

**SPECIAL ORDERS SESSION
COUNTY BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2004**

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 Rankin.

The following Supervisors were present: Weber, Barker, Griesbach, Scoville, Maehl, Koziczkowski, Klitzke, Widener, Lauson, Albrecht, Thompson, Steineke, Lennon, Machotka, Sundquist, Wingren, Jacobson, Norton, Warnke, Nielsen, Robl, Harris, Kline, Kramer, Schaidler, Finch, Farrey, Sievert, Arne, Diakoff, Brennand, Egan, Rankin, Rengstorf and O'Brien. Excused: Pech. Absent: Hotynski and Lorenz.

Motion by Supervisor Robl and seconded to approve the agenda. CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, ETC.

Information on a WCA Education Seminar regarding transportation issues was shared with the Board. It will be held on Monday, May 24 in Madison. Supervisors interested in attending should contact the County Clerk's Office.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS

Supervisor Robl reported that the Highway Department has used 85% of its snow removal budget. There is some concern that there may not be enough money in their budget if there is a lot of snow in November or December.

Supervisor Rengstorf stated that tonight's presentation on the Husky Airboat is important in that action on the purchase of these boats must be considered relatively soon if they are to be delivered before winter.

Supervisor Lauson reported that tonight is opening night at the Sunnyview Expo racetrack. He encouraged the Board to go to the racetrack some Tuesday evening and enjoy the races.

Supervisor Widener reported that at today's WCA District Meeting Supervisor Joseph Maehl was re-elected to the WCA Board of Directors.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Albrecht reported that David Schmidt, Winnebago County Planner, has announced his retirement. Mr. Schmidt will retire on or about July 1, 2004.

PUBLIC HEARING

Donna Lohry, 51 West Bent Avenue, Oshkosh, spoke in support of maintaining the residency of the 19 developmentally disabled residents at Park View Health Center. These 19 residents are scheduled to be re-located in into the community in January 2005. She hopes the Board will move forward with renovating Park View Health Center.

Sandra Koeppler, 1265 Heritage Trail, Oshkosh, complimented the care her mother received at Park View Health Center. She encouraged the Board to build a new Park View Health Center facility.

Susan Rubick, 7853 County Road T, Oshkosh, complimented Park View Health Center for the excellent care her father has received there for many years. She encouraged the Board to maintain Park View Health Center.

Mary Kay Vacheresse, 2807 Sunset Point Lane, Oshkosh, encouraged the Board to act quickly on the Park View Health Center project. It's an excellent facility that needs to be retained.

Sylvia Banville, former Park View Health Center Administrator, Pickett, Wisconsin, encouraged the Board to retain Park View Health Center. Park View Health Center is an important facility because it cares for individuals with needs that can't be met at other facilities.

Tom McInnis, Maintenance Supervisor at Park View Health Center, stated that if it would help the Board to come to a decision about the facility, he would conduct a tour of the facility and give them an opportunity to ask questions.

Craig Winkle, Viola Avenue, Oshkosh, complimented Park View Health Center on the excellent care his father received while he was there. He encouraged the Board to maintain this fine facility.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES

RESOLUTION NO. 5-42004: Authorize the Replacement of a 3-yard Bucket Loader at Wittman Airport at a Cost not to Exceed \$178,000.

WHEREAS, Wittman Airport now has a Clark 1980 3-yard bucket loader that has reached the end of its

useful life, and

WHEREAS, the cost of continued maintenance over the next few years will exceed the replacement cost of the bucket loader, and

WHEREAS, the age and condition of the current loader make it unreliable for current and future use, and

WHEREAS, the replacement of the loader was scheduled for 2004 in the Executive Capital Improvement Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby authorizes Wittman Airport to replace the 3-yard bucket loader complete with dirt bucket, snow bucket and 20' power angle snow blade.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funds to pay for said equipment be appropriated and transferred from the fund balance of the Airport Fund with said Fund being reimbursed from a subsequent bond issue.

Respectfully submitted:
AVIATION COMMITTEE
PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Motion by Supervisor Nielsen and seconded to adopt. Ayes: 33. Nays: 1 – Jacobson. Excused: 1 - Pech. Absent: 3 – Hotynski, Norton and Lorenz. CARRIED.

HUSKY AIRBOAT – SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Sheriff Brooks explained that his department is responsible for all search and rescue operations on bodies of water in Winnebago County. He explained that the local fire departments have taken over this responsibility because they can act more quickly when there is an emergency on the water.

Sheriff Brooks explained that previous and current winter water rescue craft have provided adequate service, but there have been problems. For example, the hovercraft, which uses airbags to move across the frozen surface of the lakes, experiences frequent tears in the airbags. Sheriff Brooks also explained that the flat-bottomed airboat, which they now have, has a low free board, which lets water accumulate in the boat. When that water freezes, it makes the boat hazardous for the rescue crew and the people they are rescuing.

Sheriff Brooks introduced Assistant Chief Steve DeLeeuw of the Neenah/Menasha Fire Department and Battalion Chief Jeff Johnson of the Oshkosh Fire Department. Both Chief DeLeeuw and Chief Johnson reiterated concerns about the efficiency and effectiveness of the current water rescue equipment. They explained that when the hovercraft is disabled because of torn airbags or other problems, rescue personnel and the people they are trying to assist are put in danger.

Sheriff Brooks showed the Board a video of the Husky airboat and explained the benefits of having a water rescue vehicle of this type on lakes like Winnebago, Winneconne and Butte des Morts. The Husky airboat's construction allows the operator to maneuver over snow, ice, ice shoves and open water—all the things that you encounter during the winter months on the county's lakes.

It is Sheriff Brook's suggestion that Winnebago County purchase two of the Husky airboats—one for the north end of Lake Winnebago and the other for the Oshkosh area and south. The cost for two of these airboats would be approximately \$210,000.

PARK VIEW HEALTH CENTER PRESENTATION

Supervisor Steve Arne, Chairman of the Park View Health Center Committee, explained that tonight's presentation will give the entire County Board and the public an opportunity to hear about and see the various plans that are being suggested for the Park View Health Center facility. Supervisor Arne explained that in the next few months, the Park View Health Center Committee will be evaluating this and other information and making a recommendation to the entire Board.

Margie Rankin, Park View Health Center Administrator, addressed the Board and explained the function and purpose of the Park View Health Center facility. Some of the facts Ms. Rankin shared with the Board were:

- There are 239 licensed skilled nursing beds at Park View Health Center (PVHC)
- PVHC is actually three separate nursing home facilities – Pleasant Acres, the Pavilion and the ICF/MR unit
- Pleasant Acres – 117 residents– primarily people with complex medical conditions
- Pavilion – 105 residents - dementia and behavior care – seven separate units at the Pavilion to accommodate various conditions and behaviors
- Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR) – 17 residents – The Governor has mandated that relocation plans be made for each of these 17 residents by 2005. This will allow the residents to eventually be placed in the community. The number of residents in this unit will decline by the end of next year.

- PVHC is unique – 84% of the residents' care is paid for by Medical Assistance; they have frequent referrals from other nursing homes; they have 2 locked and 3 secured nursing units; 116 residents are protectively placed at PVHC by court order; they provide specialized services for persons with mental illness/developmental disabilities; provide short-term care to Winnebago County jail inmates

Chuck Orenstein, Winnebago County Finance Director, made a very detailed presentation to the Board explaining the various stages that the study of the future of Park View Health Center has gone through. He explained that one of the main reasons the PVHC study is being done is because of the potential loss of significant intergovernmental funding—approximately \$3 Million—for the facility. With less intergovernmental funding and with increasing costs associated with PVHC, the county must determine what is best for the residents and the county taxpayer in regards to this facility. Mr. Orenstein also stated that the age and deterioration of the buildings is also of concern and needs to be taken into consideration when thinking about the future of PVHC.

Mr. Orenstein gave a Power Point presentation that included:

- Cost comparisons for remodeling, building new or a combination of the two
- Information on selling or closing PVHC—what are the costs to provide mandated services to the residents if they were sent to other facilities versus maintaining the status quo
- Cost comparisons for various size facilities – 175 beds, 189 beds or 239 beds
- Cost to the taxpayer—what's the impact on the tax levy if PVHC is remodeled or built new
- Various options for remodeling the current facility, building new or a combination of remodeling and building new

Mr. Kim Hassel, of Plunkett-Raysich Architects, presented the various options and their costs. The option the study group feels is the best one financially for the county is Option 5, which would be to build a new facility with 189 beds. The Pavilion building would be razed and another use would be found for Pleasant Acres. The estimated cost for Option 5 is \$23,053,281.

Mr. Orenstein, Mr. Hassel and Mrs. Rankin then took questions from the Board.

A hard copy of Mr. Orenstein and Mr. Hassel's reports are on file in the County Clerk's Office.

Motion by Supervisor Robl and seconded to adjourn until Tuesday, May 18, 2004. Chairman Albrecht reminded the Board that the annual county board tour will be Monday, May 17. Motion to adjourn CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:20 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 Meeting held on May 4, 2004.

Susan T. Ertmer
Winnebago County Clerk