

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 29, 2022

Location: Chisholm City Hall, Chisholm, Minnesota

Present: Commissioners Jewell, Boyle, Grimm, Musolf, Nelson, Jugovich, and Chair McDonald

Absent: None

Convened: Chair McDonald called the meeting to order at 11:25 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Jewell/Musolf moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed. (7-0)

- Minutes of November 15, 2022
- CY 2023 Host County Contract for Northwood Children's Home Society, Inc., d/b/a Northwood Children's Services [22-504]
- Joint Powers Agreement with State of Minnesota for Healthy Kids Minnesota Program [22-505]
- Request for St. Louis County to Act as Fiscal Agent for City of Brookston – LCCMR Grant [22-506]
- Abatement List for Board Approval [22-507]
- 2023 State Lobbying Services Contract – Henry Erdman [22-508]
- St. Louis County Unorganized Territory Polling Places for 2023 [22-509]
- Designate Unorganized Precinct 22 (T63-R14) as a Mail Ballot Precinct [22-510]
- Resolution of CenturyLink's Property-Damage Claim [22-511]
- Withdrawal of State Tax-Forfeited Land from Memorial Forest Status [22-512]
- Right-of-Way Easement Across State Tax-Forfeited Land to Margaret Apka and James Suttie (Northstar Twp. 53-13) [22-513]
- 2023 Special Legislation for the Private Sale of State Tax-Forfeited Lands [22-514]
- Authorize a Trail Easement across State Tax-Forfeited Land to the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority (Kugler Twp 61-15) [22-515]
- Public Sale of State Tax-Forfeited Properties [22-516]
- Adjoining Owner Tax-Forfeited Land Sales [22-517]

Establishment of Public Hearings

Jugovich/Nelson moved that the St. Louis County Board will hold a public hearing January 10, 2023, at 9:35 a.m., at the Morse Town Hall, 911 South Central Avenue, Ely, Minnesota to solicit public input on the proposed Zoning Ordinance 62 amendments. [22-518]. The motion passed. (7-0)

Finance & Budget Committee

Jewell/Jugovich moved that the St. Louis County Board approves a deposit of \$1,000,000 from unallotted funds to the Film Production Incentive Program (Fund 178 Agency 178007) or its designated fund and that all program expenditures will be paid therefrom; and further, authorizes County officials to enter an agreement with an appropriate Minnesota development organization to act under the county's direction as the program administrator which will disburse such available funds in accordance with program requirements. [22-520]. Lloyd Show, of Chisholm, spoke in favor of the film incentive and commented that the incentive has had a positive financial impact on local business. Jack La Mar, of Embarrass, provided the Board with a handout and said that he encourages the St. Louis County Board to support the continuation and expansion of filmmaking incentives in St. Louis County. Mr. La Mar commented that that film industry helps create a diverse workforce and supports local businesses. Bianca Giersdorf, of Aurora, said the film industry supports creativity and helps to keep young people in the area. Lydia Hayes, of Hibbing, commented on the financial impact the film industry has had on local businesses. Shari Marshik, Executive Director of Upper Midwest Film Office, said there has been approximately \$4 million of local economic activity as a result of the film industry. The activity would not be possible without incentives. Mandy June Turpin, of Burbank, California, said she has produced two film projects in the area and spent \$3.5 to \$4 million. Mat Roy, of Lost Forty Studios, commented that he moved back to the area in 2016 to help develop the film industry. Megan Huber of Lost Forty Studios, commented that it was exciting to be back in the area and said the film incentive program has had a positive impact on the area. After further discussion, the motion passed. (7-0)

Jugovich/Jewell moved that the St. Louis County Board approves a financial grant contribution to the Upper Midwest Film Office (UMFO) in the amount of up to \$125,000; that County staff develop and identify special performance measures to be accomplished by UMFO to be included in the grant/funding agreement; and further, that if necessary, appropriate County officials are authorized to negotiate the terms and conditions and execute appropriate grant/funding agreement(s) with the UMFO, payable from Fund 178, Agency 178006, Object 311008 or its designated fund. [22-521]. County Administrator Kevin Gray commented that UMFO plays a critical role in workforce development. The motion passed. (7-0)

Jugovich/McDonald moved that the St. Louis County Board hereby provides an allocation of \$25,000 to the Chisholm Community Foundation to be used as part of the matching monies being solicited to fund the David J. Tomassoni Bridge of Peace Memorial in Chisholm, MN, payable from Fund 100, Agency 104001, transferred from future unallotments general fund balance. [22-522]. The motion passed. (7-0)

A point of personal privilege was taken at 12:29 p.m. At 12:40 p.m., the Board reconvened with all members present except Commissioner Grimm.

Nelson/Jewell moved that St. Louis County Board review the 2023 Budget Resolution and narrative for eventual adoption at the December 13, 2022, County Board meeting [22-519]. St. Louis County Budget and Business Improvement Manager BreAnn Graber gave the Board an overview of the proposed budget. Commissioner Jugovich exited the meeting at 12:59 p.m. After further discussion, the motion passed without recommendation. (5-0, Grimm, Jugovich absent)

Central Management & Intergovernmental Committee

Jewell/McDonald moved that the St. Louis County Board approves the new Shop Superintendent job class, assigned to Pay Grade E24A in the Civil Service Supervisors Unit Pay Plan; and further, authorizes the reallocation of a vacant 1.0 FTE Public Works Maintenance Manager position (Civil Service Supervisors Unit, \$6,765/mo. at Grade E31A, Step 1, position code 0026-002) to a Shop Superintendent position (Civil Service Supervisors Unit, \$5,177/mo. at Grade E24A, Step 1) in the Public Works Department. [22-523]. The motion passed. (5-0, Grimm, Jugovich absent)

Public Safety & Corrections Committee

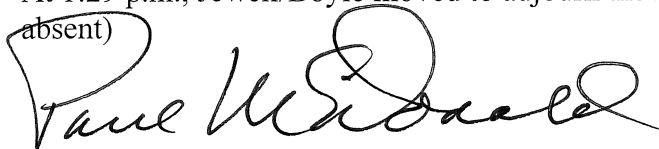
Boyle/Musolf moved that the St. Louis County Board authorizes an agreement with the City of Duluth to participate in the 2021 Toward Zero Deaths Grant in the amount of \$18,063, to be accounted for in the following: \$12,500 - Fund 100, Agency 129999, Grant 12902, Year 2023; \$3,867 - Fund 100, Agency 129999, Grant 12922, Year 2023; \$1,696 - Fund 100, Agency 129999, Grant 12951, Year 2023; and further, authorizes the appropriate County officials to sign any associated contract documents. [22-524]. Commissioner Jewell said there has been an amazing effort to reduce deaths on the roads; however, many more people die in St. Louis County from guns. Commissioner Jewell said that since he has started working on gun death prevention, nothing has been done to decrease gun deaths and he hopes something can be done in the future to reduce deaths caused by guns. The motion passed. (5-0, Grimm, Jugovich absent)

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

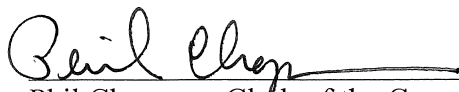
Chair McDonald thanked St. Louis County Administrative Assistant Jennifer Reyes for helping set-up the meeting in Chisholm.

Commissioner Nelson provided the Board with a handout regarding the Canyon Landfill Development and commented that the project is ready to go, the only thing lacking is funding. The project will eliminate 36,000 gallons of leachate being dumped into Lake Superior daily. Commissioner Nelson said that the Board needs to take action when people are attempting to bully and intimidate the Board and attack County staff.

At 1:29 p.m., Jewell/Boyle moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. (5-0, Grimm, Jugovich absent)



Paul McDonald, Chair of the County Board



Phil Chapman, Clerk of the County Board