

ACCEL Meeting
 October 4, 2011 – 7:30 a.m.
 Government Center EOC Training Room



Carver County Board of Commissioners
 October 4, 2011
 Regular Session
 County Board Room
 Carver County Government Center
 Human Services Building
 Chaska, Minnesota

PAGE

9:15 a.m.	1.	a) CONVENE b) Pledge of allegiance c) Public comments (limited to five minutes) d) Introduction of New Employees	
	2.	Agenda review and adoption	
	3.	Approve minutes of September 27, 2011 Regular Session	1-2
	4.	Community Announcements	
9:15 am.	5.	CONSENT AGENDA <i>Communities: Create and maintain safe, healthy and livable communities</i> 5.1 Donation of used radio equipment..... 3 5.2 Approval of Department of Human Services Plans 4 5.3 Amendment #2 to the donation and purchase and sale agreement with Union Pacific Railroad..... 5 <i>Growth: Manage the challenges and opportunities resulting from growth and development</i> 5.4 Sara Griffith-request for an equestrian facility 6-10 <i>Connections: Develop strong public partnerships and connect people to services and information</i> 5.5 Renewal application for on-sale and Sunday liquor license for Baumann Enterprises, Inc. dba. B's on the River..... 11 5.6 Sheriff's Office donation..... 12 <i>FINANCES: Improve the County's health and economic profile</i> 5.7 Community Social Services warrants NO ATT 5.8 Commissioners' warrants..... SEE ATT	
9:15 a.m.	6.	CULTURE: Provide an organizational culture which fosters individual accountability to achieve goals 6.1 2011 Retiree recognition..... 13-14	

9:45 a.m. 7. **FINANCES: Improve the County's health and economic profile**
7.1 GFOA's Distinguished budget presentation award for 2011 budget
book..... 15-25

10:15 a.m. ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION

10:15 a.m. **BOARD REPORTS**
1. Chair
2. Board Members
3. Administrator
4. Adjourn

David Hemze
County Administrator

UPCOMING MEETINGS

October 11, 2011	9:15 a.m. Work Session
October 18, 2011	4:00 p.m. Board Meeting
October 25, 2011	9:15 a.m. Board Meeting
November 1, 2011	9:15 a.m. Board Meeting
November 8, 2011	No Work Session

A Regular Session of the Carver County Board of Commissioners was held in the County Government Center, Chaska, on September 27, 2011. Chair Randy Maluchnik convened the session at 9:20 a.m.

Members present: Randy Maluchnik, Chair, Tim Lynch, Vice Chair, Gayle Degler, James Ische and Tom Workman.

Members absent: None.

Lynch moved, Degler seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Workman moved, Ische seconded, to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2011, Regular Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Community announcements were made by the Board.

Ische moved, Lynch seconded, to approve the following consent agenda items:

Resolution #53-11, Agreement between Carver County and the State of Minnesota.

Approved joint powers agreement with Sibley County for snow and ice control on Sibley County State Aid Highway No. 14 and authorized the Chair and County Administrator to sign the agreement.

Approved the request for renewal of on-sale and Sunday liquor license for Blue Bell Enterprises, Inc. d/b/ Lancer Catering at Lake Waconia Event Center.

Approved request for renewal of on-sale and Sunday liquor license for Timber Creek Golf Course.

Community Social Services' actions.

Approved payment of the following Commissioners' warrants:

INSERT

Motion carried unanimously.

Keith Carlson, Minnesota Inter County Association Executive Director, appeared before the Board for a legislative update. He stated he would be giving a fiscal overview and what it means to Carver County and the residents. He noted, while the legislature balanced the budget and dealt with the deficit, they left behind a deficit time bomb.

He pointed out cuts that will fall heavily on counties in the area of Health and Human Services and Property Tax Aid. He recognized counties and cities did receive some relief from maintenance of efforts requirements, that there were no levy limits and Green Acres was fixed.

Carlson pointed out the big change in the property tax system, with the former homestead credit going away and being replaced by the homestead exclusion. He stated this transition will cause tax rates to go up without any changes in levies. He highlighted the amount of market value credit due to each taxing district within the County. He concluded, if the economy continues to stumble, more cuts would be likely in 2012.

Nancy Sileksy, MICA legislative liaison, stated the Health and Human Services budget was one of the most controversial and one of the last budgets to pass. She reviewed the cuts made and suggested, as the second largest part of the State's budget, the budget will continue to be a target for cuts.

John Tuma, MICA legislative liaison, highlighted changes made in the areas of corrections funding and jail health care. He added there was no public defender reform and reviewed future issues they will be working on.

Carlson explained the funding changes for metro transit operations. He stated the bonding bill included a number of projects that affected individual areas and 33 million for the bridge bonding program and ten million for local improvement grants. He indicated there likely would be a bonding bill next year but the issue will be the size.

Carlson thanked the County for its continued MICA membership and Maluchnik and Degler for representing Carver County on their Board of Directors.

David Hemze, County Administrator, recognized the impact of the elimination of the homestead credit on property taxes and stressed the County was trying to mitigate the impact on an average valued home. Carlson acknowledged that Carver and Anoka Counties were making the largest levy reductions to reduce the impact.

Workman moved, Degler seconded, to adjourn the Regular Session at 10:12 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

David Hemze
County Administrator

(These proceedings contain summaries of resolutions. The full text of the resolutions are available for public inspection in the office of the county administrator.)

Carver County Board of Commissioners Request for Board Action



Agenda Item:

Donation of used radio equipment

Primary Originating Division/Dept: <u>Sheriff</u>	Meeting Date: <u>10/4/2011</u>
Contact: <u>Reed Ashpole</u> Title: _____	Item Type: <u>Consent</u>
Amount of Time Requested: _____ minutes	Attachments: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Presenter: _____ Title: _____	

Strategic Initiative:

Communities: Create and maintain safe, healthy, and livable communities

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

Carver County has had fire paging equipment located on the Carver water tower for the past 15 years. This summer the City of Carver is having the tower repainted and we needed to remove our equipment from the tower. We will not be using this location for future fire paging. We have removed 4 master repeater antennas and 400 feet of coaxial cable. This equipment has a scrap value of \$220.00. We would like to donate this used equipment to the Southwest Metro Radio Transmitting Society. The equipment will be used by SMARTS radio club in the event our 800mhz system fails to contact Red Cross and other agencies.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve a motion to allow the Carver County Sheriff to donate used radio equipment to the Southwest Metro Radio Transmitting Society.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

If "Other", specify:

FUNDING

County Dollars =	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Total	\$0.00

FTE IMPACT: None

Related Financial/FTE Comments:

Office use only:
RBA 2011- 790

Carver County Board of Commissioners Request for Board Action



Agenda Item:

Approval of Department of Human Services Plans

Primary Originating Division/Dept: <u>Community Social Services</u>	Meeting Date: <u>10/4/2011</u>
Contact: <u>Gary Bork</u> Title: <u>CSS Director</u>	Item Type: <u>Consent</u>
Amount of Time Requested: <input type="text"/> minutes	Attachments: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Presenter: <input type="text"/> Title: <input type="text"/>	

Strategic Initiative:

Communities: Create and maintain safe, healthy, and livable communities

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

The 2011 Legislature approved a reductions to the Community Social Services Act (CCSA) and Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) and significantly reduced the biennial plans that are required to be submitted by counties to the Department of Human Services by October 15, 2011. In addition, CCSA was changed to the Vulnerable Children and Adults Act (VCAA). The VCAA allocation also includes the Federal Title XX funds. The Division is required to solicit public input which was accomplished with a legal notice.

ACTION REQUESTED:

To approve the Vulnerable Children and Adult Act and the Minnesota Family Investment Program Plans.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

If "Other", specify:

FTE IMPACT: None

FUNDING

County Dollars =	
VCAA	\$821,008.00
MFIP	\$359,231.00
Total	\$1,180,239.00

Related Financial/FTE Comments:

The above allocations were reduced by \$143,967 by the 2011 Legislature and Governor's 2012-2013 Budget agreement.

Office use only:
RBA 2011- 802

Carver County Board of Commissioners Request for Board Action



Agenda Item:

Amendment #2 to the Donation and Purchase and Sale Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad

Primary Originating Division/Dept: <u>Public Works - Parks</u>	Meeting Date: <u>10/4/2011</u>
Contact: <u>Marty Walsh</u> Title: <u>Parks Director</u>	Item Type: <u>Consent</u>
Amount of Time Requested: <input type="text"/> minutes	Attachments: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Presenter: <input type="text"/> Title: <input type="text"/>	

Strategic Initiative:

Communities: Create and maintain safe, healthy, and livable communities

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

On May 3rd, 2011 the County Board signed the Donation and Purchase and Sale Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad for the Chaska Industrial Lead. This is a 5 mile stretch of railroad corridor extending from United Sugars in Chaska, across the Minnesota River at Carver and south into Scott County. Union Pacific Railroad executed the agreement on August 9th, 2011.

On September 20, 2011 the County Board approved an amendment to the Donation and Purchase and Sale Agreement with Union Pacific. The amendment places a restrictive covenant on the property. This condition limits the uses of the railroad corridor such that the corridor could not be used for schools, residential housing, and institutional care or daycare facilities.

The City of Carver has requested that the Main Street Bridge in Carver not be demolished and has asked for the bridge to be donated to the City. The Donation and Purchase and Sale Agreement between the County and Union Pacific includes the removal of the Main Street Bridge. Union Pacific has stated that another amendment is needed to the agreement to reflect that the bridge will remain in Carver.

Due to timing considerations related to closing on the property which is tentatively scheduled for the week of October 20th this amendment needs to be executed as soon as possible.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Motion to approve Amendment #2 to the Donation and Purchase and Sale Agreement with Union Pacific Railroad and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Amendment subject to approval by the County Attorney.

FISCAL IMPACT: Included in current budget

If "Other", specify:

FUNDING

County Dollars =

Total

FTE IMPACT: None

Related Financial/FTE Comments:

This is a no cost amendment.

Office use only:
RBA 2011- 810

Carver County Board of Commissioners Request for Board Action



Agenda Item:

Sara Griffith - request for an Equestrian Facility (PH&E)

Primary Originating Division/Dept: <u>Public Health & Environment - Land Mgmt.</u>	Meeting Date: <u>10/4/2011</u>
Contact: <u>Jason Mielke</u> Title: <u>Senior Planner</u>	Item Type: <u>Consent</u>
Amount of Time Requested: <input type="text"/> minutes	Attachments: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Presenter: <input type="text"/> Title: <input type="text"/>	

Strategic Initiative:

Growth: Manage the challenges and opportunities resulting from growth and development.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

File #PZ20110022. The Planning Commission recommended approval of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Sara Griffith. The parcel is located in Section 19 of Watertown Township. Her request is to operate an equestrian facility on a 138.6 acre parcel that is owned by her father, Robert Griffith. Ms. Griffith will be homesteading the residence on the subject parcel once the home remodeling project has been completed. The CUP would allow for her to utilize an existing indoor riding arena for riding and training of her personal horses. The riding arena was constructed prior to receiving any type of building permit; however, Ms. Griffith has been working to bring the structure/facility into compliance with the Zoning and Building Codes. The building site is located within the Shoreland Overlay District of Lippert Lake and the property is enrolled in the Ag Preserve program; therefore, no commercial boarding and/or training activities are allowed. The facility would include less than 10 horses (animal units). The Watertown Town Board has also recommended approval.

ACTION REQUESTED:

A motion to adopt the finding of fact and order #PZ20110022 for the issuance of a Conditional Use Permit.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

If "Other", specify:

FUNDING

County Dollars =	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Total	\$0.00

FTE IMPACT: None

Related Financial/FTE Comments:

Office use only:

RBA 2011- 807

COUNTY OF CARVER
PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION

FILE #: PZ20110022

RESOLUTION #: 11-07

WHEREAS, the following application for a Conditional Use Permit has been submitted and accepted:

FILE #: PZ20110022

APPLICANT/OWNER: Sara L. Griffith/Robert T. Griffith

SITE ADDRESS: 4485 Co Rd 123, Mayer

PERMIT TYPE: Equestrian Facility

PURSUANT TO: County Code, Chapter 152, Sections 152.073 & 152.079 C(5)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: See attached Exhibit "A"

PARCEL #: 10-019-0500

WHEREAS, said application was duly considered at a public hearing held by the Carver County Planning Commission at its regular meeting of September 20, 2011; and,

WHEREAS, the Carver County Planning Commission finds as follows:

1. Robert Griffith owns 138.6 acres of property located in the South Half (S½) of the South Half (S½) of Section 19, Watertown Township. The parcel is improved with an existing home, several agricultural structures and a newly constructed 60' x 152' indoor riding arena. The property is in the Agriculture Zoning District, the Shoreland & Floodplain Overlay District of Lippert Lake, the Agricultural Preservation Program and the CCWMO (Crow River Watershed).
2. Sara Griffith (daughter of Robert Griffith) is requesting a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to operate an Equestrian Facility pursuant to Sections 152.073 and 152.079 C5 of the Carver County Zoning Code.
3. The applicant has constructed a 60' x 152' indoor riding arena prior to receiving a building permit. Ms. Griffith constructed the arena without obtaining the appropriate building permit(s) as she believed no permit was required for an agricultural type structure. However, based on the Carver County Zoning Code, an indoor riding arena (private or public) requires conditional use permit approval. Therefore, Ms. Griffith is applying to bring the structure into compliance. She has indicated that the structure would be used strictly for hay storage and personal use. She also has indicated that no commercial boarding and/or training activity would take place on the property. The property is currently in the Agricultural Preservation Program; therefore, no public boarding activity is allowed based on the Carver County Zoning Code.
4. The current home on the 138+ acre parcel is being remodeled and a new septic system will be installed. Ms. Griffith is planning on moving to the property and submitting a relative homestead application in order to comply with the homestead stipulation for the personal indoor riding arena conditional use once the home remodeling is completed. Currently, Ms. Griffith resides at 4655 Co Rd 123 which is the adjacent property to the south, but has been utilizing both properties as part of her equestrian activities.
5. According to the submitted operational plan the operation would consist of nine (9) or less horses. No feedlot permit would be required and manure would be spread on the crop land on the farm. The building site for this property is in

the Shoreland District of Lippert Lake (Natural Environment Lake). Equestrian facilities are allowed within the shoreland district provided provisions of Chapter 54 – Feedlot Management and Planning & Water Management regulations are met. In general, a feedlot would not be allowed with ten (10) or more animal units, but with pasturing and proper management the operation would be in compliance. If Ms. Griffith has more than nine (9) animal units on the property, she will be required to contact Environmental Services to ensure her management plan is sufficient. The subject site must comply with the requirements in the Carver County Feedlot Ordinance.

6. The applicants are also considering constructing a 45' x 60' (2,700 sq. ft.) personal accessory structure. Currently, all structures other than the indoor riding arena are considered to be ag related. A parcel greater than five acres is allowed a total of 4,000 square feet of area which is permitted in a combination of a garage and accessory structures. The applicant will have a total of 1,300 square feet remaining on the parcel for an attached garage and/or detached accessory structure. No additional structures will be allowed beyond the allowable square footage.
7. The Carver County Building Official, Metro West Inspection Services, Inc. has inspected the existing buildings proposed to be utilized as part of the personal operation. All structures are considered to be agricultural buildings; however, the personal riding arena will need to meet Minnesota State Building Code to be utilized.
8. The applicant is not proposing any signage for the facility this time. All future signage must meet the requirements of Chapter 154: Sign Regulations.
9. The Watertown Town Board reviewed and recommended approval of the request during their September 6, 2011, Town Board meeting.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT The Carver County Planning Commission hereby recommends the issuance of the subject permit on the land described in Exhibit “A” of the permit application. The Planning Commission further recommends that the following conditions be attached to the permit:

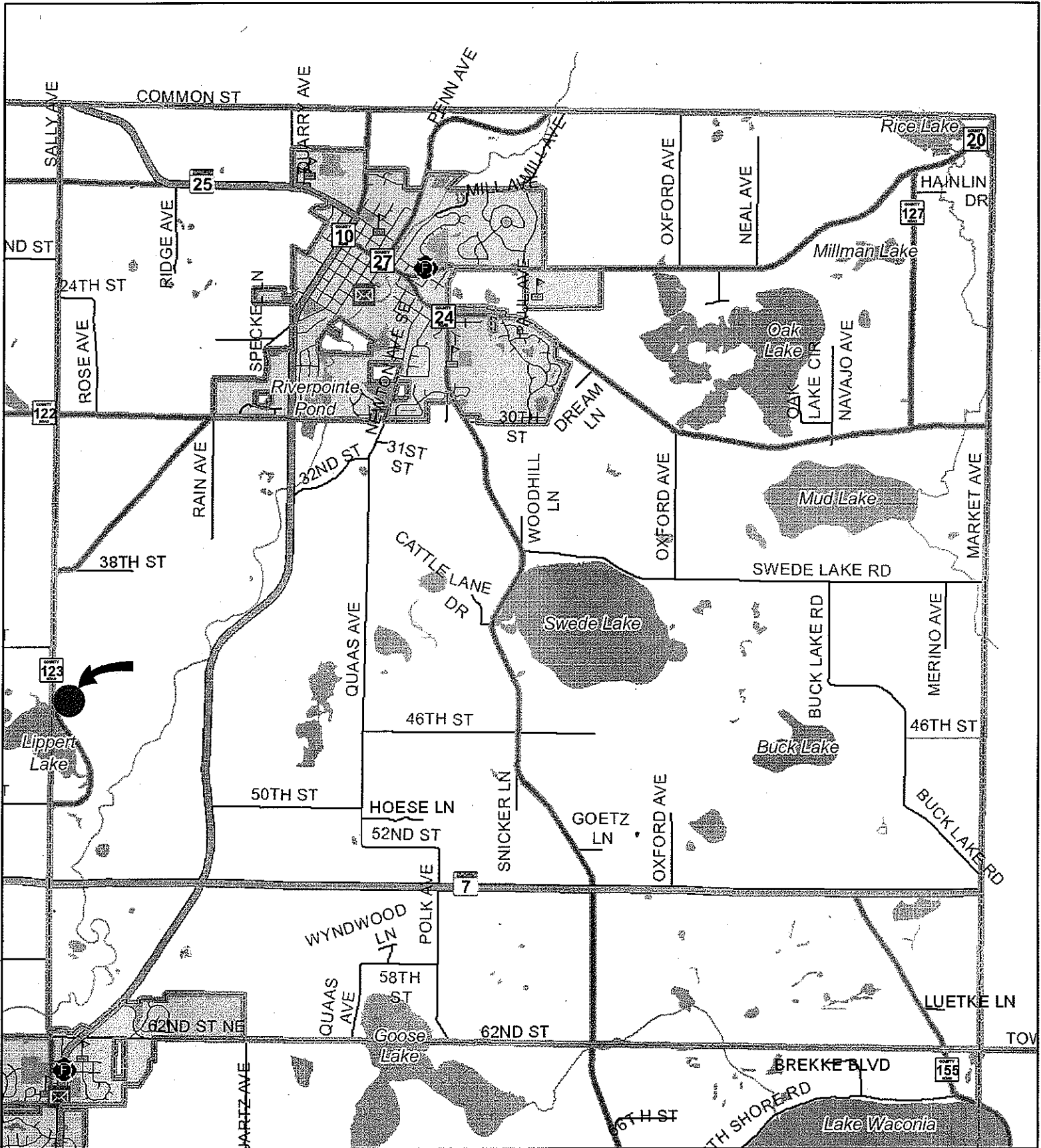
1. The permit is subject to administrative review. A change in ownership, operations or operator shall be cause for the permit to be reviewed by Land Management for a determination as to whether an application for an amendment or similar consideration is necessary. Proposed owners/operators are encouraged to contact Land Management as early on in the timeline of the proposed change as possible.
2. This structure shall be used only by the occupant(s) of the residence for personal storage, hobbies, recreation, entertainment, family uses, private maintenance and repair activities, and as otherwise regulated by this Ordinance. Guest quarters and/or additional dwelling units are strictly prohibited. No products or services shall be offered for sale for pay or similar remuneration except as permitted for a home occupation or as otherwise regulated by the County Code.
3. The equestrian facility shall be operated in accordance with the operational plan. This plan shall be attached to and become part of this permit. No public or commercial activities shall be permitted on the site.
4. A maximum of nine (9) animal units (horses) shall be allowed on the site without a feedlot registration. If the applicant exceeds nine (9) animal units (horses), he/she will be required to comply with the Carver County Feedlot Ordinance and/or obtain the appropriate permit(s).
5. No additional structures in excess of the total (4,000) allowable personal structure square footage shall be permitted on the property. (i.e. 1,300 square feet would still be allowed).

6. All permits required by the Building Official shall be obtained prior to construction of proposed accessory structure. The indoor riding arena being utilized as part of the operation shall meet the applicable State Building Code requirements; and the permittee shall obtain the appropriate permits to come into compliance. Any future remodeling or construction shall be reviewed by the Land Management Department for a determination as to whether an application for amendment or similar consideration is necessary.
7. The Permittee shall comply at all times with the County standards as detailed in Chapter 152 – Zoning Code and Chapter 154 – Sign Regulations.
8. The Permittee shall obtain and maintain homestead status on the property.

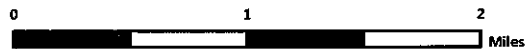
ADOPTED by the Carver County Planning Commission this 20th day of September, 2011.

Ted Beise,
Planning Commission Chair

WATERTOWN TOWNSHIP



This map was created using Carver County's Geographic Information Systems (GIS), it is a compilation of information and data from various City, County, State, and Federal offices. This map is not a surveyed or legally recorded map and is intended to be used as a reference. Carver County is not responsible for any inaccuracies contained herein.



Carver County Board of Commissioners Request for Board Action



Agenda Item:

Renewal Application for On-Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Baumann Enterprises Inc DBA B's on the River

Primary Originating Division/Dept: <u>PRTS - Property Taxation</u>	Meeting Date: <u>10/4/2011</u>
Contact: <u>Donna Stevens</u> Title: <u>Land Records Technician</u>	Item Type: <u>Consent</u>
Amount of Time Requested: <input type="text"/> minutes	Attachments: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Presenter: <input type="text"/> Title: <input type="text"/>	

Strategic Initiative:

Connections: Develop strong public partnerships and connect people to services and information.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

Bryan Baumann, Owner/President of B's on the River has applied for renewal of their On-Sale and Sunday Liquor License. B's on the River is located at 1455 County Road 27, Watertown, MN 55388. There are no delinquent real estate taxes on this property.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of the Request for Renewal of On-Sale and Sunday Liquor License for B's on the River.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

If "Other", specify:

FUNDING

County Dollars =	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
Total	\$0.00

FTE IMPACT: None

Related Financial/FTE Comments:

The License Fee for B's on the River is as follows:

- On-Sale Liquor License \$1,500.00
- Sunday Liquor License \$ 200.00

Office use only:
RBA 2011- 799

Carver County Board of Commissioners Request for Board Action



Agenda Item:

Donation

Primary Originating Division/Dept: <u>Sheriff</u>	Meeting Date: <u>10/4/2011</u>
Contact: <u>Leslie Michel</u> Title: <u>Admn Svcs Manager</u>	Item Type: <u>Consent</u>
Amount of Time Requested: <input type="text"/> minutes	Attachments: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Presenter: <input type="text"/> Title: <input type="text"/>	

Strategic Initiative:
 Connections: Develop strong public partnerships and connect people to services and information.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

Donation of \$50.00 from Roger and Beverly Severson.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Motion to approve \$50.00 in donations to the Sheriff's Office to use at the Sheriff's discretion.

FISCAL IMPACT: Other

If "Other", specify:

Donation

FUNDING

County Dollars =	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total	\$0.00

FTE IMPACT: None

Related Financial/FTE Comments:

Donation of \$50.00 to 02-201-000-0000-5756 Gifts Restricted.

Office use only:
 RBA 2011 - 805

Carver County Board of Commissioners Request for Board Action



Agenda Item:

2011 Retiree Recognition

Primary Originating Division/Dept: <u>Administration (County)</u>	Meeting Date: <u>10/4/2011</u>
Contact: <u>Doris Krogman</u> Title: <u>Employee Relations Division ...</u>	Item Type: <u>Regular Session</u>
Amount of Time Requested: <u>30</u> minutes	Attachments: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
Presenter: <u>Doris Krogman</u> Title: <u>Employee Relations Division D...</u>	

Strategic Initiative:

Culture: Provide an organizational culture which fosters individual accountability to achieve goals and sustain public trust and confidence in County government.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

The following Carver County employees have retired within the past year or announced their intention to do so before the end of calendar year, 2011.

Administrative Services

- Melissa Brechon, Library Director, 1998 - 2011
- Nancy Claeys, Central Services Supervisor, 1988 - 2011
- Joe Krzystofiak, Facilities Maintenance Worker I, 1989 - 2011

Attorney's Office

- Diane Reynolds, Sr. Legal Administrative Assistant, 1998 - 2011

Property Records & Taxpayer Services

- Darlene Dammann, Taxpayer Services Clerk, 2001 - 2011

Public Health & Environment

- RaeJean Madsen, Public Health Manager, 1977 - 2011

Public Works

- Rick Arnoldi, Sr. Engineering Technician, 1978 - 2011

Sheriff's Office

- James Gamlin, Deputy Sheriff, 1985 - 2011
- Derek Lee, Sergeant, 1990 - 2011
- Bud Olson, Sheriff, 1999 - 2011
- Dave Potts, Sergeant, 1983 - 2011
- Tim Robbins, Deputy Sheriff, 1983 - 2011
- Bob VandenBroeke, Chief Deputy, 1978 - 2010

Social Services

- LaVonne Gilbertson, Senior Services Supervisor, 1988 - 2011
- Jean Mitchell, Psychologist, 1990 - 2011
- Jan Pouliot, Case Aide, 1987 - 2011

These retirees have served the citizens of Carver County for a total of over 344 years!

ACTION REQUESTED:

Motion to have the managers of the retirees highlight a few of the contributions of each retiree and have each retiree accept a token of the County appreciation for their service.

FISCAL IMPACT: Included in current budget

If "Other", specify:

FUNDING

<input type="text"/>	County Dollars =	<input type="text"/>
FTE IMPACT: <u>None</u>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Total	\$0.00
Related Financial/FTE Comments:		
<input type="text"/>		

Office use only:
RBA 2011- 803

Carver County Board of Commissioners Request for Board Action



Agenda Item:

GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 2011 Budget Book

Primary Originating Division/Dept: <u>Finance</u>	Meeting Date: <u>10/4/2011</u>
Contact: <u>David Frischmon</u> Title: _____	Item Type: <u>Regular Session</u>
Amount of Time Requested: <u>10</u> minutes	Attachments: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Presenter: _____ Title: _____	

Strategic Initiative:

Finances: Improve the County's financial health and economic profile.

BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION:

For the second year, the County's Budget Book received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officer's Association. The award will be presented to Coleen Speer, Grants and Financial Reporting Coordinator, as she is the primary person responsible for the County earning this award.

Coleen will also be unveiling for the first time a new document "Taxpayer News" which summarizes the County's Budget in a more reader friendly format similar to the "Popular Annual Financial Report" which is a more reader friendly format of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Accept the award from GFOA.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

If "Other", specify:

FUNDING

County Dollars =	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Total	\$0.00

FTE IMPACT: None

Related Financial/FTE Comments:

Office use only:

RBA 2011- 809



Board of Commissioners

Taxpayer News

CARVER
COUNTY

FALL 2011

How We Spend Your Tax Dollars

What happens to the dollars you pay in taxes? The Carver County Board of Commissioners wants taxpayers to know how their tax dollars are being spent and understand how county government works. This publication uses the allocation of tax revenue on the average-value home to illustrate how the County utilizes the taxes it collects. Included are examples of the innovative use of other revenue sources to cut costs and the value of the services the County provides to local residents.



Board Lowers the Levy

The County Board approved a preliminary tax levy for 2012 that is \$1 million less than last year's levy. The final levy set in December can be lower than this amount, but it cannot be higher.

Set at \$45 million, the levy will reduce property taxes on the average-value home for the seventh consecutive year.

The Board lowered the levy to account for the State's elimination of the Market Value Homestead Credit for homeowners. Had the Commissioners flat-lined the levy from 2011, most homeowners would have seen their property taxes increase as a result of the loss of Homestead Credit.

The County opted to use \$1 million in County Program Aid from the State – funds that were slated for pay-as-you-go capital improvement projects – to offset the loss of Homestead Credit revenue.

Divisions Cut Operating Costs

Carver County began the 2012 Budget process by estimating it would cost an additional \$1.3 million to maintain the same general level of services in 2012.

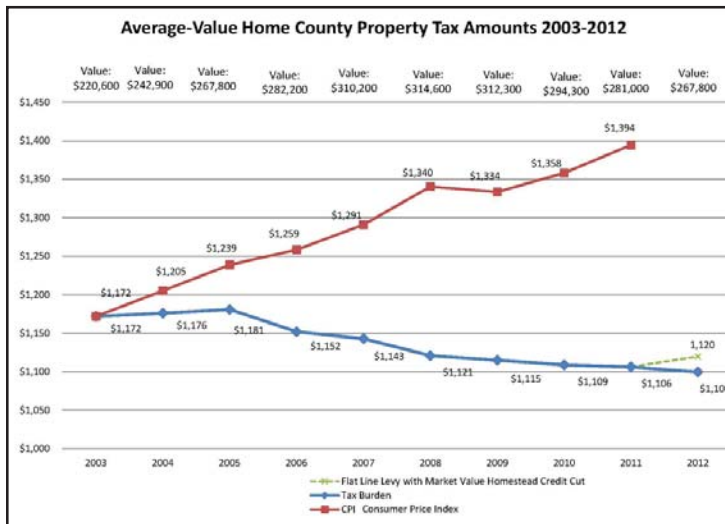
To hold the line on spending, County Administration asked County divisions and offices to cut their budgets by 2.9%. That enabled the County to identify \$1.3 million in levy savings to offset the increase in operating costs.

The County will have fewer full-time employees in 2012 as a result of these budget cuts. The number of full-time equivalent employees has decreased each year since 2008. The projection for 2012 is 624 full-time equivalent employees, down from 636 in 2011.

Staff cuts have been eased by a voluntary retirement incentive program that attracted 30 employees over the past two years. This program resulted in additional savings and opportunities to restructure.

Taxes on the Average-Value Home

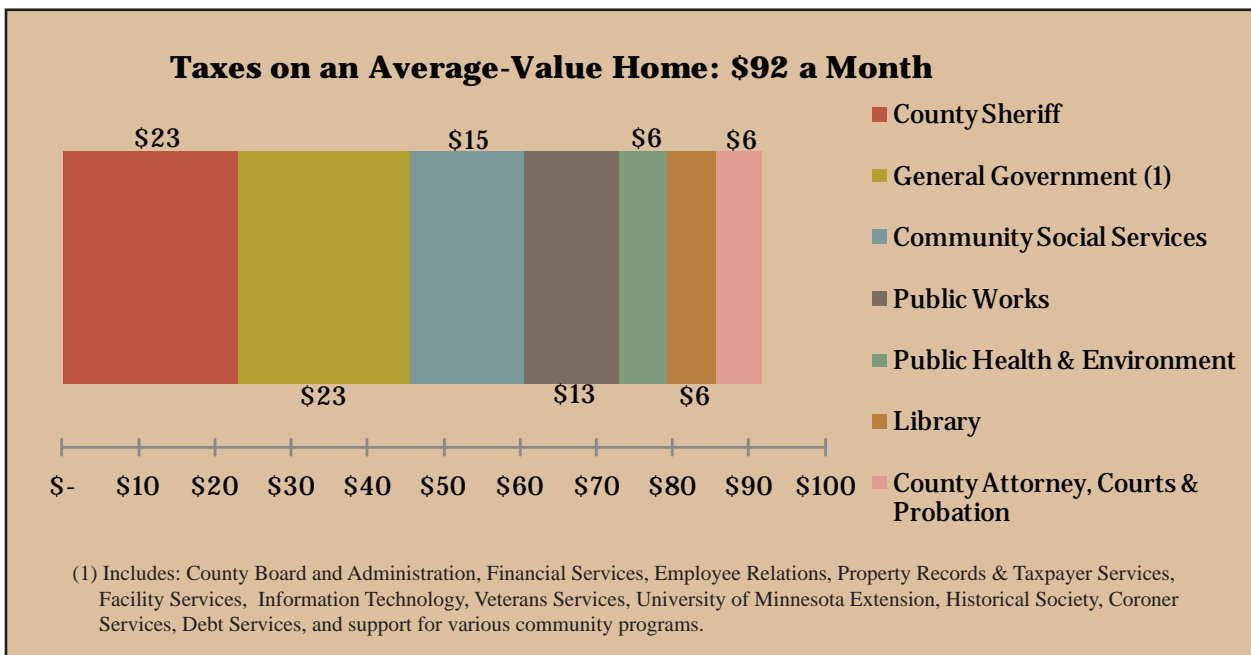
Property taxes provide the main source of funding for Carver County and usually account for about half of the revenue for the County's annual budget. Each year for the past seven years, the County has set its annual budget based on the Board's goal of reducing the tax impact on the average-value home. The average home value has decreased every year since 2008 and is currently \$267,800. The taxes paid on an average-value home is used here to illustrate what homeowners get for what they pay in taxes and the value of County government programs and services.



County Taxes Decrease

The blue line of this graph shows the actual taxes on the average-value home and how they have decreased each year since 2005. The red line shows what the tax amounts would have been with inflation factored in. The green dashed line shows what taxes would have been had the County Board flat-lined the levy in 2012.

The chart below shows how County taxes on an average-value home are allocated each month.



Public Safety a Top Priority

The largest allocation of tax dollars goes to the Sheriff's Office and General Government followed by Community Social Services, Public Works, Public Health & Environment, and the Attorney's Office and Court Services/Probation. While the Sheriff's Office takes the lead role in ensuring public safety, other departments also play a role as the example on AEDs illustrates.



\$23/Month: Sheriff's Office

About \$23 of the monthly taxes on an average-value home is allocated to the Sheriff's Office for public safety.

The Sheriff's Office coordinates patrols throughout the county and operates the County Jail. All calls that come into the 911 emergency dispatch in Carver County are handled by the Sheriff's Office. Dispatchers responded to 27,517 calls to 911 in 2010.

There is value in knowing you can call 911 for any type of emergency and receive an immediate response. Yet only about \$3 a month on the average-value home – less than you'd spend on a first aid kit – goes toward providing 911 emergency dispatch services.

Access to AEDs Saves Lives

One example of what 911 dispatchers are able to do is direct callers to the nearest AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) for use in a sudden cardiac arrest emergency. The County's Information Technology staff worked with the Carver County SHOC (Saving Hearts in our Communities) Committee convened by Public Health to develop a registry and GIS mapping system for 175 AEDs located in public and private buildings throughout the county. The dispatchers can tell callers where in the building an AED is located.



Non-Levy Dollars Used to Reduce County Jail Recidivism

In addition to revenue from property taxes, Carver County receives revenue from federal and state governments and grant programs. One example of how the County is using federal grant dollars to reduce costs is the use of a Justice Assistance Program grant for \$289,160 to develop and operate a program designed to lower County Jail recidivism rates.

The Offender Re-Entry Program uses a team approach to develop a plan for inmates prior to their release from jail to address how they are going to meet their basic needs and remain law-abiding. The grant has been used to help inmates find employment and housing, access health-care, attain General Education Development (GED) diplomas and job skills, and access sober housing, mental health and chemical dependency treatment.

The program is being evaluated over a two-year time period to see if it reduces recidivism. The first evaluation shows that out of the 41 people served in the first six months of the program, 5 returned to the Carver County Jail in one year's time, which is an 88% success rate.



The Business of Government

Determining budgets, accounting and payroll, hiring and training employees, record management, and maintaining office equipment, technology, communications and operating systems are all part of doing business in county government. Tax allocations for General Government also support local elections, the County’s two license centers and the mechanisms for collecting taxes and obtaining other funding to keep government operating.

Grant Helps Cut Energy Costs

Carver County had already completed an energy performance audit of its buildings and had begun the Central Plant Project to reduce energy costs when the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant became available. It meant an additional \$365,800 in federal EECBG funds could go toward boosting those initial efforts.

The Central Plant Project included installation of new boilers, chillers and roofs, a



complete lighting retrofit, and development of expansive water conservation measures. The county estimated electricity usage would decrease

by 38 percent, natural gas usage would decrease by 65 percent, and water consumption would decrease by 28 percent as a result of the project. The County did achieve its first-year energy savings goals, and it obtained \$30,000 in energy rebates. The Central Plant Project used EECBG funds for new wall insulation, window and door replacements to further cuts costs.

In addition to cutting its own energy costs, the County will use EECBG funding for energy conservation education so others can learn how to cut their energy costs.

\$23/Month: General Government

The County Board and the internal service divisions – the County Administrator, Administrative Services, Employee Relations, Financial Services, and Property Records and Taxpayer Services – are all behind the scenes driving county government. The amount allocated to General Government includes support for these divisions and county funding for community programs such as the Historical Society, CAP Agency and Fair Board. The funding allocation for the Library, which is part of Administrative Services, is not included in General Government category and is listed as a separate example.

For taxpayers, the value in funding General Government is apparent in E-Government services developed by the Information Technology Department such as online tax payments, park reservations and payments, the trail and amenity-finder mapping functions of the GoCarverGo website and other GIS mapping applications. Other technological advances such as electronic imaging of 5 million documents, internal WiFi services, and computers in all patrol cars enable Carver County staff to operate more efficiently.

Allocating tax dollars to fund administrative costs ensures county government continues to function. It enables the County to send out tax statements on nearly 40,000 property parcels, process roughly 24,000 real estate documents and appraise nearly 8,000 properties annually. It pays for license center operations, elections, land records, deed process and vital statistics.



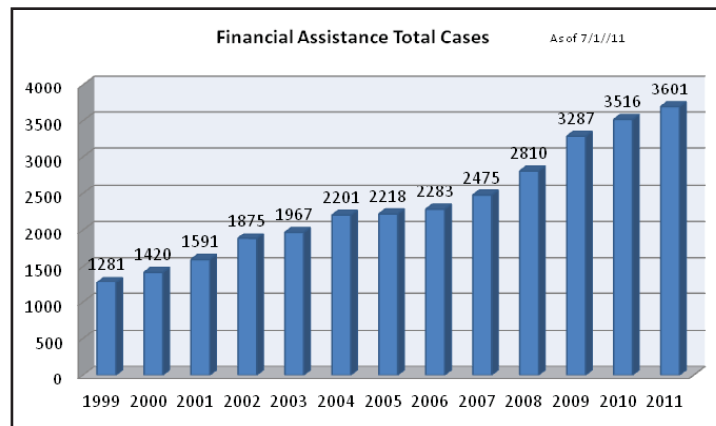
Helping the Most Vulnerable

While Carver County has fared better than most areas, it hasn't been immune to increases in the number living in poverty and higher rates of unemployment. The downturn in the economy has meant more citizens than ever before are looking to the County's Community Social Services Division for assistance to meet their basic needs.

\$15/Month: Community Social Services

We don't like to think what would happen if our family experienced job loss, we lost our housing or faced huge medical expenses not covered by insurance. But that has happened to many local residents during the recession. In 2010, Carver County's unemployment rate increased to 7.4%, and the county ranked 19th out of 87 counties in terms of having the highest rate of foreclosures. The number of uninsured increased to 6,480 in 2009 as more people lost insurance benefits tied to employment.

Community Social Services is charged with providing social services to a growing number of children and families, vulnerable adults, the elderly, developmentally disabled, mentally ill and chemically dependent. The division has seen increases in need for financial assistance, food support, emergency funds, housing and health care assistance, employment and transportation services.



Meeting the increased needs of its citizens during tough economic times stretches the County's resources. Yet there is value to taxpayers in knowing assistance is available if they, their family members or neighbors need help.

Social Services, Court Services Reduce Out-of-Home Placement Costs

One of the highest Social Services costs per individual is for out-of-home placements for youth. Despite the population increase in the County, Social Services has been able to significantly reduce the number of children in out-of-home placement each year since 1993. It has done so primarily through its Signs of Safety program, a program that has received national and international attention from child welfare and child protection agencies.

Most out-of-home placements involve teenagers. A program offered by Court Services/Probation to juvenile offenders at risk for out-of-home placement is further reducing costs. The "Thinking For A Change" cognitive skills program consists of 22 sessions, 90-minutes in length, that teach cognitive skills such as problem solving and social skills and challenge anti-social thinking and attitudes. Facilitated by highly trained probation officers, the program is credited with reducing out-of-home placements and recidivism rates among juvenile offenders.



Safe Roads and Open Spaces

Making sure County roads are plowed and maintained year-round is no small feat, considering the County is responsible for more than 270 miles of roadways, 55 bridges, and 5,000 signs. The Public Works Division also maintains more than 650 acres of protected park and recreation areas and trails.

\$12/Month: Roads

About \$12 of the \$13 a month in taxes on the average-value home that goes toward the Public Works Division pays for the development and maintenance of County roads and bridges.

In Minnesota, the first thing we tend to think of in connection with road maintenance is snowplowing. Each year, the County's Public Works Division makes sure County roads are plowed in a timely fashion so citizens can make it to work, school and other appointments, and emergency vehicles can get where they need to go.

Highway maintenance also includes bridge repairs and other types of road maintenance such as seal-coating, patching and crack filling, pavement marking, shouldering, erosion control, culvert repair, signing, roadside spraying and mowing.

\$1/Month: Parks & Trails

An estimated 307,000 people visit Carver County's three regional parks each year taking advantage of a resource that costs about \$1 a month in taxes on the average-value home to maintain.

Baylor Regional Park and the county parks on Lake Minnewashta and Lake Waconia offer campgrounds, swimming beaches, picnic shelters, boat accesses, playgrounds and other types of play areas. In addition, there is a dog park at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park and a sledding hill at Lake Waconia Regional Park.

The Minnesota Astronomical Society operates the Onan Observatory at Baylor Park. The County also sees good utilization of its trails, including the County's first regional trail that extends across the northern part of the County. Federal funding covered much of the development costs for the Dakota Regional Trail.



Compared to paying for comparable land yourself, \$1 a month to maintain the County's 650 acres of parks and trails is quite a value.

Road and Bridge Projects Boost Total County Budget for 2012

It's a bit of a head-scratcher: The 2012 tax levy is \$1 million less than the 2011 levy, but the 2012 Budget is nearly \$6 million higher than the 2011 Budget. How's that going to work?

The 2012 Preliminary Budget for Carver County totals \$99,333,201, which is an increase of \$5,785,086 million from the 2011 Budget. The largest increase in expenditures is for Road and Bridge Capital Improvement Projects. The 2012 Budget reflects the increase in spending on these capital improvements, but federal funds are covering most of the cost. The County will use turnback funds received from the State in 2009 and unspent funds from the 2008 bond issue to make up the difference. That makes it possible for the budget to increase significantly even though the property tax levy is decreasing.



A Healthy Place to Live

The first set of reports to rank the overall health of every county in all 50 states ranked Carver County as the fourth healthiest county in Minnesota in 2010. The County Health Rankings used five measures to assess overall health or “health outcomes:” the rate of people dying before age 75; the percentage of people who reported being in fair or poor health; the number of days people reported being in poor physical health; the number of days in poor mental health; and the rate of low-birth-weight infants. Researchers also looked at four health factors: health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and physical environment. Carver County ranked fourth highest in both categories.

\$6/Month: Public Health & Environment

For about \$6 a month in taxes on the average-value home, taxpayers support a host of services and programs designed to keep Carver County a healthy and safe place to live and work. The County merged the Land and Water Division with the Public Health Division in a cost-cutting measure in 2010. The new Public Health and Environment Division combines the expertise of public health professionals, environmentalists, and land and water management technicians and planners in their work with community partners to strengthen the health and well-being of county residents.

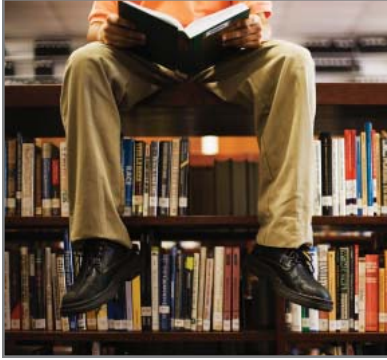
The Public Health Department monitors disease outbreaks, prevents the spread of disease through education and immunizations, assures access to healthcare services, assessments and screenings, and promotes healthy behaviors. The Emergency Management Department provides emergency management mitigation, planning, response and recovery, and public health preparedness planning and communications. Environmental services and programs related to land and water management, housing, environment, conservation, planning and economic development are developed through the Environmental Services, Land Management, and Planning & Water Management departments and the division’s association with the Carver Soil and Water Conservation District and the Carver County Community Development Agency.

The value in supporting county government in its role to coordinate a community-wide effort to promote health and protect citizens against threats to their health and safety can be measured in the health of its citizens. Carver County ranks among the healthiest.

Program Reduces County’s Solid Waste Costs, Helps Environment

A program developed through the Environmental Services Department serves as a model for other employers interested in reducing solid waste disposal costs while helping the environment. The In-House Organics Recycling Program was developed to recycle food scraps and non-recyclable paper from County wastebaskets. It includes methods to educate employees on the process and on the value of organics recycling. Organics recycling will save the County an estimated \$3,000 per year by reducing solid waste disposal costs, and it diverts tons of organics from the landfill and turns it into compost for farmers and gardeners.





Books and a Whole Lot More

What can you find at your local library? Books, periodicals, local, state and national newspapers, computers with Internet access, music, movies, and knowledgeable librarians able to help library patrons of all ages and interests. The County operates eight libraries that circulate more than 1.1 million books and other library materials annually.

\$6/Month: Libraries

For less than the cost of a new best seller in paperback – \$6 a month in taxes on the average-value home – all residents have easy access to everything the County libraries have to offer.

The County operates a Law Library in the Government Center in Chaska, community libraries in Chanhassen, Chaska, Norwood Young America, Waconia, and Watertown, and express libraries in Cologne and Victoria. There are more than 600,000 visits made to the libraries each year.

The value of these libraries is evident in how they offer something for everyone. Besides having a wide range of library materials for children, teens and adults, our County libraries offer special events and programs, book clubs, online homework help and study support, research assistance, access to computers and computer classes, information for lifelong learners, and access to JobNow services.

Library Access Increased, Costs Contained

Carver County's library system has remained committed to increasing community access to library services at a time when economic pressures have caused many libraries to cut back on the hours they are open to the public.

In 2010, Carver County opened a new community library in Norwood Young America and an express library in Victoria through special funding opportunities. The Norwood Young America Library is housed in a building built as part of the Community Development Agency's Oak Grove City Center project. County funds were used for furniture, equipment, books and other materials to furnish the new library. The Victoria Express Library relied on grant funds for its financial backing. Both the CDA's Oakgrove City Center Project and the Victoria Express Library received 2011 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties.



The Victoria Express Library project tapped into a \$140,000 Library Services and Technology Act federal grant the county shared with Washington County. The two counties used the

grant funds to develop and test self-service kiosks as a way to increase access to library services. The Victoria Express Library includes a locker system for library materials placed on hold, a materials return system, and computer access to the library holdings, the Internet and other online resources. Based on the success of the Express Library located in the Victoria Recreation Center, the County opened a second express library in this year in the Cologne Community Center.



Seeking Justice Through the Courts

All adult criminal felonies and juvenile delinquency offenses in Carver County are prosecuted by the County Attorney's Office. Court Services/Probation provides probation services for the First Judicial District, which includes district court judges and Court Administration staff employed by the State. The First Judicial District's mission is to provide justice through a system that assures equal access for the fair and timely resolution of cases and controversies.

\$6/Month: County Attorney and Court Services/Probation

About \$6 a month in taxes on the average-value home supports the County Attorney's Office, with its three divisions and Victim Services, and Court Services/Probation.

The Attorney's Office Civil Division represents and advises county officials and handles civil law matters and cases referred by County departments. The Juvenile Division prosecutes juvenile delinquents and protects children through child protection petitions. The Criminal Division prosecutes all felony-level offenses committed by adults in Carver County and prosecutes petty misdemeanors, and gross misdemeanors on behalf of 10 cities in Carver County. The Carver County Attorney's Office also has a Victim Witness Coordinator who contacts victims of adult criminal and juvenile delinquency matters to provide them with information and notify them of their rights.

Court Services provides probation supervision services for the First Judicial District and Carver County, including adult and juvenile offender assessments, case planning and programming, coordination of sanctions and treatment referrals, and other local correctional services. Supervision strategies are designed to promote public safety through an approach that focuses on accountability, risk reduction, competency development and restorative justice.

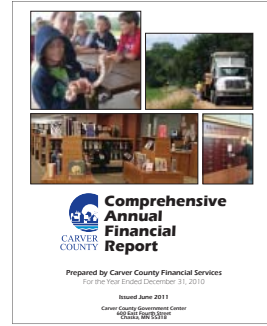
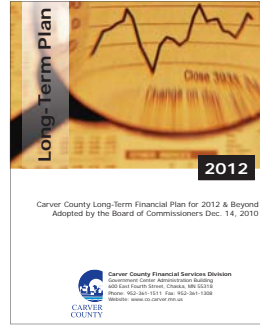
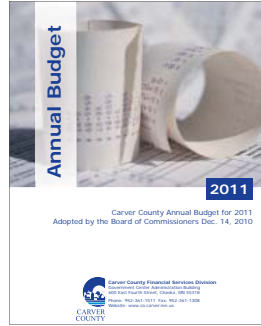
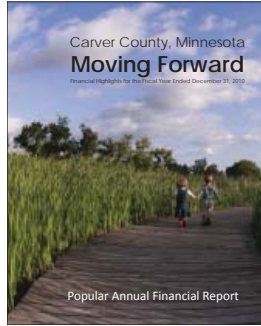
The value for taxpayers is a system that brings offenders to justice and holds them accountable for their actions, while protecting public safety and upholding the rights of the victims of crime.

Sentencing Alternative Cuts Incarceration Costs

A community-based sentencing alternative, the Sentencing-To-Service (STS) program offered through the Minnesota Department of Corrections, helps Carver County cut costs associated with incarceration.

The STS program allows offenders to complete Court sanctions while contributing service hours to local communities. STS crews consist of juvenile and adult probationers and selected County Jail inmates. In 2009-2010, STS offenders completed approximately 8,000 hours of community service work with an estimated labor cost savings of more than \$100,000. The State covers 25% of the STS program costs and manages hiring and training of STS crew leaders. The County's annual contribution to the program is approximately \$58,000. It's an investment that cuts overall costs by reducing jail stays and juvenile correctional placements, which can cost \$100-\$250 a day per person.





Carver County Financial Documents on the County's Website

For information on Carver County's budget, long-term financial plan, and financial reports visit:

www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/finance/index.asp

If you would like written summaries of this information sent to you, please contact:
Financial Services Director Dave Frischmon at 952-361-1506 or email dfrischmon@co.carver.mn



Carver County Financial Services Division
Government Center Administration Building
600 East Fourth Street
Chaska, MN 55318