

Cook County Board of Commissioners

COURT HOUSE • 411 W. 2rd Street • GRAND MARAIS, MINNESOTA 55604- • (218) 387-3602 • FAX (218) 387-3043 Email: board.secretary@co.cook.mn.us

District 1 Janice Hall
District 2 Fritz Sobanja
District 3 Sue Hakes
District 4 James Johnson
District 5 Bruce Martinson

March 7, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Cook County is in the very fortunate position to have passed a One Percent Sales Tax to be used (among other projects) in the construction of a new Community Center. This is a dream come true for the residents of our County and we want to do right!

Due to the complexity and expense of this project, our County Board made the decision to hire a Construction Manager/Owner's Representative instead of the more traditionally used General Contractor.

The Steering Committee established for our Community Center project interviewed several very qualified Construction Managers, with ORB Management clearly coming out on top. We selected ORB based on their experience, administrative processes, communication and leadership skills, aggressive work ethic, listening skills and competitive rate.

As the Chair of the Community Center Steering Committee, I have been working closely with ORB Management for several months and have been pleased with the progress we are making as a result of ORB's leadership on the project. I firmly believe that with ORB Management acting as our Construction Manager, we will save money, reduce risk *and* build a facility to last for generations. I know also that ORB Management plays a critical role in helping us build a Community Center within our construction budget, as well as our Operations & Maintenance budget.

ORB Management personnel (Tom Wacholz, Wade Cole and Rob Barse) are approachable, down to earth, and professional as they bring their construction expertise to the table.

Sincerely,

Community Center Steering Committee

Chair