

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met with the following members present: Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega (late), Reinhardt, Rettman, and Chair Parker – 7. Absent: None. 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 Rettman moved approval of the Agenda of the November 17, 2009 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Reinhardt, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Carter moved approval of the Minutes of the November 10, 2009 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Rettman. Roll Call: Ayes – Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Reinhardt, Parker – 6. Nays – 0.

[Commissioner Ortega arrived at this point of the meeting.]

COUNTY MANAGER – Approval of a Conservation Easement Agreement for the Union Depot with the United States Postal Service

Commissioner Rettman introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-389)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority is purchasing portions of the Union Depot from the United States Postal Service (USPS); and

WHEREAS, USPS is required to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act in the sale of the property; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 84C provides for a Conservation Easement to be held by a party other than the owner to meet the requirements of the Act; and

WHEREAS, it is to the County's and RCRRA's benefit that the easement be held by an agency familiar with the project; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners accepts the Conservation Easement for the Union Depot from the United States Postal Service; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chair to execute the Conservation Easement for the Union Depot from the United States Postal Service.

PUBLIC WORKS – Negotiated Settlement, Parcel 15, White Bear Avenue Right of Way Plan

(Continued)

Commissioner Rettman introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-390)

WHEREAS, White Bear Avenue from County Road D to Radatz Avenue (SP 62-665-44, SP 62-665-48) and County Road D from Flandrau Street to White Bear Avenue (62-619-30 and 62-596-04) are construction projects in the 2009-2013 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to be constructed in 2009 and 2010; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 2009-173 authorized Ramsey County to acquire permanent and temporary easements necessary to reconstruct White Bear Avenue and County Road D; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County had offered the owner of Parcel 15 the amount of \$427,800 for permanent, temporary and retaining wall easements and damages on that parcel; and

WHEREAS, The owner of Parcel 15 has accepted a negotiated settlement of \$551,565; and

WHEREAS, The Director of Public Works recommends the County accept these negotiated settlements; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves payment in the amount of \$551,565 for right of way consideration on Parcel 15 of the White Bear Avenue and County Road D reconstruction projects.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES/PUBLIC HEALTH/COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – Local Collaborative Time Study (LCTS) 2010 Spending Plan for Countywide Projects

Commissioner Rettman introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-391)

WHEREAS, The purpose of this action is to approve the countywide projects to be partially funded with Local Collaborative Time Study (LCTS) dollars; and

WHEREAS, The Local Collaborative Time Study (LCTS) enables local public agencies to earn federal reimbursement through the title XIX Medical Assistance (MA) and Title IV-E Foster Care Out-of-Home Placement programs; and

WHEREAS, Federal law requires LCTS revenue to be used to expand prevention and early intervention services for at-risk children and families; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County LCTS Partnership Board was established by the partner collaboratives to coordinate distribution of funds to the respective collaboratives; and

WHEREAS, Under the allocation formula agreed to by the Partnership Board, 9.47% of LCTS earnings are distributed to “countywide” programs; and

WHEREAS, For the year ending June 30, 2009, LCTS net earnings totaled \$1,363,671, with countywide programs receiving an allocation of \$129,139; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Leadership Team – composed of the representatives from Community Corrections, Community Human Services, and Public Health – recommends that the (SFY) 2010 LCTS funds be allocated entirely to the Ramsey County All Children Excel (ACE) program; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the distribution of Local Collaborative Time Study funds for 2009, in the amount of \$129,139, to support the Ramsey County All Children Excel (ACE) program; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to make the necessary budget adjustments and to enter into contracts necessary to implement the Countywide Plan for Local Collaborative Time Study dollars.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Lake Owasso Residence

Commissioner Rettman introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-392)

WHEREAS, Lake Owasso Residence and the Ramsey Care Center have secured cost effective pharmaceutical services and products from Omnicare of Minnesota over many years; and

WHEREAS, The Care Center purchases from Omnicare through its membership in the Care Choice Purchasing Cooperative; and

WHEREAS, Lake Owasso will hold a direct agreement whereby products will be discounted 14-30% below Average Wholesale Price (AWP) plus \$3.65; and

WHEREAS, Omnicare has provided to Lake Owasso Residence a customized packaging system for medication that lessens the possibility of errors occurring when dispensing; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Omnicare will provide a medication observation system, computerized medication administration records (MARS) and quarterly medication administration certification training to LOR staff at no extra fee; and

WHEREAS, The proposed agreement is for a three-year period, not to exceed \$10,000 annually; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the agreement with Omnicare of Minnesota, 5534 Lakeland Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55429, for the purchase of pharmacy products that are needed and prescribed by medical personnel, for the period of July 31, 2009 to June 30, 2012, in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 annually; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to sign the agreement.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Child Protection Services – Family Group Decision Making

Commissioner Rettman introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-393)

(Continued)

WHEREAS, Family Group Decision Making is a method of involving the entire family, including relatives, in planning for the future of children in the child protection system; and

WHEREAS, The Community Human Services Department has successfully utilized Family Group Decision Making for five years; and

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Human Services has released a Request for Proposals to expand the use of Family Group Decision Making; and

WHEREAS, The Human Services Department and community partners have prepared a proposal to request additional funds to increase the use of Family Group Decision Making with African American, American Indian, and Hispanic/Latino families; and

WHEREAS, The methods used for expanding Family Group Decision Making will be to train Emergency Social Services and Intake staff to utilize these techniques, in essence earlier in the Department's involvement in the family's circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Three goals will be measured: 1) the reduction in racial and ethnic disparities; 2) reduction in the period of out of home placement; and 3) the level of engagement of fathers and paternal relatives; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves the submission of the proposal to the Minnesota Department of Human Services for \$250,000 for Family Group Decision Making to expand its utilization in Ramsey County, with a focus on African American, American Indian, and Hispanic/Latino families; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Director of Community Human Services to sign the application; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to accept funds awards and to enter into agreements to implement the expansion of Family Group Decision Making.

EMERGENCY SERVICES – Support H.R. 3837 amending the Homeland Security Act of 2002

Commissioner Rettman introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Rettman, Bennett, Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Parker – 7. Nays – 0. (2009-394)

WHEREAS, The primary stated purpose of homeland security grants is to upgrade the capability of local units of government to prepare for, respond to, recover from and mitigate against disasters related to acts of terrorism and other causes; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County has been the recipient of several such grants in the past; and

WHEREAS, The United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has issued guidance that prohibits the use of homeland security grant funds to maintain capabilities purchased with homeland security grant funds, with the result that any capability that we enhance using these grants can only be maintained by general funds; and

(Continued)

WHEREAS, On October 15, 2009, a resolution was introduced in the U.S. House (HR 3837) clarifying federal law and allowing homeland security grants to be used to support homeland security capability enhancements at the local level; and

WHEREAS, The Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers, the Metropolitan Emergency Managers Association and others are urging Congress to pass this legislation; and

WHEREAS, The National Association of Emergency Management, International Association of Emergency Managers, the National Governors Association, and the National Association of Counties, are currently considering their formal endorsement of HR 3837; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby supports HR 3837 that clarifies federal law and allows homeland security grants to be used to support homeland security capability enhancements at the local level; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes County representatives to work with the Legislature, the Congressional delegation and other interested parties to support HR 3837 and seek such other legislation as necessary to enact this proposal.

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Rettman:

- Reported on a wrap-up Charitable Giving Campaign event held this morning as a thank you to all those who participated in the Campaign, which had been led by Kathy Henderson and Bruce Thompson. Giving was down slightly this year, but \$109,000 was raised by employees through payroll deductions and other fund raising events.

Commissioner Reinhardt:

- Cited GiveMN.org <http://givemn.razoo.com/> with approximately \$500,000 coming into non-profits and foundations. Between 8 a.m. today and 8 a.m. tomorrow some portion of donations made will be matched, with no charge for handling fees.
- On Sundays, Landmark Center will host a variety of events. Each Commissioner will be invited to introduce the events. Last Sunday she introduced the Rose Ensemble which had a Hawaiian theme. Each sign within the facility now reads "Landmark Center, a Ramsey County Property".
- Reported on a meeting called by Senator Franken with some of the east metro communities, including Maplewood and North St. Paul; County issues of transit and transportation were discussed among others. Senator Franken said he knew the Union Depot was the only project from Minnesota. They talked about Central Corridor, I-94, Rush Line, Red Rock and the importance of moving the Central Corridor forward. Commissioner Reinhardt presented on health care reform and what it means to our communities, including the Workhouse and eligibility of inmates in the facilities, and uncompensated care and that extra burden. Also mentioned was that Ramsey County is the only fully developed county, site of the State Capitol and the clustering of non-profits, putting us in a unique situation; that we have some challenges that are not there for other counties with an expanding tax base.
- Reported on the House bonding tour and the Senate bonding tour.

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- A joint fire training facility is being developed in Maplewood on the border between Ramsey and Washington Counties. The departments are from all across the east metro. This is an exciting project for what it means in keeping our fire fighters within the community during training. More information will be provided at a Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) meeting. This will be developed at the old Minnesota Department of Transportation site at Century and Highway 5. A lot of environmental cleanup has to occur at that site.

Commissioner Rettman said she met with the HRA staff for preparation of a meeting on December 1. The ERF (Environmental Response Fund) dollars were designated only for environmental cleanup, and this involves petroleum contaminants. To get bonding money, the potential of other dollars has to be identified for part of the cleanup.

Chair Parker reported:

- Chair Parker said she and Commissioner McDonough attended the maiden voyage of the North Star Commuter Rail on Friday night. There was a celebration with dignitaries in attendance, the head of the Federal Transportation Administration (FTA), both US Senators, many Minnesota Senators and State Representatives. It was a very festive event.

Commissioner McDonough said Friday was a busy day. Peter Rogoff, FTA Administrator, was in town for the day. He was given a tour of the Union Depot and brought up to speed on that project. FTA has some money in that project; we have \$50 million from the highway department; our application is in with the FTA for the final grant, so this is a well-highlighted project, bringing all the departments together to move that project forward. Administrator Rogoff was impressed with the Union Depot. Then they took a bus tour of Central Corridor, pointing out all the issues along that line; talked about the stations; the University; and how to keep the project going forward. They had a meeting in the project office to go through all the Central Corridor work. It was a great opportunity to educate the FTA about this project, and they are very supportive of it. They took a bus to Big Lake where they got on the North Star and traveled to Target Field.

Chair Parker said the train holds 700 people. The train was full, mostly people from the northern stretch of the corridor that were ecstatic about this event. Yesterday was the first day of regular operation and the train was at 70% for the goal of ridership.

Commissioner McDonough said there were 2400 riders, and hoped that by the end of the year there would be 3400.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Bonnie C. Jackelen, Chief Clerk – County Board