

WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS—OCTOBER 4, 2005

The Waseca County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 4, 2005 in the Commissioner's Room, 300 N. State St., Waseca, MN. Commissioners present were Al Ruhland, Chairperson; Rick Morris; Richard Androli; Wendell Armstrong and Jim Peterson. Also present were Bruce Boyce, Coordinator; Joan Manthe, Auditor; Judy Hiller, Information Technology Supervisor; Angie Knish, Planning and Zoning Administrator; Sylvia Krampitz, Waseca County Ag Society; Deanna Bendix, News Reporter; and Duane Rathman, Waseca Lakes Association representative.

Al Ruhland, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Morris moved and Androli seconded the motion to approve the minutes of September 20, 2005. Motion carried unanimously.

Androli moved and Armstrong seconded the motion to approve the agenda with miscellaneous additions. Motion carried unanimously.

Judy Hiller, Information Technology Supervisor, informed the board the 5 year contract with our phone system maintenance company is expiring and she is requesting a 4 year contract with the same company. Armstrong moved and Peterson seconded the motion to approve a phone system maintenance contract with North American Communications for a 4 year period at \$1,302.40 per month. Motion carried unanimously.

Duane Rathman, representative of the Waseca Lakes Association, invited the commissioners to attend a stormwater management training on October 31, 2005.

Angie Knish, Planning and Zoning Administrator, presented available dates for the Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing. The board selected November 16, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at Farmamerica. This date is contingent on Reggie Edwards, Region 9, being available.

Angie Knish informed the board that the funds allocated for the Ag Best Management Plan for Waseca County are exhausted and there is a waiting list of loan applicants. The state has an additional \$110,000.00 that Waseca County can use for these loan purposes. Armstrong moved and Androli seconded the motion to authorize Angela Knish to sign the appropriate documents to obtain an additional \$110,000.00 in funding for 2005 making the total loan amount for 2005 be \$132,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

The next item at 10:00 a.m. is the Public Hearing of the Economic Development Tax Abatement Hearing for the Janesville Ethanol Plant. Kathleen Showalter, Project Manager for US Bio was present. She gave a presentation to the board showing an

economic development asset of creating an additional 45 direct jobs at the ethanol plant. Bruce Kimmel, Springsted, Inc., was also present and gave a financial proposal and a projected tax abatement report to the board. Nathan Richman, Highway Engineer, addressed the estimated \$200,000 in road expenditures. A meeting has already been held with the Dept. of Transportation and an agreement has been reached on MN DOT doing the extra work and Waseca County paying this added expense. Androli moved to approve a tax abatement for US Bio at 85% of the property taxes generated from the ethanol plant's increase in total net tax capacity over its current taxable net tax capacity. Abatement payments would begin with full plant valuation in Assessment 2008/Payable 2009 and would continue for a maximum of 15 years (Payable 2023) or total payments of \$1.2 million, whichever comes first. Implementation of the abatement is contingent on board approval of a water discharge plan for the plant. Peterson seconded the motion and it was passed by the unanimous vote of all members.

Marilee Reck, Human Service Director, and Cheri Lewer, Public Health Services Director came to the board and presented a service contract between the two agencies. Peterson moved and Morris seconded the motion to approve the purchase of service contract between Waseca County Public Health Services and Waseca County Department of Human Services for Long Term Care Consultation Services and the Alternative Care/Elderly Waiver Program for the period of 10-1-05 through 9-30-06. Motion carried unanimously.

Persons from I & S Engineers presented a proposal for the remodeling of the EconoFoods Building. Mark Erickson, owner of the building, Kris Busse and Mark Leiferman, City of Waseca were present. The board has now received a number of possible options for a Human Services Building. Bruce Boyce agreed to assemble some ranking options for review at the next board meeting.

Larry Collins, County Attorney, presented the statute options on filling the vacancy of County Attorney since his appointment as Waseca County District Court Judge. He will be sworn into that position on November 10th. Appointment of an acting County Attorney would be in order. Peterson moved and Androli seconded the motion to advertise fully for the position of County Attorney to fill the term expiring January 2, 2007. The motion was passed by the following roll call: Androli, yes; Morris, yes; Peterson, yes; Armstrong, no and Ruhland, no.

Bruce Boyce reviewed another part of the general revenue budget in preparation of the Truth in Taxation hearing in December.

Androli moved and Morris seconded the motion to approve the ditch repair for Joint County Ditch 1 Steele County. Motion carried unanimously.

A letter was presented to the board from Pettipiece and Associates, LLC, requesting the use of some of the County's revolving funds from the Small Cities Development Loan program. Armstrong moved and Androli seconded the motion to commit \$25,000 as leverage for the City of Janesville Grant application from the

County's funds. This is contingent on the City of Janesville obtaining the SCDP grant.
Motion carried unanimously.

Bruce Boyce gave an arbitration update on the Sheriff Deputy union.

Ruhland moved and Armstrong seconded the motion to approve an increase in the Public Health Homemaker position rates of pay to \$7.56/hr. effective October 1, 2005.
Motion carried unanimously.

Morris moved and Peterson seconded the motion to approve the Assessor and Veterans Service reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Morris moved and Peterson seconded the motion to approve the Auditor, Commissioner, Human Service and expense bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Waseca County Board of Commissioners will be Tuesday, October 18, 2005.

S/ _____
Albert Ruhland, Chairman
Waseca County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

S/ _____
Joan Manthe
Waseca County Auditor