

WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS—SEPTEMBER 9, 2008

The Waseca County Board of Commissioners met in a special session on Tuesday, September 9, 2008, in the Commissioner's Room, 300 N State St., Waseca, Minnesota.

Members present were Jim Peterson, Vice-Chairperson; Al Ruhland, Rick Morris and Richard Androli. Dan Kuhns was absent.

Others present were Bruce Boyce, Coordinator, Joan Manthe, Auditor; Nathan Richman, Highway Engineer; Marilee Reck, Human Services Director; Ron Purcell, Joann Earle and Mike Hintz, residents; and Drew Amo, News Reporter.

Jim Peterson, Vice-Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The reason for today's meeting is to set the preliminary County budget and levy for 2009.

Bruce Boyce reviewed all the budget items and gave some key factors in planning for the budget. He also went through the Department of Revenue Form 280 showing the special levies. Peterson talked about the importance of hiring a Human Resources person, and also hiring a technical person for Planning & Zoning. If those were added, we would be at a 5.4% increase. Morris moved to approve the net tax levy with a 5.4% increase over 2008. Peterson seconded the motion. Roll call was taken as follows: Ruhland, no; Morris, yes; Androli, no and Peterson, yes. Tie vote. Then Androli moved to increase the net tax levy by 3.9%. The motion died for lack of a second. Discussion continued to take the 3.9% increase and add the Human Resource person only. Bruce commented that the sheriff's salary requests and the staffing at Soil & Water are also important issues.

Ruhland moved to approve the 5.4% increase in the net tax levy with the understanding that the commissioners really attempt to reduce the levy to 3.9% during the next months before setting the final levy. The total budget for the County would be set at \$22,566,705 and the tax levy would be \$10,451,640. Morris seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the following roll call: Ruhland, yes; Morris, yes; Androli, no and Peterson, yes.

Ron Purcell thanked the commissioners for taking interest in the Soil & Water Conservation District. He doesn't understand why he doesn't have the support of all commissioners, but thanked them for support. Joann Earle spoke to the board and asked them to refrain from submitting per diem payments to themselves.

Ruhland moved and Androli seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m.

S/ _____
Jim Peterson, Vice Chairman
Waseca County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

S/ _____
Joan Manthe
Waseca County Auditor

