



Saint Louis County

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NEWS RELEASE

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County Board holds public hearing on 2nd District Commissioner appointment

The St. Louis County Board today listened to comments from the public on whether the Board should appoint an interim Commissioner to represent the Second District until a special election is held in January to replace the late Commissioner Steve O'Neil. Of the 10 people who spoke, two expressed a willingness to be appointed. Angie Miller, O'Neil's wife; and Jim Laumeyer, the former director of administration for the Minnesota Department of Transportation's northeast district, both vowed to represent the best interests of the citizens of the Second District and stated they would not run in the special election.

Commissioners have not yet voted on whether or not to appoint an interim commissioner, but expressed a commitment that if they do, they will not select anyone who plans to run in the special election. The Board approved a resolution saying they would not consider a temporary appointment until September 10, which is after the filing period closes for any potential candidates. However, they added one exception giving them the option to appoint either Miller or Laumeyer prior to September 10, since the public had a chance to weigh in on these two individuals and they both promised not to run.

The next County Board meeting will be September 3 in the St. Louis County Board Room in Duluth. The two-week filing period for the special election is August 20 through September 3. If a primary is needed, it will be November 5, with the special election taking place January 14, 2014.

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