

## Citizen Focus Groups

June 06, 2013 Kraemer Library and Community Center 5:00 p.m.

- 8 County Board Members – Tommy Lee Bychinski, Art Carlson, John Dietz, Joan Fordham, Marty Krueger, Jason Lane, Andrea Lombard, John Miller
- 3 Staff – Kerry Beghin, Wendy Klicko, Kathy Schauf
- 5 Public – John E Allen, Lester Allen, Vern Demers, Paul Hefty, Joan Kenney

### Public's Comments Expressed:

1. Need to reduce expenditures in this period of record inflation, greed, and distrust. There is less honesty in the world, and considerable apathy. There is a huge disparity between the rich and the poor.
2. Keeping pure potable water is a need.
3. Concern for the disabled and vulnerable populations. Super job done by County staff trying to take care of them.
4. Nitrate well study is important to the well-being of the County.
5. Thanks for the County's support of libraries.
6. Importance of public attendance at committee meetings. Request for public comment at both the beginning and end of committee meetings.
7. Costs of the Sheriff's Department, particularly the jail, need to be reviewed. Other options for law enforcement and incarceration should be explored.
8. County should supplement opportunities for children and juvenile activities (after school, summer). This is important for working parents who need more programs for their children.
9. Alternatives to incarceration should be explored, as well as treatment for addictions and mental health issues.
10. School voucher system is difficult to understand and implement. If the voucher schools fail, the cost to care for them may fall to the County's human services programs. Public schools are a legacy, not just schools.
11. Poverty stresses people in society, taxing social programs, as well as law enforcement.
12. People need to have more open minds and listen to multiple viewpoints.
13. Law enforcement should be more approachable, both in schools and the community.

### Parking Lot:

No issues moved to the Parking Lot