

**METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**  
390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Committee Members Present: Lynette Wittsack, Vice Chair; Sherry Broecker; Craig Peterson; Tony Pistilli; and Kris Sanda.

**CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum being present, Vice Committee Chair Wittsack called the regular meeting of the Council's Management Committee to order at 2:32 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2009.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

It was moved by K. Sanda, seconded by S. Broecker to approve the agenda. **The motion carried.**

It was moved by S. Broecker, seconded by C. Peterson to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2009 regular meeting of the Management Committee. **The motion carried.**

**BUSINESS**

**2009-104 Technical Amendments to Legal Services Agreements; No Budget Impacts**

Mark Thompson, Deputy General Counsel, presented this item to the Management Committee. The proposed increase amendments would enable the Office of the General Counsel to pay for essential legal services, as described below.

It was moved by K. Sanda, seconded by S. Broecker:

“That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the General Counsel to amend legal services agreements to increase the maximum contract prices as follows:

<u>Law Firm</u>	<u>Services</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Current Price</u>	<u>Proposed Increase</u>	<u>New Price</u>
Best Flanagan	Legal Services related to Eminent Domain and other Real Property Matters Contract No. 06P154	1/1/07- 12/31/09	\$350,000	\$125,000	\$475,000
Dorsey Whitney	Legal Services related to Construction and Engineering Matters Contract No. 02P096	10/10/02- 12/31/10	\$750,000	\$500,000	\$1,250,000
Parker Rosen	Legal Services related to Transit Employment, RA and Planning Contract No. 06P153A	1/1/07- 12/31/09	\$875,000	\$500,000	\$1,375,000

*The motion carried.*

**2009-105 Authorization to Implement the Effect of the Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS) Local #203 (Police Supervisors) Interest Arbitration Outcome**

Sandi Blaeser, Assistant Human Resources Director, presented this item to the Management Committee. The LELS Supervisors' contract, covering approximately 11 employees, expired on December 31, 2007. The Arbitration hearing took place on January 13, 2009, the binding

arbitration award was received on March 2, 2009, and the new contract will cover the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009. The labor agreement met the parameters and budget established by the Council. In response to questions asked, Ms. Blaeser indicated that the current economic situation will impact future LELS contract negotiations that are expected to begin this summer for the 2010-2011 period. Vice Chair Wittsack requested that future business items pertaining to arbitration outcomes include more specific written information.

It was moved by K. Sanda, seconded by S. Broecker:

“That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to implement the effect of the interest arbitration outcome effective for the period January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2009.”

*The motion carried.*

## **INFORMATION**

### **Risk Management Briefing**

Phil Walljasper, Director, Risk Management, presented a PowerPoint update on the Risk Management Department. Discussion points included an overview of the Risk Management Department and the services it provides, the Council’s risk exposures to Risk financing and Risk control, the Council’s self-insured loss statistics, and the department’s future initiatives. Mr. Walljasper addressed questions related to the percentage of claims that escalate to lawsuits and how claim payments and the interest accrued from reserves are reflected in departmental budgets. He also mentioned that the upcoming increases in tort cap limits for self-insurance are a statutory requirement.

### **Information Services (IS) Briefing**

Dave Hinrichs, Chief Information Officer, began the PowerPoint briefing by reading Information Services’ Mission and Vision statements. He stressed the importance of IS’ relationship with its business partners and its alignment with business goals. He then gave some interesting facts about the equipment and services IS supports and highlighted IS’ major initiatives currently underway in Metro Transit, Environmental Services, Enterprise Systems and Information Services. Mr. Hinrichs addressed questions on the popularity of *Nexttrip*, Council-wide disaster recovery plans, Continuity of Operations’ plans, and balancing security needs with efficient procedural practices.

Council member Sanda requested a status update on the initiative to reduce paper waste by providing Council Members with laptop computers. The consensus of survey responses received from Management Committee members by IS in late 2008 indicated that Committee members preferred to have laptops housed at the Council and put on their meeting tables for each meeting. Some survey participants wanted to know the cost of this initiative and questioned whether or not to proceed with it, given the current economic situation. Each laptop is estimated to cost approximately \$950, totaling approximately \$7,500 to \$10,000 for Management Committee members and staff.

It was moved by K. Sanda, seconded by T. Pistilli:

“That, as fast as possible, we (the Management Committee) adopt a computer policy for Council members.”

*The motion carried.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy M. Aldrich  
Recording Secretary