

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE MOWER COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 11, 2005

The Mower County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Mower, Minnesota, met in Special Session October 11, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. at the Courthouse in Austin, Minnesota.

All members present, viz:     Raymond Tucker, Chair  
  David Hillier  
  Dick Lang  
  Garry E. Ellingson  
  Richard Cummings  
  Craig Oscarson, County Coordinator

**GENERAL:**

Commissioner Lang moved and Commissioner Hillier seconded to support the Southeastern Minnesota Regional Plan to End Long Term Homelessness and authorized the Director to cooperate with other region 10 Human Services Departments to support the plan. Motion carried.

Commissioner Cummings moved and Commissioner Lang seconded to approve the Biennial Service Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Human Services for the administration of the Minnesota Family Investment Program and the Children and Community services Act for the period from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2007, under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 256M and 256J. Motion carried.

Commissioner Hillier moved and Commissioner Ellingson seconded to authorize the Chair and the Director to sign the following Purchase of Service Agreements:

- a.     Independent Management Services – approve contract for Waivered Services, effective October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006.
- b.     Janine Marks – approve amendment to add Case Management and Elderly Services to the current contract, effective September 6, 2005 to March 31, 2006.
- c.     REM Woodvale, Inc. – approve amendment to the SILS contract increasing the rate for services as approved by legislature, effective October 1, 2005 and extending the contract to September 30, 2006.
- d.     Independent Management Services - approve amendment to the SILS contract increasing the rate for services as approved by legislature, effective October 1, 2005 and extending the contract to September 30, 2006.
- e.     Wapiti Meadows Community Technologies & Services – approve contract for Mental Health Services, effective October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006.

- f. Our House – approve contract for Assisted Living Services, effective September 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Cummings moved and Commissioner Hillier seconded to approve the destruction of designated Agency files in accordance with DHS Rules and Regulations. All previously approved files have been destroyed. Motion carried.

**SOCIAL SERVICE ACTIONS:**

Commissioner Ellingson moved and Commissioner Cummings seconded to approve the Social Service Actions. Motion carried.

**INCOME MAINTENANCE ACTIONS:**

Commissioner Ellingson moved and Commissioner Hillier seconded to approve the Income Maintenance Actions. Motion carried.

County Coordinator Craig Oscarson provided an update on the radio tower project for the Sheriff and Highway Department. The Sheriff and Engineer have negotiated a cooperative effort for the tower with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). MnDOT will build the tower on the land that Mower County has purchased. A Letter of Agreement has been prepared for Mower County Board approval outlining the details of the agreement between Mower County and MnDOT for cooperatively partnering in the construction and operation of a communications tower.

Motion made by Commissioner Ellingson, seconded by Commissioner Lang to approve the Letter of Agreement between Mower County and Minnesota Department of Transportation for a joint radio tower and authorize the County Coordinator to sign the agreement. Motion carried.

Commissioner Tucker read a prepared response to the County Treasurer's appearance before the County Board on September 27, 2005. On September 27<sup>th</sup>, the Treasurer publicly addressed the Commissioners regarding allegations concerning inappropriate office space and changes in treasurer duties.

Margene Gunderson, Director of Public Health, addressed the board concerning the transition of Mower County for implementing the Minnesota Senior Health Option Program. In implementing this program, the Mower County Home Health Care Program will be discontinued.

It was noted for the record that the Mower County Commissioners had received a letter from four home health aids concerning their future discontinued employment.

Several Mower County home care recipients addressed the Board voicing their concerns in the discontinued home health aid program at Mower County. It was noted that there are nearly a dozen other home care agencies and efforts are being done through

job fairs, etc. to find employment for the home health aids and then to partner home care recipients with agencies that have employed their current home health care provider.

Motion by Commissioner Lang, seconded by Commissioner Cummings for Mower County to discontinue providing home health care services by December 9, 2005, under the following provisions:

- a. Home health care clients will be informed of the need to transfer their care to another home care provider within the next 30 to 60 days. Clients will be given information about the other home care providers in our area and will make an informed decision about their choice of provider. Public Health Nursing staff will assist with ensuring a smooth transition of care.
- b. For a period of 12 months after the date of their transfer, home care clients who are currently on sliding fee will receive financial assistance from Mower County in the amount of the difference between what they currently pay for home care services compared to the new rate of service at the new home care agency.
- c. Home Health Aide staff will be offered assistance in acquiring employment with are home care agencies, through an employee job fair. Continuing education hours and other documents required for employment will be transferred to the new agency per the Home Health Aide's request. A meeting will be set up to review and discuss benefits, unemployment and other personnel related information.
- d. Public Health Nursing and home Health Aide Coordinator staff working in home health care will be reassigned to provide MSHO Care Coordination services to Mower County seniors, age 65 and over, who are eligible for Medical Assistance and Medicare.

Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Hillier, seconded by Commissioner Ellingson to approve an internal contract between Mower County Human Services and Mower County Public Health for accounting services eliminating one FTE public health position and adding .5 FTE (20 hours) to a position in human services. Motion carried.

George Brophy, Development Corporation of Austin, presented a power point presentation to the Board outlining the DCA's mission and success stories. Craig Johnson, DCA, requested that the Board review the 2006 funding for the DCA by reconsidering its proposed reduction. The Board noted that all Mower County development corporations funding is proposed to be reduced by the same percentage in 2006.

Kyle Kaehn, Double K, addressed the Board for a status update on his request for a tax abatement.

Motion by Commissioner Lang, seconded by Commissioner Cummings to discontinue work on any tax abatement policy until a future date or conditions change that indicate an urgency to revisit tax abatement initiatives. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA

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Tom Higgins, Mower County citizen, addressed the Board concerning the Ramsey Mill Pond. He noted that this was a valuable Mower County water resource that did not have a public access. Since there is to be some flood buyout in the area of the Ramsey Mill Pond that matter will be reviewed in possibly establishing a public access to the Ramsey Mill Pond.

Motion by Commissioner Ellingson, seconded by Commissioner Hillier to approve the minutes of September 27 and October 4, 2005. Motion carried.

Motion made by Commissioner Hillier, seconded by Commissioner Lang to approve the bi-monthly bills for immediate payment.

GENERAL FUND

AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME
684.58	ADAMS DRUG	114.00	ADP SCREENING & SELECTION
18293.35	AMI IMAGING SYSTEMS INC	463.55	AUSTIN NEWSPAPERS, INC
1600.00	AUSTIN SCHOOL DIST 492	150.79	AUTO VALUE AUSTIN
152.50	BEST WESTERN RIVERPORT INN	457.00	BUDGET OIL CO
291.00	RUBY CAMPOS	279.82	CARE EXPRESS PRODUCTS INC
11981.70	DARCAN	7150.00	DELOITTE CONSULTING LLP
108.30	DOUBLE K SPECIALTY, INC.	240.00	ELROD & GREEN DDS
206.50	FOX ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC	995.00	GARY GRANLE ENTERPRISES
181.30	ALEX HALBACH	100.00	HEALTH CARE EDUCATION AND
317.18	HOLIDAY INN ST CLOUD	147.93	HYVEE
100.00	INDEPENDENT EMERGENCY SERVICES	152.90	INGENIX
361.21	J & K WINONA	1361.29	JAKOBSON DRUG & HALLMARK
245.61	K MART	875.00	KMTELECOM
369.28	LASER PRODUCT TECHNOLOGIES INC	165.08	THE LIGHTING CONNECTION
560.00	ROSEMARY LINDERMAN	195.00	MAAO %PAUL KNUTSON
248.87	MARTIN BROS	338.72	MIDTOWN AUTO CLINIC
534.00	MINNESOTA COUNTIES INS TRUST	218.24	MINNESOTA COUNTY ATTORNEYS
102.54	MINNESOTA ELEVATOR, INC	175.00	MINNESOTA STATE LAW LIBRARY
1008.60	MITCHELL COUNTY REGIONAL HEALT	2623.50	MN OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TEC
158.92	CAROL MOSTROM	155.00	NATIONAL EMERGENCY NUMBER
144.22	NORTHLAND BUSINESS SYSTEMS	206.18	ELLEN PETERSEN
1513.65	SCHILLING SUPPLY COMPANY	125.00	DR. SCHMITT
1001.10	SERVICEMASTER CLEAN	23400.00	SHERIFF MITCHELL COUNTY
171.03	SMYTH COMPANIES INC	300.00	PAUL SPYHALSKI
630.00	CJIS STATE OF MINN	376.65	UNIFORMS UNLIMITED INC
1153.00	US DEPT. OF JUSTICE	142.73	VWR SCIENTIFIC
5759.96	WEST GROUP	3373.16	WHITewater WIRELESS, INC ROC
	31 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$100	1,542.40	
GENERAL FUND		\$93,702.34	* TOTAL

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME
177.29	AUSTIN BUILDERS SUPPLY, INC	219.90	GARY BARCLAY
296.07	BROCK WHITE CO LLC	159.75	DAMEL CORPORATION
134.95	CHAD EASTVOLD	229.28	ETTERMAN ENTERPRISES
444.91	L.R. FALK CONSTRUCTION CO.	140.00	PAUL HYLLE
776.75	K & K FABRICATION, INC	250.81	LEEF BROS., INC.
170.40	LEN'S WOOD PRODUCTS	438.52	M-R SIGN COMPANY, INC.
105.65	METAL CULVERTS, INC.	314.33	NAPA AUTO PARTS
207.75	NEWMAN TRAFFIC SIGNS	2090.00	OFFICE OF STATE AUDITOR
47917.50	OSMUNDSON BROS. CONTRACTORS, I	353.83	PERSINGER'S EQUIPMENT, INC.
211.74	PETROBLEND CORP.	185.00	POSTMASTER
289.69	PROLINE DIST., INC	1535.03	ROCHESTER FUEL INJECTION
135.00	ROCHESTER PETROLEUM EQUIPMENT	198.80	SOUTHERN MINN OIL EQUIPMENT
124.50	STEPP MFG. CO., INC.	713.25	C TOM'S HEATING, A

**COMMISSIONERS' RECORD MOWER COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

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171.19 ULVEN'S ACE HARDWARE		191.68 UNITED BLDG CENTERS	
8957.16 ZIEGLER, INC			
13 PAYMENTS LESS THAN	\$100	705.92	
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND		\$67,846.65	* TOTAL
SOCIAL SERVICE FUND			
AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME
1 PAYMENTS LESS THAN	\$100	50.00	
SOCIAL SERVICE FUND		\$50.00	* TOTAL
SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING FUND			
AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME
399.00	AUSTIN NEWSPAPERS, INC	375.00	WALLACE BUSTAD
205.95	LAB SAFETY SUPPLY, INC	141.35	SHERWIN WILLIAMS COMPANY
288.00	THEISSEN SIGNS		
4 PAYMENTS LESS THAN	\$100	203.35	
SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING FUND		\$1,612.65	* TOTAL
DITCH FUND			
AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME
1269.38	MARK CHRZ	1641.51	THOMAS DAHL
1395.74	FREEBORN CONSTRUCTION, INC.	2620.00	JOAN HAYDEN
1180.00	HORMEL FOODS	4600.00	JOHN WORLEIN
0 PAYMENTS LESS THAN	\$100	.00	
DITCH FUND		\$12,706.63	* TOTAL
FAMILY CONNECTIONS			
AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT	VENDOR NAME
2 PAYMENTS LESS THAN	\$100	65.14	
FAMILY CONNECTIONS		\$65.14	* TOTAL
****	FINAL TOTAL.....	\$175,983.41	****

Motion carried.

The Board received a notice from Viril Layton, that effective December 31, 2005 he will be resigning from the Austin Mower County Area Transit Board.

Motion by Commissioner Cummings, seconded by Commissioner Ellingson to adjourn the meeting at 11:17 a.m. until October 25, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. Motion carried.

**THE MOWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

**Attest:**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Clerk/Coordinator**

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