

**SPECIAL ORDERS SESSION
COUNTY BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2009**

Chairman David Albrecht called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the County Board Room, Fourth Floor, Courthouse, 415 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and an invocation by Supervisor Locke.

The following Supervisors were present: Konetzke, Barker, Griesbach, Eisen, Ramos, Roh, Koziczkowski, Smith, Widener, Hamblin, Albrecht, Gabert, Riste, Thompson, Hall, Wingren, Jacobson, Norton, Warnke, Robl, Schmuhl, Kline, Locke, Nelson, Finch, Sievert, Farrey, Diakoff, Brennand, Egan, Ellis, Rengstorf and Reinert.

Excused: Lennon. Absent: Gilchrist

Motion by Supervisor Robl and seconded to approve the agenda for this evening's meeting. **CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

PUBLIC HEARING

No one addressed the Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Supervisor Kline reported that the Legislative Committee will be meeting on January 26, 2009. If anyone has an item for the agenda they should get him the information.

Supervisor Wingren commended Margie Rankin, Park View Health Center Administrator, and her staff, for Park View's designation as Winnebago County's only 5-star rated nursing home facility.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Albrecht reported that Supervisor Lennon is excused from tonight's meeting.

Chairman Albrecht thanked Supervisor Jacobson for his donation to the county's scholarship fund.

Chairman Albrecht reported that he contacted Supervisor Gilchrist about his absences at county board meetings. Supervisor Gilchrist stated that he will start attending the meetings, but he is absent again this evening.

Chairman Albrecht reported that he has selected Ron Eichman to fill the vacancy in Supervisor District 23 brought about by Christopher Wright's resignation from the Board. Mr. Eichman's appointment will be presented to the Board at the January 20 meeting.

SECURITY – COUNTY BOARD DESK DRAWERS

Chairman Albrecht explained that security in the County Board Room, which is also Branch II's Courtroom, is of great concern to Judge Scott Woldt and others. Of particular concern are the unlocked drawers in the County Board Supervisors' desks. During court, inmates and others sit at the Supervisors' desks and the unlocked desk drawers give them access to items that could cause injury to court staff, the Judge, and others. Chairman Albrecht read an e-mail from Judge Woldt where he reiterated his concerns after he had addressed the County Board on this issue and then found that some desk drawers were still unlocked after the Board's meeting.

Chairman Albrecht explained that his decision to have the desk drawers permanently locked was because of the court's concern about security and the inability to consistently keep all the desk drawers locked. Chairman Albrecht stated that if the desk drawers aren't locked, Judge Woldt might require Winnebago County to provide additional security officers and/or security measures in his courtroom, which could cost the county thousands of dollars.

Various supervisors expressed their concerns about safety in the courtroom and agreed with the Chairman's decision. Other supervisors stated that they realized safety is an issue, but they don't agree that the desk drawers should be permanently locked.

SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING – JOHN RABE, WINNEBAGO COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGER

John Rabe, Solid Waste Manager; Jennifer Semerau, Recycling Specialist; and Patrick O'Brien, Chairman of the Solid Waste Management Board, updated the Board on single stream recycling in Winnebago County. Ms. Semerau gave a presentation that explained the following about the single stream recycling project in Winnebago County:

- Single stream recycling means that all recyclables—paper fiber and food-beverage containers—are placed in the same cart or bin for collection. Currently, these two types of recyclables have to be separated and set out for collection.
- In 2002, Winnebago County partnered with Brown and Outagamie Counties for solid waste and recycling

services. The 25-year solid waste agreement and the 12-year recycling agreement will save the three counties approximately \$43 Million.

- In 2004, with existing processing equipment aging, the three counties researched single stream recycling. In 2007, the three counties decided that they'd "invest in single stream recycling processing capability." In 2008, the three counties extended their recycling agreement until December 31, 2024.
- The facility for single stream recycling will be located at the Outagamie County Recycling facility in Appleton. All sixty communities in the three counties will have the, "ability, opportunity and option" to start single stream recycling July 1, 2009.

Ms. Semerau explained that going to single stream recycling will reduce the number of recycling facilities from two to one. The capital costs associated with this one recycling facility will be approximately \$7.9 Million. Winnebago County's portion of these costs will be paid for as an "annual depreciated expense by the Solid Waste Management Board" and not on the county's tax levy.

Ms. Semerau also explained why they decided to go to single stream recycling:

- Nationwide trend
- Local municipalities have requested it
- Potential loss of revenue if they don't convert to single stream recycling
- Strengthens the three-county partnership
- Keeps municipal costs down
- Maximum collection flexibility
- Increases recycling
- Decreases landfill space

Ms. Semerau explained that some municipalities that have single stream recycling are also going to automated garbage collection. However, automated garbage collection is not a requirement of single stream recycling or the county—automated garbage collection is the decision of the municipality.

Ms. Semerau stated that single stream recycling does require people to change from using blue bags for their plastics, glass and cans to some sort of bin or container. Ms. Semerau explained that it will be up to each community to decide what type of container residents will use for their recyclables.

Ms. Semerau stated that the schedule for the single stream recycling project is:

- Construction and remodel of Recycling Facility in Outagamie County is underway
- Construction completed and equipment delivered by March 2009
- 1st quarter of 2009 – the county will assist communities with pricing carts/bins and provide single stream education
- 2nd quarter of 2009 – install, start-up, test and train on single stream equipment
- July 1, 2009 – full-scale operation begins

Ms. Semerau, Mr. Rabe and Mr. O'Brien took questions from the Board.

At approximately 7:05 p.m., Chairman Albrecht called for a recess. The Board reconvened at 7:20 p.m.

UW FOX VALLEY – COMMUNICATION ARTS CENTER AND ENGINEERING LABORATORY UPDATE

Dean James Perry stated the construction on the Communication Arts Center should be completed by the end of April 2009. That will give them plenty of time over the summer to get the facility ready for the fall semester and their grand opening on September 12. Demolition of the old theater will begin on February 15. Dean Perry stated that fundraising for the project has been "slow but steady". They have raised \$1, 660,000 of the needed \$2,000,000 and hope to have the remaining \$340,000 by the time the project is finished.

Dean Perry then discussed the engineering laboratory. He explained that the building currently being renovated for the new laboratory is in need of a thorough architectural study so that the actual cost for the whole project can be determined. They would like to use \$90,000 of funds budgeted for the elevator in this building.

Dean Perry explained that this building was purchased about one year ago because the current space for the engineering program was too small. They had hoped to have the state-required elevator and external stair case installed in the new building by this time, but when the bids came in at \$350,000 for this part of the project, they were \$150,000 short. There is now concern that estimates for other parts of the project are too low and that a thorough architectural study is needed before they continue with the project. The Board of Trustees is requesting that some of the money budgeted for this project be used for an architectural study so that actual costs can be determined. Dean Perry explained that Winnebago County budgeted \$70,000 for the elevator, so their \$45,000 for the architectural study would come from that fund. They would like to have the architectural study completed by Spring 2009, so that renovations can be completed by 2010.

Dean Perry is hoping that this project may qualify for funds from the State of Wisconsin as part of a federal economic stimulus package. Dean Perry stated that chances of this being included is small, but it's worth submitting.

Dean Perry then took questions from the Board.

PLEASANT ACRES REUSE PROJECT – MIKE ELDER, FACILITIES & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

Mike Elder, Facilities & Property Management Director, updated the Board on the Pleasant Acres building and its potential reuse. Mr. Elder explained that a county facilities' comprehensive space needs study was done in 2001, followed by a courthouse security study in 2002. Security additions to the courthouse and an addition to the Orrin King Administration building were developed and rejected in 2003 & 2004 respectively.

In 2005, the county approved the building of the new Park View Health Center, which now leaves the county with two empty buildings. Mr. Elder reported that one of those buildings, Pleasant Acres, is being looked at as office space to help relieve space needs in various county departments and to move departments that are in rented locations back to county-owned property.

Mr. Elder explained that remodeling the courthouse to add appropriate security and to locate only court-related departments in it is somewhat limited because of the building's structure and historical status. The cost involved in such a remodel or addition was also prohibitive.

The proposed 30,000 square foot addition to the Orrin King Building on the courthouse campus was also discussed, but that presented the following problems:

- Parking lot would need to meet set back requirements
- Number of parking spaces would need to be increased; county would need to buy up more property in the area or build a parking structure
- Storm water runoff would need to be addressed
- Additions to either building would require the existing buildings be brought up to current codes

To alleviate space need problems on the courthouse campus, they studied moving various non-court related county departments to the Pleasant Acres building. When this proposal was made to the County Board in March 2008, the cost to remodel Pleasant Acres was \$10,800,000. At that time, the Board asked that a cost study be done to build a new building on the Pleasant Acres site to meet these same needs. The cost for a new building would be \$17,500,000.

Mr. Elder explained both options:

Remodeling:

- shell of existing building would be retained; roof is less than 10 years old
- new windows, HVAC and electrical would be needed

New Building (three-story building):

- kept the space assignments the same as the remodel option
- kept the new building on the grounds near Pleasant Acres
- site work will be needed; if building on Pleasant Acres site, that building will need to be razed before construction can be begin
- longer project timeline – additional work to building a new structure and potential weather delays

Mr. Elder explained that immediate needs are to move the Public Health Department, the Second Chance Program and Information Systems equipment out of the Rehabilitation Pavilion and move the Information Systems Department out of the courthouse.

Mr. Elder then took questions from the Board.

Motion by Supervisor Robl and seconded to adjourn until the Board's next meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2009. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan T. Ertmer
Winnebago County Clerk

State of Wisconsin)
County of Winnebago) ss

I, Susan T. Ertmer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Journal of the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors for their Special Orders Session held January 6, 2009.

Susan T. Ertmer
Winnebago County Clerk