

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Carter (late), McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt and Chair Bennett – 5. Absent – Parker and Rettman - 2. Also present were David Twa, County Manager, and Darwin Lookingbill, Director, Civil Division, County Attorney's Office.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

Commissioner Reinhardt moved approval of the Agenda of the February 27, 2007 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Ortega. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0.

MINUTES

Commissioner Ortega moved approval of the Minutes of the February 20, 2007 Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0.

PROPERTY RECORDS AND REVENUE – Application for Exempt Permit – Lawful Gambling – Bingo and Raffles

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-088)

WHEREAS, On January 23, 2007, Ramsey County received an application from the Otter Lake Elementary School Parent/Teachers Association (PTA) requesting a premises permit that would allow the PTA to conduct a raffle and bingo on April 20, 2007, at the school; and

WHEREAS, Since the property is located in White Bear Township, Minnesota Statutes 349.213 requires the County Board to approve the application by resolution before the Minnesota Gambling Control Board will issue a premises permit or bingo hall license; and

WHEREAS, The PTA is requesting that the County take such action; and

WHEREAS, The application process allows the County to:

- 1) Approve the application with no waiting period;
- 2) Approve the application with a 30-day waiting period; or
- 3) Deny the application;

Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has reviewed the application from the Otter Lake Elementary School Parent/Teachers Association requesting a premises permit, and approves the application with no waiting period; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to sign the application on behalf of the County.

*(Continued)*

PARKS AND RECREATION – Regional Park Grant – Battle Creek Regional Park

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-089)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has approved a Capital Improvement Program and master plan for regional parks; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Council funds acquisition of properties within the regional parks; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Council has provided a grant to reimburse Ramsey County for the county funds used in the purchase of parcel #5, Battle Creek Regional Park; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby approves Grant Agreement SG-2006-107, Battle Creek Regional Park, between the Metropolitan Council and Ramsey County; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute Grant Agreement SG-2006-107 on behalf of Ramsey County.

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Appointments to the Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-090)

WHEREAS, The Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties performs an important function in providing anti-poverty services in Ramsey and Washington Counties; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors is the governing body for the Partnership, sets agency policy, and prioritizes all services and programs; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors consists of fifteen members; one-third community members representing the poverty sector, one-third private sector, and one-third public sector; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County appoints three representatives to the Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties; and

WHEREAS, At a County Board Workshop on February 20, 2007, the Ramsey County Board preliminarily decided to appoint three Commissioners to the Board of Directors of the Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties for an interim period of time; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby appoints the following Commissioners to the Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties, beginning February 27, 2007:

Commissioner Toni Carter  
Commissioner Jan Parker  
Commissioner Janice Rettman  
Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt (alternate)

PUBLIC HEALTH – Lease for St. Paul – Ramsey County Department of Public Health – WIC Program at 1075 Arcade Street, St. Paul, MN 55106, in the Hmong American Partnership Building

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-091)

WHEREAS, The Saint Paul-Ramsey County Department of Public Health - East Side WIC (Women, Infants and Children) clinic has been located at 1275 Magnolia (Arlington Hills Presbyterian Church) in St. Paul for over 15 years; and

WHEREAS, 3,000 participants per month were initially served at this location which has grown to 6,000 participants per month; and

WHEREAS, To most efficiently utilize staff and other resources, the McDonough WIC clinic located at 1544 Timberlake Rd, St. Paul, MN 55117, which serves about 1500 families/month, will be closed and combined with our current East Side clinic; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves a 60-month lease for 3,000 square feet of office space with Hmong American Partnership at 1075 Arcade Street, St. Paul, MN 55106, from March 1, 2007 through February 28, 2012, in the amount of \$218,520 (five-year term); and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the final lease agreement, subject to approval by the County Attorney, Budgeting and Accounting and Property Management; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to amend the lease agreement and make necessary payments, budget adjustments and execute contracts to cover expenses related to furnishings, telecommunications, and other unforeseen costs not to exceed \$60,000 to be funded from the Public Health WIC grant.

PUBLIC HEALTH – Lease for St. Paul – Ramsey County Department of Public Health WIC Program at 1276 University Ave., St. Paul, MN in the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Building

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-092)

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, Saint Paul-Ramsey County Department of Public Health WIC Program has previously been housed in the Catholic Charities St. Paul Building, from 1996 until February 2007; and

WHEREAS, During that time, the WIC Program has more than doubled the participants seen monthly from 1996 to 2006; and

WHEREAS, Beginning March 1, 2007, the WIC program has agreed to pay rent to Catholic Charities for a larger space to accommodate the larger caseload; and

WHEREAS, A lease is necessary for Saint Paul-Ramsey County Department of Public Health to move forward and pay rent to Catholic Charities Of The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approves a 22-month lease for 590.12 square feet of space at the Catholic Charities Building, 1276 University Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55104, in the amount of \$13,530, at the rate of \$7,380 annually, from March 1, 2007 through December 31, 2008; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the lease, in a form to be approved by the County Attorney, Budgeting & Accounting and Property Management; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to amend the lease agreement and make necessary payments, budget adjustments and execute contracts to cover expenses related to furnishings, telecommunications, and other unforeseen costs not to exceed \$8,000, to be funded from the Public Health WIC grant.

COUNTY MANAGER/PROPERTY MANAGEMENT – Change Order Two to Agreement with MA Mortenson Company for Back-up Dispatch Center in the Sheriff’s Patrol Station

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-093)

WHEREAS, On July 1, 2003, by Resolution 2003-218, the County Board approved a contract with MA Mortenson Company (“Mortenson”) to construct the new Public Works Facility in Arden Hills; and

WHEREAS, On August 26, 2003, by Resolution 2003-272, the County Board approved an amendment to the Agreement adding the Sheriff’s Patrol Station to the Public Works Project; and

WHEREAS, The Sheriff’s Patrol Station was designed and constructed with approximately 2,000 square feet of shelled-out space identified for potential future use as the Back-up Dispatch Center; and

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, On February 22, 2005, by Resolution 2005-079, the County Board authorized the County Manager to negotiate an amendment to the Agreement with Mortenson for the design and construction of a Back-up Dispatch Center in approximately 2,000 square feet of shelled out space in the Sheriff's Patrol Station; and

WHEREAS, Based on plans and specifications developed by the 800 MHz Project Manager and design consultants for the new Consolidated Dispatch Center, working with the County Manager's Office, Property Management, and Mortenson, Mortenson has submitted a Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$396,580.00 to complete the construction portion of the Back-up Dispatch Center; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners accepts and approves the Back-up Dispatch Center Estimated Budget and Financing Plan and the Construction Schedule for Back-up Dispatch Center; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager and Property Management to proceed with the build-out of the shelled space in the Sheriff's Patrol Station for the Back-up Dispatch Center; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to execute Change Order Two to the Agreement with MA Mortenson Construction Company, 700 Meadow Lane, Minneapolis, Minnesota, for a Gross Maximum Price of \$396,850.00, for a build-out of approximately 2,000 square feet of shelled space in the Sheriff's Patrol Station to complete the construction portion of the Back-up Dispatch Center; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes the County Manager to make all necessary payments and budget adjustments, and to execute change orders and amendments to the agreement with MA Mortenson Company, provided the cost is within the Consolidated Dispatch Center Project budget.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, HOMELAND SECURITY, INFORMATION SERVICES – Design and Installation of Motor Generator Transfer Equipment at the Ramsey County Public Works/Partners Facility

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-094)

WHEREAS, Operations of the Sheriff's Patrol Station; as well as Information Services' redundant server site, the Backup Dispatch Center, and Homeland Security's Emergency Operations Center ("EOC") at the Public Works/Partner Facility and Patrol Station, do not include adequate circuitry or sufficient electrical generating capacity to provide backup power for sustained operations during electric utility power disruptions; and

WHEREAS, A coordinated plan is needed to meet the backup electrical demands of each of these separate County mission-critical operations; and

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, Funding to cover the cost of professional engineering services, equipment, and installation to provide backup power for these operations is available through surplus Public Works construction funds in the amount of \$225,000.00; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board authorizes the County Manager to execute a professional service agreement with Dunham Associates Inc, 50 South Sixth Street, Suite 1100 Minneapolis, MN, for engineering services related to the design, bid specifications, and construction observation for electrical system modifications and an additional transfer switch at the Ramsey County Public Works/Partners Facility, in an amount not to exceed \$39,800.00, plus reimbursable expenses not to exceed \$1,000.00; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board authorizes the County Manager to execute a contract with the lowest responsible bidder for the equipment purchase and installation for the project; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board authorizes the County Manager, or his/her designee, to make all necessary payments for this project and to execute change orders/amendments to the project contracts up to a total of \$25,000; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board authorizes the County Manager, or his/her designee, to make all necessary budget adjustments related to this project.

COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES – Adult Mental Health

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-095)

WHEREAS, On September 20, 2005, the Board approved funding from the State of Minnesota for the Community Human Services Department to serve as training coordinators through the Assertive Community Treatment Training Center for ACT teams in other counties in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, This offer of funding was a recognition of the improvement in lives the ACT program in Ramsey County is achieving and of the training the ACT Center provides; and

WHEREAS, The proposed contract is implementing that training function for eight Minnesota Regional Team Leaders of ACT teams; and

WHEREAS, The training will consist of two full days on site with the PACT Program for eight regional ACT teams in Minnesota, written feedback and consultation reports, quarterly meetings with each team, individual and group teleconferencing; and

WHEREAS, PACT successfully developed the ACT model prior to adoption by other states; and

WHEREAS, The dollars funding the contract are from the State of Minnesota; Now, Therefore, Be It

*(Continued)*

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Manager to approve and execute a contract with the PACT Program, 108 Webster Street, Madison, WI 53703, in an amount not to exceed \$27,000, for the period February 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007, to provide training for eight regional Assertive Community Treatment teams in Minnesota.

RESOURCE RECOVERY PROJECT – Support of Legislation Related to an Energy Facility Serving Rock-Tenn Company

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-096)

WHEREAS, Ramsey County has an adopted and approved Solid Waste Master Plan for 2005 – 2024 (Resolution No.2004-424); and

WHEREAS, The Master Plan contains a number of policies on waste processing, which includes the production and use of refuse derived fuel (RDF), including a policy that states “Consistent with the State hierarchy, Ramsey County continues to affirm processing of waste into energy or by composting as the preferred MSW management strategy (over landfilling) for waste that is not reduced or recycled. This policy applies both to MSW generated throughout the county and specifically to waste generated by public entities”; and

WHEREAS, Rock-Tenn Company owns and operates a paper recycling mill in the City of Saint Paul on a 40 acre site, employing about 500 people in livable wage jobs, and handling about 1,000 tons per day of paper recovered for recycling; and

WHEREAS, The State of Minnesota has approved a Metropolitan Emissions Reduction Project (MERP) put forward by Xcel Energy, which would reduce air emissions in several ways, including replacing the coal-fired High Bridge power plant in Saint Paul with a natural-gas fired power plant; and

WHEREAS, Rock-Tenn is a large energy consumer, and currently uses steam generated by the coal-fired High Bridge power plant, but will lose that energy source when the coal-fired plant is replaced in 2007 to comply with the MERP legislation; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County is on record as supporting development of a new energy facility to serve Rock-Tenn, and through its participation in the Ramsey/ Washington County Resource Recovery Project has supported work on the development of new energy supply for Rock-Tenn; and

WHEREAS, Rock-Tenn Company, Market Street Energy (an affiliate of District Energy St. Paul) and the Saint Paul Port Authority are working together on the development of a new energy facility that uses renewable energy to meet Rock-Tenn’s energy needs; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey/Washington County Resource Recovery Project Board has recommended, at its February 22, 2007 meeting, that the County Boards support legislation sought by Rock-Tenn Company, Market Street Energy and the Saint Paul Port Authority to provide funds to Rock-Tenn for use in developing a new renewable energy facility to serve Rock-Tenn; Now, Therefore, Be It

*(Continued)*

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby indicates its support for legislation sought by Rock-Tenn Company, Market Street Energy and the Saint Paul Port Authority to establish a Metropolitan Emissions Reduction Project Renewable Energy Transition Charge to provide funds to Rock-Tenn for its use in developing a new renewable energy facility to serve Rock-Tenn.

BOARD OF RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS – Commissioner Parker, on behalf of the North Metro I-35W Corridor Coalition – Appropriation request for the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress – I-35W Corridor (support item)

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-097)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has reviewed a number of proposals for possible inclusion as support items in their federal legislative package for the 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the inclusion of the following support item in Ramsey County's federal legislative package for the 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress:

- Appropriation request from the I-35W Corridor Coalition

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes submission of this item to members of Ramsey County's Federal Legislative Delegation, with a request for their support and assistance in seeking enactment and appropriations.

PROPERTY RECORDS AND REVENUE – Potential 2007 State Legislative Support Item – Earlier Date for State Primary

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-098)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has reviewed a number of proposals and initiatives for inclusion as support items in their 2007 State legislative package; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes inclusion of the following support item in Ramsey County's 2007 State legislative package:

- Earlier Date for State Primary;

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The County Board further authorizes submission of this item to members of the Ramsey County State Legislative Delegation.

*(Continued)*



COUNTY MANAGER – Appropriation request for the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress – Snelling/University Avenue Intersection Improvement Project

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-099)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has reviewed a number of proposals for possible inclusion in their federal legislative package for the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the inclusion of the following item in Ramsey County's federal legislative package for the 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress:

- Snelling Avenue/University Avenue Intersection Improvement Project

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The Board authorizes submission of this item to members of Ramsey County's Federal Legislative Delegation, with a request for their support and assistance in seeking enactment and appropriations.

COUNTY MANAGER – 2007 State Legislative Support Item – Comprehensive transit and transportation funding (SF0005)

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-100)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has reviewed a number of proposals and initiatives for inclusion as support items in their 2007 State legislative package; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes support for a comprehensive legislative package to provide funding for transit and transportation as specified in SF0005 and its House companion bill, HF23, and authorizes inclusion of these bills in the County's 2007 state legislative package; and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The County Board authorizes submission of these items to members of the Ramsey County State Legislative Delegation, and authorizes County representatives to work with the Legislature and other interested parties to seek the necessary legislation to enact these proposals.

COUNTY MANAGER – 2007 State Legislative Support Item – Funds for Transit and Transportation Improvement Study on Trunk Highway 36

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-101)

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has reviewed a number of proposals and initiatives for inclusion as support items in their 2007 State legislative package; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes inclusion of the following support item in Ramsey County's 2007 State legislative package:

- Funds for Transit and Transportation Improvement Study on Trunk Highway 36

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The County Board further authorizes submission of this item to members of the Ramsey County State Legislative Delegation, and authorizes County representatives to work with the Legislature and other interested parties to seek the necessary legislation to enact this proposal.

COUNTY MANAGER – 2007 State Legislative Support Item – State funding for a high-speed rail line to Saint Paul from Chicago (SF223)

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-102)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has reviewed a number of proposals and initiatives for inclusion as support items in their 2007 State legislative package; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes inclusion of the following support item in Ramsey County's 2007 State legislative package:

- State funding for a high-speed rail line to Saint Paul from Chicago (SF223)

and Be It Further

RESOLVED, The County Board further authorizes submission of this item to members of the Ramsey County State Legislative Delegation, and authorizes County representatives to work with the Legislature and other interested parties to seek the necessary legislation to enact this proposal.

COUNTY MANAGER/BUDGETING & ACCOUNTING – Monthly Report of Contracts and Final Payments and Grant submissions that were approved during the month of January 2007

Commissioner Ortega introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-103)

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

**(Continued)**

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 January 2007.

COUNTY MANAGER/BUDGETING & ACCOUNTING – Second Reading of the proposed 2007 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-104)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Home Rule Charter states that every proposed Ordinance or Amendment to an Ordinance shall receive two readings: first, at the time it is presented, and second, at the time of the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, The full reading of the proposed Ordinance or Amendment may be waived if a copy of the proposed Ordinance or Amendment is supplied to each member of the County Board prior to its introduction; and

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has received a copy of the proposed 2007 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby waives the second reading of the proposed 2007 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance.

COUNTY MANAGER/BUDGETING & ACCOUNTING – Public Hearing on the proposed 2007 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance

Chair Bennett opened the public hearing on the proposed 2007 Capital Improvement Program Bond Ordinance and called three times for testimony. Hearing no requests from the public to address the Board, Chair Bennett declared the Public Hearing closed.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Second reading of the Proposed Amendments to the Ordinance for the Control and Management of Park, Recreation and Open Space Areas and Facilities Under the Jurisdiction of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner McDonough. Roll Call: Ayes – Ortega, Reinhardt, McDonough, Bennett – 4. Nays – 0. (2007-105)

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Home Rule Charter states that every proposed Ordinance or Amendment to an Ordinance shall receive two readings: first, at the time it is presented, and second, at the time of the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, The full reading of the proposed Ordinance or Amendment may be waived if a copy of the proposed Ordinance or Amendment is supplied to each member of the County Board prior to its introduction; and

*(Continued)*

WHEREAS, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners has received a copy of the proposed Amendments to the Ordinance for the Control and Management of Park, Recreation and Open Space Areas and Facilities Under the Jurisdiction of Ramsey County; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners hereby waives the second reading of the proposed Amendments to the Ordinance for the Control and Management of Park, Recreation and Open Space Areas and Facilities Under the Jurisdiction of Ramsey County.

PARKS AND RECREATION – Public Hearing on the proposed Amendments to the Ordinance for the Control and Management of Park, Recreation and Open Space Areas and Facilities Under the Jurisdiction of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners

Chair Bennett opened the public hearing on the proposed Amendments to the Ordinance for the Control and Management of Park, Recreation and Open Space Areas and Facilities Under the Jurisdiction of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and called three times for testimony. Hearing no requests from the public to address the Board, Chair Bennett declared the Public Hearing closed.

[Commissioner Carter arrived at this point in the meeting.]

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Terry Speiker, Director, Intergovernmental Relations, said that Commissioner Rettman is testifying today at the House Tax Committee on the Environmental Response Fund (ERF). Ramsey County is getting good hearings. Commissioner Reinhardt testified yesterday on All Children Excel (ACE). Bills are moving quickly through the process because Finance Committee deadlines were set one month earlier than usual. Many of the Commissioners have been testifying.

Materials were distributed to the Commissioners, one being an update on the tracking sheet. A second handout was a summary of the County's highest legislative priorities.

OUTSIDE BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Reinhardt reported on:

- The City of Maplewood's 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of incorporation as a city. A proclamation was presented to them from the County.

Commissioner McDonough reported:

- On the Youth Summer Employment request. Originally, the County put in a request for \$750,000, and in the beginning, the City of St. Paul had indicated it would support that. Throughout the process, the City came up with its own bill, which has been causing some confusion. The County has been trying to mesh in with that, but it hasn't been going well because the County has taken the position that the Youth Council, the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and the whole concept of the workforce area and how those dollars flow. The process we are not supportive of is individual carve-out for any organization or community to do specific programming outside the process.

Commissioner McDonough said he met with Councilmember Helgen on several occasions, and who had attended the Youth Council meeting last week. Councilmember Helgen had asked the Youth Council to support a resolution requesting the County and the City to merge their bills and work together on one bill. There is to be a Youth Council meeting next week

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so that the County could provide its perspective that we would be fine with moving forward with one bill but would not agree to the requirement that the City is asking that there be an 85% carve out for St. Paul. When Commissioner McDonough met with Councilmember Helgen after the Youth Council meeting, he indicated they would not agree to that before hand.

Commissioner McDonough said he brought this to the Board's attention for any feedback about this approach, and that the Youth Council needs to get all the information to make a good, solid decision about how they would move forward. When he spoke with the chair to explain the situation, he felt the Youth Council, when it agreed to support the request to combine the bills, clearly had indicated and made it part of the resolution, that it would not support the carve-out for any entity or organization on youth programming dollars, but that all those dollars could then go through the process; that we currently have a place to allocate those dollars.

Commissioner Ortega asked what would happen if a bill passes for \$750,000.

Commissioner McDonough said there are four potential bills – the County's for \$750,000, which is an individual carve-out for Ramsey County. Those dollars would be merged only if the City would agree to not ask for legislative language that would carve-out 85% of those dollars. First the City supported; then they came back to say they would support it if the County would agree to legislative language that there would be an 85% carve-out for the City of St. Paul, and only 15% would flow to the Youth Council and WIB for disbursement through the Comprehensive Youth Workforce Employment Program. The City came forward with its own bill when the County would not agree to the 85% carve-out.

Commissioner McDonough said there is also a bill to increase the big pot of Minnesota summer youth dollars, which has been decreased since 2003, putting all the workforce service areas in a difficult situation. The reality is that most of the people in the State would agree that the best solution would be to increase the big pot and get it back up to where it needs to be rather than taking an individual carve-out approach. Minneapolis was successful in getting this individual request last year, which may have stimulated some other individual requests. If the big pot is funded, there is a formula that has been agreed upon by all the workforce service areas on how that money gets disbursed and spread out among the 15 workforce service areas.

Commissioner Reinhardt asked when the Youth Council plans to meet again in order to be certain this is clarified. Youth Council support has to carry a lot of weight at the Legislature.

Commissioner McDonough said he talked with the chair of the Youth Council yesterday, who was going to see what would be the best approach because he felt the same way – he wanted to get this clarified as quickly as possible to eliminate any confusion. A Youth Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 8 at 3:30 p.m. Commissioner McDonough plans to attend and will present the County's position that we would not support any carve-outs. We would accept the City's support in helping move forward in the Comprehensive Youth Summer Programming bill. It is agreed that the need is great, and \$750,000 was picked in trying to be realistic in what the Legislature could be expected to carry as far as an

*(Continued)*

individual carve-out. The County could work together with the City on what that dollar amount would be if they would agree to work together toward a single bill. Commissioner McDonough got the assessment from the chair that the Youth Council and the questions they asked, that the message they were sending is that they support having one bill but not having individual carve-outs. That was not a part of the language in the resolution that they passed.

Commissioner Carter wanted to confirm that the key issues are where the workforce service area is and where the need for the youth who qualify for these dollars exists, and whether that need matches the manner in which those dollars are allocated. She assumed that would be the City's concern with such a large percentage of young people who qualify for those dollars being in the City. She also wanted to confirm that per our assessment requested by the City last year, a major percentage of those dollars do go to youth in the City of St. Paul. She did not know if that percentage is 85%. No one is questioning that those dollars are needed by those qualifying youth, but that our contention is that we are the service area for the allocation of those dollars and that there should not be a separate process for allocating those dollars. We are all working together with the City and their members of the WIB, the City having 50% of that membership. Together, we should be able to plan and allocate those dollars in one pot as one program that serves the entire area. She asked if that is correct.

Commissioner McDonough responded affirmatively. He thought the City grabbed onto the 85% number because the history has shown that through eligibility requirements and referrals, 85% of the dollars are typically spent in the City of St. Paul, through a process in going out to the community-based organizations asking them for an RFP on best practices in helping to provide services. It is integrated into a comprehensive year-round workforce development program for youth. The summer piece is just a portion of that. Through the Youth Council, that is integrated into the year-round comprehensive program. Eighty-five percent of those dollars are typically or traditionally spent in the City of St. Paul through that process.

Commissioner Ortega reported:

- That this has been a week of testimony at the Senate and Met Council on transit and transportation. There was a meeting with the Post Office yesterday, with good news to report. Senior management has approved the operational plan to move out of St. Paul. Phase II is to make that operational in Eagan. This will hopefully be done in the next six months, and would be on track to have the board of governors approve the entire plan. Dakota County is ready to look at the details for the size of the operations, and impact on traffic and infrastructure so they know what the requests are in terms of federal and State levels of government. Ramsey County will provide a presence because it is in our interest to make sure the whole project moves smoothly.

David Twa, County Manager, said it was very good news because it confirms the fact that Ramsey County can move forward on acquisition of the Post Office.

Chair Bennett, for clarification, said the Post Office purchased the Union Depot Concourse and all the land around the Concourse, which is needed for the transit hub. That is how those two projects inter-relate.

*(Continued)*

Commissioner Ortega said the entire County Board has been engaged with the Legislature, putting in many hours, and he felt that Ramsey County would do very well. He has received many comments about Ramsey County.

#### BOARD CHAIR UPDATE

Chair Bennett reported:

- On newspaper articles for some of the activities he has been involved in related to light rail. More support has been cemented for the multi-modal transit hub at the Depot. The Met Council voted against the “loop”, but put into the motion that they would look at the Concourse Level, which is a small victory.

Commissioner Reinhardt said the County achieved a huge victory for the Depot. Gaining attention and getting people to understand how important the Union Depot and Concourse is, that streets will be closed partially or completely, and how the County has to deal with all the issues, the discussion of the group made all those things come to the surface, and that was not a small victory.

Chair Bennett said he explained to that group that the County had a way in to the Concourse Level with the loop; it is now their turn to come up with a way in to the Concourse Level. He had explained to them that they are the planning agency with the charge to have a vision for the whole area for the future.

Commissioner McDonough said Chair Bennett did a great job engaging the community. One role of an elected official is be creative and look to the future, and to make sure that policy decisions being made position us for the long-term good of the community. The loop proposal brought forward by Chair Bennett was that forward creative thinking to make sure that all options would be considered with engagement of the broad-based community of who was weighing-in and who was looking at that, and the excitement generated around that. Action by the Met Council for the loop may seem dim right now, but there should be hope for it. As Commissioner Reinhardt pointed out, there are some big issues with the Cedar Street alignment and how it connects into the Union Depot, and that was brought forward to the surface that these are issues that need to be dealt with – those are huge victories, not small victories.

Chair Bennett said it is the public who will suffer and he does not believe that everyone is attuned to the fact that two streets are going to be closed.

- He thanked the former Ramsey County appointees to the Board of Directors of the Community Action Partnership of Ramsey and Washington Counties for their service. New appointments have been made to this partnership.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

*(Continued)*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners met in Executive Session with the following members present: Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt and Bennett – 5. Absent: Parker and Rettman – 2. Also present were David Twa, County Manager; Darwin Lookingbill, Director, Civil Division, County Attorney's Office; Julie Kleinschmidt, Director, Budgeting & Accounting; Diane Holmgren, Public Health; and Patricia Leske, County Attorney's Office.

RE: Raedell Marie Davis, et al v Rose Marie Toombs and Ramsey County.

Commissioner Reinhardt introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Ortega. Roll Call: Ayes – Carter, McDonough, Ortega, Reinhardt, Bennett – 5. Nays – 0. (2007-106)

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

There being no further business, the Executive Session was adjourned.

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Bonnie C. Jackelen, Chief Clerk – County Board