

**WADENA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADJOURNED MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 18 2008, 9:00 A.M.**

The Wadena County Board of Commissioners Adjourned Meeting was held on Thursday, December 18, 2008, at the Wadena County Courthouse in the Commissioners Room at 415 Jefferson St. S., Wadena Minnesota. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Orville Meyer and the pledge of allegiance to the flag was said.

Also present: Commissioners Lane Waldahl, William Stearns, Dave Schermerhorn, and Mary Harrison, Auditor/Treasurer Char West and HR Consultant Mike Gibson.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to approve the day's Agenda as presented, motion carried.

Commissioner Harrison pointed out in the December 2, 2008 minutes regarding discussion of the Kitchigami Regional Library 2009 levy, the Board was only aware of the Library Director's request for a \$97,000 County levy not \$90,000 that was required in the Joint Powers Agreement.

Chairman Meyer stated that the December 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes would stand as presented.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Harrison, to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of December 2, 2008, as presented, motion carried.

Ms. West presented the Board with the 2008/Payable 2009 Final Tax Levy Resolution reflecting a \$254 reduction in Wadena County's Preliminary Levy. She pointed out that she had reduced the General Revenue portion of the Levy by \$254 to reflect this reduction. Ms. West added that the Final Levy also reflected the previously Board approved increase in the Kitchigami Regional Library levy by \$2,417 which was off set by a reduction in the General Revenue CHIPS Attorney fee budget as well as the Sheriff's Department Budget adjustments for an increase in the Baliff budget and decrease in Out of County Boarding Budget. She stated that Commissioner Waldahl had recently received information that the Regional Radio Board match had increased to \$10,517 which the Board had also previously discussed off setting the increase by reducing the CHIPS Attorney Fees Budget, which the Final Levy Reflected. She requested Board approval if the Board was in agreement with the adjustments made.

The Board tabled action on the 2009 Final Tax Levy Resolution until later on in the meeting.

Chairman Meyer called for a motion to set the Commissioner's Wages for 2009 as required in statute for this meeting.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, for no change in the County Commissioners wages for 2009, in the amount of \$13,390 for Commissioners per year and \$14,590 for the Chairman per year, motion carried.

Commissioner Stearns brought to the attention of the Board the topic of meals for over night stays for Commissioners and employees.

Board discussion followed with no change for 2009.

Ms. West informed the Board that the 2009 Occupancy Agreement with the Minnesota State Community College, Wadena Campus, was an annual agreement with the College that would be expiring January 1, 2009. She added that there would be no change from the previous year and that there was no charge for the use of the facility.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Waldahl, to sign the 2009 Occupancy Agreement with the MN State Community College, Wadena Campus, motion carried.

Motion by Harrison, seconded by Schermerhorn, to accept with regret, the resignation of Anita Small from the Wadena County Transfer Station effective November 27, 2008, motion carried.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Harrison, to approve the payment of \$6,460.00 to the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) for the 2009 dues,

Discussion followed that the Commissioners felt that AMC should realize they have to economize due to the State cut backs that counties were experiencing.

Motion carried.

Ms. West informed the Board that she had contacted the County Attorney regarding the possibility of publicly opening the annual Official Newspaper bids for the purpose of reviewing them prior to Board approval during the first meeting of the year. She pointed out that newspaper representatives and the public would have an opportunity to attend the bid opening. Ms. West stated that the County Attorney was in approval of public opening of the bids prior to Board approval.

The Commissioners discussed the procedure and recommended that two Commissioners and the County Attorney also attend the bid opening conducted by the Auditor/Treasurer.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to rescind the December 2, 2008 motion to authorize the Auditor/Treasurer to Call for Bids for the 2009 Official County Publications, bids to be opened on January 6, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room, motion carried.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to authorize the Auditor/Treasurer to Call for Bids for the 2009 Official County Publications, bids to be opened publicly on Monday, January 5, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room; bids will be awarded by the Wadena County Board of Commissioners during their Board Meeting held on Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Room, motion carried.

Karen Nelson, Public Health Director, came to the Board requesting a motion to adopt the current Nursing Procedure Policy as part of the Wadena County Public Health Quality Assurance Plan.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Harrison, to adopt the current Nursing Procedure Policy as part of the Wadena County Public Health Quality Assurance Plan as reviewed and recommended by the Public Health Director and the Public Health Advisory Committee, motion carried.

Ms. Nelson requested authorization to sign the annual renewal contracts effective January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Stearns, to authorize the Public Health Director to sign the following annual renewal contracts effective January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009:

- a. Fee to Bell Hill at \$42.25/hour + mileage at the prevailing co rate – no change
- b. Fee for On Call Nursing at \$42.25/hour + mileage at prevailing county rate – no change
  - a) Freshwater
  - b) Wadena Deer Creek School
- c. Fee for Early Childhood Screening for Verndale, Wadena, Menahga, Sebeka Schools: (Rate set by State Dept. of Education) - rates increased from \$50, \$40 & \$30
  - \$75.00 – child age 3
  - \$50.00 – child age 4
  - \$40.00 – child age 5
- d. Medical Consultant - \$125 - no change
- e. Back-up Sanitarian from Morrison County Public Health at \$38.00/hour portal to portal plus mileage, meals, lab tests and materials – rate decreased from \$40
- f. Wadena County Sanitarian at \$108.15/inspection and \$23.70/hour not to exceed \$20,128 – no change
- g. Infectious Waste – HWS Healthcare Waste Solutions, Inc., at \$50 per 32 gallon box, box liner \$5.00/box and sales tax, waste management tax of 0.004 per pound, fuel surcharge of \$8.30 per collection and caveat to reserve the right to adjust the rates to cover such increases in conducting business such as fuel, insurance, disposal costs, and increases in costs resulting from changes in regulatory requirements. – rate increase

- h. CHIC, NE Regional Immunization Registry to pay Wadena County Public Health for PH Immunization outreach for MA children based on the % of MA children in our County up to a maximum of \$13,045.
- i. Wadena County Social Services for as needed nurse time for LTCC as case management at \$20.43 per 15 min. and availability of the Public Health Medical Consultant for LTCC/Case Management consultation effective 1-1-09 to 12-31-09.
- j. Senior Health Screening Clinic rent at Family Center building with the City of Menahga at \$50/year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. West presented the Board with a Joint Powers Agreement between Wadena County and the State of Minnesota/Secretary of State for her office's sorting of the County's rejected absentee ballots relating to the ongoing Senate race. She added that this Agreement would trigger a reimbursement from the State for a nominal fee for their service. Ms. West pointed out that representatives from each party were in attendance.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Harrison, to approve the Joint Powers Agreement between Wadena County and the State of Minnesota/Secretary of States Office for the sorting of rejected absentee ballots by the Wadena County Auditor/Treasurer's office, motion carried.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to approve the annual contract with Harry J. Taves 2009 County Public Defender Contract in the amount of \$12,000.00, motion carried.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Stearns, to approve the Ries Law Office 2009 Wadena County JRA annual contract in the amount of \$3,600.00, motion carried.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Waldahl, to authorize the Auditor/Treasurer to pay Board of Commissioner bills up until 10:00 a.m. December 23, 2008, with checks being printed on December 29, 2008, and to authorize the Board Chair to review and sign them on or before December 31, 2008, with County Board approval of the bills during the January 6, 2009 Board of Commissioners Meeting, motion carried.

Motion by Harrison, seconded by Waldahl, to set a Fee Public Hearing for January 22, 2009, at 10:15 a.m., motion carried.

Ms. West informed the Board that part of meeting the GASB 45 requirements was to have an actuarial assessment of the County's employee benefits for the purpose of including a liability total in the County's Balance Sheet. She stated that she had received two quotes for the service; one from Hanf Actuarial, Inc., Bloomington, MN in the amount of \$5,000.00 and one from Hilde, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, in the amount of \$4,500.00 to \$4,900.00, which both firms had been used by other counties with good response. Ms. West recommended the low quote from Hilde, Inc. She added that funds

were available under the General Fund Professional Services Central Services budget. Ms. West pointed out that this was the first year for this requirement with an updated being completed every three years.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Stearns, to procure the services of Hilde, Inc., Bloomington, MN, to perform an Actuary Review of Wadena County benefits for purposes of including a liability in the Wadena County Balance Sheet, in the amount of \$4,500 to \$4,900, motion carried.

Jim Carlson, Extension Director, came before the Board to request their approval of the 2009 Agreement Between the University of MN and Wadena County for Providing Extension Programs Locally and Employing Extension Staff.

Commissioner Stearns clarified on page 2, point 2 regarding University funding responsibilities and County responsibilities, noting from point 7 by his interpretation, related only to the half-time 4-H Coordinator position which was University funded and did not pertain to any County funded staffing.

Mr. Carlson confirmed that the contract was only for the University funded 4-H position. He pointed out that the Nutrition Education Assistant (NEA) was not funded through the County, but with their permission.

Commissioner Stearns further clarified that the County could determine the amount of support staff provided in the Extension Office.

Mr. Carlson responded that that was correct.

Commissioner Waldahl questioned if the Agreement amount of \$32,450 included an increase in wages.

Mr. Carlson responded that it included a 3% increase which was a recommendation from the Association of Minnesota Counties. He added that this was an increase in the contracted services, not in wages for the 4-H Coordinator. Mr. Carlson also pointed out that it was necessary to have sufficient support staff for the 4-H Coordinator and Nutritionist.

Commissioner Stearns addressed the 6 month length of notice necessary to be given if there was a possibility of eliminating the 4-H Coordinator position, thus eliminating 4-H, and the need for support staff.

Mr. Carlson pointed out that the notice could be as little as 90 days.

Commissioner Stearns clarified that whatever the Board had to do regarding employment of County employees could be done at any time.

Mr. Carlson responded that this was correct. He further commented if the County eliminated the 4-H Coordinator position, the 4-H members could still participate, however, it would be vastly different; there could still be participation in a County Fair, but who would do all the work to make it happen.

Chairman Meyer commented there were a few counties that did operate without a 4-H Coordinator.

Mr. Carlson responded there was only one; Cook County, but all other counties had at least a half-time 4-H Coordinator position.

Commissioner Harrison questioned how much of the Support Staff's time was spent on assisting the Nutrition Specialist and how much time for the 4-H Coordinator.

Mr. Carlson responded that he had this information documented and he could have it available for future reference.

Chairman Meyer questioned whether the Nutrition Specialist could be moved out of the Extension Office.

Mr. Carlson responded that the position did not have to be in the Extension Office, but she would require secretarial staff from wherever that person functioned.

Commissioner Waldahl questioned whether the current Agreement could be extended until the Board was aware of the amount of State aid cuts.

Mr. Carlson, responded that the current agreement could not be extended as his Supervisor required that the Contract be signed by January 1, 2009; if there was no Agreement in place the University would not know if the County was going to come through with an Agreement, it put the 4-H position in jeopardy and the University as no funds would be allocated for that person. He added that the 2008 Agreement was \$31,350 and the 2009 Agreement was \$32,450.

Motion by Harrison, seconded by Schermerhorn, to approve the 2009 Agreement Between the University of Minnesota and Wadena County for Providing Extension Programs Locally and Employing Extension Staff, motion carried.

Commissioner Waldahl commented that it was hard to give County employees a zero increase and then approve an increase in this Agreement.

Mr. Carlson clarified that the Agreement increase was not an increase in the 4-H Coordinator's salary.

The Board recessed at 10:00 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Stearns, to approve the 2008/Payable 2009 Final Levy Resolution as follows:

**2008/PAYABLE 2009  
FINAL LEVY RESOLUTION**

Commissioner Schermerhorn offered the following Resolution and moved for it's adoption.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Wadena County Board of Commissioners adopt and certify the Final 2008 Property Tax Levy for Taxes Payable in 2009. Distributed to the various funds as follows;

	<u>LEVY</u>	<u>LESS COUNTY PROGRAM AID</u>	<u>LEVY LIMIT</u>	<u>PLUS SPEC. LEVIES</u>	<u>TOTAL LEVY</u>
Revenue	\$3,908,078.00	(459,281.00)	\$3,448,797.00	\$685,715.00	\$4,134,512.00
Road & Bridge	\$1,674,300.00	(215,000.00)	\$1,459,300.00	\$ 0.00	\$1,459,300.00
Social Services	\$1,974,809.00	(321,500.00)	\$1,653,309.00	\$101,720.00	\$1,755,029.00
Library	\$ 90,587.00		\$ 90,587.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 90,587.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,647,774.00</b>	<b>(\$995,781.00)</b>	<b>\$6,651,993.00</b>	<b>\$787,435.00</b>	<b>\$7,439,428.00</b>

Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion, motion carried.

Adopted at Wadena, Minnesota this 28<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009.

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Charleen West, Auditor/Treasurer

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Orville Meyer, Chairman

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Waldahl, to approve the Final 2009 Wadena County Revenue and Expenditure Budget Totals by Fund;

	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
General Revenue	\$5,878,119.00	\$5,881,789.00
Public Health	\$1,346,909.00	\$1,351,082.00
Road & Bridge	\$6,614,300.00	\$6,613,795.00
Social Services	\$5,514,799.00	\$5,584,799.00
Solid Waste	<u>\$1,074,537.00</u>	<u>\$1,067,298.00</u>
Total	\$20,428,664.00	\$20,498,763.00

Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Bourbonnaise, Department of Natural Resources, came to the Board to inform them of the DNR's Prescriptive Easement Project within Wadena County which involved the

recording of the DNR's prescriptive easements to ensure that roads located within state land or other agency lands that were sold to private property owners were available to the Department's land managers forever.

Chairman Meyer questioned how many miles were being referred to.

Mr. Bourbonnais responded that he did not have that information available, but that about 30 parcels were involved, most of which were owned by Potlatch with only a few being owned by private citizens.

Commissioner Harrison questioned if an old cart way that went from Bullard to Cottingham Park could be included in the project.

Mr. Bourbonnais pointed out that other counties that had County Land Departments were doing this and advised Commissioner Harrison to check with their County Attorney regarding the state statute addressing her request.

Ms. West informed the Board of the MCIT Award of Excellence given to Wadena County in recognition of an Outstanding Loss Ratio under 50% in 2008.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to retain the July 2008, \$1,000 cash advance to the Tax Forfeited Fund from the General Fund in 2009, to be repaid to the General Fund from the Tax Forfeited fund following the 2009 Tax Forfeited Land settlement, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Harrison explained to the Board, that several years ago the County received a Healthy County Partnership Grant from the Initiative Foundation which was a community grant but had to be administered through the County. She provided some background of the Project adding that it was discontinued due to busy schedules of those involved. Commissioner Harrison pointed out that the unspent funds had to be returned to the Initiative Foundation.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Stearns, to return to the Initiative Foundation, the unused balance of the 2004 Healthy County Partnership Grant in the amount \$5,333.70, motion carried.

Tom Speed, Jail Administrator, came to the Board to present them with a Letter of Resignation from full time Jailer/Dispatcher Chad Hultgren; his last day of employment would be December 25, 2008. Mr. Speed stated that he would like to fill the position after the first of the year with posting after Christmas and that according to union contract they had to post the position in-house first making it available to their permanent part-time employees.

Motion by Stearns, seconded by Harrison, accept the resignation of Chad Hultgren, Jailer/Dispatcher, with regret, effective December 26, 2009, motion carried.

Mr. Speed added that Mr. Hultgren would like to be available for part-time Jailer/Dispatcher employment after he completed his schooling with the State Patrol, which would not be addressed until it actually occurred.

Joel Ulring, Highway Engineer, and Jim White, Wadena VFW Post 3922, came before the Board regarding the previous Board action of designating CSAH 23 as a County Veteran's Memorial Highway.

Mr. White stated that, with Board approval, he would like to contact the six Veterans organizations in Wadena County to see if they would be willing to sponsor one of the signs to be erected along the Highway for a cost of approximately \$45 to \$50 each. He added that he would like to set up a dedication ceremony to unveil the signs and felt the best place to hold this would be in Blue Grass on May 16, 2009, which was Armed Forces Day. Mr. White pointed out that the news media would be invited to attend the ceremony as well as the County Commissioners.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to approve the request from Jim White, Wadena VFW Post 3922 representative, to continue with the plans for a dedication ceremony on May 16, 2009, for the unveiling of signs designating CSAH 23 as a County Veteran's Memorial Highway, motion carried.

The Board thanked Mr. White.

Mr. Ulring presented the Board with an agenda. He informed the Board that Tyler Boyne, Engineering Technician, had successfully completed his six month probationary period and requested Board action acknowledging such.

Motion by Harrison, seconded by Stearns, to acknowledge Tyler Boyce, Highway Department, having successfully passed his six month probationary period and grant him full employee status as of December 17, 2008, as requested by the County Engineer, motion carried.

Mr. Ulring presented the Board with an outlined for Highway Department 2008 Budget Amendments which reflected the Department's actual revenues and expenditures, as required by the State Auditor. He added that he was proud to report that his budget reflected revenues over expenditures by approximately \$70,000. He requested Board action accepting and documenting the presented revisions.

Motion by Stearns, seconded by Waldahl, to approve the following 2008 Highway Department Budget Amendments, as presented by the Highway Engineer;

State Aid Regular Maintenance	+\$100,000
State Aid Regular Construction	+\$100,000
State Park Road Account	-\$650,000
Bridge Bonding	-\$150,000

Local Road Improve. Program	<u>-\$ 35,000</u>
Total Revenues	<u>-\$635,000</u>
Maintenance-Fuel (Diesel)	+\$ 20,000
Fuel (Gasoline)	+\$ 6,000
Equip. Maint. & Repair	+\$ 37,000
Chloride Stabilizer	+\$ 24,600
Construction/Engineering	
CR 104 Overlay	+\$ 32,000
State Park Road Acct.	-\$650,000
Bridge Bonding	-\$150,000
Local Road Improve. Pr.	<u>-\$ 35,000</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>-\$715,400</u>

Motion carried.

Mr. Ulring informed the Board that the annual bridge inspection had been completed and the “Certification of Bridge Safety Inspection to the Commissioner of Transportation” had been sent. He added that the County had 79 bridges on inventory.

Mr. Ulring reported to the Board that the Highway Department Building window and door replacements had been completed.

Scott Carpenter, Solid Waste Director, and Sean Uselman, Building Services Director, came to the Board regarding the need to replace the skidsteer at the Recycling Center.

Mr. Carpenter stated that it was determined by Evergreen Equipment that the current skidsteer had a cracked head and several scored cylinders. He added that it had been purchased used around four and a half years ago. Mr. Carpenter informed the Board of the options he had checked into; 1) currently trying out a used Bobcat from Evergreen which was the cheapest option; however was concerned due to a sound in the engine-cost of \$12,500; 2) Building Maintenance Department currently had a machine they would like to upgrade; it was a Bobcat high lift model which could be used for loading garbage if the Solid Waste loader went down- Solid Waste would pay \$18,000 to Building Maintenance and then Building Maintenance would purchase a new Bobcat for \$27,400 less \$4,900 trade-in for Solid Waste’s current Bobcat for a total of \$22,500.

Rodney Bounds, incoming Commissioner; questioned whether there were other dealers in the County.

Mr. Carpenter responded that Aldrich Tractor, who handled Gehl, which was more expensive and had a different system.

Ralph Miller, incoming Commissioner; stated that Gehl was available with Bobcat controls and was easier to learn how to operate.

The Board questioned Mr. Carpenter as to whether a skidsteer was available on a State bid and also requested Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Uselman to contact NJPA as to whether they had skidsteers available through their purchasing program.

Mr. Carpenter informed the Board that after re-labeling the recycling boxes, less trips were needed to pick up recyclables as the cardboard box was now full and the plastic box was 95% full.

Mr. Carpenter informed the Board that several businesses in Sebeka were interested in recycling cardboard. He stated that West Central Telephone had stepped up and had stated that they were interested in purchasing a cardboard baler and then giving the bales to Wadena County.

Commissioner Schermerhorn commented that the County needed to thank West Central Telephone for stepping up for the benefit of Wadena County.

Mr. Carpenter informed the Board that he brought the roll off truck to Juers Repair to check for repairs which turned out to be minor; however the truck would not last forever.

Commissioner Waldahl stated that he had heard that Mr. Carpenter used his own vehicle for County business, however, since the County owned two trucks why not use one of the trucks rather than pay mileage.

Mr. Gibson, responded that he thought both trucks came under ownership of the Planning and Zoning Department and perhaps a system could be established to charge to use the vehicles.

Kevin Stensrude, MIS Director, updated the Board on the Document Management Project stating that he had talked with the Social Services Director who informed him that Social Services currently had \$30,000 in reserve for Document Management and that the Director planned to hold the funds in reserve the next year. Mr. Stensrude stated that the MIS Department had \$20,000 in the 2009 budget and in view of the financial situation, he recommended this amount go in reserve and not be spent in 2009 but rolled over into 2010 which would provide \$50,000 in reserve and revisit the Document Management Project in 2010.

Mr. Stensrude informed the Board that several Departments have replaced their cell phones and that the Board could consider setting up a general County policy that would allow Departments to donate the used cell phones to Battered Woman's Shelters for 911 calls only.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to have a central location to bring used County or personal cell phones to be donated to Wadena County Crisis and Referral as needed, motion carried.

Lee Brekke, County Assessor, came to the Board stating that he had abided by the Board's direction to avoid any unnecessary purchases by not purchasing office furniture that he had budgeted for in 2008. He was requesting Board approval to place \$5,300 of the remaining Assessor's Department Equipment Purchase budget in a reserve.

Motion by Schermerhorn, seconded by Stearns, to approve the request by the County Assessor to place in a reserve the balance of \$5,300 of the Assessor's Department 2008 Equipment Purchases Budget #01.102.6480, motion carried.

Mr. Brekke informed the Board that the State Auditors recommended setting up a Petty Cash Fund in the Assessor's Department which would be used for making change when receiving cash for various fees.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Schermerhorn, to authorize the development of a Petty Cash Fund in the Assessor's Department in the amount of \$50.00, motion carried.

Commissioner Stearns commented that he appreciated the fact that Mr. Brekke had requested to set up a reserve rather than spend his 2008 Budget balance.

Ms. West reminded the Board of their previous action approving a payment plan with South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) for Wadena County's payment of the second half of the cash call to SCHA. She presented the Board with a Resolution which outlined the transfer of cash from the Solid Waste Fund to the Social Services Fund for this payment due on January 2, 2009 as well as the repayment of such.

Motion by Stearns, seconded by Waldahl, to approve the following Resolution:

**Wadena County Board of Commissioners  
Resolution**

**Interfund Loan Transfer from Solid Waste Fund to Social Services Fund**

**WHEREAS**, the Counties of Brown, Cass, Crow Wing, Dodge, Freeborn, Goodhue, Kanabec, Morrison, Sibley, Steele, Todd, Wabasha, Wadena, and Waseca have formed a Joint Powers Board to implement and administer County-Based Purchasing for certain state and federal programs, which the Joint Powers Board operates under the name South Country Health Alliance (SCHA); and

**WHEREAS**, on December 31, 2007, following recognition of a "premium deficiency reserve" anticipating losses for 2008, SCHA's risk-based capital was approximately 133%, rather than the 300% required by the Addendum to SCHA's By-Laws; and

**WHEREAS**, additional capital was necessary to restore financial health to SCHA; and

**WHEREAS**, SCHA was empowered to require additional contributions from its Member Counties for capital; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 12, 2008 the SCHA Joint Powers Board made a capital call upon its Member Counties in the amount of \$11,000,000, with Wadena County obligated to pay \$587,489; and

**WHEREAS**, one-half of the respective amount payable by each county was paid, in immediately available funds, on May 27, 2008;

**WHEREAS**, on May 22, 2008 the Wadena County Board of Commissioners approved the transfer of \$98,744.50 from its Solid Waste Fund to its Social Services Fund for the partial payment of the first half SCHA capital obligation to be paid back to the Solid Waste Fund from the Social Services Fund in three annual installments on or before May 22<sup>nd</sup> of years 2009, 2010 and 2011;

**AND WHEREAS**, a Payment Plan was agreed upon between the Wadena County Commissioners and SCHA requiring a cash payment of \$127,557.00 to SCHA on January 2, 2009;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, on December 18, 2008 the Wadena County Board of Commissioners approved the transfer of \$127,557.00 from its Solid Waste Fund to its Social Services Fund for the partial payment of the second half SCHA capital obligation to be paid back to the Solid Waste Fund from the Social Services Fund in three annual installments on or before May 22<sup>nd</sup> of each year for three consecutive years as outlined below;

May 22, 2012	\$42,519.00
May 22, 2013	\$42,519.00
May 22, 2014	\$42,519.00

Adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2008, by the Wadena County Board of Commissioners.

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Orville Meyer, Chairman

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Charleen West, Auditor/Treasurer

Motion carried.

Mr. Gibson provided the Board with an update on the Teamsters General and Essential Unit negotiations informing them that a Tentative Agreement had been reached. He pointed out that the Agreement would now go to Legal Counsel to ensure the terminology was very clear. Mr. Gibson stated that the Agreement stated that there would be no increases in salary or hourly wages, no cost of living or longevity in the year 2009, with no promises for 2010 and that this contract would stand on its' own. He pointed out that the Social Services contract had also been completed and signed. Mr. Gibson stated that staff needed to be commended on the professional manner in which they responded and that the citizens of Wadena County need to know of this cooperation.

Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Waldahl

West Central Regional Juvenile Center has a deficit of  
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\$170,000 and that Wadena County's share of was \$5,950. All Counties had agreed not to pay for another deficit.

AMC Conference

Bell Hill Recovery Center electrical improvements were going well.

CHAMPS – the two new Commissioners would be invited.

Commissioner Waldahl stated that he would like to thank Chairman Meyer and Commissioner Harrison for their good work for the County.

All Commissioners and those in attendance expressed their appreciation to Chairman Meyer and Commissioner Harrison.

Commissioner Harrison      Soil and Water Conservation District  
Old Wadena Society  
AMC Conference

Commissioner Meyer      South Country Health Alliance  
AMC Conference

Commissioner Schermerhorn None

Commissioner Stearns      AMC Transportation Commission  
South Country Health Alliance  
Perham Resource Recovery Center will face a challenge because of revenues going down due to a drop in natural gas prices.

Commissioner Waldahl      Reported of a Resolution requesting Federal financial participation of medical benefits when a person was incarcerated.

The Board recessed at 12:10 p.m.

The Board reconvened opened session at 1:05 p.m.

Mr. Uselman returned to the Board regarding the purchase of a skidsteer and to inform them that the State Bid for a Bobcat was \$23,324 with a \$4,900 trade in through Evergreen Equipment. He added that Aldrich Tractor would give \$1,000 on a trade-in. He added that the Bobcat was the same as the Building Maintenance Department had now, except that it was two-speed with a little more horsepower and the Gehl was essentially the same.

Mr. Carpenter stated that renting was an option from Evergreen Equipment at a cost of \$35 per hour; Cal's Cars had skidsteers to rent at a \$114 minimum and was \$38 per hour; Aldrich Tractor rented at \$40 per hour. He added that the Transfer Station currently used about 1200 hours per year.

Motion by Waldahl, seconded by Harrison, to table action on the request to purchase a new skidsteer until the January 6, 2009 Board Meeting, motion carried.

Mr. Uselman requested the funds for the purchase of a new Bobcat be rolled over from 2008 to 2009.

Board direction was to place the request on the January 6, 2009 Meeting agenda.

Ms. West informed the Board that she had contacted the Jail Administrator who clarified the Coroner's charges; \$50 charge for deputy coroner going out, \$30 for Clinic paper work day after, County Coroner \$150 fee.

Motion by Harrison, seconded by Schermerhorn, to pay the Board of Commissioner's bills in the amount of \$124,686.44 and Auditor's bills in the amount of \$22,292.78, motion carried.

Chairman Meyer closed the Regular Board Meeting at 1:35 p.m. for the purpose of discussing a Personnel Issue. Present: Chairman Meyer, Commissioners Lane Waldahl, Mary Harrison, Dave Schermerhorn, HR Consultant Mike Gibson and Auditor/Treasurer Char West.

Chairman Meyer opened the Regular Board Meeting at 2:08 p.m.

Mr. Gibson clarified the Essential and General Units "Me Too Clause". He stated that for 2009 only a "Me Too Agreement" that Teamsters' General and Essential would receive any wage or benefit enhancements given to any Wadena County Employee or Elected Official; the 2008 wage schedule would remain as is for 2009; there would be no step increases in 2009; all employees currently receiving longevity will continue to receive longevity pay at their current rate; these restrictions apply only for calendar year 2009 which was the length life of this agreement; all employees becoming eligible to receive longevity pay or an increase in longevity pay effective January 1, 2009, would not receive such pay in the calendar year of 2009; these restrictions apply only for the calendar year of 2009. Mr. Gibson pointed out that this was a tentative agreement pending a final review and ratification by Wadena County Board, Union membership and legal review by both parties.

Chairman Meyer adjourned the Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting at 2:10 p.m.

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Charleen West, Auditor/Treasurer

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Orville Meyer, Chairman

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