

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2009

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION HELD**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)
DODGE COUNTY)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
MANTORVILLE, MN**

2009-07 Work Session

The Dodge County Commissioners met in a Work Session July 21, 2009, in Conference Room B at the Dodge County Courthouse Annex, Mantorville, MN, at 10:00 a.m. CDT. David Hanson opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Convened

The Chair acknowledged those present and established that there was a quorum:

Those Present

Members present: Klaus Alberts District #1
David Erickson District #3
Don Gray District #4
David Hanson District #5
Members absent: Lyle Tjosaas District #2
Also present: David McKnight County Administrator

Environmental Quality Director Mark Gamm presented additional information on the upcoming waste management fees. Mr. Gamm presented two options for the Board to discuss and consider for this new fee that is coming as a result of the increased fees from Olmsted County and the third garbage burner.

Upcoming Waste
Management Fees
Discussion

Commissioners asked a number of questions about the impact on commercial and residential properties in the county. The financial impact of both options would be:

Option #1

Example Hauler's Statement to Customer:

Mr. Typical
111 North Street
Dodge Center, MN

60 Gallon Weekly Refuse Collection Service	\$11.00	A
Fuel Surcharge	\$ 2.00	
MN State Tax (9.75% of refuse collection and fuel charge)	\$ 1.27	
Recycling Service	\$ 5.00	
Dodge County Waste To Energy Service Charge	\$11.04	B
Total	\$30.31	

A = Cost for Hauler to Collect Refuse.

B = Cost for County to Process Refuse in Waste to Energy System.

Option #2

Example Hauler's Statement to Residential Customer:

Upcoming Waste
Management Fees
Discussion -
ContinuedMr. Typical
Main Street
Dodge Center, MN

60 Gallon Weekly Refuse Service	\$18.00	
Recycling Service	\$ 5.00	
Fuel Surcharge	\$ 2.00	
- Subtotal	\$25.00	
Dodge County Waste To Energy Service Charge (15%)	\$ 4.25	
MN State Tax (9.75% of Refuse Service and Fuel Surcharge)	\$ 1.95	
Total	\$31.20	

The county haulers will be meeting with Mr. Gamm this week. The consensus of the Board was to present option one to the haulers to get their feedback and report back to the County Board.

Environmental
Quality Budget
Discussion

Mr. Gamm discussed funding options for equipment in the future. The Environmental Quality Director discussed separating the capital outlay items from the operating items in the budget. The Board was in support of Mr. Gamm and Mr. McKnight performing additional work on this proposal.

County Assessor Wendell Engelstad presented his 2010 budget request to the Board. Mr. Engelstad talked about the basis for charging the cities and townships for these services. The Board had concerns about the potential increase to other local governments. The County Assessor explained his goal was to get/keep the cost to other local governments at about 46% of the human resources costs.

County Assessor's
2010 Budget
Presentation

County Recorder Sue Alberts discussed her 2010 budget request. Ms. Alberts discussed her fee revenue history over the past few years. The Board asked a number of questions on the impact of the economy on her department. The Board thanked Ms. Alberts for her presentation.

County Recorder's
2010 Budget
Presentation

Sheriff Jim Trihey talked to the County Board about filling the vacant Training Sergeant position with a Deputy Sheriff position. Sheriff Trihey provided his reasons for filing the Sergeant position with a Deputy position. The Board was shown the impact of the trickle down impact of promotions that have occurred. The Board was in support of the Sheriff's proposal.

Vacant Sheriff's
Office Position
Discussed

County Administrator David McKnight discussed remaining 2009 budget issues. After much discussion the Board decided to fund our outside agencies at 87% of budgeted funds compared to the 66% that was set earlier. The county lost 13% of its County Program Aid from the state and commissioners felt that this was a fair approach with these entities.

2009 Budget
Issues Discussed

Commissioners also discussed a vacant position in the Environmental Quality Department and ways to work with the SWCD. It was the consensus of the Board to have the County Administrator and Environmental Quality Director work with SWCD to fill the vacant .75 county position with a 1.0 FTE with the county providing the funding for the first year with a review of the results of the position before a decision is made on the second year. Commissioners asked that staff discuss this with SWCD officials to get their input before moving forward.

Vacant
Environmental
Quality Position
Discussed

County Attorney Paul Kiltinen discussed with the Board the continuing issues with SEMMCHRA. After discussing the June 2009 meeting held with officials involved in SEMMCHRA, the Board instructed the County Administrator and County Attorney to draft a letter to SEMMCHRA officials for the Board to review.

SEMMCHRA
Issues Discussed

The County Administrator reviewed draft three of the 2010 budget. The current draft includes a 7.89% tax levy increase over 2009. The commissioners have set a target levy increase of 3% due to the state aid reductions and state imposed levy limits.

2010 Draft Budget
Discussed

Mr. McKnight reviewed a plan that would leave the budget approximately \$74,000 short of the levy target. The County Administrator reviewed each recommended action, some that had costs associated with them and some that did not at this point. Commissioners expressed concerns on a few of the proposals they could not support at this time.

Mr. McKnight reviewed the proposal and cost impact if all county employees were to receive a zero percent cost of living adjustment in 2010. The non-union employees were presented with this issue last week and the general consensus was that it was not ideal but it did mean that employees kept their jobs. The Board held considerable discussion on this issue and instructed the County Administrator to meet with union officials who have contracts in place for 2010 to discuss this issue.

Mr. McKnight will continue to work with staff to adjust the budget.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m. CDT.

Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:

DAVID HANSON
CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD

DAVID MCKNIGHT
CLERK

DATED: