fulton, Director, St. Paul-Ramsey County Department of Public Health, provided this update. Mr. Fulton said things continue to change and he wanted to bring the Board and public up to date.

In June 2009, there was a peak in H1N1; when school was finished, the spread of the flu has significantly quieted down. When school begins again, it is anticipated that H1N1 will once again be seen. There are four basic possible scenarios: 1) it would just go away; 2) it could return like the seasonal flu but not be widespread; 3) it could return like the seasonal flu and be widespread; or 4) it could return in a different form that would be widespread and create more deaths. Up to this time there have been three deaths in the State of Minnesota attributed to H1N1. There have been close to 500 deaths in the U.S. Normally, with the seasonal flu, we see about 600 deaths in Minnesota and about 36,000 deaths in the U.S. Those deaths are primarily in older people who have other conditions. Most deaths we see in seasonal flu come from elderly people. Where it makes the newspapers is when children die.

Mr. Fulton said they are testing as vaccine under production; that vaccine must go through a series of tests. There are people who have already received that vaccine and are test subjects. They will be screened and their blood tested again to see if they have developed antibodies from this vaccine. The completion of those tests is expected in September; by that time it should be known if there is any efficacy of the vaccine. We will have some knowledge if one or two doses will be needed. There will be some understanding of the interplay between the seasonal flu vaccine, developed for this winter flu season, and the H1N1, to see if there are any unusual circumstances by people getting both vaccines.

The expectation is that there will be a vaccine for H1N1 that will become available mid to late October; each week thereafter there would be about 10-20 million new doses being produced. The seasonal flu vaccine begins production in January of each year; therefore, the production of seasonal flu vaccine is almost completed at this time. Some shipments have already been received. One piece of advice is that anyone who is at their primary care physician's office should get the flu shot.

The Minnesota Department of Health is recommending that people get their seasonal flu shot as soon as possible. Flu vaccines don't kick in immediately. Once given, antibodies must be developed within the body, which could take three to four weeks. That will also be true of the H1N1 vaccine. About 45 million doses of the vaccine should be released mid October and distributed by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to those areas that most need it. If the vaccine has efficacy and if it is released there will be plenty of vaccine over time. Shipments could still be received in January and February. Not everyone will get the flu at the same time.

The CDC has established some priority for who should get H1N1 vaccine first. The highest priority is for pregnant women. When a woman is pregnant their general immunization levels go down, they are not able to resist disease as well because of what is going on with their pregnancy. It appears there has been some increased hospitalization and mortality of pregnant women with H1N1 than normally seen with the seasonal flu. The second priority will be children younger than 6 months of age. Health care and emergency medical services personnel are next, followed by person between the ages of 6 months and 24 years of age. This flu has impacted disproportionately those people who are younger. There is some belief that older persons have some antibodies from growing up in the 40s and 50s when H1N1 was the standard flu. This is a different strain of H1N1 but there may be some immunities that remain from the other flu we got as children. The last group is those people age 25 through 64 years of age who have a chronic health disorder. If there is a shortage of the vaccine the priority groups become narrowed.

Commissioner Carter asked for the implications for public health services at WIC clinics or home visiting in terms of opportunity to refer or have a vaccine, etc.

(Continued)

Mr. Fulton said that question would be answered a little later.

Mr. Fulton said that when we talk about the public health approach to a large scale virus, there are a number of things they look at: surveillance - the State has set up a very active surveillance system. There is a reporting system for schools whereby every school reports absentee rates when they get above 5%. The State will also monitor hospitals. Vaccination – how can we get the vaccinations out? The State is focusing on primary places that give childhood vaccinations, such as the clinic system, hospital systems and pharmacists, who can give vaccines. We will meet with all the clinics and hospitals to assure that they are ordering sufficient supplies of the vaccine. The County's clinics will also be doing vaccinations.

Chair Parker asked why schools are not used to give vaccinations. Mr. Fulton said medical information is needed prior to giving the vaccination and not all children will know the answers. They are looking into using the school sites during events such as parent/child programs. Additionally, there have been school closures.

Another area is how well we communicate information to the public. Rather than staying home for 14 days if you got the flu in school; one now needs to stay home for 24 hours of being fever free without using a fever-reducing medication. It is not based upon a specific time period but rather based upon being fever-free. Fever is the key component of determining whether a sore throat is from a common cold or a virus. If a fever is present, it is more likely a virus.

The State has done a nice piece for schools to give to parents that includes a symptom chart. Keeping children at home creates problems at worksites. Ramsey County has a continuity of operations plan.

Mr. Fulton said ARRA funds will be forthcoming to assist with this; about \$400,000 will be received spread over 12 equal payments beginning October 2009. Public Health Emergency Response funds will also be made available; these are emergency response funds from the federal government.

Commissioner Rettman asked if those funds would come directly to the County. Mr. Fulton said the funds go to the State and the State is allocating it based upon how they allocate public health emergency preparedness money.

Commissioner Rettman asked if the formula is being changed. Mr. Fulton responded that the formula is not being changed. A plan will return to the Board on how to use those dollars.

Mr. Fulton said they are working with the Community Clinics to make certain everyone has access to H1N1. Generally clinics receive vaccine directly from the State. One nice thing about H1N1 vaccine is that it is free vaccine – the federal government is paying for it all. Clinics will be allowed to charge an administrative fee. The Department will work closely with them to determine how to handle it with people who cannot afford the administrative fee. They will work with all the hospitals, schools and clinics in the County to ensure they have up-to-date information. The immunization plan will be updated. Communication is very important; the web site will be up to date. He will meet with the City of St. Paul Department Heads.

Commissioner Rettman referred to the phone line that was dedicated to H1N1 and asked if it would be reactivated. Mr. Fulton said it will come back on, but he does not know the timing.

Commissioner Ortega asked if there will be any barriers to folks receiving the vaccine. Mr. Fulton said no, as long as the person fits the established categories.

(Continued)

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Reinhardt reported:

- She attended a fundraiser for the Ramsey County Care Center Foundation. They are doing an excellent job; she is proud that the community and care providers have shown their support. On behalf of the Board, she thanked everyone in attendance.
- Governor Pawlenty reappointed her to the Clean Water Council, where she serves as Vice-Chair. Much work is being done on behalf of the recently voter-approved constitutional amendment and how it affects clean water.
- The Eastern Transportation Alliance met; updates were provided on Central Corridor. There are many hurdles in each transportation project. This group has provided a strong voice for the entire east metro area.
- Requested additional information on surplus dollars from the Republican National Convention going to housing and homelessness.

Commissioner Rettman reported on:

- The Metropolitan Mosquito Control Board – the budget shows a 5% reduction and was approved unanimously by the MMCB.
- She represented the Board at the training session for the Combined Charitable Campaign Department Coordinators. These employees and as well as all employees who donate to these worthy causes deserve thanks.

Commissioner McDonough reported:

- The Project Office received the Record of Decision, which sets us up to receive the Letter of No Prejudice which allows the spending of project dollars.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Bonnie C. Jackelen, Chief Clerk – County Board