

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2006

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING HELD**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF DODGE)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
MANTORVILLE, MN**

2006-18

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in regular session September 12, 2006, in the Commissioner's Room at the Courthouse Annex, Mantorville, MN, at 9:30 a.m. CDT. David Erickson, Chair called the County Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 9:30 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
Lyle Tjosaas District #2
David Erickson District #3
Don Gray District #4
David Hanson District #5

Members absent: None

Also present: David McKnight County Administrator
Becky Lubahn Deputy County Clerk
Paul Kiltinen County Attorney

Motion by Hanson seconded by Gray to approve and adopt the agenda as presented. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Agenda Approved

The County Administrator discussed with the Board the 2007 preliminary tax levy.

2007 Preliminary Tax
Levy Discussion

Mr. McKnight noted that pursuant to Minnesota Statute 275.065, on or before September 15th each taxing authority shall adopt a proposed budget and shall certify to the County Auditor the proposed tax levy for taxes payable in the following year. Once the County Board sets the preliminary tax levy in September it can be lowered before the Board sets their final tax levy in December, but it cannot be raised.

The County Administrator pointed out that the County Board, department heads and staff have been working on the 2007 budget since April of this year. The initial draft of the 2007 budget and levy has been reduced significantly to this point. The budget and levy stand as listed below as of today:

	<u>Draft #1</u>	<u>Draft #6</u>
2007 Budget	\$22,254,510	\$21,645,195
2007 Tax Levy	\$ 9,685,493 (20.46%)	\$ 8,552,043 (6.37%)

Mr. McKnight reported that the County Board held a budget work session on September 5, 2006 and asked for a number of changes to the budget. The following changes were made and are reflected in draft six of the proposed budget and tax levy:

2007 Preliminary Tax
Levy Discussion -
Continued

- ✓ Included the Inspector/Septic position in the EO/Planning budgets.
- ✓ Included the request from SEMCAC for Dodge County services.
- ✓ Removed the potential debt payment in the DFO budget.

Most of the work on the 2007 budget is complete at this point. The proposed levy that the Board is being asked to adopt today is the lowest proposed levy in the County Administrator's time here and will also be the lowest final levy since 2001. Mr. McKnight will continue to adjust the budget in very minor amounts through December when the Board is asked to approve the final budget and tax levy.

The County Administrator discussed setting the preliminary 2007 tax levy with the Board and noted that the County Board has the ultimate responsibility of setting the 2007 preliminary tax levy. The goal going into this process was to have a final tax levy between 5-6% over the 2006 tax levy. Mr. McKnight is comfortable with all of the work on the budget up to this point to recommend that the Board set the tax levy at the current 6.37% increase over 2006.

Motion by Alberts seconded by Gray to approve setting the 2007 preliminary tax levy at \$8,552,043, which represents a 6.37% over 2006.

Commissioner Tjosaas stated that if they add something now that they would have to take it out somewhere else in the budget.

Commissioner Hanson asked that the Board hold off on making a decision on setting the preliminary 2007 levy until they have had a chance to hear the presentation from the Extension Office regarding an additional 2007 budget request.

Motion by Hanson seconded by Tjosaas to table further discussion on the preliminary 2007 levy until after the Extension Office presentation. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Campus Regional Director LuAnn Hiniker met with the Board to discuss a 2007 Extension budget request.

2007 Extension
Budget Request
Discussion

County Extension Committee Chair Luis Marin discussed with the Board the need for a part-time Ag Educator and the need to increase the Extension Office support staff hours from .5 FTE to .75 FTE. The County Extension Committee feels that this increase will improve office access.

County 4-H Program Coordinator Diane Whalen and Administrative Assistant Adrienne Hodgman were available to comment.

Commissioner Alberts wanted to know whether or not there would be contributions from other counties. Other contribution options were discussed.

2007 Extension
Budget Request
Discussion -
Continued

Commissioner Erickson stated that they were not arguing the need for programs, it is the funding that is a dilemma for the county.

Commissioner Tjosaas commented that he understands the need and noted that funding is the question.

Commissioner Gray believed that there was conflicting information provided throughout the presentation and voiced his opinion that the Extension Office has a lot of overlapping services that are already provided by other county offices. It was Mr. Gray's opinion that a lot of things have and are already being done by county offices to be pro-active.

Ms. Whalen commented that they currently do not have an Ag Educator and that the potential is there for getting money back through fees generated from a person in this position. The County 4-H Program Coordinator reported that there is also a need to increase Ms. Hodgman's hours to improve office access.

Commissioner Erickson wanted to know how often people call the regional offices.

Ms. Hiniker reported that the answer line and web page are both utilized frequently. The Campus Regional Director stated that there is a need for a local Ag Educator to address issue in Dodge County.

Ms. Hodgman commented that the citizens want someone in the office to talk to and that they also are looking for answers right away.

Ms. Whalen informed the Board that Ms. Hodgman works 20 hours per week and they would like an additional .25 FTE in addition to her .5 FTE which would allow them to open the office four days a week instead of two and a half days a week.

It was Commissioner Hanson's belief that we have lost the individual touch at the Extension Office by not having someone available to address ag issues. Mr. Hanson stated that the money for the additional hours will come from property taxes. Commissioner Hanson is in favor of the additional help and appreciates the work that has been done to expand the 4-H program.

Commissioner Alberts reported that he appreciates Diane Whalen's efforts to expand the 4-H program participation and is in favor of the part-time Ag Educator. Mr. Alberts indicated the he believes the additional help is needed.

The County 4-H Program Coordinator commented that it would be a tremendous gift to the farmers of the community to approve this position.

The Board took the information under advisement.

The County Administrator left the meeting at 10:00 a.m. CDT to deal with Primary Election issues.

County Administrator
Left Meeting

Finance Director Tom Olney provided the Board with a Minnesota Counties Information Systems Joint and Cooperative Agreement for their consideration.

Joint and
Cooperative
Agreement with
MCIS Approved

Mr. Olney reported that Dodge County is a member of Minnesota Counties Information Systems (MCIS). MCIS provides support for Dodge County's financial general ledger system (IFS), payroll and receipting system.

The agreement allows Dodge County to continue its relationship with MCIS. The MCIS Board has approved this Joint and Cooperative Agreement and requires every member county to sign the agreement.

Motion by Gray seconded by Hanson to approve and authorize the Chair to sign a Joint and Cooperative Agreement with Minnesota Counties Information Systems. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Planning Director Duane Johnson met with the Board to discuss Planning Commission recommendations from the September 6, 2006 meeting. The Board discussed CUP #06-27. Motion by Gray seconded by Tjosaas to approve the following action of the Planning and Zoning Commission as reviewed on September 6, 2006 with the reasons, recommendations and conditions as found in the individual permit:

Planning
Commission
Recommendation
CUP #06-27
Approved

Lyle Lyke - CUP #06-27

The request is for a Conditional Use Permit to establish a non-farm dwelling in the Ag District. The property is eleven acres located in the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 20 of Claremont Township. Lyle Lyke is the applicant and the property owner.

The Planning Commission recommends approval with the following conditions:

1. The Ag Covenant shall be signed and recorded.
2. The septic system must meet the county's septic ordinance.
3. Driveway access and permits be obtained from the county.

Motion adopted unanimously.

The Board discussed CUP #06-28. Motion by Gray seconded by Alberts to approve the following action of the Planning and Zoning Commission as reviewed on September 6, 2006 with the reasons, recommendations and conditions as found in the individual permit:

Planning
Commission
Recommendation
CUP #06-28
Approved

Glenn Berg - CUP #06-28

The request is for a Conditional Use Permit to establish a non-farm dwelling in an Ag District. The property is 40 acres located in NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 18 of Milton Township. Glenn Berg is the applicant and the property owner

The Planning Commission recommends approval with the following conditions:

1. The Ag Covenant shall be signed and recorded.
2. The septic system must meet the county's septic ordinance.
3. Driveway access and permits be obtained from the County Highway Department.
4. An Erosion Control Plan be submitted if working on lands of 12% or greater slope.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Planning
Commission
Recommendation
CUP #06-28
Approved -
Continued

The Board discussed CUP #06-29. Motion by Gray seconded by Hanson to approve the following action of the Planning and Zoning Commission as reviewed on September 6, 2006 with the reasons, recommendations and conditions as found in the individual permit:

Planning
Commission
Recommendation
CUP #06-29
Approved

Terry Ronning - CUP #06-29

The request is for a Conditional Use Permit to establish a non-farm dwelling in an Ag District. The property is 20 acres located in SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 12 of Ellington Township. Terry Ronning is the applicant and Sue Ronning is the property owner.

The Planning Commission recommends approval with the following conditions:

1. The Ag Covenant shall be signed and recorded.
2. The septic system must meet the county's septic ordinance.
3. Confirm that the site is not in the 100 year flood plain.

Motion adopted unanimously.

The Board discussed CUP #06-30. Considerable discussion took place regarding alternate route #1 and alternate route #2. Donny Smith, Wade Bishop and County Attorney Paul Kiltinen were available to comment. The Planning Commission approved the request and alternate route #1 and later reconsidered their decision after learning additional information on the route plans. The Planning Commission now feels that alternate route #2 would best suit the request.

Planning
Commission
Recommendation
CUP #06-30
Approved

Motion by Alberts seconded by Tjosaas to approve the following action of the Planning and Zoning Commission as reviewed on September 6, 2006 with the reasons, recommendations and conditions as found in the individual permit:

Jaguar Communications - CUP #06-30

The request is for a Conditional Use Permit for the installation of major essential service. There are two alternate sites being considered: (1) a Fiber optic cable will be placed along and on the south side of County Road 2 (two) from Blooming Prairie east to 115th Avenue then along the west side and going south along 115th Avenue turning east and along the south side of the township road to 117th Avenue and crossing to the east side and continuing south along the east side of 117th Avenue to the Dodge/Mower Road. (2) a Fiber optic cable will be placed along and on the south side of County Road 2 (two) from Blooming Prairie east to the east line of Section 32 and south along that section line to the SE corner of the NE¼ of section 32 and west along the south property line of Whitetail Estate #2 to 117th Avenue and then south along 117th Avenue along the east side of 117th Avenue to the Dodge/Mower Road. Jaguar Communications, Inc is the applicant.

Planning
Commission
Recommendation
CUP #06-30
Approved -
Continued

The Planning Commission recommends approval of alternate route #2 if approval from the private property owner is obtained and alternate route #1 as a backup with the following conditions:

1. Obtain Insurance Certificate for Contractors General Liability and Property Damage as per section 17.1709.
2. Obtain Dodge County Highway Department utility permit.
3. Obtain MnDot ROW Permit.
4. As built plan be submitted to each township and county.
5. 48 hour notification prior to starting project.

Motion adopted unanimously.

The Board discussed ZA #06-02. Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Gray to approve the following action of the Planning and Zoning Commission as reviewed on September 6, 2006 with the reasons, recommendations and conditions as found in the individual permit:

Planning
Commission
Recommendation
ZA #06-02 Approved

Zoning Amendment #06-02

The request is to consider ordinance text revision to section 18 of the Dodge County Zoning Ordinance, 1807.5 Review of and lapse of a Conditional Use Permits: b. and c. as follows.

- c. A conditional use permit for animal feedlot as per section 8, 803.7 shall become null and void two (2) years from the date of approval by the County Board if no construction has begun or the use has not been established. For the purposes of this provision, a zoning permit shall be obtained and construction shall include the installation of footings, slab, foundation, posts, wall or other portions of the principle building. Site preparation, land clearing or the installation of utilities shall not constitute construction. A conditional use permit shall become null and void if the use is discontinued for a period of one (1) year.

- d. A conditional use permit for all other uses shall become null and void one (1) year from the date of approval by the County Board if no construction has begun or the use has not been established. For the purposes of this provision, a zoning permit shall be obtained and construction shall include the installation of footings, slab, foundation, posts, wall or other portions of the principle building. Site preparation, land clearing or the installation of utilities shall not constitute construction. A conditional use permit shall become null and void if the use is discontinued for a period of one (1) year.
- e. An extension of a conditional use permit must be approved by the County Board before the conditional use permit becomes null and void. A written request must be submitted for an extension of a conditional use permit 60 days prior to a Planning Commission meeting. The Planning Commission will consider the request for an extension and recommend to the County Board approval or denial. The County Board may grant an extension not to exceed one (1) year.

Planning
Commission
Recommendation
ZA #06-02 Approved
- Continued

Motion adopted, Tjosaas, Hanson, Gray, Erickson aye, Alberts nay.

Employee Relations Director Lisa Hager presented the Personnel Agenda for the Board's review. Motion by Alberts seconded by Hanson to approve the following personnel actions:

Personnel Actions
Approved

A. Sheriff's Office

- A.1 Joe Rau - 911 Dispatcher
 Step increase from B22 step 4 \$15.37 to B22 step 5 \$15.83.
 Effective Date: 8/27/06
- A.2 Kyle Arndt – 911 Dispatcher – On-Call
 Termination.
 Effective Date: 9/1/06
- A.3 Richard Allee – Deputy Sheriff
 Step increase from C41 36 month step \$20.31 to C41 60 month step \$21.73.
 Effective Date: 9/6/06

B. Job Description Annual Review

- B.1 Annual Review of Job Descriptions
 Request approval of revised job descriptions for:
Senior Clerk - Assessor's Office
Administrative Assistant – Highway
Captain – Sheriff's Office
 (All updates have been reviewed by the employees in the position, Department Heads, County Administrator and Employee Relations)
 Effective Date: 12/1/06

C. Highway Department

- C.1 Jennifer Larson – Seasonal Maintenance
 End of seasonal employment.
 Effective Date: 8/11/06

- C.2 Joshua Kvasnicka – Seasonal Maintenance
End of seasonal employment.
Effective Date: 8/29/06
- C.3 Michael Peterson – Seasonal Maintenance/ Engineer Tech.
End of seasonal employment.
Effective Date: 8/17/06
- C.4 Mike Shiek - Seasonal Maintenance
End of seasonal employment.
Effective Date: 7/28/06
- C.5 Edward Rose - Seasonal Maintenance
End of seasonal employment.
Effective Date: 8/27/06
- C.6 Nickolas Haltvick – Seasonal Engineering Tech.
End of seasonal employment.
Effective Date: 8/17/06
- D. Extension Office**
- D.1 Michelle Hurley – 4-H Summer Assistant
End of seasonal employment.
Effective Date: 8/19/06
- E. Public Health**
- E.1 Carol Braun - Health Educator .5 FTE
Authorization to employ at C41 step 9 \$ 16.21
Effective Date: 9/19/06

Personnel Actions
Approved -
Continued

Motion adopted unanimously.

Comptroller Lisa Kramer reviewed bills with the Board. Motion by Gray seconded by Hanson to approve the bills as discussed in the following amounts from the appropriate funds as determined by Finance:

01	Revenue Fund	\$ 90,133.15
11	Human Services Fund	\$ 23.15
13	Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 49,697.02
16	Environmental Quality	<u>\$ 31,261.55</u>
	Total	\$171,114.87

Bills Approved

Motion adopted unanimously.

Environmental Quality Director Mark Gamm met with the Board to discuss his request to adopt a water plan. Solid Waste Facility Manager Terry Selthun and Septic System Coordinator/ Account Technician Sandy Schaefer were available to comment.

Dodge County
Comprehensive
Water Management
Plan Approved by
Resolution #2006-26

Mr. Gamm informed the Board that the state has approved the revised Water Management Plan. The last step in the process is for the county to adopt and implement the plan by resolution of the Board of Commissioners.

Motion by Hanson seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize the Chair and Deputy Clerk to sign resolution #2006-26 to adopt and implement the Dodge County Comprehensive Water Management Plan:

WHEREAS, the Dodge County Board of Commissioners has been notified by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources that the Dodge County Comprehensive Local Water Management Plan has been approved according to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103B.301.

Dodge County
Comprehensive
Water Management
Plan Approved by
Resolution #2006-26
- Continued

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Dodge County Board Commissioners hereby adopts and will begin implementation of its approved comprehensive water plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, after the adoption of the local comprehensive water management plan, the Dodge County Board shall amend existing water and related land resources plans and official controls as necessary to conform them to the applicable and approved comprehensive water plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, after the adoption of the local comprehensive water management plan, Dodge County shall notify local units of government within the county of the adoption of the plan or amendments to the plan. The local units of government are required to submit existing water and related land resources plans and official controls within 90 days to the County Board for review.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, within 180 days, the Dodge County Board shall review the submitted plans and official controls and identify any inconsistencies between the local plans and official controls, and local comprehensive water management plan. The Dodge County Board shall specify applicable and necessary measures to bring the local plans and official controls into conformance with the local comprehensive water management plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, if a local unit of government disagrees with any changes to its plan, the local unit has 60 days after receiving the county's recommendations to appeal the recommendations to the Board of Water and Soil Resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, after receiving the recommendations of the Dodge County Board, or a resolution of an appeal, a local unit of government has 180 days to initiate revisions to its plan or official controls. The new or revised plans and official controls must be submitted to the Dodge County Board for review and recommendations.

Resolution adopted unanimously.

Mr. Gamm noted that the Water Plan Task Force has been heavily involved in this process and that his office will formally thank the Water Plan Task Force members by letter on behalf of Dodge County.

The Environmental Quality Director reviewed a plan to improve waste management operations.

Plan to Improve
Waste Management
Operations
Discussed

Mr. Gamm stated that over the past ten months, our waste management operation has suffered financially for several reasons:

1. Less waste being delivered to the Transfer Station.
 - A. Olmsted is securing waste within it borders.
 - B. Some waste may be leaving county to in-state and out-of-state landfills.
2. Under new Joint Powers Agreement, we assume all waste transfer costs.

The Environmental Quality Director informed the Board that their operating balance is in the red and their dedicated reserve fund is lower than their estimated future needs.

Mr. Gamm shared the following plan:

1. 2007 budget calls for \$9 per ton increase in Tipping Fee.
2. Throughout 2007, fully evaluate their current operations and ordinance; then recommend actions that:
 - A. Continue to provide efficient service to residents and businesses with incentives to reduce waste and recycle.
 - B. Reduce our liabilities for clean-up action at landfills and illegal disposal sites.
 - C. Comply with our Olmsted/Dodge Joint Powers Agreement.
 - D. Stabilize our facility's financial condition, and
 - E. Implement legally binding contracts, ordinances, and agreements needed to carry out the plan.

No action was needed at this time.

The Environmental Quality Director discussed a proposed tipping fee with the Board.

Tipping Fee Public
Hearing Date Set

Mr. Gamm stated that the existing waste disposal "tipping fee" at the Transfer Station is \$63 per ton for licensed haulers and \$99 for self-haulers. To put this fee in perspective: an average family generates about one ton of garbage a year. The last time the county increased the tipping fee was June of 2004, more than 2 years ago.

To balance the 2007 Transfer Station operating budget, Environmental Quality is proposing a \$9 per ton increase to licensed haulers and a \$25 per ton increase to public self-haulers. This increase will cost the average family, using a licensed hauler, about \$9 a year. An average family that self-hauls all their waste to the Transfer Station will spend about \$25 more for a full year's disposal. These disposal costs can be reduced significantly if families and businesses recycle their waste materials.

The Board reviewed 2007 tipping fee estimates.

Tipping Fee Public
Hearing Date Set -
Continued

Motion by Gray seconded by Alberts to hold a public hearing to hear comments about the proposed tipping fee changes on Tuesday, October 10, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. CDT during the regular County Board meeting. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Maintenance Superintendent Dallas Ness met with the Board to discuss track loader quotes.

Highway Department
Track Loader
Purchase Approved

Mr. Ness informed the Board that included in the 2006 budget is \$50,000 for replacement of the Highway Departments skid loader. The existing skid loader was obtained from the Transfer Station several years ago. It is inadequate as a primary unit and is under sized for their use. The Transfer Station will get the old skid loader back as a back-up unit. The following four costs were obtained from the state contract for track drive skid loaders. These are approximately 80 hp units with high flow hydraulics for use with attachments.

Dealers	Base	Options	Tax	Total
Case 450RT	\$41,050	\$7,358	\$3,146.52	\$51,554.52
Bob Cat T300 from Chain Drive of Rochester	\$36,960	\$8,417	\$2,886	\$47,286.00
Caterpillar 287B	\$45,230	\$10,080	\$3,595.15	\$58,905.15
Bob Cat T300 from Thermo King of Albert Lea	\$36,960	\$7,042	\$2,860	\$46,862.00

The Maintenance Superintendent shared the following staff comments:

Thermo King in Albert Lea provided the lowest cost for this equipment; however, Chain Drive included in their cost a three day rental of a milling attachment (a \$525.00 value) at no cost. This free rental along with the closer proximity and reputation of service indicates Chain Drive would provide the most cost effective unit.

Motion by Alberts seconded by Gray to approve and authorize the Highway Department to purchase from state contract the Bob Cat T300 at a cost of \$47,286.00 from Chain Drive of Rochester as the unit with the highest value for cost. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

County Attorney Paul Kiltinen provided the Board with a legal update.

Legal Update

Mr. Kiltinen discussed with the Board a request to take over and maintain the Law Library.

Law Library
Responsibilities
Moved to Attorney's
Office

The County Attorney reported that Annette Hodge had approached his office regarding the maintenance of the Law Library in Dodge County. These matters have been managed by Court Administration with the help of the Judge's Clerk. This is not generally how it is managed in other counties, although there is no fixed or required format. With the Court Administration office becoming state funded, and having less to do with day to day Dodge County matters, Ms. Hodge has suggested that it would be more appropriate for an office in Dodge County to handle the Law Library anticipating that there would be some compensation for this from the budget.

It was proposed that from this point on the Dodge County Attorney's Office would be responsible for updating the law library books, ordering material and paying bills. Ms. Hodge anticipates that the starting compensation level for this would be \$1,000.00 per year.

Motion by Hanson seconded by Alberts to approve and authorize the Dodge County Attorney's Office to assume responsibilities for the Law Library with a compensation level of \$1,000.00 per year. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Commissioner Tjosaas presented a summary of the Human Services Committee report and action items.

Human Services
Committee Report

Motion by Tjosaas seconded by Hanson to approve Human Services Action Item 1.1, payment of the bills as found on the bill payment list pursuant to resolution #95-10, to approve all Financial Assistance case actions as presented, all Social Services case actions with the reasons and actions as found in the individual case files, and to approve the destruction of the closed case files as found on the monthly closed case destruction list. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Human Services
Action Item 1.1

Commissioner Hanson presented a summary of the Public Safety Committee report and action items.

Public Safety
Committee Report

The Board discussed the Sheriff's Office out-of-state training requests. Motion by Hanson seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize out-of-state training requests for deputies Jeff Espinosa and Robert Hovland to attend ASP Instructor Certification training at Camp Dodge, Johnston, Iowa October 3-4, 2006. Tuition, lodging and meals are free. Fuel will be the only expense. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Out-of-State Training
Approved for Sheriff's
Office Deputies

The Board reviewed the Sheriff's Office request to contribute to a RTCT Training Facility. Brian Watters, Law Enforcement Training Coordinator, has approached Sergeant Guenther and the Sheriff to explain this project and solicit Dodge County's participation. The Sheriff's recommendation is to participate and send a letter of intent to Mr. Watters.

RTCT Training
Facility Participation
Approved

The cost to Dodge County would be \$4,000, with \$2,000 being payable in 2007 and \$2,000 payable in 2008. Of that \$4,000, the Sheriff's Office would be responsible for approximately \$2,700. Kasson and West Concord police departments would be responsible for the remainder. Kasson has committed to the project, West Concord has not been contacted yet. If West Concord does commit to the project, the Sheriff's Office responsibility will be \$1,350 for 2007 and \$1,350 for 2008. After five years, Mr. Watters anticipates a \$500 per year user fee for Dodge County starting in 2013.

Motion by Hanson seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize the Dodge County Sheriff's Office to participate and financially contribute up to \$4,000 to the RTCT Training Facility as requested and discussed with a \$500 per year user fee starting in 2013. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Commissioner Alberts presented a summary of the Public Health Committee report and action items.

Public Health
Committee Report

The Board discussed Public Health's request to accept donations. Miscellaneous infant items and clothing have been donated to the Public Health Nest of Dodge County by private citizens. Motion by Alberts seconded by Gray to approve and authorize Public Health to accept donations of infant items and clothing totaling \$197.35 to be used for the Public Health Nest Program. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Public Health Nest
Donations Approved

Commissioner Erickson presented a summary of the Administration Committee report and action items.

Administration
Committee Report

Motion by Hanson seconded by Tjosaas to approve and authorize the August 22, 2006 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes as presented. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

08/22/06 Committee
of the Whole Meeting
Minutes Approved

Motion by Alberts seconded by Gray to approve and authorize the August 22, 2006 meeting minutes as presented. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

08/22/06 Meeting
Minutes Approved

Commissioners provided their agency reports. Commissioner Hanson attended a Southeast Water Committee meeting, a NIMS Training session, a Clean Water meeting, a Southeast Water meeting, a Budget meeting, a Southeast Water meeting and a South Central Human Relations meeting. Commissioner Alberts attended a Semcac meeting. Commissioner Gray attended a Highway 14 Planning meeting. Commissioner Erickson attended an AMC Ag & Rural Development Task Force meeting, a Dodge County Land Use Task Force meeting, a meeting regarding a driveway issue at the Dodge County Highway Building, a NIMS Training session, a meeting with Victim Services, a DFO Joint Powers Board meeting, a SCHA Quality Assurance Committee meeting, a Budget Work Session, a visitation for Jerry Peterson, a SCHA Joint Powers Board meeting and a Dodge County Licensed Day Care Providers meeting. Commissioner Tjosaas attended a NIMS meeting, a Budget meeting, a Planning and Zoning meeting and a Semcac meeting.

Agency Reports

The Board continued discussion on the 2007 preliminary tax levy. Motion by Alberts seconded by Gray to approve and authorize the Chairman of the Board and Deputy Clerk to sign resolution #2006-27 setting the 2007 preliminary tax levy at \$8,552,043, which represents a 6.37% over 2006:

2007 Preliminary Tax Levy Set by Resolution #2006-27

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 275.065 requires Dodge County to certify a preliminary tax levy to the County Auditor on or before September 15th; and

WHEREAS, Dodge County continues to have increased demands for services due to a number of factors including our continued steady growth rate; and

WHEREAS, the Dodge County Board of Commissioners considers the growth of Dodge County a key factor in delivering services and helping to spread the cost of county government to additional taxpayers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dodge County Board of Commissioners hereby sets the 2007 preliminary tax levy at \$8,552,043.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that department heads and staff are requested to continue to work with the County Board with the goal of determining further reductions in the levy amounts prior to the final adoption of the 2007 tax levy in December.

Resolution adopted, Alberts, Gray, Erickson aye, Tjosaas, Hanson nay.

The Board discussed setting a Truth in Taxation Public Hearing date.

Truth in Taxation Public Hearing Date Set

Typically the county is required to hold a Truth in Taxation (TNT) public hearing on the first Thursday in December. Local government entities are exempt from holding this public hearing if its total proposed tax levy does not exceed its previous year final tax levy by more than the percentage increase in the implicit price deflator (IPD). For tax year 2006, taxes payable 2007, the percentage increase in the IPD is 6.4187%. This equates to a maximum levy for Dodge County to be exempt of \$8,556,319.

The proposed 2007 Dodge County tax levy is \$8,552,043, just below the IPD maximum to be exempt from holding a Truth in Taxation hearing. The County Administrator proposed the following two options to consider:

Truth in Taxation
Public Hearing Date
Set - Continued

1. Make a decision to not hold a TNT meeting since the county is exempt from the requirements due to the proposed levy being below the IPD maximum; or
2. Set the TNT public hearing date for Thursday, December 7, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion by Gray seconded by Alberts to set a Truth in Taxation public hearing date for Thursday, December 7, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. CDT. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Motion by Alberts seconded by Hanson to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 p.m. CDT. *Motion adopted unanimously.*

Meeting Adjourned

The next regular meeting of the Dodge County Board of Commissioners will be held on September 26, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. CDT.

Next Regular
Meeting

ATTEST:

DAVID ERICKSON
CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD

BECKY LUBAHN
DEPUTY CLERK

DATED: