

**Carver County Board of Commissioners
November 18, 2008
County Board Room
Carver County Government Center
Human Services Building
Chaska, Minnesota**

County Board Work Session Agenda

Time	Topic	Page
4:00 p.m.	1. FINANCE	
	1.1 Appeals to the County Administrator's 2009 recommended budget	1-7
5:00 p.m.	2. ADMINISTRATION	
	2.1 2009 Legislative priorities	8-19
6:00 p.m.	3. PUBLIC WORKS	
	3.1 Lake Waconia Regional Park Ballroom.....	20
6:20 p.m.	Board and Administrator Reports	

David Hemze
County Administrator



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

AGENDA ITEM : Appeals to the County Administrator's 2009 Recommended Budget

Originating Division: Finance

Meeting Date: November 18, 2008

Amount of Time Requested: 60 minutes

Attachments for packet: Yes No

Item Type: Consent Regular Session Closed Session Work Session Ditch/Rail Authority

BACKGROUND/EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM:

At the October 28th board meeting, the Administrator's 2009 Recommended Budget with a 6.9% tax levy increase was presented to the Board. The County Board will hear the attached appeals to that Recommended Budget at this work session.

Individuals appealing have been notified that they will have a 10 minute time limit and should designate a spokesperson to present the appeal.

At the November 25th Board meeting, the Administrator's Amended (zero impact) Budget with a 4.5% tax levy increase will be presented to the Board. Appeals to the Amended Recommended Budget will be heard by the Board at a work session following the regular board meeting on December 2nd.

ACTION REQUESTED: None

FUNDING

County Dollars = \$
Other Sources & Amounts = \$
= \$
TOTAL = \$

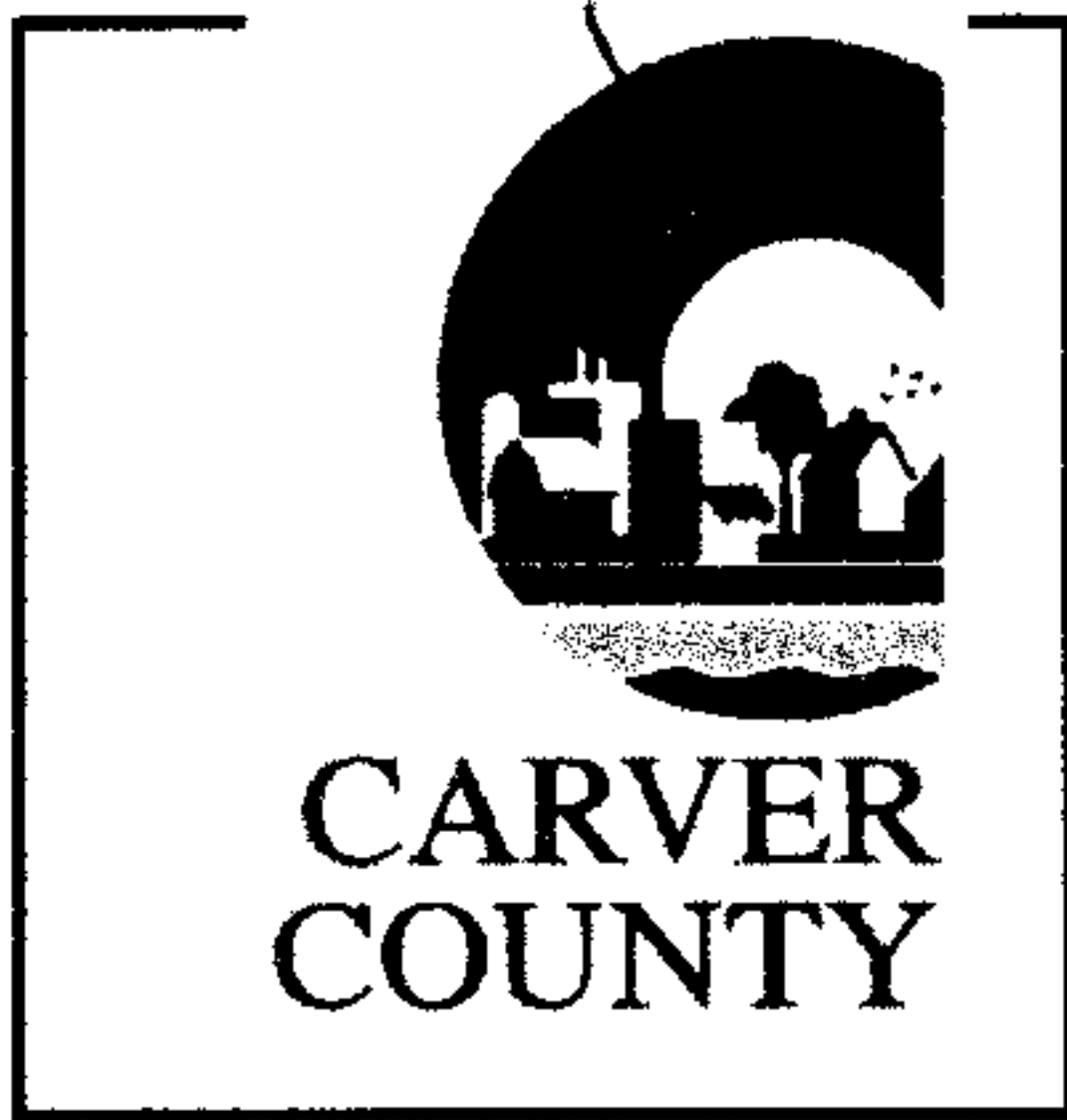
FISCAL IMPACT

- None
- Included in current budget
- Budget amendment requested
- Other: See explanation above

Related Financial Comments:

Reviewed by Division Director

Date: 11/13/08



Office of Finance Director
Carver County Government Center
Administration Building
600 East Fourth Street
Chaska, MN 55318-1202
Phone: 952-361-1506

2009 BUDGET APPEAL FORM

Name of Appealing Organization/Individual Carver County Public Health

Original Budget Amount \$ _____ Recommended Cut \$ Our request is for \$68,310 Transitional Funding

Brief Impact Statement from Proposed Cut: Transitional funding is critical to our future. The demonstration of County support is important to CCHP's ability to leverage other funding sources, e.g., foundations, individual and business donations.

Name of Spokesperson Mr. Jonathan Larson

Best Way to contact: Lakeview Clinic

Address 242 Highway 5
Waconia 55387

Phone number 952-442-4461 x 256 (office)
952-443-3274 (home)

Email jmlarson25@embarkmail.com

The Board will be hearing Budget Appeals to the County Administrator's Recommended 2009 Budget on November 18th from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Please return this form by **Wednesday November 12th** to Diane Wabbe at 600 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318 or email at dwabbe@co.carver.mn.us.



Office of Finance Director
Carver County Government Center
Administration Building
600 East Fourth Street
Chaska, MN 55318-1202
Phone: 952-361-1506

2009 BUDGET APPEAL FORM

Name of Appealing Organization/Individual: **Carver County Library Board**

Original Budget Amount \$ 3,481,123

1st Budget Cut: \$207,127 (38% collection reduction, reduction in conference/training and elimination of 14 hr. staff position)

2nd Budget Cut: Appeal \$ 70,000 (reduction of 46 staffing hours, 15 hr cut in public service hours, reduction in professional fees and conference budget)

Brief Impact Statement from Proposed Cut

- Libraries in Carver County are at the center of their community and are the most used and popular County service by being a partner in economic development, education, recreation and used as a community gathering place.
- During times of economic hardship libraries are used more than ever for job searching, small business owners, educational purposes, online classes/testing, etc.
- Closing the Chanhassen Library on Monday-Thursday night at 8 pm will affect public meeting times, use of technology, educational opportunities and use by all county residents.
- To close 15 public service hours and reduce management and staffing hour's hurts those affected by the economic downturn the most.
- Reduction of 46 staffing hours would reduce staffing FTE to 2004 numbers with increases of 20% in activity and a projected 1,000,000 circulation in 2008.
- Residential telephone surveys of the library system over the past 12 years report 85% approval rating and citizen's support for use of tax dollars to support county libraries.
- Residents would pay less than \$1.00 a year for library services if \$70,000 is reinstated.
- Bringing the 2009 Library budget perilously close to state certified Maintenance of Effort (\$3,202,763) numbers is troubling. Falling below this amount would mean: losing status as a county library system within the regional library structure, losing all state and federal funding, losing the ability to apply for and accept grant funding, and our residents would not be able to receive books from other libraries. MN Statute Sec. 134.34 and 134.341.

Name of Spokesperson: Richard Kvitek, President Carver County Library Board

Address: 960 Bluff Circle

Phone number: 952-448-5262

Email: Richard.J.Kvitek@seagate.com

The Board will be hearing Budget Appeals to the County Administrator's Recommended 2009 Budget on November 18th from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Please return this form by **Wednesday November 12th** to Diane Wabbe at 600 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318 or email at dwabbe@co.carver.mn.us. If you have any questions about the appeal process and/or the Administrator's Recommended 2009 Budget, please contact the County's Director of Financial Services, David Frischmon at 952-361-1506 or email at dfrischmon@co.carver.mn.us



Office of Finance Director
Carver County Government Center
Administration Building
600 East Fourth Street
Chaska, MN 55318-1202
Phone: 952-361-1506

2009 BUDGET APPEAL FORM

Name of Appealing Organization/Individual Sexual Violence Center

Original Budget Amount \$ 15,000 Recommended Cut \$ 2,400

Brief Impact Statement from Proposed Cut: SVC is seeing a sharp increase in clients within the last two months coupled with inflationary pressure. Combined with other proposed funding cuts, this reduction could seriously impact victim services

Name of Spokesperson Gail Emerson

Best Way to contact: Email or phone

Address 3757 Fremont Ave N. MPL 55412

Phone number 612-871-5100 x16 Email gemerson@sexualviolencecenter.org

The Board will be hearing Budget Appeals to the County Administrator's Recommended 2009 Budget on November 18th from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Please return this form by **Wednesday November 12th** to Diane Wabbe at 600 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318 or email at dwabbe@co.carver.mn.us.

If you have any questions about the appeal process and/or the Administrator's Recommended 2009 Budget, please contact the County's Director of Financial Services, David Frischmon at 952-361-1506 or email at dfrischmon@co.carver.mn.us



Office of Finance Director
Carver County Government Center
Administration Building
600 East Fourth Street
Chaska, MN 55318-1202
Phone: 952-361-1506

2009 BUDGET APPEAL FORM

Name of Appealing Organization/Individual: **Court Services / County Probation Dept.**

Original Budget Amount: **Dept. Tax Levy \$850,000** Recommended Cut: **\$95,000**

Brief Impact Statement from Proposed Cut: **The current budget reduction recommendations include the elimination of 2 staff positions from Court Services, including one Assistant Probation Officer (1.0 FTE) and one Corrections Administrative Assistant (.5 FTE). Currently, Court Services operates with a total of 16.05 FTE's, and these potential job eliminations are approximately 10% of the department's total staff resources. The loss of these positions will have significant impacts on the department's operations and will result in the following public safety challenges for Carver County and immediate direct service impacts, including decreased capacity to conduct and monitor the following: 1) Pre-trial offenders with court ordered conditions of release from jail; 2) Offender intake risk level assessments and case assignment duties; 3) Placement and follow-up of offenders court-ordered to complete community work service (CWS) as part of a court sentence; 4) Court-ordered probation conditions for approximately 400 adult offenders (i.e. DWI and other Misd. or GM traffic cases, theft/property cases, and adult offenders with STS, CWS, fines, restitution and aftercare/treatment-related conditions). In addition to the above impacts, delays will occur in case assignments, data entry, restitution investigations, victim communications, completion of BCA record checks and discharge reports.**

These position eliminations will require shifting of staff resources in order to address the above concerns, and will consequently have the following longer-term service impacts: 1) Increased caseloads for both Juvenile and Adult Probation Officers who currently prioritize their services on higher risk offenders who pose greater public safety risks; 2) Elimination of the intensive juvenile probation school-based "SCY Program," which currently operates with the Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative; 3) Potential increases in out-of-home placement costs for chronic juvenile offenders; and 4) Reduced capacity for Probation Officers to facilitate cognitive-behavioral group programs with the highest risk offenders.

Judicial sentencing practices could also be impacted by reductions to local probation staff and supervision services. By example, certain types of offenders who are currently supervised could be given sanctions without formal probation supervision and monitoring. In addition, adult offender fee revenues for Carver Co. would also be reduced if significant numbers of DWI, traffic and property offenders are diverted from traditional probation.

Name of Spokesperson: **John A. Klavins, Court Services Director & Chief Probation Officer**

Best Way to contact: **E-mail: jklavins@co.carver.mn.us or Office Phone: 952-361-1467**

Address: **Department of Court Services - Carver County Justice Center**

Phone number: **952-361-1460 or 361-1467**

E-mail: **jklavins@co.carver.mn.us**



Office of Finance Director
Carver County Government Center
Administration Building
600 East Fourth Street
Chaska, MN 55318-1202
Phone: 952-361-1506

2009 BUDGET APPEAL FORM

Name of Appealing Organization/Individual: Social Services / Jodi Schramel

Original Budget Amount \$66,745.00 **Recommended Cut** \$50,727.00
Corresponding Revenue Loss (FFP) \$16,018.00

Brief Impact Statement from Proposed Cut: The collection officer position is a revenue generating position. By eliminating the position, the revenue that is currently being generated will significantly decrease. Since the position was created in 2006 the revenue has increased overall by 27%. Carver County's population is growing and the forecast for the future is that growth will continue. With more residents and the current economic status, clients will need more services, which means more dollars being spent and more collections need to be done. By eliminating the position, I see the revenue to decrease which will only impact Carver County residents more.

Name of Spokesperson: Jodi Schramel

Best Way to contact:

Address: 1792 Sandstone Curve, Shakopee, MN 55379

Phone number: 952-361-1682 or 651-399-7438

Email: jschramel@co.carver.mn.us

The Board will be hearing Budget Appeals to the County Administrator's Recommended 2009 Budget on November 18th from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Please return this form by **Wednesday November 12th** to Diane Wabbe at 600 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318 or email at dwabbe@co.carver.mn.us.

If you have any questions about the appeal process and/or the Administrator's Recommended 2009 Budget, please contact the County's Director of Financial Services, David Frischmon at 952-361-1506 or email at dfrischmon@co.carver.mn.us



Office of Finance Director
Carver County Government Center
Administration Building
600 East Fourth Street
Chaska, MN 55318-1202
Phone: 952-361-1506

2009 BUDGET APPEAL FORM

Name of Appealing Organization/Individual _____ U of Mn Extension, Carver County_

Original Budget Amount \$ 353,869.00 Recommended Cut \$ 56,055.00 (appealing \$32,450)

Brief Impact Statement from Proposed Cut:

We are appealing the half-time 4H Program Coordinator Position cut in the amount of **\$32,450**. The purpose of this position is to manage the 4-H Afterschool Adventures Program. Duties of the coordinator include curriculum development, teaching, resource management and expanding the program. In addition, the half-time Program Coordinator works with the 4-H Club program. The elimination of the half-time position will create a hardship for both the afterschool and club programs. The full time 4-H Program Coordinator will need to maintain both programs at reduced levels as directed by the state wide job description. The 4-H club program will be affected by the need to cut programs such as overnight camps, the 4-H Youth Ambassador program, and new project activities including science and technology and the county fair recycling project. This will affect 3,462 youth contacts which were made in 2008 between the two programs. Without the half time 4-H Program Coordinator in 2009, our potential youth contacts will be cut in half to approximately 1,500 youth. The county support staff will be burdened with additional work because the full time Program Coordinator will need to re-direct her time and effort. The Carver County 4-H Community Club program is the 10th largest in Minnesota. By making this cut you are asking the 4-H program to be maintained at staff levels half the size of Carver County

Name of Spokesperson _____ Pat Morreim (main contact), Barb Sorensen and/or Rachel Bender

Best Way to contact: By phone or email

Phone number: Pat: 763-767-3840 or 763-639-4403 – Barb 651-480-7704 or 612-360-1979

Rachel –952.466-5304 or 612-282-9246

Email: Pat: morre002@umn.edu
Barb: bsorensen@umn.edu
Rachel: rbender@co.carver.mn.us

The Board will be hearing Budget Appeals to the County Administrator's Recommended 2009 Budget on November 18th from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Please return this form by **Wednesday November 12th** to Diane Wabbe at 600 East 4th Street, Chaska, MN 55318 or email at dwabbe@co.carver.mn.us.

If you have any questions about the appeal process and/or the Administrator's Recommended 2009 Budget, please contact the County's Director of Financial Services, David Frischmon at 952-361-1506 or email at dfrischmon@co.carver.mn.us



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

AGENDA ITEM : 2009 Legislative Priorities

Originating Division: Administration

Meeting Date: 11/18/08

Amount of Time Requested: 60 minutes

Attachments for packet: Yes No

Item Type: Consent Regular Session Closed Session Work Session Ditch/Rail Authority

BACKGROUND/EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM:

A first draft of Carver County's 2009 legislative priorities is attached. Staff will be reviewing the issues and looking for Board direction during this work session.

ACTION REQUESTED: Provide direction on the 2009 legislative priorities.

FUNDING

County Dollars = \$0

Other Sources & Amounts =

Grants = \$0

TOTAL = \$0

FISCAL IMPACT

None

Included in current budget

Budget amendment requested

Other:

Related Financial Comments:

Reviewed by Division Director

Date: 11/12/08

DRAFT



CARVER
COUNTY

2009

Legislative Platform

Item numbering is not a priority listing

Top priorities:

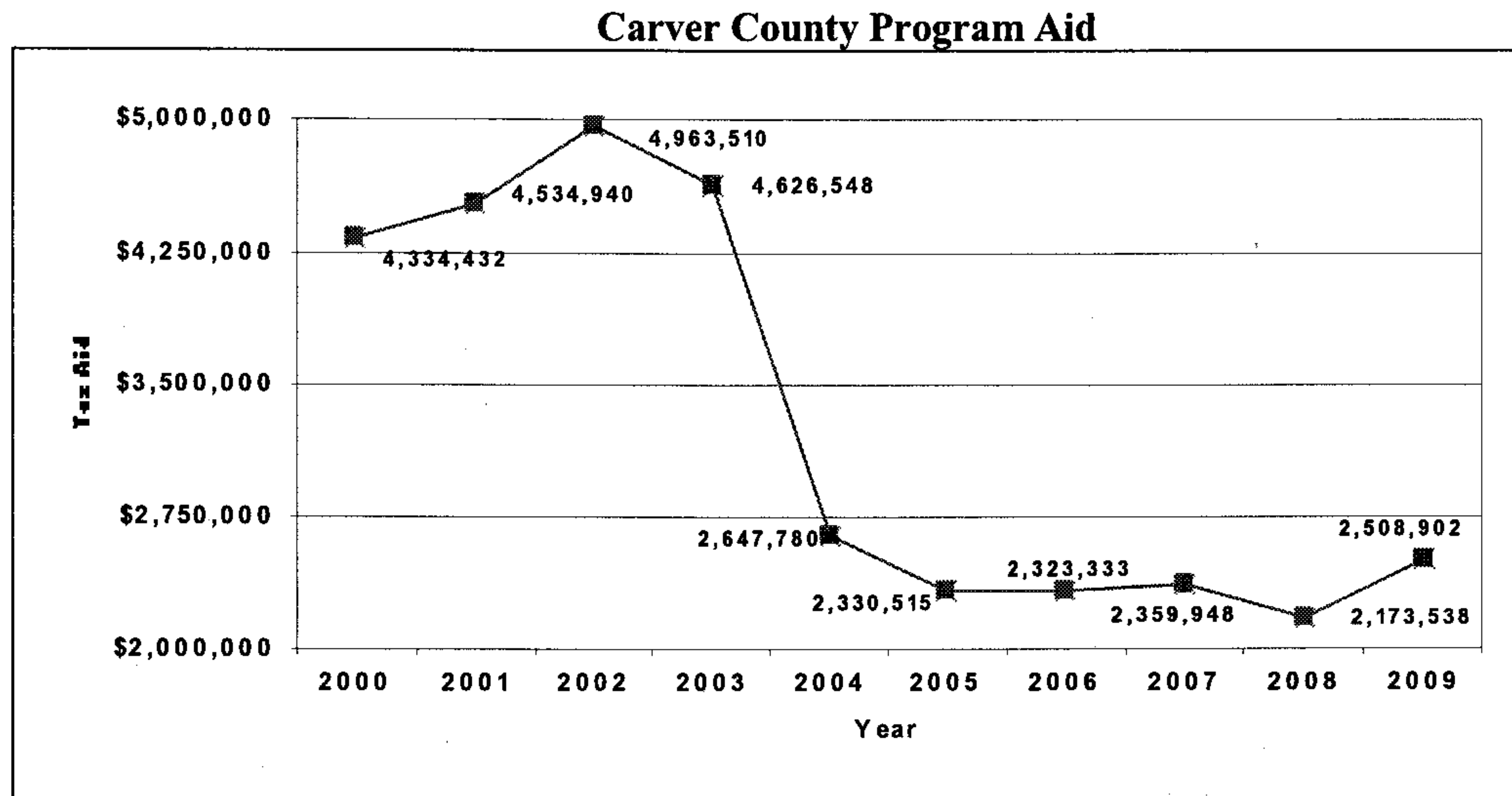
- Item #1: County Program Aid
- Item #2: Wheelage Tax
- Item #3: MR/RC Waiver Allocation over Spending Repayment
- Item #4: Green Acres
- Item #5: Paint Recycling Reimbursement
- Item #6: Design-Build
- Item #7: Remove Restrictions on Credit Card Access
- Item #8: Authority over Watershed District Levies
- Item #9: Maintain Operations and Maintenance Funding for Regional Parks (State and LCCMR Funding)
- Item #10: Constitutional Amendment – Clean Water; Land and Legacy Funding



Issue #1: County Program Aid

Background

After state-wide cuts of \$35 million in 2003 and another \$80 million in 2004 with partial restoration in 2005, county program aid is scheduled to increase to \$227 million in 2009. Carver County's program aid has followed a similar pattern as shown on the below chart, with program aid falling from a high of \$4.96 million in 2004 to a current projected 2009 level of \$2.6 million.



Unfortunately, the state's financial problems make actual payments of those amounts questionable. In determining any aids and credits cuts for counties, the cuts that counties suffer in other portions of the budget must be taken into account. Fairness would dictate that any aid and credit cuts be apportioned between the several levels of local government - counties, cities, townships and special taxing districts - in proportion to the aids and credits they receive.

Request

Carver County urges the Legislature to not cut funding for county program aid. However, if aid cuts are necessary, the Legislature should distribute them equitably after taking into account the cuts that counties receive in other areas of the budget.



CARVER
COUNTY

Issue #2: Wheelage Tax

Background

Current law allows counties in the metropolitan area to impose a wheelage tax. However, the law limits the maximum tax to \$5 per vehicle. The wheelage tax option should be extended to all counties and the \$5 cap should be repealed.

{Information to be added on Carver County's imposition of the \$5 tax and the projects completed with this revenue.}

Requested Position

Support legislation eliminating the \$5 per vehicle tax cap in the current county wheelage tax law.



Issue #3: MR/RC Waiver Allocation over Spending Repayment

Background

For 2004 and 2005 four counties spent in excess of their Mental Retardation/Related Conditions (MR/RC) Waiver Allocation and were required to repay the excess expenditures to the Department of Human Services.

The 2007 Legislature proposed to forgive three of the Counties and extend Carver County's repayment until June 30, 2009. The Governor vetoed the appropriation for the three counties but not the policy language. Essentially three counties have been forgiven with Carver County being required to pay, but not until 2009. The over expenditure amount is \$965,146.

The reason that Carver County over expended their allocation was that following the unprecedented open enrollment in the MR/RC Waiver in 2001, Carver County did not have all the resources available to meet the needs specified in the client's plan for services when the state rebased the MR/RC Waiver in 2003. Essentially, Carver County's MR/RC Waiver allocation was being adjusted based on actual expenditures, not considering our total obligation to our clients. This resulted in over expenditures in 2004 and 2005. For 2002 Carver County was \$1.6 million under its waiver allocation.

In 2004, the statewide expenditure for the MR/RC Waiver was \$18 million under the statewide allocation.

Requested Position

Support a legislative change that forgives Carver County's repayment from over spending to be consistent with the action taken for St. Louis, Steele and Fillmore Counties.



CARVER
COUNTY

Issue #4: Green Acres

Background

In 2008 the Green Acres law was changed so that non-productive land cannot be given the same tax treatment as agricultural production land. In many cases wetlands, woodlands, marginal lands, and other natural resource areas are preserved by the property owner because of the favorable tax treatment they receive by being eligible for green acres if they are associated with production land. The change in the law will provide a disincentive to maintain these natural areas – it encourages the conversion of these natural resource lands either into production land so they get the green acres tax treatment or to some other use that will help recoup some of the increased taxes.

Request

Amend the law to remove the disincentive to preserving natural resource land or provide some equivalent incentive to preserve these lands.



Issue #5: Paint Recycling Reimbursement

Background

In 2008 the legislature approved legislation that would establish a program to recycle paint. The program would be supported by a fee attached to each container of paint. The County would be reimbursed for the costs associated with the recycling of paint that is turned in to the Environmental Center, other drop-off, and special collections. The County currently spends at least \$80,000 per year on paint recycling. The legislation was vetoed by the governor.

Request

Support the re-passage and approval by the governor of the paint recycling legislation.



CARVER
COUNTY

Issue #6: Design-Build

Background

Current law requires Carver County to accept sealed bids for the construction, repair or maintenance of real property where the cost is anticipated to exceed \$100,000. Ramsey County and the Minnesota Department of Transportation have implemented design-build legislative authority and continue to use it to their advantage in terms of cost, speed of delivery, and quality of construction. Carver County has observed successful and cost effective design-build projects such as the timely construction of the new Highway 212 and Ramsey County's delivery of real property improvements. This proposed legislation allows design-build as an alternative project delivery method that consolidates the design and construction functions into a single source contract.

Request

Support a legislative change that allows Carver County to design-build projects.



CARVER
COUNTY

Issue #7: Remove Restrictions on Credit Card Access

Background

Counties are authorized to accept payments by credit or debit cards or all forms of electronic or wire transfer. They are authorized to add a service charge to such transactions to recoup their costs for providing the convenience of these alternative forms of payment. Unfortunately, the credit card industry resists the use of service charges making this manner of recovering a county's costs impractical.

While the changing nature of commerce likely makes it inevitable that counties will have to bear the costs of credit or debit card or electronic or wire fund transfers in those instances when the county is the sole recipient of the funds paid, it is unfair to ask counties to bear all those costs when it is acting as the fiscal agent for others such as the state for deputy registrar transactions. In those instances, the service or dispensing fee should be increased to cover the cost of the credit, debit card transaction or electronic or wire transfer. Alternately, the recipient agency can pay the credit or debit card costs directly via contractual arrangements with their credit card processor and provision of suitable hardware and software to the local government agent.

Requested Position

Carver County urges the Legislature to increase service or dispensing fees or provide other alternative arrangements so counties acting as fiscal agents can recover the costs of credit or debit card or electronic or wire fund transfers transactions when others are receiving some or all of the proceeds.



CARVER
COUNTY

Issue #8: Authority over Watershed District Levies

Background

Under current statute watershed district boards have the authority to set the property tax levy within the watershed district. The members of the district board are appointed by the county boards of the counties within the watershed district. The board is not directly responsible to the citizens in the same way that a county board or city council are, so citizens do not have the ability to influence tax policy of the district as they do of a city or county.

Request

Support legislation that will give counties some review and/or approval authority over watershed district property tax levies.



**Issue #9: Maintain Operations and Maintenance
Funding for Regional Parks (State and LCCMR
Funding)**

Background

Carver County receives a portion of its operations and maintenance funding for the regional parks it administers. Operations and maintenance funding comes from the State General Fund, LCCMR (Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources) and Metropolitan Council. Annually Carver County receives approximately 10 percent or roughly \$90,000 for operations and maintenance funds. The benefits of this funding include:

- Reduces County funds needed to maintain its regional parks
- Continues a satisfactory levels of park services

Requested Position

Support Legislation to continue operations and maintenance funding at a similar level as compared to 2007- 2008 funding cycle.



**Issue #10: Constitutional Amendment - Clean Water,
Land and Legacy Funding**

Background

Voters have approved a constitutional amendment for clean water, land and legacy funding. The language in the constitution specifically allocates funding among four purposes as follows: 33% for water quality, 33% for wildlife habitat, 19.75% for arts and cultural resources, and 14.25% for parks and trails.

Request

The County encourages legislators to support the use of proceeds from the constitutional amendment to be used for the regional park trail and open space system and County parks and trails. Furthermore, the County supports language where County and regional parks are eligible for water quality, wildlife habitat, arts and cultural resource funding.



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

AGENDA ITEM : Lake Waconia Regional Park Ballroom

Originating Division: Public Works

Meeting Date: 11/18/08

Amount of Time Requested: 20 minutes

Attachments for packet: Yes No

Item Type: Consent Regular Session Closed Session Work Session Ditch/Rail Authority

BACKGROUND/EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM: Staff would like to update the County Board on possible operations of ballroom facility and related costs.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion, no action is requested.

FUNDING

County Dollars = \$

Other Sources & Amounts =

= \$

TOTAL

= \$

Related Financial Comments:

FISCAL IMPACT

None

Included in current budget

Budget amendment requested

Other:

Reviewed by Division Director *WPO for RAS*

Date: November 10, 2008

S:Parks/BA-RES/RBA Ballroom Service Provider